

# William M. Randolph, Post 593

# The American Legion





Non-Profit Organization U. S. POSTAGE PAID Converse, Texas Permit No. 28

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NOVEMBER 2010

### **RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

#### **Hours of Operation**

Mon-Thur: 1pm-11:00pm Friday: 1pm - 2am Saturday: 12pm - 2am Sunday: 12pm-Midnight (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 Place Mailing Label Here



## Commander's Corner

This is the month for thanks, and I'd like to personally thank all volun-teers who do the little things. Some

take out the trash after others cook, rearrange furniture after functions, wash kitchen towels, pick up trash in hallways or bathrooms, empty tables where patrons left items (would you leave dirty glasses on your kitchen table?) or fold newsletters. To those who pitch in, thank you.

, October simply kept most of us really hopping and with the upcoming holidays, it will get busier. Don't forget the important things in life. We won't be here forever, so take time to enjoy each other. Some say this is how cliques start. I disagree people naturally gravitate to things that make them comfortable. But let's find out new things about each other. We're all connected to prior or current service so talk to someone at the Post and find something new and positive to share.

I take the blame for the lateness of the mailing of the last 2 newsletters. I know this simply is not an easy operation. Yes, we have a printer who *(Continued on page 2)* 



# **Auxiliary** News

Well, we made it through another summer. Yes, I know, we are still wearing shorts, but can't you feel the change in the air....and the smell.

Yeah, that's it. It smells like pumpkin and pecan pie. As some of you might know, My, My, I love pie!!

Before I get too carried away with the wonderful things happening over the next couple of months, I must give some hoorah's and woohoo's to the Auxiliary's Legion, SAL and Rider family who helped in making October's events successful. We hosted breakfast, nearly 90 plates, and hosted the Early Bird "Stake" Night. Wow! It was non-stop, it was like a room full of Tasmanian Devils, but WE did it! And, last but not least, how about those ghouls and goblins who helped out with our Halloween Fest and Haunted House. I think we "grown-ups" enjoyed dressing up as much the children.

A few things to make note of on your calendar are: The Legion's Service Officer will be

#### (Commander's Corner Continued from page 1)

them and does the first fold. Then we hope to get enough volunteers to fold them again, label them, put the required tabs on the sides, sort them and count them. It averages 12 man-hours to do this monotonous function. This is why the Executive Committee is asking everyone who can to switch to the online version. I know we tried in the past and we did not keep up our end—we didn't send the email notice when it was ready. We ask you give us another shot. The new email notice has the link right in it making it extremely easy. By the way, almost 700 are mailed each month, and only a handful are not local. The cost is considerable—almost \$5,000 last year for printing, folding, mailing. Don't get me wrong—if you don't have a computer we will make sure you still get a newsletter as each and every one is a valuable member of our organizations.

The District golf tournament is postponed to the spring. We had two teams ready to go so maybe we can field another one or two—keep checking for the new date (probably March).

Lastly, thank you for your suggestions and guidance as the entire team works together for the betterment of the best Post in South Texas!

For God and Country,



#### —David Paris Commander

It is my sad duty to report that one of our fellow Legionnaires went to report to the Post Everlasting when called by the Great Commander of All. Ken Carpenter passed away in October. Please keep his family and friends in your prayers.

**Chaplain's Corner** 

Art White remains in the hospital in ICU. Please keep him in your prayers as well.

November marks the start of the holiday season. Yes, it's been a trying year for some. The economy isn't doing as well as we'd like. But during the Thanksgiving holiday season, we should pause and reflect on all the blessings we have. We should thank God for living in this great country, for what we have and for our family and friends. Being a part of the Legion Family has many benefits, but none as precious as the feeling of community we experience. Please remember those less fortunate and, if you're able, donate to our Thanksgiving and Christmas food basket programs.

For God and Country,

—Dennis Ducharme Chaplain

#### (Auxiliary News Continued from page 1)

collecting dry goods for the Thanksgiving and Christmas baskets going to those in need in our community. There will be a collection box in the canteen area. On your next trip to the grocery store pick up an extra can or two of corn, green beans or the like and drop it by the Post. It will make your heart and someone else's holiday very happy.

November is our Unit's Poppy month. Poppies will be available in the canteen area. The Poppy board will also go up this month. As it was last year, you can donate \$1 per square chosen, and on November 30th the winning square numbers will be drawn and gift cards awarded. Later in the month, we will also be accepting donations for various Poppy crafts.

December 4th from 1 - 3 pm the Auxiliary will be hosting the Children's Christmas Party. Please keep an eye out for the signup sheet in the canteen area. Santa said he likes to have an accurate list of those attending so that he can make sure to pack the sleigh with everyone's gifts. The Unit will also be hosting the Seniors' Christmas Party December 12th from 1 - 3 pm. I've heard from a little birdie that there will be games to accompany the Christmas lunch.

As you can see, our Unit is busy. We could not do it without the support of you, our members. If you have not renewed your membership, please do so before the year's end. If you don't, you will lose your benefits and years of continuous membership. Not only that, the veteran programs we support also lose. Send in your renewal to the Post and mark it to the attention of your Vice-President, Pati Bennett. If you know of someone that is eligible to join, encourage them. By our membership numbers and dues we can offer our veterans the support they deserve.

In closing, I hope that you all will consider receiving your newsletters by email if you are able to do so. It will free up monies that can be used to support programs of the American Legion.

I wish you all a safe and Happy Thanksgiving surrounded by those you love. And, remember, it's okay to have AT LEAST one piece of pie.

> -Candy D. Zavala President, ALA Unit 593

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

There have been questions recently about Membership Dues mailings from the American Legion National HQ. If you pay your dues at the Post, disregard those mailings. It takes a few weeks from the time you renew to get National updated. If you've paid, you're good to go.



# **Rider's Report**

Well here we are gearing up for the holidays and the involvement of all the ALR 593 family is growing. I want to thank everyone for stepping up and attending and/or helping out at all the different things that went on during

the month of October. All of you did us proud.

November 11th is Veteran's Day and we have been invited to attend a **Veteran's Day Ceremony** at Our Lady of the Lake University. Please keep an eye on your email and the ALR website for updates.

The **Texas Honor Ride** is November 13th, and as is our custom, we will be handling the refueling of the bikes at Buc-ees that morning. Please contact Paula Johnson or Clayton Smith if you haven't volunteered to help out.

Along with the Texas Honor Ride, we are implementing "**Operation Overpass**" hoping to get involvement from both our post and other organizations to place flags on the overpasses leading into San Antonio along IH 10 to Loop 410 coming in from Seguin. Anyone wanting to participate from any of our Legion family please contact our ALR Service Officer Clayton Smith at <u>ws2063@att.com</u>.

The Riders also will host the monthly breakfast on the same day as the Honor Ride, so if you don't plan on making the ride, please volunteer to work breakfast that morning.

As I have told many folks before, don't always be asked to step up, just tell someone you wish to help and I can guarantee that your help will be appreciated.

On November 20th the Audie Murphy VA Medical Center will be having their annual **To Hell and Back Rally** at the VA Hospital. A ride from the Kerrville VA facility will be that morning with the ride ending in San Antonio. There will be food, music, games and a chance to support the patients there with all proceeds going to help the patients. Come on out for a great ride, and show the veterans at the hospital that they have not been forsaken.

I cannot express my appreciation enough to all those of you who are getting involved in the activities going on during what seems like a never ending series of events. But as veterans who are still able to live the ways we live thanks to the sacrifices of those who served before us, the hard work, long hours and continued service we do for our communities and the American Legion is a self rewarding experience. Thanks to all.

> —Jim Bennett Director, Post 593 Riders



## **Service Officer Notes**

Hello to all. Once again the holidays are upon us. And once again it is our turn to help those that are in need of holiday meals. There will be a donation box at the Legion starting in Nov. Please if you can donate can and dry goods to help fill the din-

ner baskets for the Thanksgiving holiday meal that we provide for the families that can't afford it for themselves. Any and all donations will be gratefully appreciated.

ON that note, just a reminder that on Friday December the 21st we will be having our annual Spaghetti dinner to help raise more can and dry goods to fill the Christmas dinner baskets. The cost of the dinner is 4 can or dry goods or \$5.00 donation. There will also be a raffle with a lot of prizes to be given out. All the proceeds from the dinner and raffle go to help fill out the baskets that donation of goods does not cover and to help Vet's in need throughout the following year. Thanks to all in advance and hope to see you soon.

> —Shannon Lynde Service Officer



### Valentines & Vegas Casino Night

Planning is going well. Tickets are now on sale for the first Post 593 casino night to be held on February 12th.

We're always looking for dona-

tions for the raffles and auction. We need sponsors for the gaming tables. Please consider sponsoring a table. Maybe get with some friends, pool your money, and sponsor a "Cowboys" table, or a "I Hate Green Bay" table, or just a "We Love Post 593" table! Sponsor forms are on the web at: <u>www.Post593.org</u>.

Everyone who buys a ticket to attend casino night will be automatically entered into a raffle to win a 42" HD TV. There will be prizes for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners of the casino. The first place prize is a 42" HD TV, second place is a surround sound system, and third place is a Blu Ray player.

There are a limited number of tickets for sale. I'm sure we're going to sell out, so be sure to get your tickets early.

We're still looking for volunteers to help plan and make our first casino night a success. Our next meeting is Wednesday, November 10th at 7:30 pm. Come out, get involved and make a difference in your Post!

—Dennis

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 <u>alpost593newsletter@yahoo.com</u>. Thanks for your support of this effort to save some \$\$\$!

## Veterans' Day Appreciation by Companies

In honor of Veterans Day on Nov. 11, restaurants, retail stores and entertainment centers across the country are offering some truly amazing deals and some okay deals for everyone from veterans and their families to firefighters and police officers.

THANK YOU ALL FOR YOUR SERVICE!

### **Restaurant Freebies**

- Applebee's Restaurant Free dinners to veterans throughout the day.
- Outback Steakhouse Free Blooming Onion and beverage.
- Golden Corral- Free buffet dinner from 5-9 p.m. on Nov. 16 to anyone who has ever served in the U.S. military.
- Krispy Kreme One free doughnut of any variety.
- Coushatta Casino Resort The Louisiana casino and resort is offering a free seven-clans lunch or dinner buffet to veterans or active military.

### **Retail Freebies**

- Lowe's & Home Depot Extra 10% off to active-duty military members, National Guard and reserve members, retirees, honorably discharged veterans and immediate family members.
- Sam's Club Over 25,000 Hugo canes will be given away to U.S. veterans in need of mobility assistance. Membership is not required, but supplies are limited, so check with your local store.
- Amazon.com Free "Veterans Day Honor" MP3 album download. The album includes 12 songs by The Bands and Ensembles of the U.S. Armed Forces.
- Cabela's Outdoor Store Offers their employee discount to all veterans, active-duty military and reserves, law enforcement, fire and EMS personnel Nov. 11-12. Discounts vary from 5% to 50%, depending on the item.
- Build-a-Bear Workshop Members of the armed services including the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, Coast Guard, and Reserve Officer Training Corps, will receive a 20% discount Nov. 11-15 on any one transaction at Build-A-Bear Workshop.
- Dollar General 10% discount for all veterans, active-duty military, National Guard and reserve and their immediate families.
- Fashion Bug 20% off all plus-size and misses clothing purchases with a copy of military ID or spouse's military ID.



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| SATURDAY      | (c)   | <sup>13</sup> Breakfast<br>8-11 am<br>Texas Honor<br>Ride   | 20<br>Dart Tournament<br>7:30 PM  | 27   | the patio as well as<br>th is in full swing.   |
|---------------|---|---|---|--|--|
| FRIDAY        | 5<br>Friday at the Legion   | 12<br>Chicken Fried<br>Steak Dinner<br>6-8PM  | 19<br>Friday at the Legion  | 26<br>Friday at the Legion   | the new big screen on<br>as. Snacks provided.<br>scond Friday of the mo<br>miss out on this!   |
| THURSDAY      | 4<br>Riders Grill 6-8pm<br>Dart League 7 pm                                       | 11<br>Riders Grill 6-8pm<br>Dart League  7 pm   | 18<br>Riders Grill 6-8pm<br>Dart League  7 pm   ∣   | 25<br>Thanksgiving Day<br>Dinner at 2PM<br>Meat provided, bring<br>a side dish | Football Sundays are back! Come check out the new big screen on the patio as well as the indoor viewing areas. Snacks provided.<br>The SAL Chicken Fried Steak meal on the second Friday of the month is in full swing.<br>You don't want to miss out on this! |
| WEDNESDAY     | 3 General<br>Membership<br>Meeting 7:30 pm<br>Guest Speaker<br>Herb Asher at 6:15 | 10<br>New Building<br>Committee<br>Meeting 7:30PM   | 17<br>Post Exec Mtg,<br>7:30 pm   | 24   | Football Sundays are<br>The SAL Chicken Fri  |
| TUESDAY       | 2<br>Election Day<br>MLR Exec Mtg 7:30<br>Shuffle Board<br>Challenge 7:30 pm      | 9<br>ALR Gen Mbr Mtg<br>7:30 pm<br>Shuffleboard<br>Challenge 7:30 pm                                      | 16<br>Shuffleboard<br>Challenge 7:30 pm   | 23<br>Shuffleboard<br>Challenge 7:30 pm  | 30<br>Shuffleboard<br>Challenge 7:30 pm  |
| MONDAY        | 1<br>Dart League 7 pm   | 8<br>Dart League 7 pm   | <i>15</i><br>Dart League 7 pm   | 22<br>Dart League 7 pm   | 29<br>Dart League 7 pm   |
| SUNDAY        |   | 7<br>NFL Football<br>starting at Noon.  | 14<br>NFL Football<br>starting at Noon.   | 21<br>NFL Football<br>starting at Noon.  | 28<br>NFL Football<br>starting at Noon.  |
| NOVEMBER 2010 | General Membership<br>Meeting 3 Nov<br>Guest Speaker Herb<br>Asher Nov 3          | at 6:15PM<br>Emilio will be serving<br>his awesome Flautas<br>for the meal<br>Breakfast, 13 Nov<br>8-11AM | Shuffleboard<br>Challenge<br>Tuesday Nights 7PM<br>Chicken Fried Steak<br>Dirmer 12 Nov 6-8PM | Thanksgiving Meal<br>25 Nov 2PM  | NO STEAK NIGHT<br>IN NOVEMBER  |