Greetings to all! As I have thought about what to say in my last article as your Department Commander, many things crossed my mind. I discounted all of them until I sat down to type this.

I have enjoyed this year tremendously and really wish there could be another year. In this, the greatest of all veterans organizations, there are some of the greatest and most likable people in the world. While some of us may have had our differences, Legionnaires really care about this nation and their fellow men, especially other Legionnaires. This is not only true in Texas but throughout the organization. There have been not thousands but literally millions of dollars donated to our different funds, and those funds distributed to the just causes they were founded for. It makes me even more proud to be a member.

It is not just the monetary donations that have made a difference but communities, cities, states and even the nation have prospered from the contributions made by the American Legion. One of the greatest pieces of legislation ever passed, the G I Bill, was written by a past national. It was the Legion that took the lead in forming the veterans administration, now known as Veterans Affairs. Little is it known, even among our members, that the national legislative staff are in Washington D C daily, advocating what we feel veterans, their dependants, and the military need and lobbying congress to enact such legislation. Of note is the recent non-ending G I bill and an act to change the war era dates which will allow veterans of the “cold war” to become members of our group. That bill recently passed the senate and is in the house of representatives awaiting passage.

The American Legion is a great organization, one of the greatest of the greatest. I beseech each of you to continue your membership and get others to join. Brag about what the Legion has done, is doing and is going to do.

I feel I have come up short as your Commander but tried to give it my best. I have sincerely wanted to serve you well.

And now I wish each and every one of you success in your endeavors, and God speed.

May God bless the American Legion and the United States of America.

Lloyd O. Buckmaster
Department Commander
2018-2019
Chaplain’s Corner

This has been one of the best jobs in my lifetime. My thanks go to our Commander Buckmaster for asking me to be State Chaplain, to Chaplain Harvey Klee and other members of our State Chaplain Association who shared their years of experience and were always there to answer questions and to give advice.

Our Legion family is truly blessed to have men and women in Chaplain positions who lead with their hearts and beautiful lives of Faith. In our organization, there are manuals and documents which can help our Chaplin Corps do their jobs but the very best tool is the lives of the men and women in our Legion family. Leading by example is the way to go.

The very best leaders are servant leaders and Texas is full of them. Individuals who put others before themselves and these leaders always find a way to make things happen... and to make things better.

It has been a year of visiting Posts, Districts and Divisions and meeting wonderful Legion Family members who made this Yankee feel right at home.

Please know you have a friend in Bryan who prays for you and loves you all very much and look forward to sharing in OUR next 100 years.

FOR GOD AND COUNTRY
Chaplain Gerry May Hince
Department Chaplain 2018-2019
www.texaschaplains.org

WHY DID YOU JOIN THE LEGION?
BE PART OF THE TEXAS LEGION HISTORY
TELL US WHY AND SEND YOUR INPUT TO:
Hince57@msn.com
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 your text in Word format (.doc, .docx) or as a text file (.txt or .rtf) or as a PDF.

- Name your article! Create the 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.

- Please attach any photos and/or artwork for articles separately (NOT embedded in your text file) as high resolution JPGs (300 dpi, or better). Please name these files accordingly so we can track them along with your article.

Let us know in your e-mail of any corresponding captions, name of the photographer, etc.

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

- 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 The Legion Times!
Thirty-six boys from Katy-area high schools are attending the weeklong Texas Boys State 2019, which began June 9 in Austin.

The Katy boys are among hundreds from all parts of Texas who are learning about various forms of American government. Each boy becomes a part of the operation of his local, county, and state government.

Two boys from Texas will be selected to attend The American Legion’s Boys Nation convention in July in Washington.

Members of Jonathan D. Rozier Post 164 of The American Legion in Katy selected the 36 boys after interviews that followed nominations by teachers and school counselors. The post’s Boys State committee is led by Monte Ikner, with support from Bobby Steph, Ray Downs, Fred Kana, and Harry Woodstrom.

The boys are seniors-to-be and are listed by high school.


Faith West: Dan Owen, Zane Vincent.

Katy: Viswanathan Dhanabal, Maverick Anderson, Zachary Baker.

Mayde Creek: Anthony Hernandez, Hakeem Werra, Jesus Limones.

Morton Ranch: Gabriel Garcia, Ian Gopinath, Nathanael Hernandez.

Paetow: Chase Stanley, Corbin Vail.

Saint John XXIII: Canyon Neundorfer, Christopher Speed, Eric Pink, Weston Glueck.

Seven Lakes: Luka Christianson, Trevor Schmidt.

Taylor: Eduardo Aguilar, Evan Flesser, Luca Cortarelli, Matthew Schaefer.

Tompkins: Akhil Thomas, Christopher Wong, Iruoghene Edewor, Michael Saccone, Rehan Rupawalla, Sheev Dave.

The Boys State program has been offered by The American Legion since 1935.
Post 240 Commander, Ron Henry, begins the annual Ceremony for Disposal of Unserviceable Flags as outlined in Resolution No. 440, passed by the 19th National Convention of The American Legion in New York, Sept. 20-23, 1937, by issuing the following command, “Sgt At Arms, assemble the flag detail in front of the audience and begin the ceremony.” Sergeant-at-Arms & scout detail approach the podium “Commander, we wish to present a number of unserviceable Flags of our country for inspection and disposal.” Commander- “Sergeant-At-Arms, advance and present the Flags for disposal and inspection.”

Scout Troop 18 leader, Jim Hinson (L) photographs scouts preparing flags for burning. Local fire department crew looks on in background. Troop 18 has a partnered with Post 240 in presenting this ceremony for many years. Troop 18 is sponsored by The Kiwanis Club of Stephenville.
Legionnaires & scouts salute to the bugle sounds of ‘To The Colors’ as the flag burning begins.

Legionnaires accept flags from scouts and place in burn barrel. Post 240 Flag Watch chairman, Walter Dotson, collects & burns over 1000 flags yearly from its collection box located at the entrance of Walmart & other locations. Fifty 3 X 5 cotton flags are folded & saved for this annual ceremony.

With Flag retirement complete, Legionnaires & Scouts pause for a group photo and refreshments served by Auxiliary Unit 240 (R) inside the cool confines of the historic American Legion building constructed in 1939.
Turnbow-Higgs American Legion Post 240 of Stephenville would like to acknowledge two of their Post 240 members who reached out to help a fellow veteran in need.

This story begins with the late Leroy “Candyman” Griffin, United States Air Force Veteran, of Turnbow-Higgs Post 240. He got his nickname, Candyman, because anywhere he went, Griffin would always have a piece of candy and a smile for whomever he came in contact with. He brought smiles to many, many faces.

Unfortunately, Griffin passed away on June 23, 2018, at age 89. He had a ramp that had been installed at his home to help with entry and exit. And upon Griffin’s passing, fellow American Legion member and friend, Sid Moon, was able to obtain the ramp from Leroy’s home. Sid took the materials to his father’s home to build him a ramp. His father, Willis Moon Jr., is a USMC veteran, as is Sid.

In constructing the ramp for his father, Sid realized he needed some additional material. After contacting Tanglewood Medical Supplies, Sid was able to accompany the Tanglewood owner/manager to a storage facility where he was able to get a whole lot of ramp materials for free.

After completing his father’s ramp, Sid decided he would like to build a ramp for another veteran in need. From Facebook, Sid learned of the need for a ramp for a veteran just outside of town. The veteran in need was Navy Veteran, Loy Senor. Sid promptly contacted fellow American Legion member, Walter Dotson, to secure his help with the project. Walter was more than happy to help.

Sid and Walter have now constructed a ramp to be used at the home where Loy Senor recently moved. Sid and his friends at Turnbow-Higgs American Legion Post 240 would like to be able to build ramps in the future for veterans in need. This would, in a way, ensure the legacy of Leroy “Candyman” Griffin lives on in those who loved and cared about him.

Of course, building these ramps could prove to be expensive. If you are interested in making a monetary donation to the Turnbow-Higgs Post 240 to help with this cause, contact Sid Moon or American Legion Turnbow-Higgs Post 240 on Facebook to see how you can donate to this very worthy cause.

POST 164 FLAG RETIREMENT

Roy Miller, chaplain of American Legion Post 164 in Katy, retires an old American flag during a ceremony behind the Elks Lodge on Flag Day, June 14. Post 164 conducts flag retirement ceremonies for old and tattered flags twice a year.

(Photo by David Wallis)
The American Legion
Veterans Job Fair Registration

Date: Tuesday, July 9th, 2019
Time: 10:00 am – 2:00 pm Career Fair

Location: Westin Dallas Fort Worth Airport
4545 W John Carpenter Fwy, Irving, TX 75063

Admission: Free for Veterans, Transitioning Service Members, Active Duty, National Guard, Reservists and their Spouses. Free for employers.

Employers: Please register at the following URL:

Employers: Please contact Margaret Young at 972-573-3531, email: margaret.young@tvc.texas.gov or register at:
Celebrating our 100th Anniversary of the American Legion of Texas

LAPEL PIN $4.00
COIN $8.00
Garment Bag $20.00
Garrison Cap Bag $8.00

Embroidered Shirts
MENS

SM MED LARGE XL
2XLG $38.00
3XLG $40.00
4XLG $42.00

LADIES

SM MED LARGE XL
2XLG $38.00
3XLG $40.00
4XLG $42.00

Enter Quantity in box
TOTAL ITEMS CHECKED
TOTAL AMOUNT

Mail to: American Legion PO Box 140527 Austin, TX. 78714

Check or money order also accepted
100th Anniversary Order Form

The American Legion is celebrating our 100th Anniversary and the Department of Texas has several commemorative items available for purchase to mark this milestone!

Please see our order form on the previous page. Just fill out and mail to the Department Headquarters with your check or money order and we will send the items to you.

AmazonSmile is a simple and automatic way to support your favorite charitable organization every time you shop, at no cost to you. When you shop at smile.amazon.com, you’ll find the exact same low prices, vast selection and convenient shopping experience as Amazon.com, with the added bonus that Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price to your favorite charitable organization.

Simply go to smile.amazon.com, sign into your normal Amazon account and then type in “American Legion Charities Inc” in the search box when the prompt comes up. Amazon will remember your selection, and then every eligible purchase you make at smile.amazon.com will result in a donation.

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TEXAS LONE STAR RECRUITER PIN

Have you earn 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.

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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.

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What if you were Bob?

George and Bob both go on a solo fishing trip to a beautiful, but remote, town in Alaska every summer. While enjoying the idyllic scenery, they both notice chest pains — they are having a heart attack!

What happens next?

George has **Emergency Assistance Plus**

Bob does not

**Both require**

- They call 9-1-1 and are admitted to the hospital

**George pays $0**

**Bob pays $16,000**

**Medical evacuation to a facility that is able to properly treat their condition**

**George pays $0**

**Bob pays $400**

**Medical specialists to monitor their care**

**George pays $0**

**Bob pays $1,100**

**Travel assistance to bring a loved one to their bedside**

**George pays $0**

**Bob pays $1,800**

**A driver to drive their car/RV back home since they are unable to drive**

**George pays $0**

**Bob’s Total: $19,300!**

**George’s Total: $0**

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**Emergency Assistance Plus** is an emergency medical transportation service that goes beyond health and travel insurance. It covers expenses for medical transportation, medical evacuation and travel and companion assistance — services that your insurance usually does NOT pay for. You must call **EA+** during your emergency so **EA+** can make the arrangements for you.

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