

## 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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### **Hours of Operation**

Mon-Thur: 1pm-11:00pm Friday: 1pm - 1am Saturday: 12pm - 1am Sunday: 12pm-10:30pm (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: Jack Leanhart Historian: Ken Echerd Service Officer: Shannon Lynde Sergeant At Arms: Greg Trudo Hubmaster: Christy Miller Members at Large: Jim Evans, Rudy Guastella, Jan Lineback, Brad Martin, Terry O'Meara., Felisa Ramirez

#### Auxiliary Officers:

President: Pati Bennett Vice President: Denise Yanus Secretary: Sandy Vinson Treasurer: Irma Ducharme Historian: Diane Echerd Chaplain: Michelle Smith Sgt At Arms: Brenda Weeks Members at Large: Candy Zavala, Hilda Bray, Isabelle Siepker

#### ALR Officers:

Director: Peter Muth Asst Director: Brad Martin Secretary: Sandy Vinson Treasurer: Ron Pompa Road Captain: Terry Smith Membership: Pati Bennett Sgt. At Arms: Ron Pompa Chaplain: Tim Vinson Service Officer: Clavton Smith Historian: Jim Evans Members at Large: Efrain Gonzales, Ron Devlin, Andy Selko

Sons of the American Legion: Commander: Henry Creech 1st Vice: Dan McGinnis 2nd Vice: Rob Bryant Adjutant: Joe Guastella Finance: Henry Creech Chaplain: Tim Vinson Historian: Ken Echerd Sgt at Arms: Dale Turner Advisor: Dennis Ducharme

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### OCTOBER 2011



## Commander's Corner

Rain-we finally got some, but would love more! Our 100+ degree summer has finally given way so

come on out on weekends and enjoy some football. The pavilion is available for watching your favorite team—just sign out the TV key from the bartender.

September was done right. The Hensley fundraiser netted over \$7k—way to go Legion family. This would not have been possible without Rider Wash Systems involvement—kudos to you! The 9-11 ceremony went off extremely well and it appears the First Responders of our community really enjoyed it. We had a less than 24-hour notice on a reserve unit from College Station deploying for a vear to the sandbox. Word went out and over a dozen came out to see them off. Thanks for caring-we all remember how difficult those separations were on us! Lastly, our own Legion College was well attended and many learned more about this great organization.

NIOC should be in full swing when you get this and Now that we have some rain, let's hope we get that means turkey leg sales! Thanks to Chrissy, John, Joe and others, we should make some more to support the youth scholarships. Also in full swing



## **Auxiliary** News

Let me start by giving a BIG Thank You to all those awesome members of our legion who

worked so very hard to arrange for the ceremony held at Converse Park on Sept 11th, and those who manned the kitchen and served up a great breakfast for all to enjoy after the ceremony was over. I, for one, was very honored to be able to participate on that day. For those of you that were able to attend, you know what I am talking about. It was AWESOME. Our legion joined together with the City of Converse to pay our respects to ALL the victims of that horrific day, 10 years ago, and to honor all who put their lives on the line when needed. Please, let us never forget that every day our Law Enforcement, Firefighters ,and EMT's have chosen to put themselves in harm's way for us, just as our soldiers here and abroad. Thank you to ALL.

some cooler temperatures. We are going to start to get into a very busy time of the year so please keep a lookout for upcoming activities (Continued on page 2)

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

is our membership drive. Folks, you know you're going to renew—let's get it out of the way now. Our year runs July through June so the newest cards show 2012 on top. If yours shows an earlier year, let's send that check in before the holidays get here.

The district golf tournament is Sunday, Oct 23<sup>rd</sup>. This year there is a raffle available to golfers and non-golfers. All monies raised support Boys State expenses, like the bus we have to rent for two different days. If you would like raffle tickets or want to golf, see myself or stop by Post 667 (Universal City).

Lastly, the Legion license plates were cleaned and are back up. Most are located on the rafters of the Pavilion. We do have Post 1 from France in its place of honor above the waitress station, and plates from posts within our district are around the bar. Gina Creech was kind enough to create a spreadsheet that will be kept by the bartenders so visitors can find out if we have a plate from their post or city. See you at the Post!

For God and Country,

—David Paris Commander

### Rep. Isaac Passes Legislation for Veteran's Driver's License

AUSTIN, TX - During the 82nd legislative session, Rep. Jason Isaac (R-Dripping Springs) was successful in passing legislation that will allow veterans to add an endorsement to their Texas driver's license. House Bill 1514 will help honorably discharged veterans of the United States Armed Forces more easily prove their status.

Rep. Isaac commented, "I have many veterans in my family, and it was recently brought to my attention that they often must carry their discharge form (DD-214) with them at all times in order to prove their status. Many businesses, organizations, and events provide certain benefits to this honorable group of citizens and it seems unnecessary that this cumbersome form is the only proof of service that they currently have. Adding a small endorsement to a veteran's driver's license is a common sense solution to this issue."

The bill take effect on September 1st, but because the Department of Public Safety (DPS) will need to establish and approve rules as well as develop software for the new license, it may not be available until several months later. DPS is already working on the implementation of the bill and veterans across the state are welcome to call Rep. Isaac's office or request to join his email newsletter list for updates on the progress of the license.

When the development is complete, veterans will simply have to present proof of honorable service at the DPS office when they renew their license in order to have the endorsement added.

Rep. Isaac continued, "My hope is that this will not only make day to day life more convenient for veterans, but also cut down on instances of fraud in which non-veterans seek benefits reserved for those who have bravely served our country. Although no license, tax exemption, or benefit can ever repay the debt owed to our veterans, I hope these efforts are a small token of appreciation for their service."

### (Auxiliary News Continued from page 1)

and projects that you might be interested in participating in. I know the holidays are busy but an hour here or there makes a world of difference. We have several events coming up so ladies, mark you calendars. We have lots of fun and I know we would love to meet some of those new faces and get to know you, so come on out and jump into the fun. Auxiliary meetings are the first Wednesday of the Month at 7:30.

Don't forget to renew your membership for 2012. Thank you ladies for being all that you are. Have a blessed and safe October.

Sincerely,

—Pati Bennett President, ALA Unit 593

### 2nd Vice News and Notes

On October 8th we will be bidding farewell to one of our treasured employees; Shiori is going back to Japan to be with her family and pursue her educational goals. We would like to send her off with an appreciation party on October 8th at 3pm. She will be leaving on the 10th, so this will be the last chance to see her. Food will be served, please join us in wishing her well.

Breakfast is that morning also, we serve from 8am -11am, \$6.00 for eggs to order, bacon, sausage, hash browns, pancakes, French toast, biscuits, gravy, juice and coffee.

"Stake" Night this month will be on the 28th, it will also be the adult Halloween party. 12oz NY Strip, baked potato, corn or green beans, salad, & roll for \$13.00.

Breakfast and steak night are open to the public, this is a great way to support your post and get a great meal at a cheap price.

Looking forward to seeing you all there.

-Chrissy

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 \$\$\$!



## **Rider's Report**

I would like to go on record as hoping September brings some cooler weather for riding and enjoying life. After such a hot August, I do not believe it can get any hotter, even in South Texas. The end of September

will bring Night in Old Converse. We will be assisting in parking as one of our annual fundraisers. I hope to see you all there supporting our causes and our local community at the same time.

With the summer coming to a close, and everyone back from vacations, trips, and family events, it looks like a good time to come together with our riding family. Let's get out and put some miles on the bikes and spend time doing what we all love to do, ride. We are trying to set up more rides, short rides, long rides, destination rides, and pub crawls. If you are planning a ride, please email <u>alr593info@gmail.com</u> with the info. Anyone can set up a ride, so put it out there and let's ride together. We will set up rides on Saturdays and Sundays to allow everyone the opportunity to participate. If a ride looks right for you, show up and enjoy. It the style, length, or destination is not up your alley, then put out an email for where you want to ride. There is nothing wrong with having a couple of rides on the same day, the important thing is to avail the opportunity for us to ride together.

The key to success in any organization is communication. This requires people to talk and listen. The members at large and the assistant director are preparing a questionnaire to send out to get ideas on what the membership is looking to get more involved in. If you have an idea to increase involvement please express your ideas. If you don't want to wait, please get in touch with the members at large so they can pass on your ideas.

Expressing your ideas will be half of the communication process. The next step is to listen to the variety of ideas and opinions that are expressed. This can be done by reviewing the emails that go out, by visiting the rider forum, and by attending the rider meetings. I will guarantee that you will not personally agree with all of the ideas expressed, but that does not minimize the importance of those ideas. We are a large enough organization, that we can favor different ideas, and make them happen. Get involved in the events and rides that you can, and the ones that you enjoy, but please allow others their opportunity to do the same.

"Do what you can, when you can"

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

The Post functions and programs cannot succeed without YOU! From both a volunteer to a participant standpoint. We've seen a little slide in volunteerism and we really could use you help in many areas. Please contact any Post Officer for information on how YOU can help keep Post 593 the star of Texas it currently is. Thank you in advance for your consideration and thank you also for past efforts and participation.

## **Pumpkin Carving Contest**

Just announced! There will be a pumpkin carving contest during the Post Halloween Party on Oct 28th.

Dave Paris is running this contest. The Post Members at Large present at the event will judge entries. Pumpkins must be carved on site sometime that evening. Prizes to be determined.



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October 2011	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Phone: 210-658-1111 General Membership Meeting 5 Oct 7:30 PM Breakfast, 8 Oct					Join us on Facebook. Look up Post 593 TX to join		1 Night in Ole Converse
8-11AM Shiori's Going Away Party 8 Oct 3PM	2 Night in Ole Converse	8	4	ہ General	9	4	<i>8</i> Breakfast 8-11 am
Chicken Fried Steak Dinner 14 Oct 6-8PM		Dart League 7 pm Shuffleboard League 7:30PM	ALR Exec Mtg 7:30	Membership Meeting 7:30 pm	Dart League 7 pm	Shuffle Board Challenge 7:30 pm	Shiori's Going Away Party 3PM
Dart Tourney 15 Oct 7:30	0	10	11	12	13	14 Chicken Fried	15
Children's Halloween Party 22 Oct 5-10PM		Dart League 7 pm	ALR Gen Mbr Mtg 7:30 pm Rider Grill 5-7PM		Dart League 7 pm	Steak Dinner 6-8PM Shuffle Board Challenge 7:30 pm	Dart Tournament 7:30 PM
Adult Halloween Party 28 Oct Steak Night 28 Oct 6-8PM	16	17	18	19 Post Exec Mtg, 7:30 pm	20	21 Shuffle Roard	22 Children's Halloween Party 5-10PM
-	23 District Golf Tourney 30	Dart League 7 pm 24 Dart League 7 7 7 Dart League 7 pm	25	26	Dart League 7 pm 27 Dart League 7 pm	Challenge 7:30 pm 28 Steak Night 6-8PM Halloween Party Shuffle Board Challenge 7:30 pm	6
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