



William M. Randolph, Post 593

The American Legion

Of The United States of America
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Non-Profit Organization

U. S. POSTAGE PAID

Converse, Texas

Permit No. 28

Circulation: 1000

(printed and digital)

DECEMBER 2008



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)

Post 593 Officers:

Commander: Jack Leanhart

1st Vice: John Orff

2nd Vice: Darrell Goemmer

Adjutant: Gary Bartel

Finance Officer: Dave Paris

Chaplain: Dennis Ducharme

Judge Advocate: Joe Guastella

Historian: Ken Echerd

Service Officer: Shannon Lynde

Sergeant At Arms: Abram Zavala

Members at Large:

Ruben Aguirre, Joe Falco, Jay

McCall, Velma Smith, Rick

Stigall, Denny Taylor

Auxiliary Officers:

President: Sarah Toten

Vice President: Pat McLeod

Secretary: Candy Zavala

Treasurer: Irma Ducharme

Historian: Julie Collier

Chaplain: Isabel Siepker

Sgt At Arms: Rose Lewis

Members at Large:

Dianne Echerd, Loretta Kusek,

Melisia Perez

ALR Officers:

Director: Brown Zavala

Asst Director: Rick Stigall

Secretary: Carolyn Putalavage

Treasurer: Kani Nichols

Road Captain: Dennis South

Membership: Debi Aguirre

Historian: Candy Zavala

Sgt. At Arms: Terry Smith

Chaplain: Paula Johnson

Service Officer: Bill Papa

Members at Large:

Ruben Aguirre, Bill Papa,

Orlando Perez

Sons of the American Legion:

Commander: Tommy Allmon

1st Vice: Brian Glenn

2nd Vice: Brad Smith

Treasurer: Kenneth Tidball

Adjutant: Kenneth Tidball

Chaplain: Matthew Lacey

Historian: Billy Feehan

Sgt at Arms: Henry Creech

Place Mailing Label Here



Commander's Corner

Time is still flying by. It seems like just the other day that I was being installed as Commander. Look back at some of the things that have happened at our Post in such a short

time. We have "spiced up" our Labor Day picnic. There is more participation in the kitchen. Darrell Goemmer has done an outstanding job in these areas. Our Legion Riders stepped up to the plate again with their Legacy Donation. That was quite a thing to see when T. J. turned in the check. Our newly formed Building Maintenance and Renovation Committee has been hard at work to make our existing post a better, cleaner, and respectable place to meet and bring friends by getting rid of the old carpet, laying tile, and scraping/painting the ceilings. My hat is off to John Orff and Henry Creech for heading up the many volunteers that helped out. These are just a few moments that come to mind. I know there are more to come in the near future. However, the one thing that gives me the best feeling is seeing more and more people coming for a visit. That is the ONE THING that I wanted to us to accomplish more than any other. I know that it has been a collective effort. Keep up the good work, everyone.

(Continued on page 2)



Auxiliary News

This year is almost over and we have a lot of activities going on in December. Please check the calendar for the dates and time of all the events. I wish everyone "Happy

Holidays"!

I would like to invite all Auxiliary members that have not been initiated, to attend the meeting on 07 Jan 2009, and be initiated. The purpose of the initiation is to demonstrate the responsibilities of membership. Hope to see you there at 7:30 P.M. If you have any questions regarding the initiation please call me at (210) 653-8987.

If you have paid your dues for 2009, "Thank You! If you haven't paid your dues, please do so by 31 Dec 2008.

The "CASI Chili Cook-Off" is scheduled for January 9th through 11, 2009 at our post. This is a good fundraiser for the Auxiliary with our Silent Auction. In order to support our programs such as Girls State, we rely on the donations by our members of new and/or very slightly used items for our Silent Auction.

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So, how did all of you enjoy your Thanksgiving? I won't lie to you: I was looking for a couch to take a nap on about 2 hours after eating. Something about that meal. Hmmmm. Maybe it is how much I ate? You all know that I can put away some groceries!

Shannon Lynde has been working hard on Holiday Food Baskets and she will need more help for Christmas. Please, bring in some donated foods for her to work with. This is something that this post has been doing for many years. Helping others is one of the mainstays of the American Legion. It will give everyone that helps out a warm feeling. I PROMISE YOU THAT!

As mentioned earlier, Christmas is right around the corner. Many of you will be traveling to distant cities. Many of you will be running around like crazy doing your shopping. And, yes, many of you will be helping out at our post activities. What I am taking a very long time to get to is this: For various reasons, there will be more people driving this time of year. Please, take extra time and don't be in a rush. Be more alert when you are on the road. As much as I wish that everyone has a Merry Christmas with their Loved Ones, I wish more that all of you make it through this Holiday Season SAFELY.

Being your Commander has been an enjoyable time. I have been involved in some memorable conversations. I am looking forward to the next 7 months. Remember my motto from Installation Night: Play Together, Work Together.

God Bless America.

Until Next Month,

—Jack Leanhart
Commander, Post 593



First Vice Notes

First and foremost, Thank You to all the donors and volunteers who have contributed to the betterment of our post home. Due to the many activities over the holidays we will wait until the first part of January to finish the floor. We are also looking into the possibility of replacing the barstools. If any one would like to donate a barstool in memory of someone, please see Terry Smith, Dennis Ducharme, or John Orff. The cost will be approx. \$100 and will include a plaque on the back of stool.

The CASI Chili Cook-off will be the 10th and 11th of January. This year we are adding an open division. There will be prizes for the first three places in the open division. Also, depending upon the number of cooks, there will be from 1 to 3 CASI memberships awarded. also open division cooks will automatically be judged on the CASI on level and could win both.

Please have a safe and happy holiday season. Thank You.

—John Orff

(Continued from page 1, Auxiliary News)

In order to support our programs such as Girls State, we rely on the donations by our members of new and/or very slightly used items for our Silent Auction. We will also take monetary donations to buy new items for the Auction. Candy Zavala is the Silent Auction Chairperson, and your donation can be dropped off at the legion marked for Candy Zavala, "Auxiliary Silent Auction", also include your name and phone number in case we need to ask any questions about your donation. Please drop off your donation by the 9th of January. If you have questions you may call me at the above telephone number.

See you at the next General Membership meeting 3 December 2008 at 7:30 P.M.

—Sarah Toten



2nd Vice News

December is a very busy month at your post. We have 3 Christmas Parties as well as the New Year's Eve Party. We'll have a fund raiser Spaghetti Dinner/Raffle on the 19th. Please look at the December calendar for the full schedule of events.

NOTE: No Steak Night in December.

—Darrell Goemmer



Legion Riders News

The Riders wish everyone a happy and safe Holiday Season.

We're planning a lot of events for 2009, be sure to check this space each month for schedules and recaps.



—Brown Zavala,
ALR Director

Spaghetti Dinner and Raffle

Thanksgiving went off with a great success, thanks to everyone. For the Christmas baskets we will be having a Spaghetti dinner on the 19th. Cost of the dinner will be either 4 cans goods (or dry goods) or \$5.00. These items are to help fill the dinner baskets for those in need. We will also be having a raffle with 20+ items for the drawing. Tickets will be on sale early so you don't have to be present to win, but would love to have you there.

We are still accepting your generous food donations. The donation box is located in the canteen area. Please help our neighbors have a great holiday meal on us. If you are aware of a family in need please leave the information (number of family members, kids ages and gender, name, address and phone number) with the Legion staff and they will get the info to me.

—Shannon K. Lynde
Service Officer American Legion Post 593



Chaplain's Corner

My Fellow Legionnaires,

It's my sad duty to report Elwood P. "Woody" Ream, age 93, entered into rest on November 6. He was a Paid Up for Life legionnaire and a member of our Post for over 37 years. He was

laid to rest at Ft Sam Houston National Cemetery on Veteran's Day.

December is a special month. For some, it's a painful time; maybe because of loved ones who have passed away, or maybe because of loved ones far from home, or maybe because there's no one to love. Others may find this a painful time because of the tough economic times. We must be aware of these folks and try to comfort them when we can. For other people this time of year brings great joy. They celebrate Christmas and New Years with family and friends and enjoy the comforts of modern life. Often, it's hard to fight the commercialization has seeped into this life. We all need to remember the reason for the season and give thanks to the Great Creator of All. We each have our own reasons for being thankful. We truly must stop and count our blessings. This season, stop and look around you. You may not have physical or financial resources to share, but we call all lend a hand, offer a hug, and show a smile. You'll be surprised at how much that means to someone who needs it.

There are many special days this month.

7th: Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day, 1941,

16th, 1773: The Boston Tea Party occurred

21st: First Day of Winter (December Solstice—longest day of the year)

21st: Hanukkah Begins at Sundown

25th: Christmas Day

26th: Kwanzaa (until Jan 1)

29th: Texas became the 28th state, 1845

29th: Last Day of Hanukkah

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 warm Merry Christmas and a very happy, prosperous New Year. For God and Country,

—Dennis Ducharme

New Building Committee Report

I have been in touch with a carnival who has a weekend available in May 2009. I found this carnival at the Wurstfest in New Braunfels. Trust me....the rides are awesome! The dates haven't been etched in stone yet, but by all indications it looks like the next Legion Jubilee will be held May 7-10, 2009. We still have to obtain the city's concurrence and sign the contract, but this should be done by the next Bldg Committee meeting which will be held on December 10th at 7:00pm. As always, everyone is invited to attend. Remember, the earlier we get started planning and scheduling, the better the outcome! I encourage you to get involved now and make a difference!

—Dennis

Marty Frank Memorial Hall Dedication

Thank you to all who attended the Marty Frank Memorial Hall Dedication Ceremony on October 18th, 2008. I think it is only appropriate that we recognize and thank the people that made this momentous occasion possible.

Committee members responsible for planning this event were myself, Betty Frank, Pat Mc Cloud, Daryl Goemmer, Bill MacAllister, Rueben & Debby Aguirre, Paul Crafton, Dennis Ducharme, Ed Canivan, and Jack Leanhart. Monetary donations were made by "Coach" Anderson, Bill Grimmer, Post 993 American Legion, Auxiliary, and Legion Riders. The wine basket for the raffle was donated by Kat Johnson. The stainless steel sign was done by David Bingheim of Westbrook Metals and Manuel Elizando of Eureka Sheet Metal at a greatly reduced price. The Plaque was made by Jeff of Aim High Trophies, again at a greatly reduced price. The National anthem was sung by our very own Al Walker. The Ceremony itself was conducted by Commander Jack Leanhart, Master of Ceremony Bill MacAllister, and Chaplain Dennis Ducharme. The ceremony was video taped by our Historian, Ken Echerd. Set up of the Hall was done by J.R. Putalavage, Pat Bierschwale, Curtis Davis, Jack Leanhart, Denny Taylor, Rick Stigall, and many others that I cannot remember by name.

The food was purchased, prepared, served and cleanup by Pat McCloud, Carolyn Putalavage, Debby Aguirre, Dawn Stigall, Denise Yanus, and Kat Johnson. Entertainment was provided by Stu Hutchinson. Thank you all for a job well done.

—Jack Putalavage
Chairman

New Year's Eve (NYE) Party 2008

On sale now - 2008 New Year's Eve party tickets - just \$50 each for - dinner (your choice Rib Eye steak or roasted Cornish Hen), decorations and party favors, door prizes, hall bar (wrist bands for wine, sodas, beer, call & well drinks), band (Broken Heartsville band), breakfast and black eye peas after midnight. Only 100 tickets will be sold. Please e-mail post593chairper-son@yahoo.com to reserve seats and get ticket information. You can also charge your tickets to the Bar -just make sure I see a copy of the transaction to get your tickets.



—Marcelo M. Buckley, NYE chairman.



AMERICAN LEGION POST 593 HALFWAY POINT CHILI COOKOFF

January 10th & 11th



Hello Post 593

This year we are having a "local" division along with the CASI Division. Entry fee is \$18.00 on Saturday & \$15.00 on Sunday which includes the CASI Division. Cook one day or both days. The local division is for those that have never or hardly ever cook chili in a CASI contest. The top three local chili will receive prizes, plus you could win prizes in the CASI division - it has does happen at chili cookoffs where there is a local division. This is the 17th year for this cookoff which raises money for our charities. If you need a recipe contact Ken Rodd at 210 887 8827 or email: casihotrodd@aol.com.

The basic rules are simple:

1. Chili must be cooked outside on site the day of the cookoff.
2. No fillers such as beans, macaroni, etc allowed.
3. Only one entry in the local division and one for the CASI division allowed from one pot

We want to see members out here cooking chili, having fun and helping

**Cooking chili is a lot more fun than KP was
plus it raises money for our Post.**






We will need chili judges both days - sign up
in the club room today.



American Legion Post 593



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<div>1</div> <div></div> <div>Monday Night Football Dart League 7 pm</div>	<div>2</div> <div>Dart League 7 pm Shuffle Board Challenge 7:30 pm Riders Grill 6-8pm</div>	<div>3</div> <div>General Mbrship Meeting 7:30 pm Building Fund Kitchen Open 5-7 PM</div>	<div>4</div> <div>Dart League 7PM Riders Grill 6-8pm</div>	<div>5</div> <div>Friday at the Legion</div>	<div>6</div> <div>Saturday at the Legion</div>	
<div>7</div> <div>NFL Football starting at Noon with snacks Senior Christmas Party 1:00PM</div>	<div>8</div> <div>Monday Night Football Dart League 7 pm</div>	<div>9</div> <div>ALR Exec Mtg 7:30pm Dart League 7 pm Shuffle Board Challenge 7:30 pm Riders Grill 6-8pm</div>	<div>10</div> <div>New Bldg Committee/Jubilee Mtg 7:00 pm</div>	<div>11</div> <div>Dart League 7PM Riders Grill 6-8pm</div>	<div>12</div> <div>Friday at the Legion</div>	<div>13</div> <div>Monthly Breakfast, 8-11 am Children's Christmas Party 1:00-3:00PM</div>
<div>14</div> <div>NFL Football starting at Noon with snacks.</div>	<div>15</div> <div>Monday Night Football Dart League 7 pm</div>	<div>16</div> <div>ALR Gen Mbr Mtg 7:30 Dart League 7 pm Shuffle Board Challenge 7:30 pm Riders Grill 6-8pm</div>	<div>17</div> <div>Post Exec Mtg, 7 pm</div>	<div>18</div> <div>Dart League 7PM Riders Grill 6-8pm</div>	<div>19</div> <div>Spaghetti Dinner and Raffle \$5.00 or 4 canned goods Friday at the Legion</div>	<div>20</div> <div>Post Christmas Party 7:00 PM Dart Tournament 7:30PM</div>
<div>21</div> <div>NFL Football starting at Noon with snacks.</div>	<div>22</div> <div>Monday Night Football Dart League 7 pm</div>	<div>23</div> <div>Dart League 7 pm Shuffle Board Challenge 7:30 pm Riders Grill 6-8pm</div>	<div>24</div> <div>H&E Mtg, 7 pm</div>	<div>25</div> <div>Merry Christmas (post home closed) </div>	<div>26</div> <div>Post Home Opens at 1:00PM Friday at the Legion</div>	<div>27</div> <div>Saturday at the Legion</div>
<div>28</div> <div>NFL Football starting at Noon with snacks.</div>	<div>29</div> <div>Monday Night Football Dart League 7 pm</div>	<div>30</div> <div>Dart League 7 pm Shuffle Board Challenge 7:30 pm Riders Grill 6-8pm</div>	<div>31</div> <div> New Year's Eve Party</div>	<div>Happy Holidays from your Post Officers and Staff.</div>		

DECEMBER 2008

Phone: 210-658-1111

Building Fund Kitchen open 5-7PM on General Membership Meeting nights

Rider's Grill Tuesday's and Thursday's 6-8PM


Senior Christmas Party Dec 7, 1:00PM

Children's Christmas Party Dec 13, 1:00PM

Spaghetti Dinner/Raffle Dec 19

Post Christmas Party Dec 20, 7:00PM

New Year's Eve Party Dec 31.
Tickets still on sale



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