

Service Officer News

By Sebastian Rodriguez, Service Officer



Veterans Affairs (VA) Secretary James Nicholson chaired the President's Task Force on Returning Global War on Terror Heroes, which was composed of the Secretaries of Defense, Labor, Health and Human Services, Housing and Urban Development, education, and several other sub-cabinet-level officials. President Bush had given the task force 45 days to come up with recommendations to ensure fair treatment for wounded warriors.

*Developing a joint DOD/VA process for disability benefit determinations to ensure consistency across all services and the VA.

*Developing a combined case management system to ensure seamless transition from military to VA health care.

*Screening all returning veterans seen in VA facilities for indications of Traumatic Brain Injury.

*Simplifying the VA enrollment process.

*Expanding VA access to military health records.

*Development of a joint DoD/VA inpatient electronic health record.

Last week, the Bureau of Labor Statistics announced the March 2007 monthly Consumer Price Index (CPI), which is the metric used to calculate the annual cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) for military retired pay, VA disability compensation, survivor annuities, and Social Security.

The Consumer Price Index continued its recent trend and rose a full 1% above February's value, edging inflation into positive territory for the first time in FY2007. Overall, the inflation rate stands at 0.8%. Inflation was this low in only four out of the previous 30 years through March. Still, those four previous years ultimately provided COLAs that ranged from 1.4% to 3.6%

Scouting News



By Tyler Bird, Troop Historian

Andy Foster has stepped aside as Troop 821's Committee Chairman. Andy will be taking on the new role as the Chartered Organization Representative to serve as the liaison between the Post and the Troop. Michelle Earl is the new Committee Chairman. Michelle has assembled a fine group of adults to continue delivering the Scouting program.

The troop will be holding a pancake breakfast and rummage sale on Saturday, June 9, 2007 at GRASP. Monies raised will go to help pay for summer camp as the troop departs for the Davis Mountains in west Texas the end of June. Please stop by and support this event.

We would like to recognize Matthew Rodriguez and Daniel Baxter, Troop 821's newest Eagle Scouts..... Way to go guys!

**Make Your Legion & Community Stronger.
Volunteer for one of our Worthy Projects and
get involved in your American Legion today!**



Ross

Post 593 Newsletter Editor
(databox5@yahoo.com)

Exciting Building Committee News



by Dennis Ducharme, Comm. Chair.

Wow, wow, and wow! Lots of big things are happening with the building committee. Please read more details at the Post's web site at www.Post593.org. At our Building Committee Executive Board meeting we set an initial fund raising goal of one million dollars. That's just a goal, a wag. And it sounds impossible. But we're not going to do it all at once. We held a "New Post Home Discussion and Brainstorming" session on May 12th from Noon to 5:00 pm where everyone was invited. It was a very productive meeting! At the meeting we decided to focus on building the new Post Home in stages. Stage one would be a Hall with bathrooms and a portable bar. The Hall would hold 400 people and would have two accordion style dividers so it could be divided into three conference rooms. We also talked about funding how are we going to come up with that kind of money. We're looking into obtaining a loan, donations, fund raising events, and possibly selling bonds. Everything is on the table for discussion. NOTHING is decided. But we're making progress. We're starting to gel. We're starting to formulate the final building in our minds. It's happening...Now!

Since the last one was so successful and productive, we decided to hold another "New Post Home Discussion and Brainstorming" sessions on June 9th from Noon to 5:00 pm. Please put this on your calendar and come out and let us hear your ideas. Get involved. Sign up for a committee. Become a part of this. I'd like to personally invite everyone to help us. I can't walk up to everyone and look you in the eye and ask for your help, so I'm doing it in this article. Come to a meeting. Stop me at the Post. Drop me an email. Let me know what you'd like to do. There's enough work for everyone!

Last item. We're holding a Sock Hop on 16 June at the VFW in Universal City. The last Sock Hop we held was a blast!! Everyone had so much fun! We're going to do it again. There will be a costume contest, Hula Hoop contest, limbo contest and bubble gum blowing contest. We'll be selling hot dogs and hamburgers. We'll have door prizes every hour from 8 to 11 pm. There will be several items to raffle off and even an auction! Tickets are \$10 in advance and \$15 at the door. Proceeds from this event will be to help repair our existing hall, which was badly damaged when an SUV drove through it. We need help in pulling this off, obtaining items to raffle and auction off, decorating, cooking, and selling tickets. Please help us! For God and Country,

Dennis

Chicken - 2 - Go !!

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On Father's Day! Come
To the Legion for a
Yummy Bar-B-Q Chicken
Dinner Plate with Fixin's**

Plate includes a full
Quarter of Chicken,
Potato Salad or Fried Potatoes,
Baked Beans or Ranch Beans

Sunday, June 17th, 11AM - 4PM Only \$5 Bucks!

All Proceeds Benefit the New Building Fund

