



William M. Randolph, Post 593

The American Legion

Of The United States of America
326 W. Legion Drive, Converse, TX 78109
(210) 658-1111

E-mail: Post593tx@yahoo.com <http://www.Post593.org>
Post Home Manager: Terry Smith



Hours of Operation

Mon-Thur: 1pm-11:00pm

Friday: 1pm - 2am

Saturday: 12pm - 2am

Sunday: 12pm-6pm

(Hours may vary due to business)

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(printed and digital)

FEBRUARY 2011

Post 593 Officers:

Commander: Dave Paris
1st Vice: Joe Falco
2nd Vice: Christine Reed
Adjutant: Gary Bartel
Finance Officer: John Orff
Chaplain: Dennis Ducharme
Judge Advocate: Joe Guastella
Historian: Acting: Ken Echerd
Service Officer: Shannon Lynde
Sergeant At Arms: Rick White
Hubmaster: Christy Miller

Members at Large:

Paul Crafton, Shad Defenbach,
Jay McCall, Peter Muth, Velma
Smith, Denny Taylor

Auxiliary Officers:

President: Candy Zavala
Vice President: Pati Bennett
Secretary: Denise Yanus
Treasurer: Irma Ducharme
Historian: Diane Echerd
Chaplain: Michelle Smith
Sgt At Arms: Brenda Weeks

Members at Large:

Darlene Cherry, Hanna Taylor,
Christy Miller

ALR Officers:

Director: Jim Bennett
Asst Director: Peter (Dan) Muth
Secretary: Sandy Vinson
Treasurer: Roxanne Muth
Road Captain: Terry Smith
Membership: Pati Bennett
Historian: Butch Rogerst
Sgt. At Arms: Tom Harm
Chaplain: Tim Vinson
Service Officer: Clayton Smith
Members at Large:
Ruben Aguirre, Paula Johnson, Jay
McCall

Sons of the American Legion:

Commander: Henry Creech
1st Vice: Brad Smith
2nd Vice: Billy Feehan
Adjutant/Finance: Henry Creech
Chaplain: Tim Vinson
Historian: Billy Feehan
Sgt at Arms: Ken Tidball



Commander's Corner

February—the month for lovers! And one way to celebrate will be with our Cupid & Casino night on Saturday, Feb 12th. I understand tickets are still available; just see anyone listed in the related article. I'm just looking forward to a great evening that quite a few manhours have been invested by a dedicated group working for the New Building Committee. Please, take a second and thank these folks for their dedication and hard work. Nothing of this magnitude just happens—I'm sure they are over the 300 volunteer hours mark just for this one event. How can you help? Get a ticket, spend 4 hours, and have a great time!

The rededication of the Virgil Friesenhahn, Sr. Memorial Pavilion occurred during the CASI Chili Cookoff weekend, and we were so honored to have ten family members and close friends as honored guests. Could we have used a little warmer and drier day? Certainly, but regardless of weather, it doesn't dampen the spirits of those who remember why we work so hard to do the things we do. To

(Continued on page 2)



Auxiliary News

Good February to Everyone! It's hard to believe Christmas is already two months behind us and springtime and Easter are just ahead. But, first, we have to make it through the Rodeo and the weather that usually comes with it.

Before getting into February, I want to thank everyone making the Georgia Horner Memorial Chili Cook-off a success. First, Isabelle and Hilda. These two ladies ran their little feet off in keeping the judges' tables supplied. Helping with the silent auction were Pati, Michelle, Hanna, Christy, Denise, Debbie and Velma. To those that donated items, well, there would have been no silent auction without you. And, yes, I must not forget the fellas. We couldn't have gotten set up or torn down without you. If I said "thank you" a thousand times, it would not be sufficient. Those of you that didn't see the Best in Show trophies, check out the video screen at the Legion. Kathy Selko created chili pepper stained glass. She sure made us look good with the CASI folks. The weather was, I'll say it, NAAS-TEE, but we had

(Continued on page 2)

(Commander's Corner Continued from page 1)

the Friesenhahn family members and guests: Know that you will always have a special place at the Post! (Yes, Virgil, Jr., even you!)

The Budget and Finance committee reported on a mid-year analysis of the budget and to the most part we are on track. One area over—yup, you guessed it—cost of printing and distributing the newsletter. Please, give our on-line copy a chance by emailing your address to alpost593newsletter@yahoo.com and we can reduce one more copy and mailing. To date, over 125 have taken advantage.

We are rapidly approaching Boys and Girls State deadlines. If you have a local family member (or even an outstanding neighbor) who is a junior in high school and interested, please have them get with their counselor at school or Paul Crafton for Boys State or Michelle Smith for Girls State. On a side note, we will gladly accept any donations to help send qualified boys and girls to these fine events.

Lastly, some of you know we had a special guest Jan 18-21, an IRS auditor. This was not unexpected to our Executive Committee. The IRS Form 990 has been a major topic of discussion the last 3 years within the American Legion. We will not have a formal, final report for about 2 months and we will share the information when we receive it. However, I can state there were no major problems and the few minor problems either were fixed during the audit or can be adjusted with no penalties.

Until next month, see you at the Post!

For God and Country,

—David Paris
Commander

Did you know we can make some extra money recycling common household items? Well we can, and we do. Save up your used aluminum cans, batteries, copper, brass and newspapers. Contact John Orff for more information.



Chaplain's Corner

The Legion Family lost a friend last month. Art White was a frequent guest at our Post. He belonged to China Post 1, but was a regular here at ours. Our Post attended his services and held flags during his graveside service at Ft Sam Houston National Cemetery. We also hosted the reception afterwards. We would all like to offer his family our deepest condolences on the loss of their father and our friend. Please keep them in your prayers.

On February 20th at 2 p.m. we'll remember the sacrifices of 4 brave men. The Four Chaplains ceremony is a moving and dignified ceremony to remember the legacy of the four chaplains of different faiths who gave up their own life jackets so others might live. Arm in arm, they went down in common prayer on the sinking troopship Dorchester which was struck by a torpedo from a German U-boat on February 3, 1943. If you've never seen this ceremony, you must come out and experience it for yourself.

For God and Country,

--Dennis

(Auxiliary News Continued from page 1)

a great time and the event raised money to support our Legion programs.

Now, for February, The Auxiliary is hosting breakfast on the 12th. Do something for your sweetheart and bring them out on a breakfast date. Neither of you will have to cook or clean. You can just enjoy each other's company. We will also be hosting steak night on Friday, the 25th. You could also bring your sweetheart out on a dinner date. Hey! Two dates in one month. I would think you could earn some serious brownie points that way.

As you may have seen on the calendar, the Four Chaplains Ceremony will be February 20th at 2 p.m. The Auxiliary has again been asked to participate. If you have not attended in the past, try to do so. It is a beautiful and solemn ceremony. For me, it is a reminder of those that have given their All. The story is a true testament of the American spirit.

Don't forget our meetings are the first Wednesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. This month our own Robbi Rupert will be conducting a mini school. As many of you know, Robbi is not only knowledgeable but entertaining. It should be fun!

Now, since it is the month of "love" I would like to share a short poem with you. Do enjoy!

You have to walk carefully in the beginning of love; the running across fields into your lover's arms can only come later when you're sure they won't laugh if you trip.

~Jonathan Carrol

Happy Valentines and Love to You All!

—Candy D. Zavala
President, ALA Unit 593



Rider's Report

Wow, did the month of January fly by or what? So many events jam packed into 31 days!

I want to thank all of you who participated in all the events that happened during the month of January:

A big thanks to those of the ALR who helped with the January breakfast, and even greater hooah to all the Riders who stuck around and worked the miracle of the Kitchen Cleanup. To each and every one of you who helped you went into the stratosphere in that kitchen!! For anyone who by some way has not seen it since they cleaned, please check it out. And if you are going to use the kitchen for anything, let's keep it clean.

On 7 January, 2011 we lost a person special to all of the ALR. Lawrence "Mac" "Ladies Man" McCormack passed away. For those of you who did not have the opportunity to meet Mac, this 101 year old WWII veteran who served at Normandy on D-Day as a Combat Engineer, was a true example of the Greatest Generation. He always wore a smile and loved being around all the Riders. Our thoughts and prayers to his family.

Clayton Smith/our Rider Service Officer is hoping to have lots of help in preparing for the 2011 ALR Texas State Rally in May 2011. I attended the Department of Texas Midwinter Conference in January and briefed on the upcoming rally with the hopes of having lots of folks make it. We all need to pitch in and make this the rally to be talked about for years to come. Contact Clayton, Terry, Paula, or Brad Pierce to get into the action.

Our efforts in support of the American Legion Legacy Scholarship fund our moving right along. The Taste of Freedom Dinner this year will be held on July 29, 2011 at the Holy Trinity Banquet Hall. Velma Smith has posted her flyers and look for those tickets to this event to be coming soon.

Our Lady Riders in the Auxiliary, hit it out of the park on January 15-16 with the annual Georgia Horner Memorial Chili Cook-off in conjunction with the CASI cook-off that weekend. Please thank the ladies of the Auxiliary for putting this on. The weekend proved to be profitable to everyone as the Legion, Auxiliary and the Riders made money, not to mention the canteen.

As always I close with my sincere appreciation to all of you who get involved in the many activities and events at the post and give that extra bit of sweat equity towards another successful year.

—Jim Bennett
Director, Post 593 Riders



Valentines & Vegas Casino Night

Make sure you have your ticket to attend "Valentine's & Vegas" Casino Night on Saturday, February 12, 2011 from 6:30 to 11pm.

Tickets include gambling money, 2 drink tickets, finger foods, and an entry to win one of TWO 42" HD TVs being given away this night. Prizes for Casino Winners include: 1st Place: 42" HD TV, 2nd Place: Surround Sound System, 3rd Place: Blu-Ray DVD Player.

There will also be a Costume Contest this night. Dress as the Rat Pack (1940's) or in your best Vegas attire. Prizes will be given away for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners.

There will be a professional Elvis impersonator providing entertainment for the evening. Elvis will also perform a Valentines Renewal of Wedding Vows ceremony in honor of Valentine's Day

Finally, there will be a professional photographer, Jim Evans, taking Valentines Photos for only \$10 for an 8 x 10.

Tickets are \$50 each. *** ONLY 200 Tickets to Be Sold! ***

Schedule of Events:

- 6:30 Doors Open
- 7:00 Renewal of Wedding Vows
- 7:30 Gaming Tables Open (3 hours, Craps, Roulette, Blackjack, Texas Hold 'Em)
- 10:30: Auction
 - Costume Contest Winners Announced
 - Casino Winners Announced
 - Raffle Winners Announced
 - Grand Prize Raffle Winner Announced

For tickets Call:

Irma Ducharme (210) 639-5412
Gina Creech (210) 617-0846

—Dennis

It's a New Year. The bartending staff will be checking membership status during the next few weeks. And just a reminder, the staff can ask to see your membership card at any time. Please understand this is not meant to hassle you but must be done to protect the Legion.

The electronic Newsletter Mailing List is building nicely. You know that because you're receiving this. Please tell your friends to join the list. The more folks we add, the less we have to send, saving printing and postage costs. To their name on the electronic delivery list, please have them send an email to alpost593newsletter@yahoo.com. Thanks for your support of this effort to save some \$\$\$!

2nd Vice Notes

Super Bowl Party! February 6th 3pm - ????????

Tailgate party starts at 3pm. Kickoff is at 5:28pm

Door prizes drawn at half time Food, Food, Food

Come join in on the fun.

2nd Saturday of Every Month is Breakfast. Eggs cooked to order, sausage, bacon, hash browns, biscuits, and gravy all for only \$7.00

Last Friday is Steak Night: 12 oz NY Strip, Baked Potato, Vegetable, Salad and Roll for \$13.00

These dinners are rotated by the Legion, Auxiliary, Riders and SAL. Please contact me at no1clreed@sbcglobal.net to see how you can help!!

Huge thanks to all of those who have stepped up and helped out so much over the last few months. An extra special thanks to those of you that helped in the major GI party for the kitchen in January. What a great group of people!!

—Chrissy Reed

HOT NEWS!!! Change in operating hours beginning Sunday, Jan 2, 2011:

The Scheduled Closing time of the Post will be 6:00PM on Sundays. This can be adjusted as required for special events.

It's a New Year. The bartending staff will be checking membership status during the next few weeks. And just a reminder, the staff can ask to see your membership card at any time. Please understand this is not meant to hassle you but must be done to protect the Legion.

Post 593 now has it's own Facebook page. If you're on Facebook, look up "Post 593 TX" for late notice news and current events information. Be sure to click the "Like" button so you can join in the discussions or post your events.

January 2011 E-Veterans Newsletter

The January 2011 edition of the E-Vets Newsletter is now posted on the Texas Veterans Commission website and is located here: http://www.tvc.state.tx.us/images/uploads/media_and_news/E-VETS_JAN_11.pdf

You may also find these stories and other important information in the Latest News Section of the Texas Veterans Commission website here: <http://www.tvc.state.tx.us/latest-news>

We ask that you share the E-Vets Newsletter with your fellow employees, fellow veterans, their families, your clients and neighbors. If you know someone who may benefit from receiving this notice and additional newsworthy information from the Texas Veterans Commission, please ask them to subscribe by emailing us at info@tvc.state.tx.us.

Do you have a comment or suggestion regarding the E-Vets Newsletter? If so, please email us at: webadministrator@tvc.state.tx.us. We would love to hear from you.

Please share with your co-workers who may not be on this distribution list.

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Valentines & Vegas Casino Night

Hosted by The American Legion, Post 593

Join us for cocktails, hors d'oeuvres, blackjack, Texas hold 'em, craps, and roulette. Professional Elvis impersonator will entertain and perform a renewal of wedding vows ceremony. Dress in your best Vegas costumes! Great Prizes: Two 42" HD TVs, Surround Sound System, & a Blu-Ray Player.

Saturday, February 12th, 2011

6:30pm - ?

326 Legion Drive West

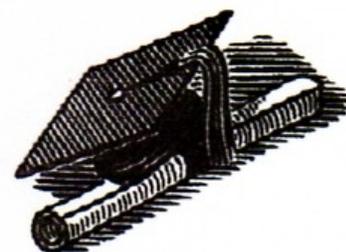
Converse, TX

(210) 658-1111

www.Post593.org



THE AMERICAN LEGION **Department of Texas**



DEPARTMENT TRAINING PROGRAM

The American Legion, Department of Texas is excited to announce that we will conduct training on the Fundamentals of Post Operations; training will be conducted at three locations across the state to provide everyone the chance to attend.

San Antonio – February 5, 2011 at American Legion Post 2
Dallas / Fort Worth – February 19, 2011 at American Legion Post 569
Houston – March 5, 2011 at American Legion Post 490

Some of the topics to be covered during this session include:

- How to conduct a meeting
- Department Programs – Boys State / Oratorical / School Programs
- Membership Information
- MyLegion.org
- Post Operations / Resources
- Veterans Assistance

The training is open to all Legion Family Members wishing to learn more about The American Legion, training will begin at 9am at each location.

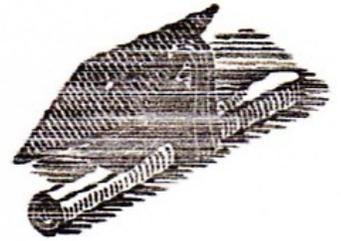
Anyone wishing to attend is encouraged to complete the American Legion Extension Institute Course (ALEI) prior to attending as it will provide you with basic information about The American Legion. ALEI Training to be given at the upcoming Midwinter Conference on Saturday, January 22nd at 8am at the Omni Southpark Hotel in Austin; booklets can also be ordered from the Department Headquarters or from National Emblem Sales.

A mini version of the training will be given during the 4th Division Convention in Lubbock, May 21, 2011 at American Legion Post 575.



THE AMERICAN LEGION

Department of Texas



DEPARTMENT TRAINING REGISTRATION FORM

Name _____ Post # _____

Membership ID # _____

Address _____

City _____ Zip _____

Email _____ Phone _____

Please check which training session you will attend

___ San Antonio – February 5, 2011 at American Legion Post 2

___ Dallas / Fort Worth – February 19, 2011 at American Legion Post 569

___ Houston – March 5, 2011 at American Legion Post 490

___ Lubbock – May 21, 2011 at American Legion Post 575 (4th Division Convention)

Have You completed The American Legion Extension
Institute Course?

Yes _____ No _____

If you wish to order the The American Legion Extension Course complete the section below and submit a separate check.

ALEI # _____ X \$6.00 = \$ _____

Send Registration Form to:

The American Legion
Attn: Dept Training Program
PO Box 140527
Austin, TX. 78714

American Legion Post 593



February 2011	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
General Membership Meeting 2 Feb 7:30 PM			Dart League 7 pm	General Membership Meeting 7:30 pm	Riders Grill 6-8pm Dart League 7 pm	Shuffle Board Challenge 7:30 pm	
Super Bowl Party 6 Feb 3:00 PM	6 Super Bowl Party 3:00PM Food, 50/50, Tailgate Party and more!	7	8 ALR Exec Mtg 7:30 Dart League 7 pm	9 New Building Committee Meeting 7:30PM	10 Riders Grill 6-8pm Dart League 7 pm	11 Chicken Fried Steak Dinner 6-8PM Shuffle Board Challenge 7:30 pm	12 Breakfast 8-11 am Casino Night 6:30-11PM See news article for more info
Chicken Fried Steak Dinner 11 Feb 6-8PM	13	14 Valentine's Day  Dart League 7 pm	15 ALR Gen Mbr Mtg 7:30 pm Dart League 7 pm	16 Post Exec Mtg. 7:30 pm	17 Riders Grill 6-8pm Dart League 7 pm	18 Shuffle Board Challenge with Post 592 Dart Tournament 7:30 PM	19
Breakfast, 12 Feb 8-11AM	20 Four Chaplains Ceremony 2:00PM	21 Washington's Birthday  Dart League 7 pm	22 Dart League 7 pm	23	24 Riders Grill 6-8pm Dart League 7 pm	25 Steak Night 6-8PM Entertainment to Follow Shuffle Board Challenge 7:30 pm	26
Casino Night 12 Feb 6:30-11PM	27	28					
Steak Night 25 Feb 6-8PM							
Shuffleboard Challenge moved to Friday Nights 7:30PM							
A meal of Grilled Chicken, baked beans and macaroni salad will be offered by Cheryl Fleck and Jeff Martin prior to the General Membership Meeting, from 5-7 PM on Feb 2nd. Just \$5.00 with proceeds going to the New Building Fund							

Phone: 210-668-1111

General Membership Meeting 2 Feb 7:30 PM

Super Bowl Party 6 Feb 3:00 PM

Chicken Fried Steak Dinner 11 Feb 6-8PM

Breakfast, 12 Feb 8-11AM

Casino Night 12 Feb 6:30-11PM

Steak Night 25 Feb 6-8PM

Shuffleboard Challenge moved to Friday Nights 7:30PM