



William M. Randolph, Post 593

The American Legion

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

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Post Home Manager: Terry Smith



Hours of Operation

Mon-Thur: 1pm-11:00pm

Friday: 1pm - 1am

Saturday: 12pm - 1am

Sunday: 12pm-6pm

(Hours may vary due to business)

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

JUNE 2011

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Commander's Corner

Wow! I don't always talk about past events but the ALR State Rally was nothing but exceptional! Hats off to all who spent hours preparing, working, enjoying, and visiting with all the guests from other Posts from across Texas, as well as four die-hards from Michigan! Several guests commented not only on the preparation and how well we showed off our home, but how friendly everyone was to them. Yes, that is exactly the results we want, not only for this event but for our day to day visitors. Thank you!

I would like to mention two events that are also out of the ordinary. First is the Roll Call of Veterans at Fort Sam Houston National Cemetery. Last year, members of the 20th District, with a large Post 593 contingent, read the names of all veterans who are buried there over a four-day period. This year, over 3,000 veterans' names were read on Saturday, May 28th, having been added in the past year. This is a project the District plans to continue in future years and we had several help out. The second event is KLRN's Blazing Gavels. We are looking for volunteers to help in this televised auction on Flag Day,



Auxiliary News

I hope everyone had a safe and enjoyable Memorial Day holiday... and by that, I meant to say, I hope everyone drank plenty of fluids and invested in some good sunscreen. I'm sure it's wasn't pleasant going back to work the next work day with a headache and/or a sunburn. Not that it's ever happened to me....hehehe.

Here we are in June. Juuuuune !! That means it is election time. It's hard to believe a year has already passed but it has. So it's now time to nominate and elect your Unit officers for 2011-2012.

We have had several people step up and show an interest in guiding our Unit in learning about and supporting the Auxiliary's programs. But, please, you new members that would like to become more involved don't be afraid to step and speak up. We are a fortunate group in that we have great mentors and senior members within our Unit.

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June 14th on 2 shifts in the evening. Sign-up sheets are posted in the restroom hallway. Besides good food being provided, we will have a few talking about the Legion and our programs. Sounds like fun to me!

I mentioned the window dressing for the non-smoking room last month. Well, if you haven't seen, they have been dressed—new darker wood blinds with matching wood window trim that highlight the freshness of the white paint on the walls. And the price was right—donated! The lights and ceiling fans are also new, and when we did have that brief downpour, no water entered the room. Success! It is still a work in progress but we'll have a Grand Opening shortly. Thanks to all who have contributed.

Installation of officers will be on Saturday, July 16th. Since we have 5 Saturdays in July, we will slide the monthly dart tournament back one week and slide the Steak Night forward one week. We have tickets on sale now for the upcoming Sixth Annual Legacy Dinner, being held Friday, July 29th. The ALR is also looking for items to be used in the silent and live auctions. If you have something you'd like to donate, just contact one of the Riders. You all know our participation level in the past—I suspect it will be matched!

Lastly, don't forget to vote June 1st. See you at the Post!
For God and Country,

—David Paris
Commander



**Post Elections will be held June 1st.
All day voting will be open until
7:30PM. Be sure to bring your current
Membership Card.**

The SAL will be holding a garage sale Saturday June 11th. Anyone wishing to donate items please contact John Orff at 632-2623. All items not sold will be donated to Goodwill. The Legion is also in need of a trailer for aluminum cans. If anyone has a trailer or a chassis we can build on to donate or sell cheap please contact John Orff.

The electronic Newsletter Mailing List is building nicely, and we'd like to add you to the list. The more folks we add, the less we have to send, saving printing and postage costs. To get your name on the electronic delivery list, please send an email to alpost593newsletter@yahoo.com. Thanks for your support of this effort to save some \$\$\$!

(Auxiliary News Continued from page 1)

If you are interested, please let one of the Nominating Committee know. The ladies of the committee are: Hilda Bray, Isabelle Siepker and Brenda Weeks. Officer elections will be held during our membership meeting on June 1st at 7:30 and nominations will be accepted from the floor.

I would like to say a BIG thank you to our Legion family for your support of the ALR's hosting and throwing one heck of a State Rally party. I know us all "multi-task" and do so much, not only for the Auxiliary but for the Legion, the SAL and the ALR, but trust me, it has not gone unnoticed. That is why people at Department and National know where the heck Post 593, Converse, Texas is. When our Post family gets involved, we leave the rest in the dust.

Before I close my letter for this year's term, I want to thank all of the Unit officers and members for being so giving of your time, blood, sweat and tears this past year.....literally, blood, sweat and tears. I wish I could express my appreciation to you all in a more eloquent way, that I had a word or two that conveyed how warm my heart feels when I think what ALL you ladies have done for our Unit and Post family. But, as you all know, I'm pretty much "Texas". "Howdy" is one of my favorite words. "Adios" or "goodbye" is not so much a favorite. I guess I'll say it in Texican. "Muchas gracias, mi amigas. Todos ustedes son senoras hermosas y generosas." Thank you very much, my friends. All of you are beautiful and generous ladies.

Come join us on June 1st at 7:30 for the general membership meeting. Get to know your fellow members and take part in your Unit's election of officers.

Thank you for all that you do,

—Candy D. Zavala
President, ALA Unit 593

2nd Vice Notes

The 2011 KLRN Blazing Gavels TV Auction is here. We are looking for volunteers to help in this televised auction on Flag Day, June 14th on 2 shifts in the evening. Sign-up sheets are posted in the restroom hallway. Besides good food being provided, we will have a few talking about the Legion and our programs.

Please keep in mind our Legacy Scholarship Fund "Taste of Freedom Dinner" is coming up in July. Although our riders have taken this on for several years, it is a Legion Sponsored event, so even if you are not a rider, please step up and help. We have plenty to do and a short time to get it done.

—Chrissy Reed
2nd Vice Commander



Rider's Report

June brings elections and wonderful riding weather. The ability to express our opinion through the democratic process is one of the most honored traditions of our Country.

Along with this great opportunity comes great responsibility. Involvement in the voting process and the functional bodies that we belong to is a burden that we must bear along with the freedoms that are given to us. With this in mind it is imperative that we not only get out and vote on June 14th for the Riders and in the bodies that we belong to, but continue to stay involved and participate throughout the year.

I would like to thank all of those members that supported, assisted or attended our American Legion Riders State Rally. A wonderful time was had by all, and once again our little post demonstrated its ability to step up and set the standard for future events. The involvement of our members is the key to the success of our Post and the causes that we support. The event put forth by our riders and legion family speaks volumes for the efforts and time that was required to host this wonderful event. It was with great pride that we watched the accumulated efforts of so many individuals come together for the enjoyment of all.

Come by to enjoy our Riders Grill every Thursday night. We will also be focusing our efforts for the Legacy Taste of Freedom Dinner coming in July. Tickets are on sale now, and anyone that would like to get involved and assist would be greatly appreciated. As we head into the summer season enjoy the opportunity to enjoy family, friends, and the camaraderie of those around us. Ride safely, ride long, and ride often.

—Danny "Peter" Muth
Assistant Director, Post 593 Riders

General Membership meal prior to the meeting on June 1 will be Chicken Wings, Mandarin Salad and Beans prepared by John Orff and crew. C'mon out from 5-7PM.

We would like to fill the picture boards near the pool table with photos our Military family members and ourselves. Please bring in anything you like to share with the Post Membership.

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.

9-11 Anniversary Remembrance



Folks, 2011 marks the 10th Anniversary of the horrible September 11 2001 tragedy. Rudy Guastella is heading up a committee to honor those who gave all on that fateful day. They are in early planning stages and can use your help. Please join Rudy and his group on June 22nd at 7:30pm at the Post if you're interested in lending a hand during this service. For more information, contact Rudy at 516-668-6387. Thank you for your continued support of our Legion events and programs.



Shuffleboard

Skunk of the month!

It was a dark and stormy night. Well, not really. It was a warm and humid Wednesday night. The shuffleboard table was empty as it was Post Exec Meeting night. Young

John P. was bored and set the challenge to the up and coming seasoned veteran Henri Falco.

The match started like many others, at zero to zero. Young John shot well, as he usually does, but something inside the budding vet wasn't going to have any of it. A 1 here, a 3 there, and before you knew it young John was watching the game slip always. He tried lagging, he tried spinning, he tried left, right and center. Henri covered every one of his attempts and continued to slowly run up the score. Young John remained composed, determined to get the elusive skunk killing 1 point. But alas, Henri continued to show her dominance. By the time it was 13-0, young John was pounding Dr. Pepper's like there's no tomorrow. And sadly, at least for this game, there wasn't. Young John went on to take his first 15-0 loss. John, don't fret. We've all been there. You'll get your revenge soon enough. Keep shooting!

Send your shuffle board skunk stories to jfalco@satx.rr.com.



MILITARY APPRECIATION

~ A SIZZLING SALUTE! ~

\$49 MILITARY PRIME TIME ANYTIME!

Ruth's Chris Steak House **\$49 MILITARY PRIME TIME ANYTIME Menu** is offered daily for Military men & women—active duty or retired—and their families...includes a glass of Murrieta's Well wine for a **SIZZLING SALUTE!** We want our military to enjoy a Ruth's Chris experience and in some small way demonstrate our appreciation for your service to our country.

Enjoy a Complete 3 Course Meal that includes a Starter, Entrée, Side Dish & Dessert & A Glass of Murrieta's Well Wine ~ The Whip or The Spur

Choice of Starter

Soup du Jour

Steak House Salad ~ Mixed greens with grape tomatoes, garlic croutons, red onions & your choice of dressing

Caesar Salad ~ Crisp romaine hearts tossed with Romano cheese & our creamy Caesar dressing

Choice of Entrée

Filet ~ 8 oz. of tender, corn-fed Midwestern beef, broiled to your liking

Stuffed Chicken Breast ~ Oven roasted double chicken breast stuffed with garlic herb cheese

Market Fresh Seafood Selection ~ Your server will describe the seafood our chef has selected for today

Choose One of our Famous Side Dishes

Sautéed Mushrooms

Mashed Potatoes

Creamed Spinach

Choice of Dessert

Cheesecake ~ Creamy cheesecake with a pecan crust served with blueberry sauce

Chocolate Chunk Bread Pudding ~ Chocolate lovers delight with chunks of white & semi-sweet chocolate, mixed with chopped pecans & topped with caramel

Ice Cream or Sorbet

No Substitutions Please!

*Must present Military ID Card

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1170 E. Commerce @ Sunset Station
Call for Reservations 210.227.8847

Complimentary Valet Parking
7720 Jones Maltsberger @ Concord Plaza
Call for Reservations 210.821.5051

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The American Legion praises House action to limit military health care premium hikes

WASHINGTON (May 13, 2011) - The American Legion applauds the House Armed Services Committee for approving a defense budget bill Thursday morning that, while allowing for modest increases in TRICARE premiums for working-age retirees, restricts the Department of Defense's (DOD's) ability to raise fees in the future. TRICARE is the military health insurance program serving active duty service members, National Guard and Reserve members, military career retirees and their families.

As the House Armed Services Committee crafted the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) for the coming fiscal year, it responded to arguments by The American Legion leadership and others on the TRICARE premium issue. The Legion, according to a recently adopted resolution, "...resists increases in TRICARE premiums to retirees and adamantly opposes any proposal that will significantly and negatively impact quality of life benefits for honorable military service...and [requests] that any increase must be directly tied to and not exceed the annual cost of living adjustment percentage provided to retirees."

The provision in the legislation capping future fee increases, championed by Armed Services Committee Chairman Howard P. "Buck" McKeon, followed the Legion proposal closely. It called for nominal increases in TRICARE premiums tied to the annual cost-of-living-allowance (COLA) granted eligible military personnel. This would keep premium increases lower than those proposed by the Department of Defense. DOD had asked that premium hikes be aligned with the far higher annual National Health Expenditure index rate. However, neither the Pentagon nor the House Armed Services Committee budget proposals contain provisions for TRICARE premium increases for military retirees over the age of 65 or for survivors of military veterans.

The national commander of the 2.4-million member American Legion, Jimmie L. Foster, reacted happily to news of the passage. He said, "We are grateful to Congressman McKeon and his colleagues who have remembered, as we do, that our military retirees have given decades of service to our country, risking their lives in combat, often serving under arduous conditions and being separated from their families. Keeping their insurance rates low is one way we can repay them for their honorable service, and assure them of our nation's gratitude."

In language accompanying the defense bill intended to discourage a future congress from raising military retirees' health care costs dramatically, McKeon noted that, "Career members of the uniformed services and their families endure unique and extraordinary demands and make extraordinary sacrifices over the course of a 20- to 30-year career protecting freedom for all Americans" and "...those decades of sacrifice constitute a significant prepaid premium for health care during a career member's retirement that is over and above what the member pays with money."

The measure will now go to the House floor for debate. Final passage is expected later this month or in early June. The Senate will then take up the legislation. "We are hopeful that the final bill will be sent to the President for his signature by early fall," said Foster.

"As we all are aware," concluded Foster, "our country is deep in debt and sacrifice will be required of all, but America's military men and women have sacrificed plenty for the nation's cause already, especially those who have served 20 or more years. This legislation explicitly acknowledges that. We look forward to similar, favorable action by the full House and on the Senate side. That would be no less than what our women and men in uniform, past and present, deserve."

Media contacts: Marty Callaghan, mcallaghan@legion.org or 202-263-5758/202-215-8644; Craig Roberts [202-263-2982](tel:202-263-2982); Cell [202-406-0887](tel:202-406-0887).

American Legion Post 593



June 2011

Phone: 210-658-1111

Post Elections June 1
All Day Voting, until
7:30PM

General Membership
Meeting 1 June
7:30 PM

Chicken Fried Steak
Dinner 10 June
6-8PM

Breakfast, 11 June
8-11AM

KLRN Auction
Staffing June 14

Dart Tourney
18 June 7:30

9-11 Memorial
Meeting 22 June
7:30PM

Steak Night
24 June 6-8PM

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|--|-----------------------------------|--|--|--|--|---|
| <p>Membership Meeting Meal of chicken wings, mandarin salad and beans will be provided by John Orff and crew on June 1, 5-7 PM, \$5.00</p> | | | <p>1 POST ELECTIONS ALL DAY VOTING</p> <p>General Membership Meeting 7:30 pm</p> | <p>2 Riders Grill 6-8pm Dart League 7 pm</p> | <p>3 Shuffle Board Challenge 7:30 pm</p> | <p>4</p> |
| <p>5</p> | <p>6</p> | <p>7</p> <p>ALR Exec Mtg 7:30</p> <p>Dart League 7 pm</p> | <p>8</p> | <p>9</p> <p>Riders Grill 6-8pm Dart League 7 pm</p> | <p>10</p> <p>Chicken Fried Steak Dinner 6-8PM</p> <p>Shuffle Board Challenge 7:30 pm</p> | <p>11</p> <p>Breakfast 8-11 am</p> |
| <p>12</p> | <p>13</p> <p>Dart League 7 pm</p> | <p>14</p> <p>Flag Day ALR Gen Mbr Mtg 7:30 pm</p> <p>KLRN Auction Dart League 7 pm</p> | <p>15</p> <p>Post Exec Mtg, 7:30 pm</p> | <p>16</p> <p>Riders Grill 6-8pm Dart League 7 pm</p> | <p>17</p> <p>Shuffle Board Challenge 7:30 pm</p> | <p>18</p> <p>Dart Tournament 7:30 PM</p> |
| <p>19</p> | <p>20</p> <p>Dart League 7 pm</p> | <p>21</p> | <p>22</p> <p>9-11 Memorial Meeting 7:30PM</p> | <p>23</p> <p>Riders Grill 6-8pm Dart League 7 pm</p> | <p>24</p> <p>Steak Night 6-8PM Entertainment to Follow Shuffle Board Challenge 7:30 pm</p> | <p>25</p> |
| <p>26</p> | <p>27</p> <p>Dart League 7 pm</p> | <p>28</p> <p>Dart League 7 pm</p> | <p>29</p> | <p>30</p> <p>Riders Grill 6-8pm Dart League 7 pm</p> | | <p>Join us on Facebook. Look up Post 593 TX to join</p> |