



AMERICAN LEGION POST 305
“THE WOODLANDS POST”
THE BUGLE



October 2011 Volume 7, Issue 10

COMMANDER’S CORNER



Cdr. Kimberly Biggerstaff

Greetings fellow Legionnaires~~

It’s hard to believe another month has past. The holidays will be here before long.

Our Color Guard presented the colors for a groundbreaking ceremony that took place in The Woodlands. The Texas Sentinels Foundation, RE/MAX, and others donated the lot and are custom-building a home for Chris Sanford and his wife. Chris was injured by an IED while on patrol in Iraq. My thanks to **Jim Bolin, Pickens Jones** and **Carl Smith** who participated in the Color Guard for this event.

The Woodlands National Night Out is on October 1 at Northshore Park. We will have a booth set up and would love to see all the

children come by. We will have patriotic and Halloween comic books for the children.

The District 7 Convention is on October 15, and we can still take move-in items for the Homeless Vets. Move-in items include cleaning supplies, dishes, flatware, etc. Please call me at 281-296-9344 if you have items to donate.

Don’t forget The Vietnam Traveling Memorial Wall will be at the Crosby Post November 4-6.

We are considering taking a casino trip in December. We would like some feedback from our Post and Auxiliary members concerning this. Is this something you would be interested in doing? Is December 6th a good date? Please let us know what you think. Are there other activities you would rather do? We don’t know if you don’t tell us.(Call or email.)

Our membership voted to donate \$100 to Sons of the American Legion Squadron 533 in Bastrop. Thank you for making this donation. I know it will help the people who have been affected by the fires. On the way to Austin for the Fall meeting of the Department Executive Committee, I saw some of the recent fire damage. I only saw what was near the road,

but it was incredible. Thank you again.

The next meeting is on October 20th at **Shadowbend Park** at 7:00 PM. I’m looking forward to seeing everyone for this more relaxed, social gathering.

For God and Country,
Kimberly Biggerstaff

ADVICE FROM FIRST VICE COMMANDER

Greetings,
 October is a busy month with several activities that I need to make you aware of, but, first, a follow up to last month’s article about Post 305 financial status, budgets and cash on hand. At the September Executive Committee meeting the Finance Officer gave an outstanding report, in writing, with copies for everyone to look at. He answered many questions, patiently explained various line items in the budget, clarified that we actually have two checking accounts and one Certificate of Deposit. All accounts are at Woodforest Bank and total about \$36,000, instead of the \$38,000 that I bootlegged together for last month’s report.

The budget format of expressing the net income to the Post on some line items, instead of showing all income, was discussed. The consensus was that this is

“the way it’s been done for years”, so let’s not change. This was further reinforced by a positive vote by the membership in accepting the budget as presented at the August meeting. For sure, this method does not reflect the actual income and expenses of the Post BUT, and it is a big BUT, I now believe it accurately reflects annualized bottom line income and expenses.

Now for the other activities mentioned. The annual cook-out is the third Thursday this month at Shadowbend Park. An abbreviated business meeting starts at 7:00 PM. Pray for rain, yes! If the burn ban is not lifted, we cannot have charcoal or any open-flame grills. Anyone for steak tartar and caviar?

The semi-annual Rummage Sale will take place on October 22, with set-up the day before, at the Robinson Road Community Center. If you have not left your donations at the storage locker, bring them to the sale site on set-up day. Help is needed on both days.

There is a Joint Post/Auxiliary effort underway to “Fill a Tub” with move-in items needed when a homeless veteran transfers from a community group setting to an individual apartment. These tubs will be delivered to the District 7 Convention on Saturday, October 1, so please hustle your donations to any officer.

For all the details, maps, time lines on these and other activities, you can go to the Post 305 website at www.alpost305.org. You can also go to our Facebook Group page at: www.facebook.com, do a search for American Legion Post 305 TX and you’re there.

FYI, as of September 28, 2011, we are at 61% of our membership goal of 398. This is great news! We hope to be 100% by end of year.

Till next month. . .
For God and Country
Emery Heuermann
First Vice Commander

MEETING HIGHLIGHTS (September 15, 2011)

Commander Kim Biggerstaff opened the meeting in the customary manner and called on the Adjutant for a silent roll call. A quorum was present. Then the Commander called on **Sergeant-at-Arms Jim Bolin** to identify any guests present, however; there were none. **Finance Officer Dave Lips** was absent so the Commander gave the current financial report, summarized as follows:

~General fund----- \$15,184.96
~Allocated fund-----\$21,708.64
~Total assets----- \$36,893.60
(as of 8/31/2011)

Jim Bolin reported the Birdies for Charity figures were in and the Post will receive \$1,696.46 and the Auxiliary \$708.00. **First Vice Commander Emery Heuermann** reported that our paid membership stands at 241 or 60.5% towards our goal of 398. **Commander Biggerstaff** reminded all that the Fall Rummage Sale is on October 22nd and that articles for sale are needed, especially “big ticket items”. The Commander also noted that the annual picnic is October 20th at Shadowbend Park.

Under “Unfinished Business”, the Commander cited the fire around Bastrop and that the Unit had taken some supplies there earlier today. In fact the Executive Committee recommended a

donation of \$100 be sent to the SAL Squadron at Bastrop and it was then approved by the membership. Another motion was approved to purchase newspaper advertising for the Rummage Sale.

Mickey Fussell gave a report about the ins and outs of going to a casino in Louisiana as a fun project. The Commander tentatively scheduled Tuesday December 6 as the day to go to the casino. Each individual who wants to go will have to make a reservation on the bus that goes to the casino and leaves from FM 1960 at 8 a.m. that day.

The Commander said that we were collecting items for a homeless vet to use upon moving into an apartment as a project for the District 7 Convention. The Commander also noted that we were participating in National Night Out on Saturday, October 1, at the Northshore Park from 1:00 to 5:00 PM. The Post voted to approve \$250 as a one-time expenditure to buy promotional material for our display.

Pickens Jones moved that we order fifty Entertainment Coupon Books as a fund-raising project. The motion passed. Books this year will cost \$49.95. Everyone is invited to purchase at least one book. They also make a nice gift.

There being no further business, the Commander closed the meeting “by the numbers”.





VETERAN'S ADVOCATE

WAR ON TERROR LOSSES (AFGHANISTAN)

Current NATO operations in Afghanistan are referred to as "Operating Enduring Freedom". Its price in American lives and those wounded, as of mid-August has been 1,728 deaths, which includes two DoD civilians. Of those killed, 1,368 were killed in action with the enemy; while 360 died of non-combat incidents. In addition, there have been 13,164 troops wounded in action during OEF. (Source: *Air Force Magazine*, September 2011)

A GOOD FRIEND OF RETURNING VETERANS

Some readers may be familiar with the mission of American Corporate Partners (ACP), but others will not heard of the non-profit organization. This should remedy that.

ACP has three primary goals: (1) To assist returning veterans to transition into the corporate sector; (2) To grow and strengthen the network of veterans and corporate leaders in the private sector; and (3) To provide veterans with opportunities to leverage past military skills and experience in their career development.

ACP was conceived by Sidney E. Goodfriend, a retired investment banker, after the attacks of 9/11, and its aid is available to all

interested and qualified service members who have served on active duty since 2001. It gives preference to those who have been deployed in support of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan, as well as those with service-related disabilities. Spouses of those service members who were severely wounded or died while serving are also welcome to apply. Currently, ACP has signed on 31 major US corporations and a few universities from which volunteer "mentors" are drawn. Over 800 transitioning veterans ("protégés") are now being assisted by a mentor on a one-on-one basis.

ACP has offices in 17 cities, including Houston. There is also an E-Mentoring program for veterans residing more than 100 miles from a major city where the mentoring program is offered. This is not a formal jobs program. It is a tool for networking and long-term career development where each protégé (veteran) is matched with a senior corporate leader (mentor) who assists the GI to transitions back into civilian employment. One third of the veteran applicants have expressed an interest in small business development and entrepreneurship, so ACP created a Small Business Resource Center.

A profile of ACP's veteran applicants show 70% enlisted; 30% officers; 84% male; 16% female; average age=35; and 32% are 40 years old or older.

SURVIVOR'S ASSISTANCE

VA's Office of Survivors Assistance (OSA) ensures families of the fallen have full access to the services and benefits to which they're entitled. It was established by Public Law 110-389, Title II, Section 222, in

October 2008, to serve as a resource regarding all benefits and services furnished by the Department to survivors and dependents of deceased veterans and members of the armed forces. OSA also serves as a principal advisor to the Secretary of Veterans Affairs and promotes the use of VA benefits, programs and services to survivors. The OSA is your advocate to ensure fairness, equity and appropriateness of all survivor benefits and to serve as the liaison for inter- and intra-agency collaboration and coordination on survivor issues. OSA is also fully committed to staying in step with the needs of survivors to ensure that OSA remains a viable advocate for the survivor community. Their contact is officeofsurvivors@va.gov. Their website: www.va.gov/survivors.

COLOR GUARD ON THE MARCH

The Post Color Guard, consisting of Commander **Kim Biggerstaff**, Adjutant **Pickens Jones**, Sergeant-at-Arms **Jim Bolin** and Member **Carl Smith**, had the honor of participating in the ground breaking ceremony for a veterans home. Once the home is completed, it will be given to **Chris and Christine Sanford**.



Chris is an injured veteran back from Iraq. The home is being built under the auspices of the Sentinel Organization. Its mission is to provide debt-free housing to

wounded veterans, to unite the local community to serve veterans' needs, to provide counseling and financial stewardship, and to provide lasting mentorship. You may remember that the Post donated \$100 to this project.



In the picture, members of the support team and the Sanfords are getting ready to break ground for the home.

Chris is a Houston native, so it is fitting that he be provided this home in The Woodlands and that our local RE/MAX office is the sponsor tasked with raising the money to complete the home. Gifts for the home can be directed to www.texassentinels.org or to the local RE/MAX office care of **Jacci Kilgore**.

[N.B. The Post Color Guard appears to be in greater demand than its current members and alternates can handle. If any Post member has an interest in being a part of the Color Guard, contact the Sergeant-at-Arms or the Commander. It can always use some added help.]

VETERANS OF ANY WAR ARE INVITED TO GO TO SCHOOL

The Post is in receipt of an invitation from Mr. Page McGraw, music teacher at the Glen Loch Elementary School in The Woodlands, to all local veterans to attend a musical program of his fourth graders honoring those who have served, as a part of

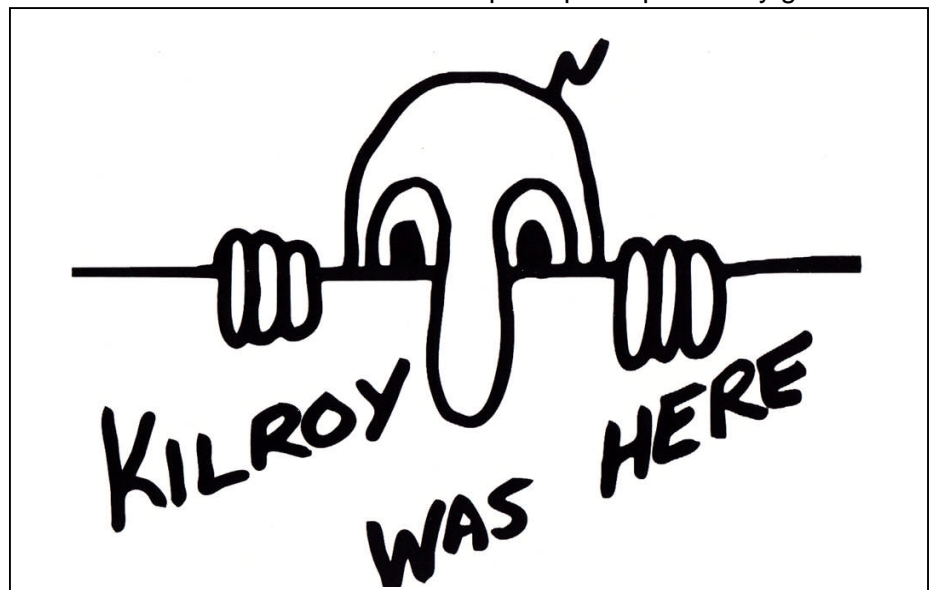
Veterans Day recognition. There will be two presentations of the program on Thursday, November 10th – one at 9:00 AM and the other at 7:00 PM. The school is located at 27505 Glen Loch Drive, The Woodlands, 77381. The invite says to all veterans “—please come out and be honored at our program. The 4th graders are excited and are working hard for this special day. We would love it if anyone is interested could come and be part of this wonderful celebration.”

THE LEGENDARY KILROY

There was one person who led or participated in every combat, training or occupation operation during WWII and the Korean War. This person could always be depended on to show up. GI's began to consider him the “super GI”. He was one who always got there first, referring, of course, to “KILROY WAS HERE”.

Somehow this simple graffiti captured the imagination of GI's everywhere they went. The scribbled cartoon face and words appeared everywhere world-wide. There are many legends about how Kilroy came to be, but

the dominant one is that a shipyard inspector in Quincy, Massachusetts, James J. Kilroy, would chalk his name as “Kilroy was here” on completed ship bulkheads to show he had inspected the riveting of the new ship. To the troops going to war in those ships, the sign-off was a complete mystery. All they knew for sure was that Kilroy had been there first. As a joke, they began placing the same graffiti wherever they landed or went, claiming it was already there when they arrived. It became a challenge to place Kilroy in the most unlikely places. The over-the-fence character and the expression greeted US Navy UDT teams scouting Japanese island defenses before the Marines landed. They appeared in an outhouse at the Potsdam Conference. They were found atop Mt. Everest, in the Statue of Liberty, on the Berlin Wall and on the underside of the Arch de Triumphe. Wherever US troops, sailors and airmen served, they often found Kilroy had been there first. The tradition continued in every US theatre of operations and then faded in the 1950's as the Korean War ceased. But, those of you who served during those War Eras no doubt saw and perhaps helped Kilroy get around.



AUXILIARY UNIT 305 NEWS



Ann Jones, President

Unit 305 was very fortunate to have **Aanchal Saraf**, our Girls Nation winner, speak with us about her experience in Texas and Washington D.C. **Aanchal** hopes to one day become Secretary of State, and, from what we can tell, she has a very excellent chance of achieving her dream. She told us of her visit to the White



Ann Jones, Aanchal Saraf and Stephanie Marshall

House and that President Obama introduced himself to her as, "Hi, I'm Barack". **Aanchal's** reaction to this was priceless. She described her experiences with Girls State and ultimately Girls Nation, as one of the best she has ever had. It was a treat for all of our ladies to meet and hear **Aanchal** speak of her experience.

Our Seventh District meeting is on October 15th, and we have six members attending. The Unit answered the District call for items to be given to homeless veterans. **Commander Biggerstaff** will pick these items up and pack them with the items the Post is contributing. We have also been busy with collecting items for the fire victims in Bastrop and the firefighters in Magnolia. Many members gathered items that were kindly transported to Bastrop and Post 533 by our member, **Ursula McConnell**.

Our Honor Cards have arrived and they will be distributed to members shortly. These cards

will then be handed out to veterans and active military everywhere. Our cookie tray project for the Conroe Clinic should begin any day now, with **Rosalie Fryer** organizing the project.

Please keep **Eileen O'Grady**, our member and friend, in your thoughts and prayers.

Ann Jones
President

POPPY PUZZLE

During last year, three auxiliary members --- Geri, Ann and Jenny --- handed out ALA poppies at several supermarket stores --- all Kroger and H-E-B. Each solicited donations at the same number of stores which totaled less than 200 visits in all. Half the stores visited were Kroger and half were H-E-B. Geri distributed poppies at four times the number of Kroger stores than Ann did. Jenny distributed poppies at three times as many H-E-B stores as Geri did. How many visits to Krogers and to H-E-Bs did each Unit member make?

AUXILIARY UNIT OFFICERS & CONTACT INFORMATION

PRESIDENT: Ann Jones; Tel: (281) 620-4052; E-mail: aejones222@aol.com

VICE PRESIDENT: Dayna Salter; Tel: (281) 376-3076; E-mail: dayna.j.salter@exxonmobil.com

SECRETARY: (Vacant)

TREASURER: Jackie Jones; Tel: (832) 229-6429; E-mail: jpjones01957@aol.com

HISTORIAN: Stephanie Marshall; Tel: (832) 637-2909; E-mail: edaymemories@hotmail.com

CHAPLAIN: Mary Lee Mulvihill; Tel: (281) 353-5574; E-mail: mimchirp@yahoo.com

PARLIAMENTARIAN: Sue Ellen Bannon; Tel: (281) 298-1588; E-mail: sebannon@comcast.net

SGT-AT-ARMS: Christina O'Grady; Tel: (281) 475-0774; E-mail: yankeefan0216@yahoo.com

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS-AT-LARGE:

Jackie Ulmer; Tel: (281) 363-3543; E-mail: sydney2@aol.com

Sandy Holzinger; Tel: (281) 364-8590; E-mail: zing4@earthlink.net

Geri Mulvihill; Tel: (832) 620-6265; E-mail: geri.mulvihill@yahoo.com

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

<u>DAY</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>EVENT</u>	<u>WHERE?</u>
Sat.	Oct. 1	National Night Out	North Shore Park from 1-5 PM.
Sat.	Oct. 15	District 7 Convention (Traveling Trophy)	Crockett Post 134, 1000 Brazos Avenue
Mon.	Oct. 17	Post Executive Committee Meeting	South County Community Ctr. @ 7:00 PM
Thur.	Oct. 20	Annual Octoberfest Picnic	Shadowbend Park Pavilion @ 7:00 PM
Fri.	Oct. 21	Fall Rummage Sale Set-up Day	Robinson Road Community Center
Sat.	Oct. 22	Fall Rummage Sale	Robinson Road Community Center
Mon.	Oct. 31	Halloween	Trick or Treat!
Thur.	Nov. 10	Glen Loch Elementary Veterans Program	Glen Loch Elementary School, The Woodlands, 9:00 AM and 7:00 PM
Thur.	Nov. 10	US Marine Corps Founded (1775)	
Fri.	Nov. 11	Veterans Day	
Mon.	Nov. 14	Post Executive Committee Meeting	South County Community Ctr. @ 7:00 PM
Thur.	Nov. 17	Membership Meetings (Turkey Pot Luck)	South County Community Ctr. @ 7:00 PM
Thur.	Nov. 24	Thanksgiving Day	Gobble, gobble!
Tue.	Dec. 6	Casino Day	Lake Charles, LA
Wed.	Dec. 7	Pearl Harbor Day	
Mon.	Dec. 12	Post Executive Committee Meeting	South County Community Ctr. @ 7:00 PM
Thur.	Dec. 15	Membership Meetings	South County Community Ctr. @ 7:00 Pm
Sun.	Dec. 25	Christmas Day	Ho! Ho! Ho!

The Post and Auxiliary Unit meet at the **South County Community Center** in The Woodlands at 7:00 PM on the third Thursday of each month. The Unit hosts a potluck supper following the meetings. The Center is located on the corner at the intersection of **Lake Robbins Drive** and **Grogans Mill Road**.

POST OFFICERS AND CONTACT INFORMATION

COMMANDER Kimberly Biggerstaff; Tel: (281) 296-9344; E-mail: kimgator5747@sbcglobal.net
 1st VICE CMDR.: Emery Heuermann; Tel: (281) 362-8431; E-mail: emeryheuermann@charter.net
 2nd VICE CMDR: (vacant)
 ADJUTANT: Pickens Jones; Tel: (281) 367-7631; E-mail: pickensjones@usa.net
 FINANCE OFFICER: Dave Lips; Tel: (281) 362-1390; E-mail: davelips@sbcglobal.net
 SERVICE OFFICER: Dayton Denton; Tel: (832) 928-6054; E-mail: whselfstorage1@yahoo.com
 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Jim Bolin; Tel: (281) 251-2352; E-mail: jpb20006@sbcglobal.net
 ASS'T SGT-AT-ARMS: Robert Earl Jones; Tel: (832) 229-6364; E-mail: ejones2100@aol.com
 CHAPLAIN: Jerry Mulvihill; Tel. (281) 353-5574; E-mail: mulvihill1954@yahoo.com
 ASS'T. CHAPLAIN: Rudy Charest; Tel: (281) 363-9710; E-mail: rrgc26@aol.com
 JUDGE ADVOCATE: Joe Hammond; Tel: (281) 367-0452; E-mail: ejoehammondhh@hotmail.com
 HISTORIAN: Win Salter; Tel: (281) 370-1912; E-mail: beadyeye@aol.com
 EXEC. COMM./AT-LARGE: Mickey Fussell; Tel: (281) 367-7115; E-mail: v.h.fussells@gmail.com
 EXEC. COMM./AT-LARGE: Stephen O'Driscoll; Tel: (281) 367-2711; E-mail: ssodriscoll@sbcglobal.net
 ~ BUGLE EDITOR: Jim Bolin; Tel: (281) 251-2352; E-mail: jpb20006@sbcglobal.net
POST ADDRESS: American Legion Post 305; P.O. Box 9336; The Woodlands, TX 77387
 Website = www.alpost305.org WEBMASTER: Emery Heuermann; emeryheuermann@charter.net
 and mypost.org
 Facebook Manager: Kimberly Biggerstaff; Tel: (281) 296-9344; E-mail: kimgator5747@sbcglobal.net