

Commander's Call (Continued)

the calendar in this issue or the website for all the events at the Post.

Now I want to take some time to talk to our Legion Family about a serious issue that is facing our "home". If you have been at the Post recently you have noticed that we have some serious building issues. We can no longer take a "wait and see" attitude as this is becoming, and in some instances has become, a safety and environmental concern. The hall has become severely damaged over time from a water problem (when it rains our hall floods); see the pictures on the website. The new bathrooms and the patio do not fair much better. We had to tear up some carpeting in the hall this past month because of the water damage. The Adjutants office recently had the ceiling collapse due to water leaking from the roof. This is probably the result of some foundation shifting. The bottom line: WE NEED A NEW BUILDING AND WE NEED IT YESTERDAY.

I realize that this is not going to be a popular decision; however, I am going to dedicate the remainder of this term to laying the foundation (no pun intended) for this all-important issue. We need your voice and expertise to be heard loud and clear. I guarantee that every member of this family will be afforded input if they want to be heard. This family is large (over 1,100) and we will not completely satisfy everyone, but everyone will be heard. In order to provide this forum I have directed the Executive Committee to charter a formal Building Committee with specific sub-committees to be up and running by the end of this month. All meetings will be posted and open to all of the Post 593 family. We desperately need your support, assistance, and patience. Please attend the meetings, show your support, and have your voice heard. Thank you in advance for your support in this endeavor.

One last thing for this month, as with every month, membership is critical. If you are reading this and have not renewed your membership, please do so now. 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, let us make 2007 a banner year for *our* Post by giving to the Community, State, and Nation.

"Back to Basics; Forward to the Future!!"

For God and Country,
Nick

Auxiliary News (Continued)

March upcoming events include the 20th District Spring Membership Tour on the 3rd and 4th.

Membership renewals are slowing down. Your renewals are important to the Auxiliary. They enable us to do our programs, which benefit Veterans and their families. Please renew now... your 2006 card has expired.

Condolences to our Auxiliary Chaplain, Isabelle and her family on the loss of her daughter. Our thoughts and prayers are with you. To all who ill or recovering, get well soon.

Our next meeting is March 7th at 7:30pm. *Loyally, Hilda*



Ross

Post 593 Newsletter Editor
(datobox5@yahoo.com)



Rider News

by Brad Pierce, Director
Post 593 American Legion Riders



Legionaries, Auxiliary, SAL, and Riders of Post 593, it has been several months since I wrote my last article. A lot of things have transpired since Oct and I will attempt to highlight some of them. In Oct ALR built a Haunted House at Lonesome Dove, and supported a day of events that included games, hayrides, and pumpkin carving. Approximately 150 kids and their parents attended the event for local military bases. On Veterans Day we hosted 750 riders from the Houston area as they brought a donation for the Soldier Family Assistance Center (SFAC) in excess of \$63k. Our rider fed these participants by making 800 sandwiches the night before.

In December the riders made their way to the Audie Murphy VA Hospital, there they passed out hygiene products to the patients. They also passed out packets of quarters to be used in the vending machines. Our collection of hygiene products is on going and can be given to Carry Papa. Our riders and Post also played host to the PGR out of Houston who braved the cold and rain to deliver toys, clothes and gift cards to soldiers and their families staying at the SFAC. I can't stress enough how important our post and post members have become in the support of the SFAC. We play a vital role in logistics and coordination for these outside organizations to gain access to these wounded troops. I believe that if it weren't for Post 593 many organizations would find it just to difficult to break through the red tape.

The ALR kitchen is still running strong on Thurs. night. I will begin notifying Peggy each week on the Thurs. night menu. A special thanks to Kat who provided a great 15 Bean soup several weeks ago. Several events rest on the horizon, there will be another VA Hospital visit in Feb. anyone interested are more than welcome. Contact Jack Putalavage for details. March 31 will be our 3rd Annual Fun Run. This is our prime fundraiser for the year and is growing strength every year. The planning phase will start soon on the 2nd Annual Legacy Diner a fund raising event a lot of you are familiar with. Post 593 provided the Legacy Scholarship Fund with a check for \$10k last year; this was the largest donation by one post on the country. The riders welcome anyone to participate in the events and programs as we continue to serve our veterans and active duty service men and women. A big thanks to Tiny who continues to provide music at the Legion and who was a big part of last years Legacy Diner success.

We will always remember Brent Wise who past away in Dec. after a long fight with Lupus, Kidney failure and Cancer. Brent was a great friend, brother and a Charter Member of the American Legion Riders. Brent was candid, funny and lived life the only way he knew how "Full Throttle", he will be greatly missed. A special thanks to Brown, Candy, Nita and the other riders that cared for Connie and Bianca during this most difficult time. The Wise family will always be in our hearts and our prayers.

Brad

**VIKING
National Fence**

Pat Parker

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