

Legion Post Holds 2nd Annual Jubilee

The American Legion, William M. Randolph, Post 593, in Converse, Texas held its second annual Legion Jubilee from 7 to 10 May in the Converse City Park. The Jubilee was open to the public. There were many more events this year than last year. Added this year were a prize wheel, chili and bean cook-offs, a silent auction, a horseshoe tournament, a dog obedience demonstration by Four Paws Inn, children fingerprinting by the Converse Police Department, karaoke, an essay contest for all students within the Judson Independent School District, a jaws of life demonstration by the Converse Fire Department and a gymnastics and cheerleading demonstration by River City Gymnastics. This year's events were also bigger than last years. There was a different carnival this year with more and bigger rides, more cars participated in the car show, more motorcycles participated in the bike run and bike show and we had more arts and crafts vendors and food vendors. "As with anything else, the longer we put on the Legion Jubilee the better it will be." Commander Jack Leanhart said. "The dunking booth continued to draw large crowds as everyone wanted to show off their pitching arms. Even though we moved the Jubilee from June last year to May this year, the weather was still pretty hot and everyone wanted to be dunked!" the Commander continued.

"The reason to hold the Jubilee was twofold: first, to raise awareness of all the programs our post is involved with and second to help raise funds for a new building for the post. We are involved in many projects. A few of the programs which we support are: scholarships for local high school children, scholarships for children of military personnel who pass away in the war on terrorism, VA visitation, local community support, and each year we sponsor several high school students to Boys State and Girls State: programs which teach students about Texas state government." said Leanhart.

One of the new standout events at the Jubilee this year was the "My Mom is the Best" essay contest. Well over 400 entries were received from students within the Judson ISD. The awards were presented on Mother's Day, Sunday, May 10th during the Jubilee. The winners were:

Middle School Category

1st Place: Emily Pron, Mom: Cheryl Pron, Metzger Middle School 2nd Place: Chelsea Law, Mom: Cynthia Law, Metzger Middle School 3rd Place: Rachele Allen, Mom: Sabrina Allen, Metzger Middle School

Elementary School Category

1st Place: Christina Williams, Mom: Florence Williams, Park Village Elementary School 2nd Place: Desarae Real, Mom: Sherry Real, Converse Elementary School 3rd Place: Nicole Graphman, Mom: JoAnn Graphman, Miller's Point Elementary School

Each Mom who attended the awards ceremony on Mother's Day received a bouquet of roses. All

moms received an awards certificate and the first place Mom's each received a basket full of Mary Kay Cosmetic products.

Every child who won received an awards certificate, a \$50 savings bond from The American Legion Post 593, and gifts from U.S. Martial Arts Training Center, 9160 FM 78, Converse, TX 78109.

Visit www.post593.org for more pictures from the Jubilee and more information about The American Legion, Post 593 in Converse, TX.



Christina Williams, 1st Place Elementary School Essay Winner with her mom Florence Williams, Irma Ducharme, Essay committee member, and American Legion Post 593 Commander Jack Leanhart.



Chelsea Law, 2nd Place Middle School Essay Winner with her mom Cynthia Law, Irma Ducharme, Essay committee member, and American Legion Post 593 Commander Jack Leanhart.



Square dancers from various local clubs demonstrated their passion for the dance style.



Debbie Dewberry, American Legion Auxiliary Member, is dunked by a determined Jubilee customer.



Converse Fire Department members demonstrated how to use the Jaws of Life to extract a victim of a car crash.