



THE MIGHTY 20th DISTRICT

The American Legion

434 Solar Drive

San Antonio, Texas 78227

June, 2009

Volume 7 Issue 12

Thoughts From The Commander Joe Duarte



From the Commander

*The American Legion
20th District*

Officers

**Joe Duarte #2
Commander**

**Karen Paris #593
Vice Commander**

**Juan T. Silva #2
Adjutant**

**Jimmy Tucker #667
Treasurer**

**Irene Lineback #593
Chaplain**

**Ruby Cherry #568
Sergeant-At-Arms**

**Ronald Cherry #612
Judge Advocate**

**Norman Fox #300
Historian**

**Erasmus (Eddie) Serrata
#300
Service Officer**

**Richard Holliday
V.A.V.S.**

**Gene Elliott #667
S.A.L. Advisor**

**Ernest Barnes
S.A.L. Commander**

I would like to take this opportunity to say that due to my health, I was not able to participate in the Fort Sam Houston Memorial Day Ceremony. To those Legionnaires that took part, Thank You.

The 3rd Division had a successful convention in Brownsville, Texas. Two items that stand out were: 1. Our new 3rd Division Commander-elect is Robert Squyres from the 10th District and from Somerville, Texas. 2. Department Adjutant Bill West presented a briefing on IRS Form 990, redesigned for Tax Year 2008 (filed in 2009). I picked up copies of the handouts used in the briefing. As I understand, the 990 does not only has part for post income that includes the Sons and Riders, but it also asks how the post participated in the American Legion programs. This information will help the IRS determine if the post is eligible for its Tax-Free status. Commanders, I need you or your representative at the next 20th District meeting at Post 667, 1930 hours, 10 June 09.

Boys State bus arrives at Post 2, 1200 hours with departure at 1400 hours for Austin, Texas, 6 June 09. Return of bus—12 June 09, with arrival 1500 hours at Post 2.

Reminder—All District Posts should have had their 2010 election by now or scheduled this month. Don't forget to submit the Post Certification of Officers to Department. Once they get certification, they will forward the Post Packet that includes 2010 membership cards.

Post members will receive their renewal notice for 2010. Be ready for the rush. Let's see which post reaches their 2010 membership goal first.

20th District Calendar Meeting for 2010 will be held on 18 July 09 at Post 2, starting at 12:00 noon. All posts are asked to bring their calendar for 2010.

From the Vice-Commander

June is here. Hope you had a very successful May. Several Posts are very close to 100%. Several Post have less than 10 new members. The next time you are at the post office or Walmart, talk to somebody about joining the American Legion. You get the benefits of belonging; you should share that with everybody. Each member get one new member and we are 100% at the 20th District. That would be great. Post 336 is almost 1000% (Yes, that is one thousand percent!). Walter has done a tremendous job of recruiting. I'm sure he will give you ideas if you ask him. Post 593 has reached 100%. Jack, congratulations and thank you and your staff for the hard work. Don't forget - Contact the American Legion Riders if you will help with a fundraiser for the Legacy Scholarship Fund. They do need your help. If your post can assist, contact Brad Pierce or Brown Zavala at Post 593 (658-1111). Any assistance would be great. Thank you for helping the Mighty 20th District. You are important to us. I am at your disposal anytime you need assistance. If I can help you or your post with membership, just call me or e-mail me. My email is: kparis@stic.net. My Cell is: (210)269-7090. Just let me know what I can do for you.

For God and Country,
Karen Paris, Vice Commander

Newsletter articles

- ◆ Please submit your articles, Post activities, etc. by the **3rd Friday** of each month. Email to : juantsilva@sbcglobal.net
- ◆ Got an activity? Submit the item and I will put it in the Newsletter (space available))

Adjutant's Call

Here's a report on the Boys State orientation held at Post 2 on May 13, 2009. Commander Duarte called the session to order at 7:30 pm. I gave the opening prayer. Duarte presented the Post 400 Charter to the commander of the Roy Benavides Post 400, Dept. of Texas. The meeting was suspended for Buddy Cooper to give a motivational message to the Boys State candidates. Wes Anthony from Reagan High School, Aaron Wolfe from Roosevelt High School, and Edward Garza from Fox Tech High School gave the boys information based on some real experiences at Boys State. More information was provided by Duarte and Cooper.

Here's a news item:

: Somerset, **Friday, June 12th at 6:00 pm**

What: **Dignified Disposal of Unserviceable American Flags** presented by citizens in the local communities

By: The American Legion, Gene Ramirez Post 443
20295 Somerset Road (1/2 mile south of Jupe Mills Feed store

Other: This short formal ceremony is once again open to the public. All are invited and encouraged to submit their American flags that are being retired due to condition.

The event is ordered as a tribute to National **FLAG DAY** by Commander Ernie Martinez

Johnny Silva, Adjutant

20th District June, 2009 Membership

29-May-09

| POST | MBRS | GOAL | % |
|---------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|
| 336 | 100 | 15 | 666.7% |
| 593 | 815 | 813 | 100.2% |
| 579 | 741 | 775 | 95.6% |
| 667 | 694 | 729 | 95.2% |
| 10 | 139 | 148 | 93.9% |
| 443 | 110 | 120 | 91.7% |
| 300 | 481 | 531 | 90.6% |
| 539 | 191 | 216 | 88.4% |
| 171 | 200 | 229 | 87.3% |
| 828 | 295 | 338 | 87.3% |
| 568 | 52 | 60 | 86.7% |
| 612 | 260 | 304 | 85.5% |
| 2 | 865 | 1015 | 85.2% |
| 592 | 492 | 596 | 82.6% |
| 375 | 131 | 165 | 79.4% |
| 485 | 128 | 168 | 76.2% |
| 800 | 75 | 103 | 72.8% |
| 608 | 72 | 124 | 58.1% |
| 399 | 80 | 140 | 57.1% |
| TOTALS | 5921 | 6589 | 89.9% |

***Remember: It's not what you paid to join,
It's what you paid to be eligible!!***

*20th District
The American Legion*

**434 Solar Drive
San Antonio, Texas 78227**

JUNE 2009

| SUN | MON | TUE | WED | THU | FRI | SAT |
|--|-----------------------|-----------------------|---|--|---|--|
| | 1 #800 GM 7:30 pm | 2 | 3 #2 GM 7:30 pm #593 GM 7:30 pm | 4 | 5 Steak Night at post #592 5:30 pm | 6 |
| 7 #399 GM 7:00pm | 8 #485 GM 7:00 pm | 9 #592 GM 7:30 pm | 10 20th Meeting at Post #667, 7:30 pm | 11 | 12 | 13 #592 Breakfast 8:30-11:30 #593 Breakfast 8:00-11:00 Post #2 Steak Night 6:00 pm |
| 14 #375 GM-2:00 pm #539 GM 2:00 pm #667 Breakfast 8-11:30 Flag Day U.S. Army Birthday | 15 #667 GM 7:00 pm | 16 #828 GM 7:00 pm | 17 | 18 | 19 #592 SAL Chicken Fried Steak, 5:30pm-8:00pm | 20 #593 Darts 7:30 #593 SAL Sausage Wrap |
| 21 #443 GM 2:00 pm Father's Day Summer Begins | 22 #300 GM 7:00 pm | 23 | 24 Post #568 @ #2, 7:00 pm Dept. Conv. | 25 #612 GM 11:00 am Dept. Conv. | 26 #593 Steaks 6-8 pm Dept. Conv. | 27 Dept. Conv. , McAllen |
| 28 Dept. Conv. | 29 #579 GM 7 pm | 30 | | | | |
| | | | | | | |

Actual 2010 Goal

| Dist 20 | Goal | Actual | Difference | Goal | Difference |
|------------------------|-------------|---------------|-------------------|-------------|-------------------|
| 2 SAN ANTONIO | 1015 | 865 | -150 | 957 | -58 |
| 10 SAN ANTONIO | 148 | 139 | -9 | 147 | -1 |
| 171 SAN ANTONIO | 229 | 200 | -29 | 243 | 14 |
| 300 SAN ANTONIO | 531 | 468 | -63 | 587 | 56 |
| 336 SAN ANTONIO | 15 | 100 | 85 | 133 | 118 |
| 375 SAN ANTONIO | 165 | 131 | -34 | 145 | -20 |
| 399 S SAN ANTONIO | 140 | 80 | -60 | 112 | -28 |
| 400 SAN ANTONIO | 0 | 0 | 0 | 15 | 15 |
| 443 SOMERSET | 120 | 110 | -10 | 119 | -1 |
| 485 SAN ANTONIO | 168 | 128 | -40 | 179 | 11 |
| 539 ST HEDWIG | 216 | 191 | -25 | 200 | -16 |
| 568 SAN ANTONIO | 60 | 52 | -8 | 58 | -2 |
| 579 SAN ANTONIO | 775 | 741 | -34 | 826 | 51 |
| 592 SAN ANTONIO | 596 | 492 | -104 | 576 | -20 |
| 593 CONVERSE | 813 | 815 | 2 | 921 | 108 |
| 608 SAN ANTONIO | 124 | 72 | -52 | 95 | -29 |
| 612 WINDCREST | 304 | 260 | -44 | 290 | -14 |
| 667 UNIVERSAL CITY | 729 | 694 | -35 | 751 | 22 |
| 800 SAN ANTONIO | 103 | 75 | -28 | 97 | -6 |



HOPE4HEROES

**Tentative Agenda
Heroes and Families Summit
June 18--June 20, 2009
Riverwalk Plaza Hotel
100 Villita Street
San Antonio, TX 78205**

Purpose: *To educate and inform the nation's key leadership and non-profit decision makers on core issues facing our disabled veterans and families. Bring the collective brain trust together to identify and propose solutions to top three issues. Collectively agree on those issues and prepare document for presentation to the Administration and Congress in Nov, 2009. This is a no-fee event. We will accept donations to off set costs and are seeking three event sponsors. Your support is key, and we hope this will be one of the largest, most productive events of its kind in the country. Your help will shape the nation's agenda on these issues!*

| <u>Date/Time</u> | <u>Item</u> | <u>Location</u> |
|---------------------------------------|---|--------------------|
| Thursday, June 18th | | |
| 1:30 pm | Bus departs hotel for tour of Brooke Army Medical Center (BAMC), The Fisher House and possibly The Intrepid Center (for those arriving early). Must sign up in advance. | Hotel Lobby |
| 5:00 pm | Return from Tour | Hotel Lobby |
| 6:00 pm | Mixer for attendees | Hotel Banquet Room |
| 8:00 pm | At leisure | |
| Friday, June 19th | | |
| 7:00 am | Continental breakfast | Hotel Banquet room |
| 8:30 am | Posting of Colors, National Anthem, Invocation, and Welcoming Remarks | |
| 9:00 am | Guest Speaker: Ted Daywalt Chief Executive Officer, VETJOBS | |
| 9:45 am | Break | |



| | | |
|----------|---|--------------------|
| 10:00 am | Guest Speaker: Adrien F. C. Starks Chief, Civic Outreach Team Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Public Affairs)/ Community Relations | |
| 10:45 am | Break | |
| 11:00 am | Panel: Disabled veteran family members | |
| 11:45 am | Lunch | At leisure |
| 1:30 pm | Breakout groups | Hotel Banquet room |
| 3:00 pm | Break | |
| 3:15 pm | Breakout groups | |
| 5:30 pm | End of day summary | |
| 6:00 pm | At leisure | |

Saturday, June 19th

| | | |
|----------|---|--------------------|
| 7:30 am | Continental breakfast | Hotel Banquet room |
| 8:30 am | Guest Speaker: Finalizing Details | |
| 9:15 am | Break | |
| 9:30 am | Resume breakout groups Finalize results for presentation to entire Summit audience (break as needed) | |
| 12:15 am | Lunch | At leisure |
| 1:30 pm | Breakout groups present findings to entire Summit audience | Hotel Banquet room |
| 3:30 pm | Summit critique/ sign "Joint Statement of Support" Adjournment | |

S.A.L. Squadron Post 592

106 Lanark Dr.

San Antonio, TX 78217

HELP FEED THE



WOUNDED WARRIORS

Ft. Sam, Fisher House

BBQ Brisket, potato salad, beans
with the trimmings

June 10th 11:30 am.

Contact: Charlie Porter or Jerry McMillen

To help serve

or

Make a donation: checks payable to:

S.A. Squadron 592

for: Feed the Wounded Warriors

(tax deductible)