

Walton F. Hoffmann Memorial



American Legion Post 179

Special Points Of Interest

If you would like to contribute to the expenses of the District Convention, Pat Seegers has asked that members give \$10. Each member who donates \$10 will have their name listed in a special section of the District 14 Convention Program that we are hosting.

You can donate by check or cash by giving your donations to any officer or the staff of the club.

All donations will be sincerely appreciated and will go for improving the District Convention.

Thank you!

Commander's Corner

Greetings fellow Legionnaires, Sons and Auxiliary Members!

I recognize that it has been a while since we have provided you a detailed Newsletter. We have turned the corner



on this issue, through the gracious service of one of

our newer members, Penni Dahl; and through the dedication of your Adjutant, Roger Bueche.

We are moving right along with the renovations to your Post Home. While it seems to have taken a long, long time, we only started on February 9th. Considering 40 years of no improvements or upgrades, we have progressed at a pretty good clip.

Those of you who are or who have become active participants already know what we have done. This is directed to everyone else, who, for what-

ever reason, have not availed themselves of the opportunity to visit. The front entry sidewalks (into the main hall) have been replaced and now comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) standards. The Auxiliary meeting area has been greatly expanded, as we removed the stage and now have a "DJ performance area", on the floor at one end of the hall, between two new storage closets. The hall is in immaculate condition now. No more dark, dank wood surfaces. Everything has been brightened up by paint-

If you can use the internet to get this newsletter, it would save the Post money. You can see the entire newsletter (in color) at:
<http://www.alpost179.org/>

Second Vice Commander's News

Juan Hernandez, 2nd Vice Commander

I would like to introduce myself to everyone. I have been a member of the Post for 9 years, employed at Detex Corp for 25 years as electrical engineer and now in marketing as the Product Manager.

A Navy veteran educated and trained in electronics on Navy Attack and Fighter Jets and served on the flight deck of the USS Coral Sea (CVA-43) during the Vietnam conflict.

This Post has been without a 2nd Vice Commander for a long time

and with your help, we can bring our house back into shape. I have formed a House Committee to help me with those requests already voiced from many members. For those who have not made your comments or ideas known to me, I would like to hear from

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ing. All lights, ceiling tile, insulation and wiring have been replaced.

The next area we tackled was the kitchen expansion. I won't bore you with all of the details, but will tell you that we have a state of the art facility --- one we will be foolish not to use with frequency in fund raising efforts. Please bring suggestions on use to Vice Commander Juan Hernandez. He and his House Committee are dedicated to expanding our opportunities to serve you and our community.

On Monday, August 24th, we started work on the final jewel in this project, your Membership Club Room. Come visit!

JUST A NOTE on dues payment and the Paid Up For Life (PUFL) program: As this is written, over 60 percent of our members have renewed for 2010. Our 'Early Bird' renewal program ends on October 20th. More importantly, one of you will be awarded a PUFL membership, simply because you renewed early. It's easy to do and takes very little effort on your part - PLUS, your odds of winning are way better than those of winning the lottery and you never, ever get a renewal notice again!

Speaking of the PUFL program, there will be a drastic increase in rates on October 1st of this year. If you don't want to chance not being the winner in the November 11th PUFL drawing at the Post, please contact us. In order to take advantage of the current rates, we must have your application in by September 20th. The old and new rates are listed below:

That's all for now.

FOR GOD AND COUNTRY

JOHN R. SCHENDEL, Commander



From: Sergeant at Arms / Service Officer

Legionnaires, it is time to restart the color guard, and Honor Guard. With the upcoming 14th district convention coming up we need to be ready to post colors and perform the post everlasting. If you are interested please contact me or leave your name at the post.

As service officer if you know of someone who is ill or needs assistance, please let me know so I can look in on them. If I am not informed, I will not know what's going on with our members.

For God and Country,

James R. Pickett, Sr .

DUES - \$35.00 Annually

AGE GROUP

24 & UNDER	25-29	30-34	35-39	40-44	45-49	50-54	55-59	60-64	65-69	70-74	75-79	80-84	85 & OVER
NOW													
\$1219	1160	1095	1024	946	862	772	679	585	493	406	325	253	206
AFTER 10/1/09													
\$1465	1406	1343	1275	1201	1121	1033	937	839	740	644	550	465	406
PERCENT INCREASE													
20.18	21.2	22.6	24.5	26.95	30.04	33.81	37.98	43.42	50.1	58.62	69.23	83.79	97.08

Second Vice Command, continued from page 1

you and remember, if you are not heard, then it is not courteous to criticize.

On another note: I would like to thank all members who took time to help out in the breakfast on August 16.

Eagle Scout, Joey Morales is tentatively making plans to landscape our front yard next month. If approved, I hope to call on members to help on this project.

To contact me, drop a note at the Post, or email me, jmh@detex.com

I need your help and the Post needs your support.

Warning for Kitchen Workers

During the renovation of the kitchen, a new Ansul System was installed by Dragon Fire, Inc. The old system covered the Stove. The new system covers the stove, both deep fryers, and both grills. The nozzles for the system are visible in the bottom of the Vent Hoods. The new pull station is located next to the door leading into the bar. Beneath the pull station is a new silver fire extinguisher. The extinguisher is an extension of the Ansul System and should not be used for any other fires.



If, for some reason, a grease fire erupts on the stove, fryers or grills, **FIRST** - get everyone out of the kitchen; **SECOND** - the last person exiting the door to the bar should pull the handle on the station above the fire extinguisher; **THIRD** - dial 911 and report the fire, even if the ansul system appears to have put the fire out; The Fire Department must be notified!

If the fire spills onto the floor, that's when you use the Silver Fire Extinguisher. Pull the pin and squeeze the handles with the nozzle pointed away from you towards the fire. Think of it as a Broom! Sweep back and forth along the

edge of the fire, until the fire goes out or you run out of spray. Then back out of the room, (taking the extinguisher with you) and wait for the Fire Department. Do not let anyone back into the Kitchen until the Fire Department clears the scene. (Leaving the extinguisher behind could cause an explosion if the Fire reignites or erupts out to the floor again.)

The reason for evacuating the room, backing away from the fire and keeping the extinguisher point away from you is: The chemical in the Ansul System and in the extinguisher is a form of acid and will burn your skin as well as eat holes in your clothing! Getting everyone out also prevents workers from breathing the chemical. If you have come in contact with the chemical, advise the Fire Department Crew when they arrive. If anyone has a reaction to the chemical, again notify the Fire Department Crew upon arrival.

If for some reason, you and everyone else forget to pull the Ansul System, there is a fail-safe built into the system. When the temperature reaches 450 Degrees, it will automatically fire itself. If you are standing near the stove, etc. and it goes off, simply back away and leave the room. It should not spray back towards you, but rather into the fire.

Because of this new system and the easy availability of the pull station, **CHILDREN WILL NO LONGER BE ALLOWED IN THE KITCHEN**. This is a safety item and will be enforced. If you have any questions, please contact me.

Walt Myers,
Post Security Officer

Newsletter Information

If you have photos or information to contribute to this newsletter, all submission must be received by October 15, 2009 to be included in October's newsletter. Please send your submission via email to pennid@satx.rr.com

If you submit a photo, please be sure to include a caption.

This newsletter will be published on the Post's website at:

<http://www.alpost179.org/content.php?id=17>

August 2009 Post/Auxiliary Newsletter

Your Auxiliary is having a busy year and we continue to do our good work that benefits our Veterans, their families and our community. Some of the biggest news is the renovations of the Post. Our meeting room is almost twice the size with new flooring, ceiling tiles, lights, paint, and additional electrical outlets. The bathroom has also been updated. And you should see our beautiful new bathroom off the hall!!!! It is now easily accessible for members in wheelchairs or walkers – there’s a new vanity, lights, stalls, flooring and paint. Thank you to our Legionnaires for the wonderful renovations. The kitchen is almost finished and will be almost twice the size. We cooked our *first* community breakfast in it August 16 and it went great! It was wonderful to have all of that extra room, new counters and cabinets, and kitchen appliances. Thanks to the generous donations of Legionnaire Ken Adams, husband of Auxiliary member Tanya, we have a new stove, grill, warming station, salad bar, and dish washer. The club bar will be the last phase of the renovation.



Here are our great cooks: Rene Garcia, Sheila Warden, and Betty Kreutler. Their helpers are Barbara Cyr, Mary Guzman and Alli Miller.

Don't June Wieland's pancakes look tasty?



In May we elected new officers; they are: Sandi Schendel - President; Anita Bishop - First Vice, Elizabeth Campos - Second Vice; Sheila Warden – Treasurer; Elizabeth Campos – Secretary; Betty Kreutler – Historian; Mary Guzman – Sgt. At Arms; Joann Fero – Chaplain; and Members-at-Large

Pam Krause, June Wieland and Angie Velasquez. Thank you ladies for agreeing to serve. On Sunday, October 4 at 3:30 pm we will be initiating new members at a special ceremony. If you have never been initiated or are a new member, please try to attend. You will receive your Auxiliary pin that you can wear with pride.

In May we awarded \$500 scholarships to New Braunfels High School seniors Nicholas Parrish and Renee Hernandez. Each also received a letter of congratulations and a certificate of achievement. In June we sponsored five girls to Bluebonnet Girls State held at Texas Lutheran University in Seguin. Those girls representing New Braunfels High School and Christian Academy were Allison Miller, our own Junior member, Kirby Fisher, Mackenzie Neel, Lindsey Smith and Christina Tsen. Thanks to our wonderful sponsors the Downtown Rotary Club, the Rotary Club of New Braunfels, the Elks Club, and new sponsor this year the Evening Lions Club. Each provided the \$375 tuition for one girl. Member Joann Fero contributed tuition to sponsor a girl in 2010. Thank you, Joann! Our Girl Staters learned about government first hand by running for city, county and state offices, and each belonged to a political party and debated bills. We hope to invite them to a future meeting so they can tell us all about their experiences.

And speaking of Allison Miller. She was a Page for our United States Congress in Washington, D. C. this past year. She attended Page School and worked with Congressmen each and every day, assisting on the floor of Congress. Her sponsor was Senator Steny Hoyer. You might have caught a glimpse of Allison if you were watching CNN. On Memorial Day she presented the Auxiliary with a flag that had been flown over the Capitol! Thank you, Allie.

In June Joann Fero and I attended the 89th American Legion Convention held in McAllen where I also represented you as the 14th District President and presented my district report. A highlight of the convention was meeting our National Auxiliary President Desiree (Desi) A. Stoy, a 41 year Life Member from Bellville, Ohio. She presented her Presidents pins to conventioners. The pin resembles the stained glass window in the Washington, D. C. Cathedral that has the Auxiliary emblem. Barbara Kundert of Alvarado was elected as Department President.

At the convention we received the following *Department award certificates* for supporting Cancer Research, contributing to the National Veterans Creative Arts Festival, participating in the Fisher House Program, submitting our annual History Report, participating in the Constitution & by-laws Program, reaching 100% membership, submitting a Senior History Book, for holding three mini Leadership Courses, and updating our web site.



Sandi and National President Desi Stoy. The beautiful Veteran's memorial outside the McAllen Civic Center.

Our Post will be hosting the 14th District Convention October 24 and 25. As your 14th District President I will preside over the meeting. It is the perfect opportunity for you to meet wonderful people from throughout our district and to learn more about the Auxiliary. We will also need volunteers to greet conventioners, to help with registration and the silent auction, to set up and to decorate. Let us know what you would like to help with and we'll sign you up!

The Auxiliary's latest project is assisting our hospitalized women veterans, a project of deceased member *Barbara Cook*, which we recently completed in her memory. Beautiful pink gift bags filled with sport bras, panties, toiletries and a thank you card were hand delivered to women veterans at the Audie Murphy VA Hospital and the Frank Te-

jada Home. The ladies were very happy to receive the gift bags. Those helping with the project were *Mary Guzman, Sheila Warden, Barbara Cyr, Betty Kreutler, Allison Miller* and all of our wonderful Auxiliary members who voted to donate \$500 for this project. Thank you, ladies; we helped make a difference in the lives of those special veterans!

Some upcoming events we will be participating in are the annual *Comal County Fair September 25*. Our Sons of the American Legion will rent out our lower lot for parking and they are looking for some Auxiliary members to volunteer from 8 – 10 am. You'll still have time to see the parade if you help. The Legion is planning a special *Veteran's Program November 11 at 11 am* at the memorial in *Landa Park*. We will be partnering with the VFW Post and other veterans organizations. The evening of the 11th the Post will host a dinner with a guest speaker.

Ladies, if you have not *renewed your membership*, now is the time to do so. Our Membership Chairman *Anita Bishop* will be happy to help you, or you may drop your dues off at the Post. Remember that you are one of *almost 1 million* Auxiliary members throughout the United States. *Senior dues* are \$20 and *Junior dues* are \$5. Our meetings are held at 7:00 pm the *first Thursday of the month*; we look forward to seeing you there. **THANK YOU** for your membership and continued support of our Veterans. We hope to see you on *Thursday, September 3 at 7:00 pm*. *Sincerely, Sandi Schendel, proudly serving along with YOU as your President*



September Events

Monthly Breakfast Open to the Public

Location: 410 W Coll, New Braunfels, TX

Additional Information: All-You-Can-Eat Breakfast: \$6.00 - Adults -/-\$3.00 - Children (Under 12)

Contact Information: 830-625-0179

Date: Sunday, September 20, 2009

Time: 09:00 AM

SAL Meeting

Location: 410 W Coll, New Braunfels, TX

Contact Information: Larry Tausch 830-885-4348

Date: Sunday, September 20, 2009

Time: 1:00 PM

Duration: 2 Hours

October Events

General Membership Meeting

Location: 410 W Coll, New Braunfels, TX

Contact Information: 830-625-0179

Date: Thursday, October 1, 2009

Time: 7:00 PM

Duration: 2 Hours

Auxiliary Unit 179 Monthly Meeting

Location: 410 W. Coll, New Braunfels, TX 78130

Contact Information: Sandi Schendel 830-625-0179

Date: Thursday, October 1, 2009

Time: 7:00 PM

Duration: 2 Hours

Monthly Breakfast Open to the Public

Date: Sunday, October 18, 2009

Time: 09:00 AM

SAL Meeting

Date: Sunday, October 18, 2009

Time: 1:00 PM