



## VFW

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## January 2011

I.P. "Sarge" Bell Memorial Post 3377  
And Ladies Auxiliary  
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## NEWS

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### Commanders Message

Comrades,

**HAPPY NEW YEAR!** I wish the best of health and happiness for each of you in 2011.

Our members, our Auxiliary, our Bingo players, and friends of the Post closed out 2010 by helping make a wonderful Christmas for many less fortunate boys and girls with their very generous donations to Toys for Tots. The toys left at the Post were collected and included in the distribution to local children. Please know that your contributions put smiles on faces that may not have had a Christmas without your support. Thank you!

While on the subject of our Post helping and contributing, I am pleased to announce that in 2010 we donated a total of \$9,000. That money has helped many local charities and provided scholarships for some young people in our community. It is through the efforts of our members that we are able to contribute to the welfare and betterment of our community. Of particular note in this effort is the work of our Bingo volunteers. Thank you one and all.

Our December meeting brought 3 new members and 1 transfer. Our new members are Jerry Marzan, Allen Goehring, both Iraqi veterans, Henry Flores, a Bosnia/Kosovo veteran, and Dave Condel transferred to our Post from Post 6209 in Shiner, TX. Welcome to each of you! Do not be a stranger around the Post; it is your Post Home. We want very much for you to be an active part in all that we do -- our programs, meetings, work parties, and the fun times as well. I hope to see you soon and often.

January begins the final 6 months of the VFW year and there is much work left to complete. We still need to work on Membership. As always we need new members and we need last years' members to send in your Dues. Please do not allow yourself to be dropped from the roles. We also have numerous District and Department meetings and conventions, we still have 7 VFW Remembrance ceremonies, and the list goes on and on. Please join us in the work of the VFW and in the camaraderie of the VFW.

Tito Sabana, our Post Safety Officer, had to rush to get Gold Medal Public Service nominations this year because Department changed the due date from February 2011 to December 2010. Needless to say, Tito was a busy man, but he got the job done and met the revised deadline. As I was writing this article I received a call from Comrade Wayne Cooley, District 28 Junior Vice Commander, informing me that Post 3377 made a "clean sweep" of the Gold Medal Public Service Awards at the District level. Our nominees won first place in all 3 categories; Firefighter, Paramedic, and Law Enforcement.

The individual winners will be recognized at our March awards ceremony, and again at the District level in May. We wish them well in the Department level competition. Tito – Job well done!!

So lets kick off the New Year with continued hard work, producing positive results. Again, Happy New Year to all.

Yours in Comradeship,

Ed Fitzgerald  
Post Commander

## **Faith – Fidelity - Fortitude**

### **Americanism Quote**

“Here in America we are descended in blood and in spirit from revolutionists and rebels - men and women who dare to dissent from accepted doctrine. As their heirs, may we never confuse honest dissent with disloyal subversion.

**Dwight D. Eisenhower**

### **Auxiliary Presidents Message:**

Hello Ladies,

I wish to thank each and every Auxiliary and Post member who helped with our Nursing Home party; it was a smashing success!! Everyone had a great time!

I'd also, like to thank you ladies for making the basket for the Chili Cook off and those who helped with decoration and selling of the tickets for the basket, and for those who attended the children's party.

Anyone wishing to attend the Mid –winter luncheon should let me know as soon as possible.

Please get your Campbell Soup labels in to Myrt Roberts by next meeting as she will be mailing them to the National Home. If you can't make the meeting leave them at the Post or call me and we will pick them up.

Our next audit will be before the meeting, so Trustees, please be present around 6:30 PM on January 20, 2011.

Everyone, thank you for all you do. Have a safe and Happy New Year! Please keep our fighting men and women and their love ones in your prayers this holiday season.

Tully Rogge-Groteluschen  
Auxiliary President

### **Post Notes**

#### **Adopted Unit News**

On 21 December, Capt. Leibowitz sent an update on Weapons Company's pre-deployment training at Camp Pendleton, CA. Here are a few of his comments:

“We are on leave for 12 days and we'll get another 96 in February. The training for Weapons Company has been going very well. To date, our training has encompassed heavy weapons shoots to include mortars, .50 cal, 240B, MK 19, and SABR (TOW) missiles. The Marines have performed exceedingly well. The best compliments we get out here are from the active duty instructors who marvel at our enthusiasm and weapons

proficiency. All of our other training has been school based. There is a huge push to license as many drivers as possible on the new vehicle platforms such as the MRAP and MAT-V. We are no longer driving up-armored HMMVs because they do not stand up to the IED blasts. We have Marines learning about all types of mapping software, high-tech communication equipment, and surveillance cameras on steroids.”

Chuck Gaede

## **Bingo**

I thank Comrades Charlie McKinney, Jim Linville, Dave Solverson, Jim Blasczyk, Rick Desrosiers, Roger Gerrish, and Tom Hall for their volunteer work as Bingo Operators this year. These comrades along with our Bingo employees have made Bingo a success this year as measured by the donations to charities, schools, and scholarship programs that the Post has made quarterly from Bingo proceeds. OUTSTANDING and again thank you.

Terry B. Burkett, Bingo Chairman

## **Quartermaster's 2 Cents**

**Fundraiser:** On December 11<sup>th</sup>, we hosted a Tolbert Sponsored chili Cook Off. The Booze wagon brought in over \$1000.00, and the rest of the cook off was just as successful. If you missed this one we will be having another one in May. Plan on coming out and helping us judge some great Chili.

**Membership:** We fell 31 members short of our goal of 100%. I know that some of you really wanted to pay your 2011 dues but circumstances got in the way. We understand that sickness, or a sudden loss of income creates a hardship on the family. If you get caught in a bad circumstance, please let me know and the Post will stand good for your dues until you recover.

Bob Whitaker, Quartermaster

## **Safety**

I think we can all say that Winter has finally arrived. As we deal with the cold temperatures everyone is always looking for ways to stay warm. Ideally, we turn our house heaters on, but some prefer to use space heaters either at home or in the work environment. With that said, here are some tips to remember when using a space heaters:

- Place the heater on a level, hard and nonflammable surface (such as ceramic tile floor), not on rugs or carpets or near bedding or drapes. Keep the heater at least three feet from bedding, drapes, furniture and other flammable materials. Keep children and pets away from space heaters.
- To prevent the risk of fire, NEVER leave a space heater on when you go to sleep or place a space heater close to any sleeping person. Turn the space heater off if you leave the area.
- Use a space heater that has been tested to the latest safety standards and certified by a nationally-recognized testing laboratory. These heaters will have the most up-to-date safety features; older space heaters may not meet the newer safety standards. An unvented gas space heater that meets current safety standards will shut off if oxygen levels fall too low.
- Make sure your heater is correctly rated for your home. An oversized heater could deplete the available oxygen, causing excess carbon monoxide to be produced. Keep a window in the room open at least one inch and keep doors open to the rest of the house to ensure proper ventilation. This helps prevent pollutant build-up and promotes proper combustion.
- Follow the manufacturer's instructions to provide sufficient combustion air to prevent carbon monoxide production.
- Have gas and kerosene space heaters inspected annually to ensure proper operation.

- Do not use a kitchen range or oven to heat your house because it could overheat or generate excessive carbon monoxide.
- Be aware that manufactured homes require specially-designed heating equipment.
- Do not use unvented gas space heaters where prohibited by local codes.
- Have a smoke alarm with fresh batteries on each level of the house, inside every bedroom, and outside the bedrooms in each sleeping area. In addition, have a carbon monoxide alarm outside the bedrooms in each separate sleeping area.

Keep warm and have a safe New Year!

Tito Sabana - Safety Officer

### **Webmaster**

[www.vfwpost3377.org](http://www.vfwpost3377.org)

If you are a Facebook user you can now follow news and events about the Post on our Facebook page. Just enter **VFW Post 3377** in the Facebook search field to go directly to the page.

The Post web site redesign is in full swing. The goal is to present a more informative site that is easier to navigate and find information of interest. If you would like to learn how to manage the Post web site please contact me.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all of your families.

Terry B. Burkett

### **Auxiliary Notes**

#### **Membership**

We are pleased to welcome Denise Curlice, who transferred from 8925. I hope each of you have a Happy New Year.

Glenna Alexander Chairman

### **Canteen Corner**

I would like to Thank everyone for coming out to our Chili Cook off it was a great success. A special note of Thanks to Rosie Laborde, for donating her beautiful flowers especially since I won the Boot.

Karaoke was a great turn out and we had a lot of fun. January 8<sup>th</sup> we have a Band in the Grande Hall, featuring Sam Bentley hope to see you there.

Hope everyone had a Merry Christmas. Have a Happy New Year and most of all be safe.

Peggy Ballard-Canteen Manager

# January 2011

January 2011							February 2011						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						<b>1</b>			<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
2	3	4	<b>5</b>	6	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	6	7	8	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	12
9	10	11	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	15	13	14	15	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	19
16	17	18	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	22	<b>20</b>	21	22	<b>23</b>	24	<b>25</b>	26
23	24	25	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	29	27	28					
30	31												

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						January 1, 2011 10:00am Commanders Call
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
			7:00pm Bingo 7:00pm Current Conflict Committee		7:00pm Bingo	8:00pm Sam Bently Band (grande Hall)
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
			7:00pm Bingo	6:00pm House Committee Meet 7:00pm Executive Meet	7:00pm Bingo	Newsletter Deadline
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
			7:00pm Bingo	7:30pm VFW/A Gen. Mtg	7:00pm Bingo	
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
			Mid Winter Roundup (Austin)			
			1:30pm M.S.C 7:00pm Bingo	8:00am Vietnam Peace Accord 1973	7:00pm Bingo	
30	31					
Mid Winter Roundup (Austin)						

# February 2011

February 2011							March 2011						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5			1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28						27	28	29	30	31		

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		February 1	2	3	4	5
			7:00pm Bingo 7:00pm Current Conflict Committee		7:00pm Bingo	
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
			7:00pm Bingo	6:00pm House Committee Meet 7:00pm Executive Meet	7:00pm Bingo	Lincoln B'day
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
	Valentines	Sinking of USS Maine, 1898	7:00pm Bingo	7:30pm VFW/A Gen. Mtg	7:00pm Bingo	Newsletter Deadline
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
8:00am District 28 Meeting (Rockdale)	President's Day	Washington's B'day	1:30pm M.S.C 7:00pm Bingo		7:00pm Bingo	
27	28					