



CONTENTS

Message from the Commander	1
Membership Corner	2
History of The American Legion	2
Post 21 Memorial Day	4 - 5
Post 593 1st Eagle Scout Awarded	6
Post 828 Memorial Day	7 - 8
Post 174 Scout Unit Activities	9
Post 593 Memorial Day	10
20th District Boys State Orientation	11
Post 119 Memorial Day	12
Post 174 Awards Scholarships	13
Post 235 Honors JSSP Champion	13
Post 490 Family Fun Day Picnic	14
Riders 2025 State Rally	15 - 16
Post 832 Honors Vietnam Vets	17
20th District Sponsors "A Night in Your Honor"	18 - 19
Post 178 Presents Medals to High School Cadets	20
Post 828 Honors JROTC Cadets	21 - 22
Scouts of the San Gabriel District	23
Post 21 Greets Honor Flight Vets	24 - 25
Post 164 Attends 2nd Div Convention	26
Post 164 Visits Girl Scout Troop	26
Post 817 Receives City Proclamation	26

Message from the Commander

As of this writing I have about 55 days left as the Department Commander. I believe my last article will be in July. I must say there have been challenges along the way, but I enjoyed visiting and meeting so many of you. The membership year for the Department has come to a close, but membership is a constant and we are always looking for one more new member or getting the last renewal in. Every member counts. Last month I thanked several districts for achieving 100% of their goal. I had a typo, and I will correct that at this time. Districts that achieved 100% by May 15th. The 1st, thank you Andy. The 2nd, 3rd, 10th, 11th, 12th, 15th, 16th, 20th and 21st. 10 of the 23 districts achieved 100%. Several are above 90%, lacking just a few more. I hope that in my final article the list will grow. Thank you all for your hard work and continuing to grow the American Legion Department of Texas. We stand number 3 in the nation. I don't believe we have ever been this high in the standings. That shows what teamwork can do in this state.



The first part of May I traveled to Indianapolis and the National Spring meetings. That is where policy for the organization gets done. One of the things that you need to be aware of is that the TAF (temporary assistance fund) was raised from \$1500.00 to 2500.00 dollars. These are funds used to assist legionnaires and active-duty military families with children. The funds are used for food, clothing and shelter in times of need. Remember that this program falls under children and youth. The post would generate the paperwork and forward to the department. An investigation is conducted to ensure the needs, and the funds go to the family.

This is a legislative year here in Texas. Several bills dealing with veterans were heard. Some were defeated and others passed. The state adjutant and other legionnaires spent days in Austin speaking on some of these bills. There are bills currently in Washington that the Legion supports. Go to the National website under legislative action center and make your voice heard.

I'll close with a thank you for allowing me to serve as your commander. I look forward to seeing you in Austin and the Department Convention. Continue to support the American Legion and recruit new members.

Tom Marty, Commander
American Legion, Department of Texas

**AMERICAN
LEGION**
**BE
=THE=
ONE**

THE LEGION TIMES VOLUME 106, ISSUE 11 JUNE 2025

Executive Director
William West

Editor
G. Adams

**Send all correspondence
and submissions to:**
The Legion Times
PO Box 140527
Austin, TX 78714
T: 512.472.4138
F: 512.472.0603

www.txlegion.org
E-mail: times@txlegion.org

**The Legion Times assumes no
responsibility for material
submitted and reserves the right to
edit any submissions.**

**Editorial deadline is the 20th of every month
for inclusion in the following month's issue.**
**We typically publish on the First Friday
of each month, with few exceptions.**

**Subscription is included in the annual
American Legion, Department of Texas dues.**
**Contact the American Legion, Department of
Texas for extra copies, or copies for
non-legionnaires.**

**The Legion Times
is the official publication of the
American Legion
Department of Texas**
Member of:
American Legion Press Association
Texas American Legion Press Assoc.
Texas Press Association.

**The Legion Times is published online
12 times a year by the
American Legion,
Department of Texas**

Membership Corner

The 100% National membership goal has elapsed, and while we did not achieve it, we have accomplished another year of consistent growth. Our Department has seen positive progress in membership, a testament to the dedication and hard work of each member. Please take a moment to acknowledge this achievement and recognize your contributions to this success.

Currently, our Department ranks third nationwide, with a strong possibility of reaching the top position by the time of the National Convention. As we approach this significant milestone, it is essential to encourage neighbors, family, and friends who have yet to renew their membership for 2025 to take action. Imagine attending the National Convention in Tampa this August as the leading Department — a collective accomplishment made possible through your commitment and efforts.

Over the past month, I had the privilege of supporting the 1st Division in membership efforts. Post 655 graciously hosted, and we successfully brought all Posts in the 12th District to 100%, except for Post 379. The momentum in the 5th District has notably improved as they continue to ascend the rankings, and the 13th District has made significant strides in recovering membership losses. This initiative was undeniably a success, and I also had the opportunity to collaborate with Catfish at the Love Field Post to gain insights into the SAL program and enhance my growth. Additionally, Post 53 in Dallas has made remarkable contributions throughout the year, and it was a pleasure to conduct training with them prior to their meeting.

At the 4th Division Convention, members organized into Districts to make phone calls and send text messages, securing 40 renewals within 1.5 hours for the entire division. These collective efforts demonstrate an unwavering determination to achieve the 100% National membership goal. The dedication and actions of our team this year surpass that of the previous year. I extend my heartfelt appreciation to every individual involved in these endeavors and eagerly anticipate witnessing the final results as we head to Tampa.

Chris Holt
Membership Chair
c.j.holt98@gmail.com



History of The American Legion – DID YOU KNOW?

Submitted by Shirley Platt, Department Historian

Texas Legion GNUTS, a benevolent fun group, was formed in 1969, by Post Department Adjutant, G. Ward Moody. Membership in the club is limited to present and past adjutants of the Legion. The name GNUTS is derived from the word "STUNG" spelled backwards. Somehow the juxtaposition is supposed to denote the opposite of the serious and high activity level characteristics of the typical office of an adjutant in the American Legion. The philosophical fun connotation of STUNG is that "all adjutants are accused, abused, and misused" by their commanders and by the general membership of the Legion as well.

The GNUTS Club activity, usually a large banquet and party held during the annual Department Leadership College event, is the fun time for adjutants to "wreak vengeance" upon commanders, guest celebrities, and others who are known to have said, or "slightly suspected of saying", disparaging remarks about adjutants. The party, known widely as

the annual GNUTS Bash, is presided over by an Emperor. Fines are imposed generously by the Emperor, pleasant insults are exchanged copiously, and "adjutant detractors lambasted uncereemonially" for construed misconduct in the presence of "loyal and perfect adjutants." Guests are entertained with gifts and a program of antics. All proceeds derived are donated to charity or to programs of the Legion.

G. Ward Moody, in 1969, declared himself Emperor I; but in 1970 he was usurped by Robert P. "Bob" Walsh, Emperor II, Past Department Commander from San Antonio. He in turn was usurped a year later, and all Emperors were similarly mistreated each year. Usurper Louis Routon, of Orange Grove, was Emperor XVII in 1986, and was destined to be usurped in 1987.

Extracted from: "The American Legion Department of Texas 1919-1986" by Harold M. Branton, Copyright 1987

2024-2025 DEPARTMENT OFFICERS

Tom Marty, Department Commander

John Hince, National Executive Committeeman
Bret Watson, Alternate National Executive Committeeman
Gene Toohey, Immediate Past Department Commander
William West, Department Adjutant
Jeanette Merritt, Department Chaplain
Gary Sanders, Department Treasurer
J.D. Langley, Department Judge Advocate
Shirley Platt, Department Historian
Glenn Scott, Department Sergeant-at-Arms
Jerry Tatman, Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms
Michael Simon, Director of Internal Affairs
Michael Lacy, Department Service Officer
Ron Peterson, Department Service Officer
Allen Sharp, Department Service Officer

DEPARTMENT VICE COMMANDERS

David Etter, 1st Division
Clifton Guillory, 2nd Division
Danny Muth, 3rd Division
George McHorse, 4th Division

DISTRICT COMMANDERS

Andy Lowen, 1st District Commander
Cheryl Williams, 2nd District Commander
Kim McCarthy, 3rd District Commander
Michael Olivarez, 4th District Commander
Keith Wilkerson, Sr., 5th District Commander
Russ Foster, 6th District Commander
Steve Storey, 7th District Commander
Irene Infante, 8th District Commander
Bradley Stavinoha, 9th District Commander
Phillip Kelly, 10th District Commander
Cyndi Miller, 11th District Commander
Chad Page, 12th District Commander
Forrest Beadle, 13th District Commander
Gea Clausier, 14th District Commander
Albert Cavazos, 15th District Commander
Ramon Montano, 16th District Commander
Jeffrey Eaton, 17th District Commander
Reyna Ruiz, 18th District Commander
Terry Landrum, 19th District Commander
Eric Mayer, 20th District Commander
Jeff Meurer, 21st District Commander
Terry Contella, 22nd District Commander
Brian F. Kanke, 23rd District Commander

ARTICLE SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

Do you have an article or news announcement to share with the rest of the Department of Texas? If so, please follow these guidelines for submissions.

- Submit text in Word format (.doc, .docx) or as a text file (.txt or .rtf) or as a PDF. ONE ARTICLE PER EMAIL PLEASE.
- The ideal word count for our format is 200 - 500 words (maximum), preferably with no double spacing.
- Give your article a TITLE! Create a HEADLINE and save with a proper file name so we can easily recognize it.
- Tell us who the author is, whether it's you or if you are just forwarding it to us.
- Attach any photos and/or artwork for your article separately in your email. DO NOT simply embed them in your Word or PDF file. Larger photos are best, and high resolution JPG files of 300 dpi or better are preferred. Please name these files accordingly so we can track them along with your article.

- Let us know in your e-mail of any corresponding photo captions, name of the photographer, etc. Please note that due to spacing and layout requirements, we may not be able to use every photo or caption submitted (preferably 2 - 3 photos per article).

- Please spell check everything! Especially people's names, web addresses, etc. We do our best to catch typos, and make corrections, but sometimes they still slip by. You can help us greatly by simply running the spell check function in your word processing software.

- We publish on our Website on the FIRST FRIDAY of the Month, with few exceptions. E-mail everything directly to times@txlegion.org by the 20th of every month, for it to appear in the *following* issue. This way we have plenty of time to work with in case we need to clarify anything with you.

We hope you enjoy this issue, and hope you continue to help us grow and improve The Legion Times!

Post 21 Warriors Defy the Storm to Honor the Fallen on Memorial Day

Story by Patricia Zuczek • Photos by James Gates



In the early hours of Memorial Day 2025, severe weather swept through the North Texas area, forcing the cancellation of ceremonies across the region. But for the Post 21 Warriors, the mission was too important to be stopped. Through steadfast commitment, heartfelt prayers, and a bit of grace from the skies, the storm clouds parted just in time, allowing Post 21 to deliver a powerful and moving Memorial Day ceremony of honor and remembrance.

The event began with the presentation of the Colors by the Post 21 Honor Guard, followed by a stirring rendition of the national anthem, performed by Logan Reid. From the very start, the ceremony reflected deep reverence for our nation's heroes and the enduring traditions that keep their memories alive. Veterans and patriotic partners, alongside Scouts from Troop 226, solemnly placed wreaths representing each of the six military branches in front of the stage.

Post 21 member Beverly Nuber offered a heartfelt explanation of the POW/MIA table, reminding all in attendance of the importance of remembering those who did not come home: "Never forget." A powerful moment came as the audience witnessed the construction of a Battlefield Cross, built piece by piece to teach the tradition of honoring service members killed in action. After the Honor Guard completed the ceremonial 13 folds, the American flag was placed beside the cross — an enduring tribute to the fallen.

Missy Wilkinson, Regent of the Sarah Kincaid Cook chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR), shared the poignant story of the red poppy, a symbol of remembrance. Emotions ran high during the performance of Morning Breaks on Arlington, sung by Kayla Lucherini and Megan Nylander, accompanied by guitarist Scott Meldrum, which moved many in the audience to tears.

(continued)



Keynote speaker Joe Hajost delivered an inspiring message honoring those who sacrificed and the families they left behind. “Memorial Day should not be a passive holiday. It’s not enough to simply place a flag or bow our heads in silence. True remembrance calls us to action, to live in a way that honors those who gave their lives.

As the haunting tones of TAPS, performed by trumpeters Bryan Fields and Brandon Lucherini, echoed across the grounds, attendees raised “In Honor of” cards bearing the names of their fallen military loved ones. In a powerful final tribute, bagpiper Dan Sheppard brought the ceremony to a close with a moving rendition of “Amazing Grace.”

Post 21 Commander Mary Garcia expressed heartfelt appreciation, saying, “We are truly grateful to the community for coming together in a spirit of reflection and gratitude. When patriotic partners like the Blue Star Mothers, the DAR, Onward Ops, RBFCU, and the DFW Veterans Chamber unite, we send a powerful message to our troops, veterans, and their families—that their service is valued, remembered, and will never be forgotten.”

Special thanks to Grandscape for generously hosting the event on their main stage, and to Nick Hume for ensuring the audio and video ran seamlessly throughout the program.



American Legion Post 593 Scout Troop - 1st Eagle Scout Awarded

Submitted by Shirley Platt, Department Historian

Sunday, May 18, 2025 was the Eagle Scout Court of Honor for Troop 593, Converse, Texas. Joaquin Valdez is the 1st Eagle Scout for Troop 593 and was honored at the Converse Senior Center. Through extensive research, Joaquin was also found to be the first Eagle Scout for the city of Converse. Joaquin is a 9th grade student at Samuel Clemens High School and the son of Converse Fire Chief Luis Valdez. Joaquin built The Little Free Library as his Eagle Scout project. It is located in the Anton Schuman Park in Converse, Texas. Bill Nupp, Post 593 Scouting Chairman, presented Commander Henry Creech with the Eagle Scout plaque, which will be displayed at the Post.



Mayor Al Suarez is with Misty Suarez.
4d · 🌐

Was very honored to attend the FIRST **Converse Scouts 593** Eagle Scout induction ceremony of Eagle Scout Joaquin Valdez. CONGRATULATIONS!



Honor the Fallen, Fred Brock Post 828 Hosts Memorial Day Program

Story by Amanda Parham, 1st Vice Commander, Post 828



SAN ANTONIO – (May 26, 2025) – In honor of those men and women who lost their lives serving this nation, Fred Brock American Legion Post No. 828 held its annual Memorial Day Ceremony at the Post's event center.

Delivering opening remarks was U.S. Rep. Henry Cuellar representing Texas' 28th Congressional District.

"It's a privilege and honor to be with you all at Fred Brock American Legion Post 828... a place that has long stood as a beacon of service, of strength, and of unity," said Cuellar. "Most importantly, I want to thank all of you, the Veterans, the families, and the neighbors who came together, not just to remember but to honor, to reflect, and to recommit."

According to Cuellar, Memorial Day is not just a day on the calendar, but a sacred moment in the American story.

"Upon reflection on this Memorial Day, let us remember not only the names carved in stone but the lives that they lived, the dreams that they carried, the families that they left behind," said Cuellar. "Let us live our lives in a way

(continued)



U.S. Rep. Henry Cuellar representing Texas' 28th Congressional District delivered opening remarks during a Memorial Day Ceremony held at Fred Brock American Legion Post No. 828
(Photo by Tesha Parmer/828 Auxiliary)



U.S. Marine Corps Veteran Richard Delgado, Jr., Senior Community Investor for the San Antonio region at Boeing Global Engagement, and Chairman of the City's Veterans Advisory Commission, served as the keynote speaker (Photo by Tesha Parmer/828 Auxiliary)

that honors their courage, not just in words, but in deeds and in actions. Gratitude without action are just words.”

The keynote speaker was U.S. Marine Corps Veteran Richard Delgado Jr., senior community investor for the San Antonio region at Boeing Global Engagement, and chairman of the city’s Veterans Advisory Commission.

“Today, we gather to commemorate Memorial Day, a day dedicated to honoring the brave men and women who have made the ultimate sacrifice in service to our country,” said Delgado. “These fallen heroes exemplified selflessness, courage, and a commitment to something greater than themselves.”

Delgado, a member of Audie L. Murphy Post No. 336, spoke about honoring the families of fallen veterans.

“Each of the fallen had a story, a family, and dreams that were cut short in the name of duty,” Delgado continued. “They left behind loved ones who continue to feel the weight of their absence. In their honor, we must strive to live our lives to the fullest, embracing each moment with gratitude and purpose.”

During the ceremony, Post Commander Burrell Parmer read the names of the Legionnaires who entered Post Everlasting: Cornell Lampkin, Bobby Wells, Fleming Mitchell, Jesse Hinton, Ezekiel Allen, Daniel Hastings, and Warren Bierra.

“Many gave their lives to ensure we can sustain the principles of justice, freedom and democracy,” said Parmer, who officiated his last Memorial Day Program as Post Commander. “Our grandfathers, fathers, grandmothers, mothers, daughters and sons paid this price for us. Let us continue to honor them accordingly.”

Towards the ceremony’s conclusion, Parmer read the Memorial Day Proclamation followed by the playing of Taps.

Afterwards, all were invited to refreshments sponsored by Post 828.



Post Commander Burrell Parmer presents a certificate of appreciation and a customized license plate to U.S. Marine Corps Veteran Richard Delgado Jr., senior community investor for the San Antonio region at Boeing Global Engagement, and chairman of the city’s Veterans Advisory Commission, for serving as the keynote speaker during a Memorial Day Ceremony held at Fred Brock American Legion Post No. 828 (Photo by Tesha Parmer/828 Auxiliary)



First Vice Commander Amanda Parham narrated the Memorial Table Candle-lighting Ceremony to honored American POW/MIAs and servicemen and women who have departed during the Memorial Day Ceremony (Photo by Post Commander Burrell Parmer)



Post Chaplain Patricia Wimberly (left) delivers a prayer after lighting a candle on the Memorial Table which honored American POW/MIAs and servicemen and women who have departed during the Memorial Day Ceremony (Photo by Post Commander Burrell Parmer)

Post 174 Scout Unit Activities

Submitted by BJ MacMillan, Adjutant, Post 174



Our scouting units have been busy this past month. Our Pack 151 rode their cub mobiles in the annual Georgetown Poppy Festival Parade. Post members rode on the trailer in front of the Cub Scouts. Our Past Post Commander, BJ MacMillan, ran into the 1st Cavalry Band. As the G1 of the 1st Cav Division, she oversaw the band! The Pack Webelos made a giant thank you card for Post 174. It was presented at the Post meeting in May. In addition, the Pack conducted their crossover ceremony at their last Pack meeting for the school year. Activities are planned for the summer each month.

Troop 151 is getting ready for their Philmont Trek in July and had a preparatory shake out while the rest of the Troop camped May 16-18. They also attended the Order of the Arrow spring assembly and helped elect the new Chapter Chief. The past three Chapter Chiefs were from Troop 151. They are getting ready to go to summer camp at Camp Buck Toms, Tennessee.

Troop 1096 has been conducting several fundraisers for summer camp. They raised enough so that each Scout only must pay \$50 of the summer camp fee. They go to Lost Pines Scout Ranch near Bastrop, in the first week of June. The first weekend of May they camped at Lake Granger for their survival merit badge. They have recruiting events and fundraisers planned during the summer.

Last weekend, Scouts from Troop 1096 and Troop 151 helped place U.S. Flags on veterans' graves at the Georgetown Cemeteries for Memorial Day.



Post 593 Memorial Day - Converse

Submitted by Shirley Platt, Department Historian



Members of Post 593 started the day out by putting up flags and memorial placards at the City of Converse City Hall on both sides of the main road. At 10:00am members attended the Memorial Day program at the Community Center and participated in the flag retirement ceremony that followed. Scout Troop 593 and members of the community retired flags in the proper manner. In a solemn and respectful ceremony, Scout Troop 593 retired numerous flags at the pavilion at Post 593.



20th District, Department of Texas Hosts Texas Boys State Orientation

Story and Photos by Burrell Parmer, Commander, Post 828

SANTONIO – (May 14, 2025) – The 20th District, Department of Texas, held orientation at Alamo Post No. 2 for more than 100 statesmen who will be attending Texas Boys State.

The statesmen from high schools throughout Bexar County will attend Texas Boys State at the University of Texas at Austin, June 8 - 13.

District Americanism Chairman Michael Knott of Alamo Post No. 2 opened the meeting and welcomed the statesmen and their parents.

"I congratulate you on being here and taking the initiative to find out what Texas Boys State is all about," Knott said to the attendees. "Boys State can be a life-changing moment for each of you as you will be amongst a thousand other high school juniors from across the state."

During the orientation, several Texas Boys State alums gave testimonies and advice to the statesmen regarding the national and federalist parties to include the numerous offices that statesmen could campaign for.

"Texas Boys State are looking for leaders," said Knott. "They are looking for young men to take charge and run for positions."

Additionally, Knott thanked the parents for allowing their sons to attend Texas Boys State and if any parents are veterans, he encouraged them to join The American Legion.

Texas Boys State is a weeklong program where students become a part of the operation of their local, county, and state government.

At Texas Boys State, participants are exposed to the rights and privileges along with duties and responsibilities of a franchised citizen.

Texas Boys State and Bluebonnet Girls State are among the most respected and selective educational programs of government instruction for high school students within Texas and the nation.



Legionnaire Michael Knott of Alamo Post No. 2 and the 20th District Americanism chairman, welcome more than 100 statesmen for Texas Boys State Orientation at Alamo Post No. 2



Texas Boys State alums participated in the 20th District, Department of Texas Boys State Orientation Meeting held at Alamo Post No. 2



Merlin Janson, a 2024 Texas Boys State Alum, speaks with more than 100 statesmen during the 20th District Texas Boys State Orientation Meeting held at Alamo Post No. 2



Legionnaire Jerry Cheatom of Fred Brock American Legion Post No. 828 speaks with parents of statesmen during the 20th District Texas Boys State Orientation Meeting held at Alamo Post No. 2

Post 119 Memorial Day Services

Submitted by Galen Bock, Adjutant, Post 119

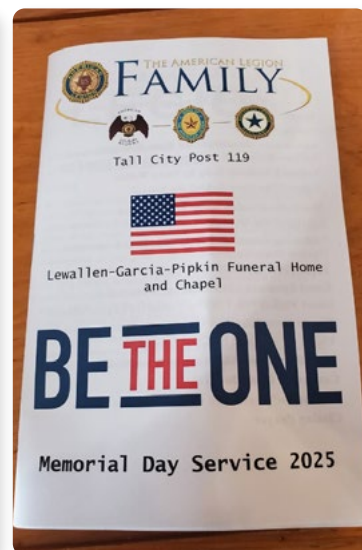
American Legion Tall City Post 119 of Midland, Texas hosted a Memorial Day Service on May 26th, 2025 held at Lewallen – Garcia – Pipkin Funeral Home. This was the 14th year for Post 119 to hold the services. The Post feels it is important to recognize and remember those who have given so much in service to our country. Being this is the 250th year of the American Soldier it made this service more special. Remembering the men and women fighting for our freedoms in the American Revolutionary War is when our freedoms were truly established by their bravery and tenacity. It was and still is a part of our American Soldiers.

It was an honor to have the Odessa Fire Rescue Pipe and Drum Corps to open our ceremony. Presentation of the colors was presented by members of Post 119. In recognition of the fallen, Legion Post 119, The Auxiliary, The Sons of the American Legion, and The Riders posted individual wreaths as the Pipe and Drum Corp played “Amazing Grace”. John Lewallen, SAL Vice-Commanders grandson Johnathan Early (age 12) played Taps.

The post was also honored to have the Quilts of Valor at our service for presentation of quilts to local veterans. Fourteen quilts were presented by wrapping the Veteran with it and given them hugs by the ladies that made them. Galen Bock, Post 119 Adjutant asked for all Veterans in attendance to stand and be recognized. We had about 20 individuals stand including Major Raymond Armendariz in his dress uniform. He asked to speak for a few minutes to thank the Post for the Service and John Lewallen for the use of facilities. Galen Bock then mentioned the names of his family that had served and had passed. He asked that any of the audience to stand and mention their family members who had served or were serving. There were over 30 individuals that mention and remember their family members. A very moving moment of remembrance! A video titled “Arlington” by Trace Adkins was played and Galen Bock, Chaplain offered the closing prayer.

Post 119 is very grateful to The Odessa Chuck Wagon Gang for serving lunch after the service and for doing so for the last several years!

Post 119 wants to thank the Midland Vet Center and Mychelle Vega for having a table to help reach veterans and let them know about how counseling is available. “Be The One!”



Post 174 Awards Scholarships

Story by Amery Vasso, Commander, Post 174



2nd Vice Commander Kevin Wilkie, Leyana Reza (Liberty Hill HS), Aubrey Bryant (Georgetown HS), Kenzie Armstrong (East View HS – Future Ready Center), Oluwapelumi Gbadegesin (East View HS), Jacob Kohn (Georgetown HS), Commander Amery Vasso with our sponsorship thank you sign

During the May regular meeting American Legion Post 174 presented six \$1,000 scholarships to high school seniors. There were 32 applicants for the 6 available scholarships. The Post raises money to support these scholarships through their annual Mini-Golf event in October (details are available on their website - <https://alpost174gtx.wixsite.com/georgetown/v>)

The Abe Harrison Scholarship was presented to Kenzie Armstrong and Oluwapelumi Gbadegesin of East View High School. Max Hogue was also a recipient but unable to attend as he was competing in tennis regional state tournament. Aubrey Bryant and Jacob Kohn were recipients from Georgetown High School. Finally, Leyana Reza received the scholarship representing Liberty Hill High School. In attendance were the families of the recipients and Post 174 Officers and members.”



American Legion Post 235 Honors JSSP Sporter Division State Champion

Submitted by Sandy Mason, Commander, Burleson Post 235

Madelyn Hickey, of the Blue Thunder Air Rifle Team at Burleson TX801st JROTC, was presented with the Department Award from National and a Certificate of Accommodation from Burleson Post 235 for JSSP.

Madelyn was unable to attend the group awards ceremony for the TX-801ST AFJROTC. Her JSSP Certificate and patch were presented to her in class by the Senior Aerospace Instructor Jeff Sorrell USAF ret.

South Houston American Legion Post 490's Family Fun Day Picnic

Submitted by Rene Sanchez

South Houston American Legion Post 490's Family Fun Day Picnic was an unforgettable event held on Saturday, May 3rd, beneath a sky as blue as our spirits were high. The picnic featured a remarkable collection of handcrafted treasures and thrilling activities that enchanted both adults and children alike. Our exceptional vendors highlighted a variety of delightful items and experiences, exceeding all expectations and leaving everyone in awe.

We must extend our gratitude to those who displayed their cars, contributing to the day's success with their dedication and creativity. Post 490 is profoundly grateful to the local community for their incredible turnout, infusing the day with joy and camaraderie. Your presence truly made a world of difference, and for that, we are immensely thankful. Congratulations to our raffle winners!

Every dollar raised will support the noble mission of the American Legion. Most importantly, this event provided a fantastic opportunity for Legionnaires, Auxiliary, SAL, and Riders to unite, share the American Legion's message, and celebrate the spirit of community.

Special thanks go to Auxiliary Unit 490, particularly Valerie for her excellent coordination of the vendors, and Alexis for her outstanding work with the children's activities. We express our sincere appreciation to Madam President Diana Aguilar and distinguished auxiliary members (Vie, Siomara, Shery, Estela, Tommy, and others) for their remarkable efforts.

Additionally, we acknowledge the significant contributions of the Legionnaires (Wendell, Terry, Scuby, Earl, Owen, and others) whose challenging work was truly commendable. Thank you to our vendors, guests, and everyone who made this day a spectacular success!!

We look forward to seeing you all again next year!



American Legion Riders 2025 State Rally

Submitted by Shirley Platt, Department Historian



On Thursday, May 1st, at Kerrville Memorial Post 208, the Missing in America Project stopped on their way to Fort Sam Houston Cemetery from Amarillo, transporting unclaimed remains of seven veterans to their final resting place. Members of the Texas Patriot Guard and Legion Riders were a part of this event.

The State Rally was held May 2 - 4, 2025 at Kerrville Memorial, Post 208, Kerrville, TX. With 322 people registered, there were 41 Chapters represented. The weather played havoc in some areas of Texas and registrants 282 physically showed up. On Friday, May 2nd, there was an Early-bird ride that took place in the Texas Hill Country on Ranch Roads 335, 336 and 337 (known as The Three Twisted Sisters). This was cut a bit short due to inclement weather, but those that participated enjoyed the ride. On Saturday, May 3rd, the weather was perfect. Various groups took part in rides all through the hill country, to include visiting the the Traveling Vietnam Memorial Wall at the Lady Bird Johnson Municipal Park just outside of Fredericksburg. A few riders actually found Luckenbach, TX.

All riders returned safely to enjoy a riders meeting where donations were presented by each chapter for the Veterans and Children's Foundation and to vote on the 2027 State Rally location. After the meeting a wonderful BBQ dinner was provided by Post 208. Sunday, May 4, riders came to the Post for a light breakfast and blessing of the bikes, before the journey home. All chapters reported a safe return home.

In addition to the above activities, a silent auction was held, music for entertainment and great camaraderie with all who attended. The donations for the Veterans and Children's Foundation was estimated at \$26,700 with additional monies yet to be collected.

THIS IS WHAT THE GREAT STATE OF TEXAS IS DOING FOR THE VETERANS AND CHILDREN'S FOUNDATION. GO TEXAS!!!!

(photos continued)





Post 832 in El Paso Honors Posts Vietnam Veterans with Dinner

Submitted by Carl Dwyer, Judge Advocate

On May 12th 2025, American Legion Post 832 held a special dinner event to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Vietnam War, honoring the courage and sacrifice of those who served. The event, which took place at the Legion's main hall, brought together veterans, families, and community members for an evening of reflection, gratitude, and unity.

Honoring Vietnam veterans is crucial to acknowledging their courage, sacrifice, and resilience. Many faced challenges both abroad and upon returning home, and recognizing their service fosters healing, unity, and respect. Commemorative events ensure their legacy endures, reminding future generations of their commitment to defending freedom and national values.

Post Commander Leedonal Moore opened the evening with a heartfelt speech recognizing the contributions of Vietnam veterans. "We are here tonight to honor the bravery and sacrifice of the men and women who served during one of our nation's most challenging times," Moore stated. "Your service will never be forgotten."

Among the speakers was Vietnam veteran Nathaniel LaCour, who shared his reflections on brotherhood and resilience. "We didn't always get the welcome home we deserved, but events like this remind us that our service mattered," Lawson said.

Faith Prentiss the Post Finance Officer helped coordinate the event and stated that she "had a great time with our heroes, our very own Vietnam Veterans! It was a pleasure to serve and hangout with those guys, we thank them so much for coming and sharing their thoughts with us!"

The evening included a soulful rendition of Sam Cooke's "A Change is Gonna Come," sung by Legionnaire Michael Parker, leaving many in attendance visibly moved.

The Legion's National Commander has also emphasized the organization's advocacy for veterans' needs and their dedication to honoring the service of Vietnam War veterans. American Legion Post 832 plans to continue its commitment to honoring veterans through community events and outreach, ensuring that their sacrifices are remembered for generations to come.



Vietnam Veterans in attendance at American Legion Post 832 Dinner



Legionnaire Nathaniel LaCour shares reflections on serving during Vietnam



Commander Moore and Vietnam Veteran Samuel "Shorty" Magnum cut the ceremonial cake



Vietnam Veterans in attendance at American Legion Post 832 Dinner



Legionnaire Michael Parker sings a soulful rendition of Sam Cooke's "A Change is Gonna Come"

For the Second Year, 20th District Sponsors Ceremony to Honor Future Service Members

Story by Burrell Parmer, Commander, Post 828



HELOTES, Texas – (May 6, 2025) – More than 240 high school students graduating this year from Bexar County and surrounding area high schools were honored during the annual “A Night in Your Honor” hosted by Our Community Salutes - San Antonio (OCS-SA) at Pedrotti’s Ranch.

The “Mighty” 20th District served as a Bronze Sponsor and participated in the Community Resource Fair talking with future service members and their parents about The American Legion.

The students represented the range of military services to include the U.S. Army, Marine Corps, Navy, Air Force, Coast Guard, and Texas Army National Guard.

The presenting sponsor was USAA.

“To our newest enlistees, today, we celebrate you as well as the incredible families who stand beside you and support you,” said John Richardson, senior vice president and head of Military Affairs at USAA. “You are joining an elite group, and we, your community, are here to celebrate you and support you every step of the way.”

On behalf of the Hon. Ron Nirenberg, mayor of San Antonio, a proclamation was read by retired U.S. Marine Corps Maj. Gen. Juan Ayala, director of Military and Veterans Affairs, and member of Fred Brock Post No. 828.

The keynote speaker was U.S. Force Brig. Gen. Christopher Amrhein, commander, Air Force Accessions Center and Air Force Recruiting Service.

(continued)



The 20th District Americanism Chairman, Legionnaire Michael Knott of Alamo Post No. 2 and 1st Vice Commander Amanda Parham of Fred Brock Post No. 828 speak with a veteran about The American Legion
(Photo by Burrell Parmer)



Legionnaire Michael Knott of Alamo Post No. 2, 20th District Americanism chairman, speaks with a parent and future service member about The American Legion during the community resource fair held during “A Night in Your Honor”
(Photo by Burrell Parmer)



San Antonio Auxiliary Unit No. 828 member Tesha Parmer and 1st Vice Commander Amanda Parham of Fred Brock Post No. 828 speak with future service members about The American Legion (Photo by Burrell Parmer)



U.S. Force Brig. Gen. Christopher Amrhein, commander, Air Force Accessions Center and Air Force Recruiting Service, served as the keynote speaker for "A Night in Your Honor" (Photo by Burrell Parmer)

"We come together not only to celebrate the incredible achievements of our graduates but to also to extend our heartfelt gratitude for their commitment to serving our nation," said Amrhein. "It is a call of duty; less than one percent of our nation will ever answer. I thank you for joining our team and being part of that elite one percent."

In addition to honoring high school graduates, the General Colin L. Powell Award for Supporting Military Service Opportunities was presented to Tiffany Embry, a college, career and military readiness advisor for East Central Independent School District.

Participating in this year's Community Resource Fair were representatives from Alamo Post No. 2, Business and Professional Post No. 10, Robert F. McDermott Post No. 309, Fred Brock Post No. 828, and San Antonio Auxiliary Unit No. 828.

The fair provided the students and their families with access to educational resources and connections with military support groups.

OCS is a non-profit organization created in 2009 by Dr. Kenneth E. Hartman to recognize and honor local graduating high school seniors who plan to enlist in the military after high school graduation.

Our Community Salutes events occur across the nation and are planned and conducted by volunteers, including military veterans, high school and college educators, local businesses, community leaders, and active duty military personnel.



Tiffany Embry, a college, career and military readiness advisor for East Central Independent School District, was presented the General Colin L. Powell Award for Supporting Military Service Opportunities during "A Night in Your Honor" (Photo by Burrell Parmer)



More than 240 high school students graduating this year from Bexar County and surrounding area high schools were honored during "A Night in Your Honor" hosted by Our Community Salutes - San Antonio (OCS-SA) at Pedrotti's Ranch. The students represented the range of military services to include the U.S. Army, Marine Corps, Navy, Air Force, Coast Guard, and Texas Army National Guard (Photo by Edward Jones, Post 828)

Post 178 Presents American Legion Medals at Three High School Cadet Awards Ceremonies

Submitted by Ed Reed

Peter J. Courcy Post 178 recently presented American Legion JROTC medals for scholastic and military excellence at three cadet awards ceremonies at Lebanon Trail, Rock Hill, and Lake Highlands high schools.



(L-R) At Lebanon Trail High School, Cadet Lieutenant JG Neureka Kundu accepts the American Legion Scholastic Excellence Medal and certificate from Bill Drake, Color Guard Captain and Post Executive Committee Member



(L-R) At Lebanon Trail High School, Cadet Lieutenant Joel Sahaya accepts the American Legion Military Excellence Medal and certificate from Bill Drake, Color Guard Captain and Post Executive Committee Member



(L-R) At Rock Hill High School, Cadet Major Suryansh Bathina accepts the American Legion Scholastic Excellence Medal and certificate from Larry Wilhelm, Post Executive Committee Member



(L-R) At Rock Hill High School, Cadet Captain Justus Brewer accepts the American Legion Military Excellence Medal and certificate from Larry Wilhelm, Post Executive Committee Member

Post 828, Auxiliary Honor JROTC Cadets, Sponsors 20 for Texas Boys & Girls State

Story by Fred Brock Post No. 828 Public Affairs



Post Commander Burrell Parmer and 1st Vice Commander Armanda Parham of Fred Brock American Legion Post No. 828 awarded the Military Excellence Medal to Cadet Darinka Salazar (Photo by Cadet Capt. Melanie Gamez)



Post Commander Burrell Parmer and 1st Vice Commander Armanda Parham of Fred Brock American Legion Post No. 828 awarded the Scholastic Excellence Medal to Cadet Honey Uriegas (Photo by Cadet Capt. Melanie Gamez)

SAN ANTONIO – (May 21, 2025) – The American Legion is a strong supporter of Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (JROTC) and ROTC programs across the country.

Fred Brock American Legion Post No. 828 annually presents Military Excellence and Scholastic Excellence Award Medals to outstanding cadets from Sam Houston, Breckenridge, and Highlands High Schools, all within the San Antonio Independent School District (ISD).

On May 1, Post Commander Burrell Parmer, joined by 1st Vice Commander Amanda Parham and San Antonio Auxiliary Unit No. 828 member Tesha Parmer, attended Sam Houston High School's JROTC Awards Ceremony presenting the Military Excellence Medal to Cadet Kalijah Henderson and the Scholastic Excellence Medal to Cadet Jennifer Monzon-Chun.

On May 8, Assistant Sgt-at-Arms Billy Hill presented the Scholastic Excellence Medal to Cadet Pfc. Mariana Carranco and the Military Excellence Medal to Cadet Cpl. Noah Martinez at Highlands High School.

On May 16, Parmer and Parham awarded the Military Excellence Medal to Cadet Darinka Salazar and the Scholastic Excellence Medal to Cadet Honey Uriegas during G.W. Breckenridge High School's JROTC Awards Ceremony.

(continued)



Post Commander Burrell Parmer of Fred Brock American Legion No. 828 presents The American Legion Military Excellence Medal to Cadet Capt. Davina Carreno during Sam Houston High School's JROTC Awards Ceremony (Photo by Tesha Parmer)



Assistant Sgt-at-Arms Billy Hill of Fred Brock American Legion Post No. 828 attended Highlands High School's JROTC Awards Ceremony presenting the Military Excellence Medal to Cadet Capt. Gavin Swails (Photo courtesy of Legionnaire Billy Hill)



Assistant Sgt-at-Arms Billy Hill of Fred Brock American Legion Post No. 828 attended Highlands High School's JROTC Awards Ceremony presenting the Scholastic Excellence Medal to Cadet Capt. Cassandra Reyes (Photo courtesy of Legionnaire Billy Hill)



*Fred Brock American Legion Post No. 828 is sponsoring 12 high school juniors to attend Texas Boys State at the University of Texas-Austin in June
(Photo courtesy of Post 828)*

In support of Texas Boys State and Texas Bluebonnet Girls State, the Post and Auxiliary Unit 828 is sponsoring 12 boys and eight girls for the weeklong programs.

The young men will be traveling to the University of Texas-Austin and the girls will be at Texas Lutheran University in Seguin, Texas, in June.

To prepare statesmen for Boys State, the "Mighty" 20th District held its Boys State Orientation at Alamo Post No. 2, May 14.

More than 100 statesmen, joined by their parents, attended the orientation hearing remarks from District Americanism Michael Knott of Alamo Post No. 2, and for the second time, the orientation was conducted by Texas Boys State Alums.

On May 18, the District Reception and Orientation for Bluebonnet Girls State was held at the City of Converse Senior Community Center.

American Legion Boys State and Girls State are among the most respected and selective educational programs of government instruction for high school students.

They are participatory programs where students become a part of the operation of their local, county, and state government. At American Legion Boys State and Girls State, participants are exposed to the rights and privileges along with duties and responsibilities of a franchised citizen.



The 20th District, American Legion Auxiliary, Department of Texas' Reception and Orientation for Bluebonnet Girls State was held at the City of Converse Senior Community Center (Photo by Cora Clay/Auxiliary Unit 828)

Leadership by American Legion Scouts of the San Gabriel District

Story by Amery Vasso, Commander, Post 174



L-R: Trevor Roberts, Wilson Benavides, Colin Diver, and Trevor Suggs

The Order of the Arrow is Scouting's national honor society. As Lodge Chief each of these Scouts was or will be responsible for all the OA members spanning 15 counties in Central Texas during their term. This includes running events that require months of planning and are attended by up to 500 participants, overseeing service projects at council camps and properties, and running the day-to-day business of the lodge. They have three Vice Chiefs and a Lodge Secretary plus 16 youth executives that handle various parts of the program. They also work with each of the 12 chapters that represent each district in the Capitol Area Council to assist local programs and events like Camporee's and merit badge fairs.

Members of the Order of the Arrow this year are:

Trevor Roberts - Lodge Chief 21 - 23 (two term), Eagle Scout 2019, Eagle Project: Handicap Ramp for the Hope House at First United Methodist Church of Georgetown, earned all 138 merit badges, American Legion Eagle Scout of the Year 2023 for the State of Texas, member of T151 chartered by American Legion Post 174.

Wilson Benavides Lodge Chief 23 - 24, Eagle Scout 2022, Eagle Project: V-12 Naval and Marine Memorial at Southwestern University in Georgetown honoring members of the university that served in the program during WWII, member of T151 chartered by American Legion Post 174.

Colin Diver - Lodge Chief 24 - 25, Eagle Scout 2025, Eagle Project: K-9 Training Obstacle Course for the Williamson County Sheriff's Department to help train K9 units for service in the field, member of T151 chartered by American Legion Post 174.

Trevor Suggs - Lodge Chief Elect 25-26, Eagle Scout 2024, Eagle Project: Scatter Garden at the IOOF Cemetery, selected as the Eagle Scout Project of the Year for the CST-7 region that includes a majority of Texas and Louisiana, member of T405 chartered by Christ Lutheran Church.

A Hero's Welcome: Post 21 Greets Veterans Returning from Honor Flight

Submitted by Patricia A. Zuczek, Adjutant

On May 3, 2025, Dallas Love Field became a place of celebration, gratitude, and emotion as a crowd of enthusiastic well-wishers gathered to welcome home a group of Texas veterans returning from their Honor Flight trip to Washington, D.C.

As the veterans came through the gates, applause erupted and echoed through the terminal, mingling with the stirring sounds of bagpipes and patriotic music. The terminal was alive with waving flags, colorful signs, and heartfelt chants of “Thank you,” and “Welcome home.” Families embraced their loved ones – some with laughter, others through tears. For many veterans who had never received such recognition when they first returned from service, the reception was deeply moving.

Standing at attention in crisp formation were JROTC cadets from Wylie East High School, saluting each veteran as they passed. The contrast between the generations was powerful, yet the connection was clear – bound by shared values of duty, honor, and sacrifice.

Members from the American Legion Post 21 Family were joined by the Blue Star Mothers of America, Yellow Rose TX21 to make sure these veterans knew just how much they were appreciated. They were also looking in particular for two special guests – Post 21 Legionnaires Dan Ivey and Frank Dickey. They had quite a story to tell of their experience on the Honor Flight.

“When we stepped off the plane in Washington, DC,” recalled Dan Ivey, “there were thousands of people, in some places ten deep, which stretched from the arrival gate all the way to baggage claim; children and youth and adults jockeying for position just to shake our hand and thank us for our service; I cried because of the sincerity and desire of the American people to make sure I knew that my service mattered and it has not been forgotten.”

The Honor Flight had been a whirlwind tour of national monuments and memorials. “I think my favorite site was the Marine Corps Monument, the Iwo Jima statue,” Frank said. “It is huge (bigger than life) and it radiates such power and purpose. I could feel the determination and struggle of the moment.”

(continued)



Dan added, “The new US Air Force monument surprised me the most, because from a distance it was not that impressive, but up close it stood majestic and seemed to touch the sky. The Vietnam Veteran memorial always brings back memories of the past, some good and some not so good. I expected to cry at the Vietnam Wall memorial, and I did.”

Frank described one unforgettable moment during their return flight. “When we were on approach over Dallas Love Field something amazing happened. The Honor Flight support team started singing ‘America the Beautiful’. All of us vets joined in – loudly! We sang, and it sounded good. The other passengers kneeled up in their seats, watching the crazy vets singing this patriotic song. What a sight! And just as the song finished the wheels touched the runway.”

Both men expressed deep gratitude to the Honor Flight organization and their guardian, Jodie Hall. Veterans are paired with guardians who provide full-time support throughout the trip. “Jodie went above and beyond,” Dan said. “I did not realize the amount of work the guardians do behind the scenes, such as coordinating letters from home from far-away friends and relatives. Jodie worked to ensure I knew that I was there to be honored and I was served in a way that I have never experienced in my life.”

Frank agreed: “Jodie is a wonderful person, a fantastic guardian, and I thank her sincerely. I didn’t expect the outpouring of emotion which I thought I had dealt with years ago. A resurgence of patriotism which I had forgotten about. An immense feeling of friendship toward other vets that was way beyond casual. A sense of gratitude to Honor Flight for a literally magnificent experience.”

Returning home, the emotion only deepened. “When we arrived at the gate at Love Field, it was 10:30 at night and still, hundreds of people were waiting to welcome us,” Dan said. “Bagpipes played right in front of us, and the tears came all over again. I was overwhelmed by how many young people stepped forward to shake our hands. It was a long, emotional walk through the crowd – then finally, a joyful reunion with our families. What a homecoming.”



Post 164 Attends the 2nd Division Convention at Post 817 in Beaumont

Submitted by Sandy Krum, Commander, Post 164

On May 10th. Post 164 attended the 2nd Division Convention hosted by Post 817 in Beaumont. We heard from committee chairs, discussed the new Constitution and Bylaws for the Division, and elected our new Department Vice Commander for the 2nd Division. Congratulations to Steve Kim!

Post members in attendance were Butch Sparks Post Judge Advocate, Dennis Wells Post 1st Vice Commander, Harry Woodstrom Post Finance Officer, Jim McGuire Chairman of the Post Board of Trustees, Ernie Cormier Post member, Gene Britton Commander of the Son's Squadron 164, Ted Whiteman Son's Squadron Adjutant, and Post Commander Sandy Krum.

Auxiliary Unit 164 was well represented by Unit President Linda Malsbary, Gillian Woodstrom Unit 1st Vice President and Maria Wells Unit 2nd Vice President.



Post 164 Visits with Girl Scout Troop 127151

Submitted by Sandy Krum, Commander, Post 164

The Commander of Post 164, Sandy Krum, had the distinct honor to speak to Girl Scout Troop 127151 about who and what is the American Legion and what Poppies on Memorial Day was all about. The troop was also presented with a Certificate of Appreciation for their cookie donation to the Post.

The girls and parents asked some very good questions afterwards and then asked whether they could be included in any events where we might need extra help.

Dorie E. Miller Post 817 Receives City Proclamation

Submitted by Cheryl Williams, Adjutant, Post 817

On May 6, 2025, Department Vice Commander 2nd Division Clifton Guillory and 2nd District Commander Cheryl Williams received a City of Beaumont Proclamation.

Top L-R — Council Members: Chris Durio (P.817), Mike Getz, Albert "AJ" Turner, Mayor Roy West, Randy Feldschau, Audwin Samuel, and Tom Nield.

Bottom L-R: Department Vice Commander 2nd Division Clifton Guillory and 2nd District Commander Cheryl Williams.



VETERAN HELPING VETERANS!



Who better to guide you through your VA home loan or IRRRL refinance than someone who has walked in your boots?

As a U.S. Army veteran, I know the in's and out's of VA benefits and the unique needs of military families.

You have served us — now let us serve you.

RICHARD EATON | 713-802-7050

NMLS #1895804

US ARMY VETERAN | MORTGAGE LOAN OFFICER

APPLY NOW:



VETERAN OPERATED. MISSION DRIVEN. ALWAYS FORWARD.

Ark-La-Tex Financial Services, LLC d/b/a Benchmark Mortgage 5160 Tennyson Pkwy STE 1000, Plano, TX 75024, NMLS ID #2143 (www.nmlsconsumeraccess.org) 972-398-7676. This advertisement is for general information purposes only. All information contained herein is for informational purposes only and, while every effort has been made to ensure accuracy, no guarantee is expressed or implied. Rates, terms, programs and underwriting policies subject to change without notice. This is not an offer to extend credit or a commitment to lend. All loans subject to underwriting approval. Some products may not be available in all states and restrictions apply. (<https://benchmark.us>)



IT MATTERS WHERE YOU SHOP!

You Support Your Military Community When You Use Your Exchange Benefit

Veteran Shopping Benefits

- All honorably discharged Veterans shop tax-free for life at ShopMyExchange.com
- Disabled Veterans can shop in-store at PXs and BXs too

Why It Matters

- Shop tax-free with military-exclusive pricing
- 100% of Exchange earnings support Soldiers, Airmen, Guardians and families

ShopMyExchange.com/vets



SCAN
for more!

LEGIONNAIRE BENEFITS

As a Member of the Legion Family, You Know How Important
It Is to Help Protect Those in Need ...

NOW WE CAN HELP THE LIT PLANS CAN HELP WITH

- Hospital HELP Plan
- Cancer Care
- Accidental Death Protection
- On-The-Move Travel Accident
- Emergency Assistance Plus
- ID Resolve
- Medicare Supplement Insurance
- Health Insurance
- Dental Insurance
- Long-Term Care
- Lifeline Medical Alert Service

Hospital HELP Plan — Provides benefits for hospital stays including intensive care, cardiac care, care for cancer, rehabilitative facilities, and V.A. hospitals.*

Cancer Care — Provides important protection and a daily benefit if you are hospitalized due to cancer.*

Accidental Death — Helps provide financial protection for you and your family. Up to \$5,000.00 LegionCare AD coverage at no cost to Legionnaires is available: (activation required).* You can also purchase additional Accident coverage up to \$100,000.00.

On-The-Move Travel Accident — Provides up to \$200,000.00 coverage when fatally injured in a covered accident while traveling, plus \$500.00 per day if a covered accident lands you in the hospital.*

ID Resolve — Provides 24-hour identity theft resolution that helps protect your money, your time and your financial reputation.*

Emergency Assistance Plus — Provides you with 24/7 emergency medical and travel assistance services should something happen to you or your family while traveling away from home.

Medicare Supplement Insurance — Supplements your Medicare Coverage at group rates.

Health & Dental Insurance — Request a quote on various Health & Dental Insurance Plans designed with you in mind.

Long-Term Care — Can help provide home health care, supervised adult care, and more.

Lifeline Medical Alert Service — Provides fast access to help in the event of a fall or medical emergency so you can live confidently and independently.

DeviceGuard — A simple, comprehensive, and affordable way to protect your devices—from smartphones to laptops to digital doorbells. Flexible plans and bundles ensure that you only pay for the protection you need.

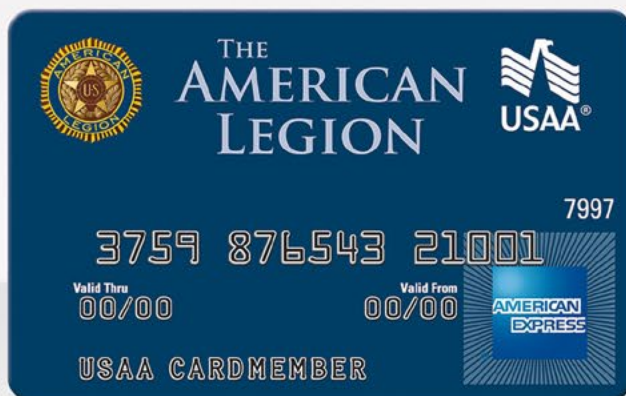


ENDORSED BY YOUR
AMERICAN LEGION
DEPARTMENT

**To Learn More and Enroll, Visit www.TheLIT.com
For Questions Call 1-800-235-6943**



USAA is proud to be the
Preferred Provider
of Insurance and Financial Services
to The American Legion



GET THE CREDIT CARD THAT SUPPORTS THE AMERICAN LEGION.

With your everyday purchases, you can help support The American Legion. Get The American Legion USAA Rewards™ American Express® Credit Card and take advantage of:

- **0% introductory APR for 12 months** on balance transfers and convenience checks posted in the first three months after account opening (**10.90% to 25.90% variable APR after 12 months on these balances**)¹
- **No annual fee**
- **Earn 1 point for every dollar spent and 2X points on gas and groceries². Plus, now you can extend your support by redeeming your rewards points for a donation to The American Legion**



APPLY TODAY.

usaa.com/legionamex or 1-877-699-2654

USAA means United Services Automobile Association and its affiliates. USAA products are available only in those jurisdictions where USAA is authorized to sell them.

¹**Offer subject to approval.** As of 12/1/15, regular APRs on purchases, cash advances and balance transfers are 10.90% to 25.90%, depending on your credit history and other factors. APRs vary with the market based on the Prime Rate. There is a transaction fee of 3% on cash advances (\$200 maximum on each balance transfer and each convenience check) and 1% on foreign transactions. Rates and fees subject to change. If you transfer a balance or write a convenience check with this offer, all purchases will be charged interest until you pay the entire balance in full, including any transferred/convenience check balances. After that, you will have a grace period on purchases when you pay your entire statement balance each month by the payment due date. ² Earn 1 point for every \$1 in purchases plus 1 additional point on every \$1 in purchases that the merchant properly codes as gas and grocery purchases. Grocery purchases at warehouses, discount stores, department stores or other non-grocery store locations are not eligible for the additional 1 point reward. Rewards points terminate if account is closed or delinquent or program ends. Other restrictions apply. USAA Rewards Program terms and conditions will be provided with your card. Purchase of a product other than USAA auto or property insurance, or purchase of an insurance policy offered through the USAA Insurance Agency, does not establish eligibility for, or membership in, USAA property and casualty insurance companies. American Express is a federally registered service mark of American Express and is used by USAA Savings Bank pursuant to a license. The American Legion receives financial support from USAA for this sponsorship.

This credit card program is issued by USAA Savings Bank, Member FDIC. © 2016 USAA. 225913-0116



RENEW ONLINE NOW!

Renew your American Legion Membership quickly and easily online!

Simply visit the web address shown below, and follow the easy instructions.

You can renew your membership and even print out a temporary membership card.

Quick and secure credit card payment.



 **www.legion.org/renew**



DIR-ONLN-SLP-04/2013

TEXAS LONE STAR RECRUITER PIN

Have you earned yours?



Awarded to Legionnaires for recruiting "NEW" members into The American Legion. This award is based upon the total accumulative number of New Members the Recruiter has signed up into The American Legion from the inception of this award through their Legion career. The pin will be awarded starting with the #1 for the first new member and then increase in increments of 5 (5, 10, 15, 20, etc.) based upon the accumulative total of new members recruited. Once the recruiter is awarded a pin level, he/she will work for the next higher pin level and once a pin level has been achieved a duplicate pin level will not be awarded.

CONTACT YOUR POST ADJUTANT TO GET YOURS!

Renew your membership online

Please continue to support your fellow veterans, troops, their families, youth and our nation.



Your annual dues help support programs in your community and across the nation. American Legion programs and services include: Troop Support, Child Welfare Foundation, Heroes to Hometowns, American Legion Baseball, Department Service Officers, Family Support Network, Flag Advocacy & Etiquette, Junior ROTC & ROTC, Operation Comfort Warriors, Scholarships, Veterans Job Fairs, and many others.

Thank you for ensuring that The American Legion remains the most powerful voice in America on behalf of veterans, servicemembers, their families, and communities across the nation.

Go to www.legion.org/renew

AMERICAN LEGION

Department of Texas

The Legion Times • PO Box 140527 • Austin, TX 78714

T: 512.472.4138 • F: 512.472.0603

times@txlegion.org



BEVERAGE DISTRIBUTORS

We Buy Houses!



- All Cash
- Fast Close
- As Is (no repairs to make)
- Estate
- Foreclosure
- No commission to pay
- Best price for your house

Call Mike
682-351-0040
rubycoproperties.com

GET UPDATED!



More than 165,000 subscribers
now receive the American Legion's

WEEKLY E-NEWSLETTER!

News • Features • Interviews • Photo Galleries
Exclusive Videos • Interactive Features • Reunions

YOU'RE JUST A CLICK AWAY!

Go to www.legion.org and click on "Get Updated!"



THE AMERICAN LEGION
ONLINE UPDATE