

The American Legion

William M. Randolph Post 593 326 W. Legion Drive, Converse, TX 78109 (210) 658-1111 e-mail: Post593tx@yahoo.com

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

Circulation: 1000

March, 2006

Post 593 Officers Commander: Ted Toten 1st Vice: Dave Paris 2nd Vice: Jane Clark Adjutant: Gary Barte Finance Officer: Jan Lineback

Chaplain: Andy Foster
Judge Advocate: Bill Mac Allister
Historian: Carol Foster Historian; Carol Foster
Service Officer: Ross Oakes
Sergeant At Arms: Rick White
Members at Large:
Jack Leanhart, Debbie Aguirre
Deany Taylor, Darrell Goemmer
John Orff, Ricardo "Cub" Ramirez

Auxiliary Officers
President: Hilda Bray
Vice President: Sarah Toten
Secretary: Carolyn Putalavage
Treasurer: Joleen Waldrop
Visitationa. Stan Milla Historian: Sue Mills Historian: Sue Mills
Chaplain: Isabel Siepker
Sgt At Arms: Candi White
Mbr At Large: Georgia Horner
Mbr At Large: Doris Bair
Mbr At Large: Pat McLeod

HOURS OF OPERATION

Mon-Thur: 1PM - 11:30PM Friday: 1PM - 1AM Saturday: 12PM - 1AM 12PM - 10:30PM Sunday: (Hours may vary due to business) AL Riders Officers

ALL RIHEFS OTHERFS
Director: Ruben Agoirre
Asst Director: Abran (Brown) Zavala
Secretary: Wendy Lee
Run Coord: Larry Methalf
Membership: Debi Aguirre
Historian: Candy Zavala
Sgt. At Arms: Terry Smith
Chaplain: Debi Aguirre
Webmaster: Dennis Ducharme

SAL Sq. Officers Commander: Kenny Tidball 1st Vice: Joe Gusstells 2nd Vice: Jack Leenhart Adjutant: Mike Clark Chaplain: Mike Clark Chaplain: Mike Clark Sgt at Arms: Tim Wagner

Visit our website at http://www.post593.org

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Mailing Label - Bar Code

Commander's View





Since our last General Membership meeting in February we have had our Judge Advocate and two Members-At-Large resign. We are currently looking for members to fill these vacancies. The election to fill these un-expired terms permanently will be in April during our regular General Membership meeting. Nomination will be taken from the floor at this election meeting. The election will be by ballot. Members wishing to vote must have a 2006 membership card.

I hope everyone enjoyed Super Bowl XL on the big screen at our post. Our thanks go out to Jane Clarke and Frank Yruegas and all those that assisted them for dinner. The monthly breakfast was outstanding. Thanks to the effort of a small but very efficient working crew. A tip of the hat goes to all. Thank You.

At last count we had about 688 members and we are at (77.2%) of our goal. This number is considerably short of our goal of 891. We need your effort to bring this number up. Let's get those renewals in ASAP. Time is running out (Continued on page 2)

Auxiliary News Hilda Brav



Congratulations! Our Unit has made Goal. Thanks to all for renewing or joining. Our February meeting had the most attendance in a long time. We are always happy to see our members, especially new ones. Did you know that the American Legion Auxiliary is the largest women's organization in the world with nearly one million members? Do you know your benefits?

A subscription to our magazine, the National News free travel insurance prescription discount plan long distance phone service car rental and moving Auxiliary credit card van discounts supplemental insurance plans and emergency assistance grants are just some of your benefits of membership. We also support Scholarships and Educational opportunities for our youth. Our mission is to support the American Legion and its programs for Veterans, youth and community. Our purpose is to implement numerous community efforts and programs to assist families and children across the nation and assist veterans through legislation, funding and volunteerism. (Continued on page 2)

Commander's View (Continued)

for us to reach goal.

Those of you who were wondering about the activity in the ballroom area in February, it was nothing more than our hall rental to telephone people. The rental helps generate some revenue for post expenses.

For those of you who may not be aware a new federal law prohibits using cell phones while driving on Defense Department installations. The new regulation states "that anyone driving a motor vehicle on a DOD installation cannot use a cell phone unless the vehicle is safely parked or the driver is using a hand-free device". Each installation will determine the punishment for violators. I just wanted to pass this on to you as word of caution.

I came across this information about scholarships for a spouse that indicates scholarships are awarded to a spouse of uniformed service members (active duty, National Guard and Reserve retirees and survivors) to obtain professional certification or to attend secondary or graduate schools. Scholarships are normally \$1,000.00 and the number awarded depends on funding. Funds can be used for tuition, fees, books, and room and board. Applications must be submitted by 15 Apr 06. If interested call (703) 931-6632 or 1(800) 260-0218 for further details.

Have a Happy St. Patrick's Day. Check our calendar of events to see what is planned.

PRIDE: Personal Responsibility In Doing Everything See ya at the Post! For God and Country,

Ted

Auxiliary News (Continued)

We all should be proud to belong to this organization.

Activities for March: March 1, General membership meeting, 7:30pm,

March 4 & 5, Membership Tour, March 11, Breakfast 8-11am & Auxiliary Lasagna Dinner 6-8pm, March 17, St Patrick's Day Meal, March 18, Auxiliary Leadership School 9-3pm.

Activities for April: April 1&2, 20th District Spring Convention at Oak Hills Medical Center Hotel, Wurzbach Rd. April 8, Auxiliary YARD sale 8am to ?? and April 9, Children's Easter Party, 1:00pm.

Our next meeting is April 5 at 7:30pm.

Loyally, Filda





A special thanks to all that came out for the Four Chaplains Ceremony. I hope that you found the ceremony as moving this year as it has been in years past.

I would like to specially thank Chaplains Lopez and Roffman along with Father Schellenberg for taking time to join us along with the members of the Auxiliary and the scouts of Troop 821 for their participation.

Andy

Renewals are our Focus!



By David Paris, 1st Vice Commander

Well, I told you to put the first weekend in March on your calendar last newsletter. Now here's whythat's the District 20 Spring Membership Coffee Tour. If you haven't been on it before, consider joining us as we visit other posts and members. And of course, don't forget the tour stops at Post 593 late Sunday afternoon. Even if you can't make the tour, please help welcome the tour at our Post!

Regrettably, for some, this will be your last newsletter. If your membership card shows 2005 and not 2006 your label will be deleted from the database. The newsletter, like everything else, costs us money and close to 300 will be dropped from the mailing as it stands now. So, PLEASE renew your membership and put the check in the mail TODAY so we can keep you on the newsletter mailing list.

SALUTES

- * A Post 593 salute to all who supported this year's Super Bowl partywhat a great time!
- * A Post 593 salute to the Sons of the American Legionthey continue to provide food during the monthly dart tournaments. If you haven't been there a while, it's time to stop on by.
- * A Post 593 salute to our Flag Program subscribers. President's Day was the last of the holidays for the previous yearso it's time to renew that membership. Please drop it off at the Post or mail it on in ahead of timethis saves money on sending notices.

H & E News

by Jane Clark, 2nd Vice Commander

The Super Bowl Party!

I want to thank everybody for bringing food. It turned out great! Again - our volunteers always come through when we need them.

In addition, I'd like to thank all those who made the Oriental Take-Out a success! Remember: For March Steak Nite we will also be serving fish!

NOTICE: To All Legion Members

Our distributors have once again raised to price of beer. Due to this and a previous raise, the Executive Board has approved an increase on all beer of .25 to take effect in March.

> THIS RAISE IN PRICE WILL BE VOTED ON AT THE GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING ON WED. MARCH 1ST, 2006

> > Please Plan To Attend

Local Remembrance Service To Reach A National Audience



PALM COAST, FL-St. Mark By The Sea Lutheran Church and the American Legion Post #115 of Flagler County are partnering to sponsor the 8th Annual Four Chaplains Service on February 19th, at 7:00 PM; but this year the service will not only reach the people of Flagler and surrounding counties, but will be heard around the country, the Island of Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, and the Bahamas.

Rev. Tom Bingol shares, "The story of the Four Chaplains of the USAT Dorchester is timeless, and this year we have been given a wonderful opportunity to simulcast the service over the Internet through a special partnership with www.heartbeatofflagler.com.

The Internet broadcast would allow us to reach those veterans

who were homebound or who now reside in a nursing home or assisted living facility. Within the first day, three of the five Florida Veterans Homes had made arrangements to carry the broadcast through computer labs,



activity centers, or through residents that were computer savvy. Since veterans reside in many different retirement facilities, the circle spread through Flagler and surrounding counties, The Seafarer's House, Lutheran Homes of South Carolina and North Carolina, then the Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary shared that they would carry the event live, with a companion power point presentation in their state-of-the-art, Virginia Casey Education Center, in Columbia, South Carolina. Now this growing circle of partnerships includes the National Office of the American Legion, reaching out to 14,000 Post through a District in every state.

The Interfaith Service remembers the lives of Chaplains of the Dorchester, Lt. George L. Fox, Methodist; Lt. Alexander D. Goode, Jewish; Lt. John P. Washington, Roman Catholic; and Lt. Clark V. Poling, Dutch Reformed. On Feb. 3, 1943 at 12:55 a.m., a German submarine U-223 spotted the Dorchester. After identifying and targeting the ship, torpedoes were fired. The hit was decisive—and deadly—striking Dorchester's starboard side, amid ship, far below the water line. It was in the chaos that followed that has endeared the Four Chaplains to all generations.

After distributing the last life vest, the Chaplains offered their own, and chose to minister to the sick and dying on the deck of the sinking Dorchester and praying with one another as the ship sank beneath the icy North Atlantic waters. Their acts of bravery and faithfulness are a model for us today.

The Service will be held for the eighth consecutive year at St. Mark By The Sea Lutheran Church, ELCA, at 303 Palm Coast Parkway in Palm Coast, Florida. For those who wish to tune-in for the service via the Internet, simply link on to www.heartbeatofflagler.com, and follow the instructions under "The Jukebox".



Post 593 Newsletter Editor (databox5@yahoo.com)

Going Virtual: Flight Training Takes Shape in Cyberspace



Pope AFB, N.C. - How do you get 30 bases, hundreds of personnel and tons of aircraft and equipment together in one place? The answer -- cyberspace.

For the second time since its conception in September, aircrews from the 23rd Fighter Group stepped into a simulated exercise called Virtual Red Flag.

The virtual war took place last week here and included Airmen from various military installations around the world by way of the cyber-super highway. Air crews and ground operators linked up and "fought" the enemy in a completely virtual environment.



The exercise creates scenarios based on information and tasks in specific areas of the world. The simulated data can include geographical features, maps, weather and movements of the forces. The participants are briefed at the beginning of their day through a multi-view video conference. Plans, charts and other pertinent information are also sent to each location so they can be referenced during the meeting. From there, the participants head to their simulators and into "combat."

"The simulators do everything but burn gas and pull G-forces," said Steven Callich, 23rd Operations Support Squadron.

One of the biggest benefits of Virtual Red Flag is its versatility. Pilots can train with numerous aircraft in all types of weather, all types of combat environments, day or night, in most any location in the world.

Virtual Red Flag has not replaced the Red Flag exercise that takes place every year at Nellis Air Force Base, Nev. However, Mr. Callich hopes that in the future, the simulator will be able to mirror more of what happens at Red Flag.

Good Conduct Medal Award Elimination Explained

by Master Sgt. Mitch Gettle, Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON (AFPN) -- The Air Force Uniform Board announced Feb. 6 that the Good Conduct Medal will no longer be awarded.

The Air Force director of Airman development and sustainment recently explained the reasons behind this decision.

"The quality of our enlisted personnel today is so high, we expect good conduct from our Airmen," said Brig. Gen Robert R. Allardice. "It begged the question,



'Why do we have a Good Conduct Medal?'"

"Having a medal for good conduct is almost to say we don't expect Airmen to do well, but if they're good we will give them a medal," he said. "It's kind of insulting in our Air Force today." One must look at the history of why the medal was created in the 1960s. The military was using the draft and involved in the

1960s. The military was using the draft and involved in the Vietnam War. The Air Force didn't have any other method to recognize Airmen. Today, the Air Force Achievement Medal recognizes outstanding Airmanship.

"If a commander deems their conduct does not warrant discharge, then they remain a valuable Airman to our Air Force, and we expect them to continue to serve honorably," he said. General Allardice said that it is the uniform, not the Good Conduct Medal, that represents what Airmen are all about.

Airmen who have previously earned the Good Conduct Medal are still authorized to wear it.



Thanks For Supporting Your Post!