

June 14, 2011

Flag Day (always on June 14)

June 16, 2011, 6:00 PM

Flag Disposal Ceremony

6:30 PM

Law & Order Award Ceremony

7:00 PM

Meal provided, Bring dessert.

7:30 PM

Regular meeting

Legion Election of Officers

Hostesses:

Evelyn Klausmeyer

Alietha Mae Richter

June 22-26, 2011

Dept. Convention

Odessa, Texas.

July 21, 2011, 6:30 PM

Joint meeting - Boys and Girls State

Presentations and Hamburger

Supper

Hostesses:

Betty Wiesepape

Debbie Genz

Grace Behnke

July 31, 2011, 11 am to 1 pm

Fundraiser Drive-Thru

BBQ Chicken, Potatoes, Beans

Tickets enclosed.

DD214 or Service Record – The Post must have them as per the IRS..

Please get your records to Steve Miller - 836-9236

ILLNESS: Get-well wishes to: Herman Lange Sr.

>> Please report illness to Chaplain Nello Strickland at 836-2356/2609 or Betty Wiesepape at 836-2254.

SYMPATHY: We remember the loss of our members and their family members.

We extend our sympathy to: family of Mrs.T. W. Nelda Wimberly, Ken and Janis Mueller on passing of Delphne May, mother of Janis, and Family of Marjorie Pake.

>>Please notify Martin or Betty Wiesepape at 836-2254 of deceased members

MEMBERSHIP: Post has 274 renewed of the 288 goal. 93%, Auxiliary has 253 renewed of 268 goal, 94.5%.

Your Membership does count –Each member means more influence for The American Legion in Washington D.C.

Junior High School Awards - May 20:

Most Outstanding Girl: Gretchen West, Most Outstanding Boy: Spencer Sink

High Scool Awards – May 16:

Most Outstanding Girl: Amanda Thraen, Most Outstanding Boy: Robert Tyler Agnew.

Received a Bronze Medallion and a \$200 Scholarship, each.

Academic Award: Curtis Zwahr, Received a \$500 Scholarship.

Oratorical Awards: Cory Meschwitz (2010-11), Leah Ward (2009-10), \$300 Scholarship each

DEPARTMENT CONVENTION: The Department Convention will be held 22 to 26 June 2010, Odessa, TX.

Hotel information and pre-registration forms are available on the Department of Texas website (www.txlegion.org) Pre-registration and hotel reservations at the group rate must be made through Department Headquarters.

FLAG DISPOSAL CEREMONY: Community members and businesses have a problem properly disposing of worn, tattered, stained and torn flags. Buddy Wright Post 48 collects flags on an ongoing basis throughout the year. Annually on the meeting closest to Flag Day we hold a ceremonial disposal for a few of the flags, because of the time involved to handle a large number of flags. The rest are properly disposed during a private ceremony. If you know of any business or member of the community wondering how to properly dispose of their old flag or needing assistance, let them know that we will serve their needs. They can drop off the flags at John Brieden, State Farm Insurance or at the County Veterans Service Office in the Washington County Court House.

FIRST RESPONDER AWARDS: The Buddy Wright Post and Unit annually recognize Washington County First Responders as part of The American Legion Law and Order program. The following awards will be given at the June meeting: Law Officer of the Year—Brenham Police Department, Firefighter of the Year—Brenham Fire Department, EMT of the Year—Washington County EMS, and Law Officer of the Year—Washington County Sheriff's Office. Please consider coming to lend your support to our honored first responders.

Resolutions presented in the Texas Congress concerning V.A. backlog of Veteran benefits:

"I'm honored to be a voice for our local veterans. Texas provides more soldiers into our United States armed forces than any other state. It's important to always take care of those who took care of us, and remember those who risked their lives to protect our freedom and Constitution."

Representative Lois Kolkhorst (R – Brenham)

"Our Texas veterans, indeed all veterans deserve our best efforts when they are in need. I am honored to introduce the Senate resolution in their behalf.

Senator John Whitmire

Library of Congress' Veterans History Project: In an effort to preserve the stories of our nation's veterans, Congressman Michael McCaul is collaborating with the Library of Congress' Veterans History Project, a nationwide effort to record first-hand accounts from the men and women who have served our country. He wanted to make each of the chambers of commerce in the district aware of this exciting opportunity for our veterans so you knew first hand of the project. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me below or Monique Wright, Project Manager for Congressman McCaul, at 512- 473-2357.

Letter from the Commander

I hope everyone is having a wonderful summer. .

In the past few years we have been able to complete many projects. My thanks to the many members who gave their personal time to help accomplish many of the small repairs needed with no cost to the Legion. Many other projects were accomplished with only the cost of the repair Items, the labor was free,

THANK YOU.

Here is a list of some of the projects that we have completed:

- (1) Replaced the flooring in the side meeting area and the bathrooms
With structural wall/floor repair. **Thank you Fisher Tile** for a job well done.
- (2) Restrooms were brought up to standard, providing a handicapped restroom. **Thank you Victor.**
- (3) New commodes replaced our 74 yr old commodes, making it easier for all.
- (4) The dormers were repaired and painted.
- (5) Holes in the ceilings were repaired ending the great squirrel saga.
- (6) The P.A. system was upgraded, restored/repaired.
- (7) The electrical wiring was upgraded so our Post building could pass city inspection.
- (8) Old non functional appliances were removed from the bar and storage area
- (9) A new door with encasement was installed in the bar
- (10) Ventilation was installed in the outer bar door increasing the A/C air flow.
- (11) New Legion Sign installed in front of building
- (12) New roof installed
- (13) New windows were installed throughout the building, replacing the 74 year old windows that were no longer serviceable. An outstanding job was done on the windows and encasements, making them match the building. **Thank you Thielman Construction** for a job well done.

This leaves only a few projects left on our wish list, (1) the floor in the Bar and the floor in the general area need a face lift (2) the purchase of a hood for our stove which would allow us to have a functional kitchen again. As of the writing of this article, repair is needed on both A/C units. As you can see, we have been busy doing projects trying to keep our Post Home in repair. .

When the city of Brenham put this building (our Post Home) in the trust of the American Legion, we agreed to care for and keep in good repair this building for the next 99 years. We have made many changes through the years, attempting to maintain and care for our Post Home. As we all know, age is unforgiving, after 74 years of attempting to maintain the building major projects have had to be done which exceed the normal expenses that we incur month to month

The American Legion is a non-profit organization with the mission to care for Veterans and their families, support School Programs and the Youth of our country, support the local community and help keep a strong voice in Washington. Some of the programs the American Legion sponsors are: School Scholarships and awards, Annual Ride to Recovery (for disabled Veterans), Fisher House (providing housing for families to be close, while veteran is in the hospital), Annual Torch Run, ,Recognition program for Community First Responders, Recognition for ROTC programs, Civil Air Patrol, Mailings to Military, Little League sponsorship, Memorial Day Services, Veterans Day Services, Graveside Flag Folding, Boys and Girls State, the Mission(caring for our veterans in emergencies) Poppy Distribution, a monthly newsletter to our membership and other programs as permitted..

Our main source of income comes from our Drive-thru events and Hall rental, we are not funded by our National Organization, and each post is responsible for their own finances.

Since we do not have a functional kitchen, it is necessary to have our meals catered, resulting in about a 30% profit for our drive-thru events. Our hall rentals result in about a 68% profit after

Janitorial services and utilities are paid. We use these funds and any contributions to help with our commitments to our programs and to the maintenance of our post home

This year we have logged over 400 hours of volunteer services for various community projects, not to mention the many hours that our **Chaplin** and our **Memorial Committees** have given to console and acknowledge the sick and bereaved. We have so many people in our Legion Family that never get recognized for all the work that they do behind the scenes, but **I know who you are and I THANK YOU.**

I am currently researching grants that the American Legion can qualify for. **Anyone wishing to sponsor a grant or donation to the American Legion will be formally recognized.** Any monetary contributions would help us continue our efforts and responsibilities to our programs that we are committed to. **We are honored to give our time and support and hope that we can do even more, with you help.**

Again, I want to thank each of you for your support, guidance, assistance and caring,

FOR GOD AND COUNTRY.

Barbara Hemmer