

Harding-Blaine Post 321

"Flagship of the Fourth District"

Member of TEXALPA and NALPA



BENEFITING MEALS ON WHEELS



Charlie's Chatter

This is the start of a very busy productive year for the Harding Blaine family.

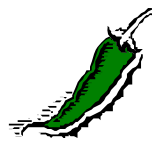
The 4th District membership Tour was very successful for the AL, ALA, and SAL. The ALA won with the most renewals and new members turned in with 120.

The 4th District Fall Convention will be hosted by Greenville American Legion Family October 11 & 12th. Why should you attend District, Division and Dept Conventions?

They are held to share information to the members. Not only do you learn from the information shared from the higher levels of our organization, but, by meeting the different members throughout your District, Division and Department, you share first hand knowledge of works in the different Post, Units and Squadrons. Things that work in different areas, may work in your area, but, by sharing information, then you are aware of different ways to work the programs of our great organization. This year, our National President Desi Stoy is challenging the ALA to increase the number of volunteers and hours volunteered by at least 20%. There has been a steady decrease in the number of Regularly Scheduled volunteers and their hours

Nineteenth Annual American Legion Post 321 Chili Cook Off

DATE: Saturday, October 4, 2008
PLACE: American Legion Post 321
1236 Avenue J
Plano, Texas 75074
TIME: 11:00 A.M.
PUBLIC WELCOME



Auction Items Needed!

Cooks Needed

Reigning Champ – Stuart Potter



Awards 1st-5th Place
People's Choice Award
Showmanship Trophy
Jail House
Concessions—Live Music



Volunteers Needed!

The Nineteenth Annual Chili Cook-off is October 4th, 2008. All proceeds will again go to the Collin County Meals on Wheels Program. Gasoline prices have really hampered the delivery of meals to the needy people. It is getting hard to find people to deliver the meals because of the cost of gasoline. Remember that all these people that deliver are volunteers. Let's all pitch in and help this worthy program. Hope to see you there. Applications are now available. If you have something to donate or know of someone who would like to donate, please contact Calvin at 214-729-2264 or call the Post at 972-423-5423.

over the past 5 years. Volunteering can be so much fun, and there are so many different ways that you can volunteer. It isn't just going to the hospital during the week anymore. Volunteers are needed in our communities to assist homebound veterans who have caregivers. We can assist those caregivers by giving them some free time to do the things that they cannot do because of their schedules. Running errands, picking up prescriptions, taking the veteran to the doctor, there are many ways that we can assist. There are Veteran's Homes, Nursing Homes that we can volunteer and assist veterans. If you could volunteer 2 hours a week, think of how many hours that would be at the end of the year. Think about how much you could help a veteran by volunteering. This is something that makes you feel good and assists them at the same time. October 9th is the date of the Annual Fall Carnival at the Bonham VAMC. If yare interested in attending, having a great time, and learning about voluntary service, **Please** contact me via my cell; 214/789-3608

*For God, Country and Veterans,
Charlie Dew , Editor*

One Of Our Members

Gus and Adele Spinn are living in Roundrock, Texas at this time in assisted living facility. Gus just had another hip surgery and is doing well. He is in hearthstone Rehab there in Roundrock, from what I understand. Anyone wishing to send Gus and Adele a card or letter, their address is; 2700 Sunset RD #132, Roundrock, TX 78664

I know that they would love to hear from our members and their extended family.



Commander's Corner

Here we are in Oct. already. This will be a short article. The days are getting shorter and so are my articles.

Have you taken advantage of the \$1.25 longnecks on Weds and Fri.? Best deal in town. Wednesdays will remain the same and the special pricing starts at 6:00 PM on Fridays. Turn-out has been great! Better get here early.

We are having changes coming on the Friday bands...some new ones are on the way, along with your favorites returning. You will notice a couple "To Be Announced" or TBAs on the calendar. Please bear with us. We'll put up signs at the Post as soon as we confirm a few things. For example, "Vinyl Echoes" will be playing at our Halloween Party. They are appearing twice this month. This is an incredible band!

Time for me to close, take care and please come out on Fridays and notice the changes!

*In Comradeship,
Steve Cockerham*

American Legion
Paid Up For Life
**1/2 price drinks every
Saturday 10am till 9pm**

Elected Officers 2008-2009

American Legion

Commander	Steve Cockerham
1st Vice	Bob Price
2nd Vice	Bob Drake
Adjutant	Jim Williamson
Asst. Adjutant	Terry Cloninger
Finance Officer	Jeff Armstrong
Chaplain	Miguel Romeu
Judge Advocate	Fletcher Sharp
Historian	Charles Kessler
Service Officer	Jim LaBelle
Sgt-at-Arms	William Bray
Exec. Committeeman	Reggie Gutierrez
Exec. Committeeman	Bill Vars
Past Commander	Ernie Rivard

American Legion Auxiliary

President	Judy Reyna
1st Vice	Renee May
2nd Vice	
Recording Sec.	Charlie Dew
Treasurer	Lavada Newell
Chaplain	Bernadine Smith
Correspond. Sec	Tamme Scholander
Historian	Sue Mains
Sgt-at-Arms	Phyllis Price
Asst. Sgt-at-Arms	Linda Wilmuth
Executive Comm.	Cindy Oldroyd
	Jean Kelly
	Cheryl Styers

Sons Of The American Legion

Commander	Bryan Vinson
1st Vice	Eddie Olivera Jr.
2nd Vice	Jimmy Gray
Finance Officer	Ray Hartline
Adjutant	Abel Silva, Jr.
Judge Advocate	David Dew
Chaplain	Jeff Saul
Historian	Danny Johnson
Sgt-at-Arms	Jimmy Jackson
Asst. Sgt-at-Arms	Mark Hamilton
Liaison	John Maguire
Past Commander	BR Evans

American Legion Riders

Director	Larry Lawson
Assistant Director	Phillip Durant
Secretary	Sue Lawson
Treasurer	Kimberly Potter
Chaplain	Michael Horak
Historian	Jorja Morgan
Sgt-At-Arms/Run Coord.	Randy Rouse
Membership	Becca Dees
Communication Chair	Wendy Rouse
Ride Captain	Dave Loba

Membership

Org.	Goal	Paid	%
AL	1116	979	87.7
ALA	285	252	88.42
SAL	210	211	100.4



UNIT 321

I hope everybody had a safe & happy labor day. Oct. 4th is chili cook off day. It will be a lot of fun for everybody. Thurs. Oct. 9th is the Bonham VA Halloween carnival.

Everyone is welcome. Oct. 11-12 is the district convention in Greenville. Sunday Oct. 26th is the children's Halloween party from 2-4 pm.

Cindy Olroyd is the poppy chairman. Anyone who would like to help, please contact her. Our Bonham Vets are coming on Nov. 15th. Anyone who would like to help with dinner, buying of gifts and the Christmas gift shop please contact Carol Colinger (VA&R chairman), Charlie Dew or Lavada. I would like to mention the S A L is having snacks on Monday night football to help with their funds. Please try to attend.

*For God and Country,
Judy Reyna*

Trivia

*What U.S. president
threw out the most
Opening Day base-
balls?*

(See Bartender for answer)



Squadron 321

Hello Legion family. The chili cook-off is set for Oct 4th. Hope we have a good showing. This event raises funds for Collin County meals on wheels. According to data I've received, it takes about \$1000.00 per year to feed each person a year. Your help is greatly appreciated. Membership is moving slowly. Please renew and if you can, sign up a new member.

I am proud that SAL 321 could make a donation to the Susan G. Komen cancer research.

Let's all pull together and have a great year.

*For God & Country,
Bryan Vinson*

CHILDREN'S HALLOWEEN PARTY

On October 26, 2008 the Children & Youth committee will host our annual children's Halloween party at our Post home, 1236 Ave. J. Children from 1 to 13 will be dressed up in their favorite costume and enjoy games and treats provided by Harding-Blaine American Legion Family. The fun starts at 2:00pm. We would love to accept your donations of candy for the "Trick or Treat" bags. If you have children in your family and would like to

bring them for a day of fun they are more than welcome. Any questions, please call Barbara Brandow, Cindy Oldroyd, Judy Reyna or Lavada Newell. Donations need to be in by October 23rd.

*Thank you,
Barbara Brandow
Children and Youth Chairman*

Pop's Points to Ponder

When I was stationed in Italy from 1943 to 1945 I learned "Chow" is said when they said "Good Bye" or "Hi". So today I am saying both versions of "Chow". It has been so nice to have this opportunity to chat with you good people. Continue to be family oriented, spend wisely, and when you have spare time and feel good volunteer your time helping others. Both you and them will reap the rewards. So I'm going on a little R&R for a while and "Chow" to you good people may God Bless All of You

Gene "Pops" Fattig

Economic Stimulus Payment

Time is running out to receive your economic stimulus payment. Most taxpayers qualify, and many who don't regularly file a return also qualify. You qualify if you have a valid Social Security number, cannot be claimed as a dependent on somebody else's tax return and have either an income tax liability or "qualifying income" of at least \$3,000, including some Social Security and VA benefits. Be sure to file a 2007 federal tax return by Oct. 15, 2008, even if you normally don't have to file a return.

Bill Pritchett who sent me this list retired from ARCO in the 80's and is now working with me (American Legion rep) on the Veterans Memorial Committee. The Memorial is scheduled to be dedicated on 11-11-08 at 9:30 am. It has been in the works for 3 years, and will cost over 1 million dollars. What a worthy investment. Cliff Pratt

WWI Memorial

BYLER, JOSEPH L. Plano, Pvt. Machine Gun Co. A, 345th Mach. Gun Bn. 90th Div. Fought in France, sent home and died of spinal meningitis May 30, 1918. Buried at Forest Grove Cemetery.

John Wise, San Antonio. Buried at Rowlett Creek Cemetery, Plano.

FERRELL, CLARENCE R. Plano, Pvt. 79th Balloon Co. Air Service, died Oct. 25, 1918, at Camp John Wise, San Antonio. Buried at Rowlett Creek Cemetery, Plano.

HARDING, PETER J. Plano, Capt. Co. A. 359th Inf. 90th Div. KIA in France Sept. 15, 1918. Buried in France.

KINNAMON, ROBERT H. Plano, Pvt. Co B. 1st Bn. 22nd Engineers, died in France Feb. 24, 1919.

WWII

BLAINE, ROBERT W. 27, Plano, 1st Lt. 0423910, Air Corps pilot of B24 Liberator, killed March 8, 1943, when shot down over Rennes, France, in raid on German U-boat facility.

DECKER, BOYCE D. Plano, PFC 38433934, KIA

DOOLEY, JAMES C. Plano, PFC 38631049, KIA May 5, 1945, on the Island of Mindanao in the Philippines.

FRENCH, JAMES P. 24, Plano, KIA Sep. 19, 1944, in France.

HARRINGTON, CHARLES E. JR. Plano, Lt. US MARINE CORPS, KIA Mar. 3, 1945, at Iwo Jima.

NANCE, CLIFFORD B. Plano, T/Sgt. 18048236

PATTERSON, HAROLD J. 19, Plano, Seaman 1st Class Navy, killed on USS Arizona Dec. 7, 1941, during initial Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. His name is inscribed on the monument at the site.

PEARSON, W. M. Plano, Pvt. USMC, KIA Oct. 31, 1944, in New Guinea while on eight-man recon patrol. His body was carried eight miles through the jungle by comrades and is buried in the South Pacific.

RAWLINS, JOE H. Plano, US MARINE CORPS, KIA March 1944 in South Pacific.

ROSS, RICHARD H. Plano, Air Corps, 18180576, Air Cadet, killed in plane crash while training with his instructor.

SMITH, JESSE A. Plano, Pvt. 38686879, mortarman, KIA Feb. 18, 1945, near Kleinblatt, Germany, posthumously awarded the Bronze Star.

STANDERFER, JIMMIE W. Plano, PFC 38434630, KIA Feb. 23, 1945, in the Battle for Manila, Philippines.

THOMAS, ALFRED E. Plano, 2ND Lt. 0763404, Air Corps, KIA Dec. 16, 1944, when shot down over Germany.

WHITE, EARL Plano, 36th Div. KIA October, 1944.

WHITE, FLOYD E. JR. Plano, 1ST Lt. 01311718, KIA Nov. 20, 1944, in France.

YEAGER, HENRY M. Plano, Pvt. 38037163, KIA

Korean War

WILLIAMS, CLARENCE, 19, Plano, PFC, US MARINE CORPS, 3rd Bn. 7th Marines, taken POW on Oct. 7, 1952. Declared dead Jan. 16, 1956.

Vietnam War

BROWN, ROBERT RAY 20, Frisco and Plano, Cpl. US ARMY KIA Oct. 1, 1967.

HUSTON, JOE S. Plano, 20, Sgt. US ARMY, A Co. 2nd Bn. 1st Inf. 196th Light Infantry Brigade. KIA Mar 19, 1969

STEINDAM, RUSSELL A. 24, Plano, 1st Lieutenant, US ARMY, B Troop, 3rd Squadron, 4th Cav. Reg. 25th Div. KIA Feb 1, 1970. Awarded the CONGRESSIONAL MEDAL OF HONOR.

HALE, LANNY Earl. 25, Wylie & Plano, Sp4, US ARMY, A Co. 1st Bn. 6th Inf. 198th Light Infantry Brigade. KIA Feb. 8, 1968.

War on Terror

Somalia

Sgt. JAMES CASEY JOYCE, US ARMY

In 1993, a force made up of American Soldiers, Sailor, Airmen, and Marines were sent to the African nation of Somalia to help bring stability to the country that was under the control of terrorist warlords that were reeking havoc on the people and causing mass starvation. On October 3, a raid was initiated that included 120 Rangers and Delta Force soldiers. Casey Joyce, of B Company, 3rd Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment, out of Fort Benning, Georgia, was part of that force. The story of the mission is told in the book and movie, "Black Hawk Down." In the running battle that lasted for hours, 18 American boys were killed and 73 wounded. Over 2500 Somalis lay dead or wounded. Sgt. Casey Joyce was killed as he attempted to save the life of one of his fellow soldiers.

Casey Joyce is buried among the heroes of our country in Arlington National Cemetery. In 1999, his father, Lt. Col. Larry E. Casey, a hero of Vietnam, died, and was laid to rest next to his son.

Medals Awarded: BRONZE STAR, PURPLE HEART, COMBAT INFANTRYMAN'S BADGE

Iraq

DUCKWORTH, ERIC T. 26, Plano S/Sgt US ARMY 759th Military Police Battalion, 89th Military Police Brigade, KIA 10 Oct. 2007

TROVILLION, TYLER SETH 23, Plano, Cpl. US MARINE CORPS, 1st. Bn. 5th Marine Regt. 1st Marine Expeditionary Force, 1st Marine Division. KIA 15 June, 2005.

Weird Things You Would Never Know!!!

A shrimp's heart is in its head.
Rats multiply so quickly that in 18 months, two rats could have over a million descendants.
Wearing headphones for just an hour will increase the bacteria in your ear by 700 times.
If the government has no knowledge of aliens, then why does Title 14, Section 1211 of the Code of Federal Regulations, implemented on July 16 1969, make it illegal for U.S. citizens to have any contact with extraterrestrials or their vehicles?
In every episode of Seinfeld there is a Superman somewhere.
A duck's quack doesn't echo, and no one knows why.
People sitting on them and photocopying their butts cause 23% of all photocopier faults worldwide.
Most lipstick contains fish scales.
Like fingerprints, everyone's tongue print is different.
If you sneeze too hard, you can fracture a rib. If you try to suppress a sneeze, you can rupture a blood vessel in your head or neck and die.
If you keep your eyes open by force, they can pop out.
In a study of 200,000 ostriches over a period of 80 years, no one reported a single case where an ostrich buried its head in the sand.
It is physically impossible for pigs to look up into the sky.
A pregnant goldfish is called a twit.
More than 50% of the people in the world have never made or received a telephone call.
Horses can't vomit.
Butterflies taste with their feet.
In 10 minutes, a hurricane releases more energy than all of the world's nuclear weapons combined.
On average, 100 people choke to death on ballpoint pens every year.
On average people fear spiders

more than they do death.
Ninety percent of New York City cabbies are recently arrived immigrants.
Thirty-five percent of the people who use personal ads for dating are already married.
Elephants are the only animals that can't jump.
Only one person in two billion will live to be 116 or older.
It's possible to lead a cow upstairs...but not downstairs.
Women blink nearly twice as much as men.
It's physically impossible for you to lick your elbow.
The Main Library at Indiana University sinks over an inch every year because when it was built, engineers failed to take into account the weight of all the books that would occupy the building.
A snail can sleep for three years.
No word in the English language rhymes with 'MONTH.'
Our eyes are always the same size from birth, but our nose and ears never stop growing.
The electric chair was invented by a dentist
All polar bears are left-handed.
In ancient Egypt, priests plucked EVERY hair from their bodies, including their eyebrows and eyelashes.
An ostrich's eye is bigger than its brain.
TYPEWRITER is the longest word that can be made using the letters only on one row of the keyboard.
'Go,' is the shortest complete sentence in the English language.
If Barbie were life-size, her measurements would be 39-23-33. She would stand seven feet, two inches tall.
A crocodile cannot stick its tongue out.
The cigarette lighter was invented before the match.
Americans on average eat 18 acres of pizza every day.
Anonymous

Members Birthday's October 2008

1. Robert Castillo, Gary Kirkwood, Scott Lacagnin
2. Thomas Bunten, Rudy Crane, George Hoge, Gregory Lombardi, Bobbi Roberts, Janet Sjoln
4. Jimmie Feagins
5. Teddy Mumaw
6. Tommy Brossard, Chris Gallucci, Kenneth Garrey, Nina Oldroyd
8. George Lindenberg, Ralph Smith, Brendan Kennedy, Michael Witgen
9. Mark Cunningham, Thomas Mckitrick, Melvin Wall
10. Thomas Baker Jr, Darlene Doherty, Albert Hixon, Mark Holguin
12. Samantha Howard, Carlos Lerma, Melody Odle, Robert Willich
13. Richard Bazan, Lewis Houts, Alta Markus
14. Franklin Adams, Ernest Brantley, Edward Brashear
15. David Easson Jr, Brittney Fears, Olden Kash, Steven Padgett
17. Charles Scholander
18. Allen Brown, Pamela Hutson
19. Harry Allred, Terry Field, Gladney Kemp, Eric Russell
20. Patti Littrell, Lance Pennington
21. Kerry Evans, Elaine Russell, Kenneth Weseman
22. John Childers
23. Steven Brown, Jennifer Clayton
24. Paul Goppert, Mary Lavallee, Hal Parker, Rafael Rodriguez, Dorothy Smith, Richard Stein
25. Charlane Dew
26. John Blue, William Brownson, John Webb
27. Steven Brzezinski, Bruce Collins, Lindsey Foley, Robert Huggett, Monica Spinn
28. Kenneth Applegate, Thomas Patton, William Robinson
29. Matt Davis, Rachael Davis, Jo Kathryn Dixon, Andrew Hale, Kathy Tackett
30. Wayne Hansbrough

If you see any error on this list, contact : Adjutant at 972-423-5423

Homepost Humor

USMC Dog

A guy is driving around the back woods of Tennessee and he sees a sign in front of a broken down shanty-style house: "Talking Dog for Sale ." He rings the bell and the owner appears and tells him the dog is in the backyard. The guy goes into the backyard and sees a nice looking Labrador retriever sitting there. "You talk?" he asks. "Yep," the Lab replies. After the guy recovers from the shock of hearing a dog talk, he says "So, what's your story?" The Lab looks up and says, "Well, I discovered that I could talk when I was pretty young. I wanted to help the government, so I told the CIA and they had me sworn into the toughest branch of the armed services ... the United States Marine Corps ... you know one of their nicknames is "The Devil Dogs." In no time at all they had me jetting from country to country, sitting in rooms with spies and world leaders; because no one figured a dog would be eavesdropping. I was one of their most valuable spies for eight years running, but the jetting around really tired me out and I knew I wasn't getting any younger. So, I decided to settle down. I retired from the Corps (8 dog years is 56 Corps years) and signed up for a job at the airport to do some undercover security, wandering near suspicious characters and listening in. "I uncovered some incredible dealings and was awarded a batch of medals. I got married, had a mess of pup-

pies, and now I'm just retired." The guy is amazed. He goes back in and asks the owner what he wants for the dog. "Ten dollars," the guy says. "Ten dollars? This dog is amazing! Why on earth are you selling him so cheap?" "Because he's a liar. He never did any of that stuff. He was in the Navy!"

Support Our Troops

Sainthood of Patriotism

Patriotism is a saintly call
To serve your County
When duty calls.

Some men seem
They just ain't
Qualified – to be a saint.

But, in the worst
God seems to know
In which lies – a saintly soul.

They may cuss and chew and
sometimes spit
But in their soul lies
Saintly grit.

Their love – they lay on the line
Saintly souls
A love divine.

Their saintly love – seems to re-
cede again
When they become
A civilian.

But, if they again hear – their coun-
try's call
They find – their Sainthood of Pa-
triotism
Was never lost at all.

William Wick

The POW/ MIA Flag

In 1971, Mrs. Michael Hoff, the wife of a U.S. military officer listed as missing in action during the Vietnam War, developed the idea for a national flag to remind every American of the U.S. service members whose fates were never accounted for during the war.

The black and white image of a gaunt silhouette, a strand of barbed wire and an ominous watchtower was designed by Newt Heisley, a former World War II pilot. Some claim the silhouette is a profile of Heisley's son, who contracted hepatitis while training to go to Vietnam. The virus ravaged his body, leaving his features hallow and emaciated. They suggest that while staring at his son's sunken features, Heisley saw the stark image of American service members held captive under harsh conditions. Using a pencil, he sketched his son's profile, creating the basis for a symbol that would come to have a powerful impact on the national conscience.

By the end of the Vietnam War, more than 2,500 service members were listed by the Department of Defense as Prisoner of War (POW) or Missing in Action (MIA). In 1979, as families of the missing pressed for full accountability, Congress and the president proclaimed the first National POW/MIA Recognition Day to acknowledge the families' concerns and symbolize the steadfast resolve of the American people to never forget the men and women who gave up their freedom protecting ours. Three years later, in 1982, the POW/MIA flag became the only flag other than the Stars and Stripes to fly over the White House in Washington, D.C.

On August 10, 1990, Congress passed U.S. Public Law 101-355, designating the POW/MIA flag:

"The symbol of our Nation's concern and commitment to resolving as fully as possible the fates of Americans still prisoner, missing and unaccounted for in Southeast Asia."