



Love Field Gazette

A publication for the members of American Legion Love Field Post 453

July 2015

Legion

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2nd Vice Francis "Stoney" Stone

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Service Officer Bob Kaminski

Finance Officer Jim Miner

Sgt. at Arms Bill Freauff

Chaplain Ed Kownslar

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S.A.L.

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Legion Riders

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Asst. Director Jim Teafatiller

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"Brother To"

Legion Advisor Bob Cobey

From the Commander



As this is my first newsletter article as your new post commander, let me share with you a little of my personal history.

Meet our new Commander

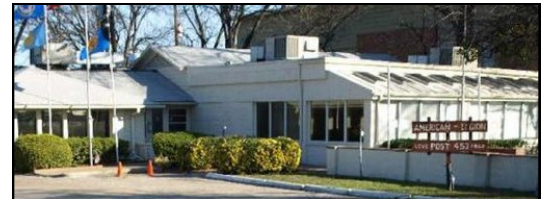
I enlisted in the US Air Force in November 1968 and graduated from the US Army Signal School at Ft. Monmouth, NJ, in November 1969. After tech school I was assigned to the Armed Forces Network (formerly known as Armed Forces Radio and Television). My first duty assignment was to Wheelus Air Base in Libya, N. Africa. My tour in Libya was cut short due to Col. Muammar al-Gaddafi's successful coup.

From Libya, my next duty station was Incirlik Air Base, Turkey. My last Air Force duty station was the US Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs. On release from the Air Force in November 1972, I enlisted in the US Army Reserves and was assigned to the 108th Reserve Training Command. My military service ended in 1975.

In 2010, I retired from General Motors after 27 years as an emissions and fuel system engineer at the GM Proving Grounds in Michigan. I hold a B.Sc. IT degree from the University of Phoenix and did on-line graduate work at Carnegie Mellon University. A career opportunity for my wife Sheila, a Texas A&M Ph.D. alumna, brought us to Texas in 2010 where we purchased a home in Irving. I have been a member of the Masonic Fraternity for 42 years and received my 32 degree at the Dallas Scottish Rite Cathedral in 2013.



We raided Bobby's Facebook page and found this: Bobby (left) answering questions from the Navy brass.



Love Field Post 453

Prior to moving to Texas, I was a member of American Legion Post 141 in Howell, Mich., and the director of Post 141 Legion Riders. I've been the Director of the Love Field Post's Legion Riders since 2013, and post adjutant under Commander Charlie. I thank the members of Love Field Post 453 for giving me the honor of being commander of this great post for the 2015-2016 year.

Goals

Love Field Post 453 has a long history of providing support to our military families, our veterans, and our local community. I pledge my support to the American Legion family at Post 453 in meeting the needs of our veterans. I also realize that our post is in need of substantial repairs. Our building represents a valuable asset that needs to be maintained in order to ensure its value. With support from the members of Post 453, I will work to make the necessary repairs.

Non-smoking Post

I understand the inconvenience associated with the post's enforcement of the no smoking ordinance passed by the City of Dallas. Many of the younger veterans, and their families that we need to attract in order to build membership, are non-smokers. I will work with the post's members, both smokers and non-smokers, to reach an accommodation that respects the rights of each member. We need to realize that more of our younger veterans are seeking to join smoke-free posts. Without the influx of younger members, post membership will continue to decline and with it our ability to meet our primary mission – that of assisting our veterans. Love Field Post 453 needs to build its membership in order to maintain our position as the #1 post in the 5th District.

Respect your Post

Each member of this post, be it Legion, Auxiliary,

Continued on the next page

Love Field Gazette

From the Commander (continued)

Sons of the American Legion, or Legion Riders, belongs to the larger Love Field family. The actions of an individual member impact us all. Texas liquor laws prevent liquor from being carried off the post property. Doing so could result in large fines and the potential loss of our liquor license. In addition, any member found carrying liquor, beer, or wine off post grounds will lose canteen privileges for a period of time to be determined by the post's Executive Board. Please respect your fellow members and don't jeopardize the post's profitability by carrying liquor off premises.

Gun Raffle

The Legion looks to raise significant funds through our first gun raffle. The winning ticket takes both Henry lever action rifles; a 44 mag and a .17 HMR. Tickets are on sale now at the canteen or from selected legionnaires. Proceeds to help fund post repairs. We will be selling tickets at the Bass Pro Shop in Garland over several weekends beginning in September. Volunteers are needed to help staff our booth outside Bass Pro. Any help you can provide is greatly appreciated. A sign-up sheet is posted next to the kitchen door.

Building Repairs

Given the age of our building, there's always one or more re-

pairs that need doing. I will start a log sheet where members may record items in need of repair. Why create a log sheet? Members who unselfishly volunteer to make repairs are entitled to visit their post without being hounded about what latest problem needs fixing. Let's respect their personal time and allow them to enjoy an uninterrupted visit with friends. Record needed repairs on the posted log sheet. Emergency repairs, regardless of the time, should always be directed to your commander.

July Events

We have a number of post functions scheduled for July. Our Post Garage Sale and Car/Bike Wash will be held on July 18 beginning at 8 a.m. On July 25, the post will host an old time Sock Hop starting at 7 p.m. Flyers for these events are included with this newsletter. Our regular Friday night dinners and Sunday breakfasts continue to be popular. It's the best \$5 breakfast in Dallas. Additional activities will be forthcoming as we move into the year. Please feel free to share your ideas for activities that may help attract younger members, especially those with families.

Condolences

We are all saddened at the passing of Larry Carder, a member of the SAL, and extend our sympathies to Bobbie. Our

thanks to the Carder family for designating Love Field Post as the recipient for Larry's memorial donations. Larry's memorial service was well attended with members representing the Legion, the Auxiliary, the Sons, and the Legion Riders. Rest in peace brother Larry.

Our Mission

As members of Love Field Post 453 we are proud of our long history of service to our veterans and to our community and we look to the future with enthusiasm as we serve those in need.

As the Legion's mission statement says, "The American Legion's success depends entirely on active membership, participation and volunteerism. The organization belongs to the people it serves and to the communities in which it thrives." We are part of an organization that has touched the hearts of many in the Dallas area and beyond. Together we can accomplish great things.

Bobby Vandenbush

Commander

American Legion Post 453

American Legion Love Field Post 453

Dallas TX

"Supporting our military families, our veterans, and our local community."



Henry Repeating Rifles, "Made in America or not made at all."

Gun Raffle

Winning ticket takes both rifles!

Donation: \$10/Ticket, \$18/2 Tickets, \$25/3 Tickets

SASS APPROVED



- Rifle #1: Henry Big Boy (Model H006) Caliber .44 Mag/.44 Special
 - 20" Blued Octagonal Barrel
 - American Walnut Stock
 - Brass Receiver, Butt Plate, and Barrel Band
 - 10 Round Capacity



- Rifle #2: Henry Golden Boy (Model H004V) Caliber .17HMR
 - 20" Blued Octagonal Barrel
 - American Walnut Stock
 - Brass Receiver, Butt Plate, and Barrel Band
 - 12 Round Capacity



Love Field Post 453

2755 Bachman Drive

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The Henry Big Boy received the highest score ever given to a center fire lever action rifle in Outdoor Life's Annual Gun Test.

Drawing to be held on Dec. 19, 2015. Need not be present to win. Two (2) tickets will be drawn. If the holder of the winning ticket is unable to register the guns, the holder of the 2nd ticket drawn will be awarded the guns.



453 BIKE WASH &
Garage SALE!
SAT 7/18 - 8 AM til we quit!



Sock Hop

July 25 at 8 p.m. - \$10

Dance to the Oldies with DJ Darlene

Door Prizes, Games, Food, Guys in Poodle Skirts

July 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
5 SAL Breakfast	6	7 Legion Meeting 7 pm	8 Aux. Meeting 7 pm	9 SAL Meeting 7 pm	10 <i>Karaoke</i> Aux Dinner 6-8 pm	11 <i>Karaoke</i> Legion Steaks
12 Auxiliary Breakfast 10-noon	13	14	15	16	17 <i>Karaoke</i> Legion Dinner 6-8 pm	18 <i>Karaoke</i> GARAGE SALE/ BIKE & CAR WASH
19 Legion Breakfast 10-noon	20 ALR Homeless Vets Run meeting 7 pm	21 Legion Exec. Board 7 pm	22	23	24 <i>Karaoke</i> Riders Dinner 6-8 pm	25 SOCK HOP & POODLE SKIRT RIDERS 8 PM
26 Riders B'fast Robin cooks	27	28	29	30	31 <i>Karaoke</i> SAL Dinner 6-8 pm	

From the Auxiliary



Congratulations and thank you to the new Auxiliary Board members who were recently installed. This is a very busy time of year for all of us, starting with a fundraiser for one of our Junior Members. The K-9 for Kayleigh fundraiser was held on June 20 with lots of participation, support and love for this young girl.



To honor the Fathers at our Post we were proud to host a Fathers Day Luncheon. A SHOUT OUT and Thank You go out to Darlene and her crew for a wonderful meal.

There are 2 big events scheduled for July. July 18, the Post is having an all day event to raise money for needed repairs to the building. The event will include a garage sale, bike and car wash, entertainment, food and games. We are currently accepting your items for the garage sale and will also need warm bodies to help out that day.

After all of the hard work from the garage sale, make plans to have some fun the next weekend. July 25th is our 50s and 60s Sock Hop. Relax, enjoy the oldies and whet your appetite at "Mel's Diner." Tickets are \$10 each and dress is casual. Come join us for a fun evening.

In closing, I am again honored to be able to serve as your unit president. Please feel free to contact me anytime with suggestions or ideas – this is YOUR Auxiliary.

Thanks,
Jan Velasco

jvelasco@ecova.com

From the Legion Riders

Love Field Post 453 American Legion Riders (ALR) continue to grow. Our membership now stands at 60 riders and supporters. Among our newest members are **Tom and Belinda Chalmers, Mitchell Mooney, Les Lancaster, Kasondra Juarez, Jay Miller, Jodi Beaulne, Hal Pilgrim, Dan Gappinger, Laura and Ron Ramirez, Phil Young, Janey Barret, Tom Arista, Terry Burke, Troy and KK Hartog, James Willis, Jay Miller, Belinda Bishop.** My apologies if I missed anyone. Please take the opportunity to introduce yourself to our new members and make them feel welcome.

The Lake Texoma weekend found 12 riders/supporters struggling to remain dry as major storms hammered the area. In spite of the bad weather, people enjoyed the opportunity to relax with friends and share time together. The 2015 Run for the Wall was another great success as volunteers from the ALR and Auxiliary provided refreshments to the large group traveling to Washington DC. **Bill & Brenda DeLeon** and **Bill & Cindy Freauff** made a personal donation to one of the Welcome Home a Hero veterans, who refused the donation on his behalf but accepted it to help those on the road to DC.

The K9 for Kayleigh fundraiser continues to generate funds far in excess of our initial estimates. A special thanks to all for their generous support. Come to the **Sock Hop** on July 25 to see our hairy-legged Legion Riders who will appear in poodle skirts as part of the Kayleigh fundraiser. Dare they go commando? See the



Continued on the next page

TAPS

Larry Carder

Lavonia Hale

GET SOCIAL

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- www.AL453.org
- email: AL453@sbcglobal.net
- fax: 214-358-0558

Facebook - [American Legion Post 453](#) or [Love Field Post 453 American Legion Riders](#)

Reserve our Front Room for your Party!

Call **Frances Pearson** at 214-704-0516 or 972-438-9509 to

Legion Riders cont.

Riders Facebook page for more on the K9 for Kayleigh fundraiser.

Heavy rains in the Lake Texoma area flooded the Lake Texoma American Legion post. While the post has sufficient funds available to purchase the materials needed to rebuild, they need hands-on help with the reconstruction efforts. The Lake Texoma post will notify us when they're ready to begin restoration. Love Field ALR members wishing to assist in rebuilding the lake Texoma post should monitor our facebook page for the details or look for an email.

Bill and Brenda DeLeon accompanied Korean War veteran Dave Moore on his Honor Flight to our nation's capital.

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GREG KIMBER



Thanks to those who took part in the late evening reception at Love Field.

Our ALR friends at the Plano Post 321 will be hosting their 1st Chili Cook-Off on Oct. 24.

For those newer members, we have a tradition of holding an informal ride on the 1st Saturday following our monthly meeting. The day's destination is determined that morning. Kick stands up (KSU) at 11:00 AM.

Have a friend that's active-duty military? The Legion Riders voted to pay the annual dues for active-duty service members. Couple that with their 1st Legion membership paid for by the post and their initial year in the Riders is cost free.

Come to the Post Garage Sale and Car/Bike Wash on July 18th and have your ride washed, enjoy sending your favorite person into

a watery dunk tank, toss some washers, or search for hidden treasures at the garage sale. Music provided by the **Hartogs**. Food and drink specials all day.

3rd Annual Homeless Veterans Run is scheduled for Sept. 12. We need the support of all riders in order to make this, our designated charity, another big suc-

cess. If you know of businesses willing to donate personal care items like shampoo, toothpaste, deodorant, ask them to make a tax-deductible donation. This run is open to the public, both bike and cages welcome. Need your help in distributing flyers.

Bobby Vandenbush
Legion Riders Director