



William M. Randolph, Post 593

Non-Profit Organization

U.S. POSTAGE PAID

Converse, Texas

Permit No. 28

**The American Legion  
Of The United States of America**

326 Legion Drive West, Converse, TX 78109  
(210) 658-1111

Email: Post593tx@yahoo.com http://www.Post593.org  
Post Home Manager: Terry Smith

Hours of Operation

Mon-Thurs: 1pm—11pm  
Friday: 1pm — 1 am  
Saturday: 12pm — 1 am  
Sunday 12pm — 10:30

APRIL 2015

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**Post 593 Officers:**

Commander: Danny Peter Muth  
1st Vice: Dennis Ducharme  
2nd Vice: Vacant  
Adjutant: Karen Paris  
Finance: Dave Paris  
Chaplain: Chris Reed  
Judge Advocate: Jack Leanhart  
Historian: Ken Echerd  
Service Officer: Sebastian Rodriguez  
Sergeant At Arms: Marcelo Buckley  
Hubmaster: Dennis Ducharme

**Members at Large:**

Jim Bennett, Peter Johnson  
Velma Smith, Denny Taylor, Paul Goymerac

**Auxiliary Officers:**

President: Michelle Muth  
Vice President: Pati Bennett  
Secretary: Sandy Vinson  
Treasurer: Denise Yanus  
Historian: Tina Goymerac  
Chaplain: Catherine McDonald  
Sgt At Arms: Gina Leonard

**Members at Large:**

Candy Zavala, Sue Buckley, Brenda Weeks

**ALR Officers:**

Director: John Bock  
Asst Director: Andy Selko  
Secretary: Stephanie Bock  
Treasurer: Stephanie Bock  
Road Captain: Brown Zavala  
Membership: Pati Bennett  
Sgt At Arms: John Zimmerman  
Chaplain: Catherine McDonald  
Service Officer: Pablo Hernandez  
Historian: Jim Bennett

**Members at Large:**

Carlos Bonilla, Gina Leonard, Tim Romo

**Sons of the American Legion:**

Commander: Henry Creech  
1st Vice: Dennis Ducharme  
2nd Vice: Marcelo Buckley  
Adjutant: Tim Vinson  
Finance: Dennis Ducharme  
Chaplain: Tim Vinson  
Historian: Ken Echerd  
Sgt At Arms: Joe Falco  
Judge Advocate: Ken Echerd  
Member At Large: Dan McGinnis  
Advisor: Dave Paris

Editor: Gary Bartel

*Commander's Corner*



I would like to wish everyone a Happy Easter Season. As we celebrate this Religious season, and observe the regeneration of our world with the warming weather, we have the opportunity to nurture seeds for another purpose. Starting April 1<sup>st</sup> the election books will be out for next year's Executive Board.

This is the time to have a conversation amongst the membership to determine our future as a Post. We should look at all of our members to select the best attributes to move our Post into the next year. An effective executive board should have a combination of experienced members adding their sage advice. It should also have newer members bringing their energy and initiative. The final group would be those that have learned the ropes of the American Legion, and want to expand and share their knowledge of the American Legion and its programs.

As we nominate candidates for the next board, please review the duties of the differing positions. All positions will require

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*Auxiliary News*



Happy Easter!

A big THANK YOU to Candy Zavala for chairing the Kid's Easter Party! Wow – what a great time! Thank you to everyone that came out and helped! Also, thank you S.A.L. for donating all the hot dogs!! We really are family – everyone comes together and supports each other!!

Just a friendly reminder to please pay your 2015 Auxiliary dues! We are really close to making a 100%! If you know anyone who is eligible and would like to join – lets get them signed up!

It is almost election time!! We will be forming the nominating committee at the April Meeting and we will be taking nominations from the floor and voting in June! If you are interested in any position, please see someone on the nominating committee! Installation of officers will be held Saturday, June 27<sup>th</sup>.

Until Next Month.....  
Michelle Muth

(Continued from page 1)

commitment, however varying positions require varying time commitments and experience. There is a position for everyone. Let us look and discuss with our membership to create a strong Executive Board for the future. As we look amongst our membership for candidates, I hope that no one forgets to look in the mirror. The person that can best represent your ideas and priorities is YOU.

This is OUR House  
Do what you can when you can

Danny Peter Muth  
Post Commander

### **April Breakfast and Blood Drive**

This month at our monthly breakfast we are having a Blood Drive. There are two people who need your gift of blood. Jim Bennett, a Legion and Rider member, and River, a child undergoing cancer treatment. All you have to do is come out and let the crew of the Bloodmobile know you would like to donate to one of these accounts.

The breakfast is from 8-11 AM and the blood drive is from 9-11AM. There are sign-up sheets at the Post. It is helpful for South Texas Blood and Tissue Center to know how many might donate because they might have to bring 2 Bloodmobiles.

Thank you for supporting these great causes. Remember, it is open to the public.

### **SAL Corner**

Hello Legion family. March was one of the few slow months for your SAL. We thank you all for supporting the monthly Chicken Fried Steak night.

As mentioned months back, we are working on a trailer mounted grill/smoker setup that will be made available to Legion members. We are currently in the design phase. Stay tuned for progress reports.

Membership remains at the forefront. If you haven't renewed, please do so soon. If you have eligible family members, please consider signing them up.

Our annual golf tournament is coming soon. We are looking forward to the best one yet. If you're an avid golfer, a casual player, or even a once-in-a-lifetime duffer, we would love to have you play.

Thanks once again for helping us help support you.

Henry Creech  
SAL Squadron Commander

### **Sites, Bites and Bikes**

The 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual event will be held on Saturday, May 3. There will be a "fun run" by the ALR (KSU at 1000), food by the RV crews (12-5 PM), music by Dan (OBD), cakes by Alice, and an auction (4PM). This year's theme is "Cinco de Mayo".

All money raised goes to sending High School Junior boys to Boy's State in Austin for a week. They learn about government. This year, there are several (7-9) great candidates and Post 593 wants to send them all. Just so you know, it costs \$300 to send each boy plus \$100 for the bus to get them to and from Austin. Last year several of the candidates and their families came to this event so it is a great way to meet who the donations go towards.

We are still taking auction items and are looking for cooks!!!

### **AED Committee**

The Commander has asked me to Chair a committee looking into getting an AED for the Post. For those who may not know, an AED (Automated External Defibrillator) is a portable electronic device that automatically diagnoses the life-threatening cardiac arrhythmias of ventricular fibrillation and ventricular tachycardia in a patient.

The Legion family has had 2 situations in the recent past where an AED might have been used. This committee will review all information received and determine if this is a good idea for Post 593. We want our family members to be safe; we want what is best for all concerned.

If you have any concerns, or questions, contact me, Karen Paris, or leave a note at the Post or on the Post email.

### **Saving Cans**

Many thanks to those who have been helping us save cans for the past few years. This has brought into the Legion coffers almost \$10,000 in the last 11 years. Aluminum cans, brass, copper wire, and batteries are all salvageable.  
No bottles or plastic please.

Thank you—John Orff

### **NOTARY PUBLIC**

Notary service is available to Post members and their families at no cost to them. Contact Joe Guastella at 683-6582 to make arrangements.

### **ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTERS**

To get your name on the electronic delivery list, please send an email to [post593newsletter@yahoo.com](mailto:post593newsletter@yahoo.com). Thanks for your support to save some dollars\$\$\$.

## Pay And Benefits

The Pentagon has set up working groups to review the commission's report and to make the Defense Department's recommendations to President Obama within 60 days on pay and benefits.

One of the major recommendations was for the overhaul of the military retirement system. The commission called for ending the current 20 years-and-out at half pay system for future troops and starting 401(k)-style investment funds with government contributions for lower ranking troops.

Sebastian Rodriguez  
Post Service Officer

## Rider Report

Spring is in the air and it is time to get those bikes ready to roll. First off, please do not forget your T-CLOC's Inspection. Check those Tires, Controls, Lights & Electronics, Oil & Fluids, Chassis, Side or Center Stands. Ensure your license, registration, and insurance are valid. Also, we will begin many group rides. Motorcycling is primarily a solo activity, but for many, riding as a group -- whether with friends on a Saturday morning ride or with an organized motorcycle rally -- is the epitome of the motorcycling experience. Here are some tips to help ensure a fun and safe group ride:

**Arrive prepared.** Arrive ahead of time with a full gas tank.

**Hold a riders' meeting.** Discuss things like the route, rest and fuel stops, and hand signals. Assign a lead and sweep (tail) rider. Both should be experienced riders who are well-versed in group riding procedures. The leader should assess everyone's riding skills and the group's riding style.

**Keep the group to a manageable size,** ideally five to fifteen riders. If necessary, break the group into smaller sub-groups, each with a lead and sweep rider.

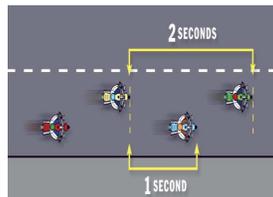
**Ride prepared.** At least one rider in each group should pack a cell phone, first-aid kit, and full tool kit, so the group is prepared for any problem that they might encounter.

**Ride in formation.** The staggered riding formation (**see diagram below**) allows a proper space cushion between motorcycles so that each rider has enough time and space to maneuver and to react to hazards. The leader rides in the left third of the lane, while the next rider stays at least two seconds behind in the right third of the lane; the rest of the group follows the same pattern. A single-file formation is preferred on a curvy road, under conditions of poor visibility or poor road surfaces, entering/leaving highways, or other situations where an increased space cushion or maneuvering room is needed.

**Avoid side-by-side formations,** as they reduce the space cushion. If you suddenly needed to swerve to avoid a hazard, you would not have room to do so. You don't want handlebars to get entangled.

**Periodically check the riders following in your rear view mirror.** If you see a rider falling behind, slow down so they may catch up. If all the riders in the group use this technique, the group should be able to maintain a fairly steady speed without pressure to ride too fast to catch up.

**If you're separated from the group,** don't panic. Your group should have a pre-planned procedure in place to regroup. Don't break the law or ride beyond your skills to catch up.



Finally, I want to personally thank everyone who volunteered their time in making the 2015 ALR Rolling Run such a huge success. Thank you for everything you have done and continue to do, it is greatly appreciated.

JOHN A. BOCK  
Director, American Legion Riders

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## April 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 GMM Mtg. 7:30 pm	2 Dart League Pool League	3	4
5 Easter Sunday!	6 Dart League & Shuffleboard	7 <b>FREE GRILL</b> Sloppy Joes, chips & dessert - 6 pm ALR Exec. Mtg 7:30	8	9 Dart League Pool League	10 CHICKEN FRIED STEAK OPEN TO THE PUBLIC! 6-7:30 pm	11 BREAKFAST OPEN TO THE PUBLIC 6-11 AM Blood Drive Diat. Convention Post 2
12	13 Dart League & Shuffleboard	14 <b>Rider Grill 6-8 pm</b> ALR GMM MTG 7:30 PM	15 Exec. Mtg. 7:00 pm	16 Tri City Flyers Dart League Pool League	17	18 Shuffleboard - 330 Darts - 715 Grill 6 - 8 pm ALEI Training Austin, TX
19	20 Dart League & Shuffleboard League	21 No Rider Grill New Bldg. Committee Mtg 7:30 pm	22	23 Dart League Pool League	24 STEAK NIGHT KARAOKE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC	25 Legacy's Drive In or Ride In Chunky's - 1 pm
26	27 Dart League & Shuffleboard League	28 No Rider Grill SAL Mtg. - 7:30 pm	29	30 Dart League Pool League		



**ZUMBA**  
 Every Tuesday  
 At 6:15 pm - \$3

**\*\* Breakfast and Steak Night prepared by the Riders. \*\***

**UPCOMING EVENTS:**

**Installation of Officers - Saturday, June 27<sup>th</sup>  
 Legacy Dinner - Friday, July 24<sup>th</sup>**

*We are also on Facebook - Post 593 or American Legion  
 Riders-Post 593 - CHECK US OUT!!!*

**NO GMM DINNERS DUE TO LOW PARTICIPATION.**