



The American Legion

The World's Largest Veterans' Organization

DESERT BREEZE

760-767-4001

BORRERO SPRINGS POST 853

FEBRUARY, 2006

FROM THE COMMANDER

Thank you to DJ for her work in organizing the December rummage sale and to all the other hard workers -- Legion, Auxiliary and SAL's -- who helped with that project. The Post is grateful for getting rid of the "stuff" and for cleaning up the BVD building and the yard. (See DJ's article in this newsletter.)

Further thanks go to Curt who spearheaded the clean-up of the buildings at the Post and to all of those who helped -- again, Legion, Auxiliary and SAL's. The buildings are junk-free now except for old paint, etc. which will be taken to a collection point in the spring. The "stuff" from that project is long gone in a roll-off dumpster the expense of which was paid by the proceeds of the rummage sale!

At our November visit to the Borrego Springs Elementary School flag assembly we noted that the all-purpose room had no American or California flags. The students pledged their allegiance to a small hand-held flag. Problem solved! The Post purchased appropriate US and State flags with stands and presented them at the school's January assembly.

Remember to bring your used computer inkjet cartridges and cell phones to the Post. We will deliver these to District 22 for The American Legacy Scholarship which is receiving \$3. for every cell phone and \$1. for every cartridge turned in.

I know that there are Legionnaires who can cook. We need your help in the coming months to make every Tuesday and Saturday night a food night. Talk to Ray Graham to schedule "Your Specialty" night. Let's keep our reputation for good meals alive and well. Thanks to all who have helped with this effort in the past months.

Bob Juers

WELCOME NEW LEGION MEMBERS

John P. Howard	Harry M. Jones
Leon G. Jordan	David Lewis
Milton J. Marunich	James E. Vandusen
Judith A. Whitcomb	

CHAPLAIN'S VIEWS

Our New Year is starting "OFF" with a "BANG". Lets keep the ball rolling all year! We have our Maker on our side and he will help us if just open our arms to him. See you in church
Amen
Howard Hind

Four Stages of Life

1. You believe in Santa Claus
2. You don't believe in Santa Claus
3. You are Santa Claus
4. You *look like* Santa Claus

FROM THE AUXILIARY

Poppies

BJ, Darien, Karen Brown with three of Karen's granddaughters and Virginia Fortiner met at the Post on Saturday to unfold poppies to be used in making the "Poppy Hat" The little girls were fantastic and unfolded more than the adults. Their fingers were flying! Thank you Karen and all the girls.

At the February District Meeting, February 12 Fay and Judy Taylor will attend and Judy will sing the Poppy Song, and they will both wear hats for the "Poppy Hat Parade".

Membership

Marie reported that we have 138 paid-up members and 5 Juniors.

Meals for January

Mitzi Seibert volunteered to serve hamburgers the second and fourth Tuesdays: January 10 and 24.

Ill Members

Patti Ryan is recovering at home from her surgery.

Pat Tiernan had emergency surgery and is recovering at home in Ocotillo Wells.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be Monday, February 13 at 5:00 PM at the Post.

Breeze News

If you wish your Breeze news e-mailed to you, please email Claude at Turp@cableusa.com. He will send it to you post haste.

Membership Dues

The membership dues for the Auxiliary are still \$20.00 a year and are now due. Please bring them to the Post and put them in the envelope for Marie Tarango. You can also mail them to Marie at PO Box 138, Borrego Springs, CA 92004. Hurry; let's meet our goals as set by the District.

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Fear Not

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Do not fear your enemies.

The worse they can do is kill you.

Do not fear friends.

At worst, they may betray you.

Fear those who do not care; they neither kill nor betray,

but betrayal and murder exist because of their silent consent.

~Bruno Jasienski~

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FROM THE S.A.L.'S

The S.A.L.'s will having a dinner on Saturday February 25th at 5pm, dinner will be chicken and Tri Tip, along with beans and coleslaw and rolls, all for \$ 10.00.

We will be working with Marian for the next Law and Order dinner and awards, this will be open to all members as well as our honored guests on Saturday March 25th.

Mark your calendars for the 3rd Annual Luau, Saturday April 29, this will be our biggest event of the year. Bring your friends and family. We will be putting in the deep pit, Pigs and Turkeys.

Thanks Ron Andersen

WELCOME NEW S.A.L. MEMBER

John J. Meizis

MESSAGE FROM MARIAN

MEMBERSHIP: 2006 membership is due, no later than 31 January. We only have 67 delinquent members to date. Remember, we need your membership when we appear in front of Congress on the bills for veterans benefits, which Larry and I will do in Sacramento on Feb. 14th and again in Washington, DC on 21 February. Your membership is especially important for VA benefits where many of us get our medical care. If there is a problem, please call the Post, leave a message and I will contact you immediately. "Veterans always help one another". Marian- Membership Chairman

Cdr. Bob will present a large American and California flag, poles and stands to our Borrego Elementary School this month during their monthly assembly. When we attended the last assembly, all they had was a small 12" X 18" flag to wave during their opening ceremony. Now they will have a permanent (big) set for their stage compliments of Post 853.

After all the years I've attended ceremonies, etc. with the Legion, the one that will always stay front and center in my heart was our 2 hours spent at the US Naval Hospital in Balboa in December with 32 wounded Marines. Many with lost limbs, others with awesome wounds. They came out in their rec. room area enmasse to talk to Larry, National Commander Tom Bock and myself. Their #1 question was "Do you support us in what we are doing in Iraq?" We assured them "Yes". They all agreed they would go back there after they were returned to duty to finish the job. What a great bunch of kids (all between 18-23 years of age). It was so hard to leave. So Cdr. Bob, Larry and I returned on January 3rd and gave the Armed Forces YMCA at the hospital a \$500 check from the Post and another \$500 check from the Auxiliary for needed clothing, healthy snax and a program they have, to take these patients out to dinner and a movie once a week to get them out of the hospital. They also collected \$70,000 to send every single one of these kids home for the holidays. If anyone wants to add to our fund for the above necessities--just send a check (Made out to Post 853--earmarked for Armed Forces YMCA) and we will personally deliver it. They now have 50 patients and each one is so young

and so loyal. I wouldn't trade those 2 trips for anything in the world. I just had to share this with each of you.

Thanks. Marian Landis

MESSAGE FROM DJ

Yard Sale/ Post Clean-up

I'm happy to report the yard sale was a success. It was intended to get rid of all the "STUFF" leftover from previous years and make enough money to rent the huge dumpster for clean-up.

I would like to thank Curt Christensen , Mac MacDonald, Gary Mathews, Mitzi, Gene, and Bruce Seibert, Harley Hartman, Kenny Mickelson, Bob Juers, Larry Johnson, Claude Turpin, Noel McCauley, Barb and Jim Melvin, Lynne Aldous, Wendy Quinn, Jon Breza, and Marian Landis. A special thanks to Chrisann Wells for the use of her tractor and Gene Seibert for the use of his trailer. As a team, including the people I forgot to write down, we made it work!

The proceeds were \$733.25 and 10 pesos. Not bad for basically a huge pile of junk!

D. J.

Cain

* Government is the great fiction, through which everybody endeavors to live at the expense of everybody else.

-Frederic Bastiat, French Economist (1801-1850)

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ALUMINUM CANS

Please save your aluminum cans and turn in at our post or put in Can Trailer at Center Market.

CALL YOUR POST AT LEAST ONCE A WEEK

CHECK ON SPECIAL FUNCTIONS THAT WERE SCHEDULED, SPUR OF THE MOMENT, AND NOT ENOUGH TIME TO MAKE A MAILING OR GET INTO THE NEWSLETTER.

(HAVING A LOT OF THESE LATELY. THANKX!)

AUX. NEW MEMBERS & RENEWAL

Auxiliary new members and renewal forms, **please mail to** Marie Tarango, P. O. Box 138, Borrego Springs, CA 92004-0138

Phone 760.767.1156

The most overlooked advantage to owning a computer is that if they foul up there's no law against wacking them around a little.

AMERICAN LEGION UNIFORM CAPS

If you would like to order a Legion Cap, see Bob Juers. Cost \$39.75

All Legion Members

PLEASE RESPOND

E-MAIL ADDRESS

This could save us up to \$350.00 per month, \$4,200.00 per year. Give it a try

Please supply our Post your e-mail address, so we can send The Desert Breeze and other notices to you by e-mail rather than snail-mail. Please write out your e-mail address and drop off at post, mail it, or better yet e-mail it to turp@cableusa.com subject: AL Breeze e-mail address.

We now have 80 members receiving Breeze by E-Mail!

I must have your Ok to send your breeze by e-mail even if I already have your e-mail address.

Thanx
Claude Turpin
Breeze Editor

CONTACT THE EDITOR

Claude Turpin P.O. Box 123, Borrego Springs, CA 92004-0123 e-mail turp@cableusa.com or put in envelope marked for editor and leave at Post. **No Phone Calls PLEASE**

Breeze goes to printer on 22nd of each month.

MAKE SURE EDITOR HAS YOUR INPUT BY THE 21ST OF EACH MONTH.

HOW TRUE THIS IS

THE COST TO JOIN IS NOTHING COMPARED TO THE PRICE YOU PAID TO BE ELIGIBLE

PLEASE NOTE

"YOUR BARTENDERS ARE VOLUNTEERS"

PLEASE TIP THEM GENEROUSLY