

Franklinton American Legion Post 52

January 2012 Newsletter

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Veterans still serving our community, state, and nation since 1911

Commanders' Message



I hope Christmas brought you a time of **Reflection** of your blessings, **Fellowship** with family and friends, **Thankfulness** for all God's blessings which he has given us as individuals and as country. Let us not forget that there were many tables with empty chairs during Christmas due to a family member who had paid the ultimate sacrifice for freedom or one who is away in service to our Great Nation.

A Great Big Thank You to the Ladies Auxiliary for leading the Christmas Cheer program where we were able to assist two families in need for Christmas as well as packaging and delivering gifts to all our home bound veterans and those in rest homes. Thank you ladies. The nominating committee has begun work in seeking out individuals to serve in ALL elected positions. I know there are many of you out there that are more than capable in serving in some capacity. I believe that our organization needs and deserves good leadership. So if you are asked by the nominating committee to serve, I hope you will consider and step up. Be sure to ask any member of the nominating committee or any Officer should you have questions as to the duties and responsibilities of any position. We also conduct a training session for all new officer. So step out and make a difference.

Together we can make 2012 a more successful year than 2011.

For God and Country *Harvey Satterwhite*

Adjutant's Report



Hello Legionnaires. I hope everyone had a great holiday season and a happy New Year. This month's newsletter I want to touch on membership again. As of this date, we have approximately sixty members who have not renewed for 2012. Some of you may be thinking, well I'm not really active so what does it really matter. It is true a Post or organization is more successful and strong if it's members are actively participating, but it's also true, there's strength in numbers. A Post and American Legion needs all of it's members. I'd like to share some facts I came across in the December issue of American Legion magazine. American Legion Child Welfare Foundation (one of American Legion's four pillars) awards \$506,683 in grants. Angel Flight Soars of Atlanta, which provides free air transportation to patients for medical treatments not available locally, received \$16,564 for pilot recruitment and community outreach. Children's Institute of Rochester, N.Y., received \$9,500 to distribute 1,000 copies of it's DVD, "Building Strong Military Families Through Play," to Guard and reserve centers nationwide. Second Wind Fund of Lakewood, Colo., received \$23,724 to teach educators how to reduce teen suicide rates in their communities. National Center for Missing & Exploited Children of Alexandria, Va., received \$25,500 to develop an Iphone Child ID application. The American Legion Department of Kansas received \$32,000 to produce a ruler-bookmark with an anti-drug message on one side and the Pledge of Allegiance on the other. Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors (TAPS) of Washington received \$25,000 to produce care kits for grieving children. These are just a few programs that the American Legion on the National level supported. If you have internet access, go to www.legion/childwelfare for the complete list of CWF grants online. Legion awards \$20,000 to nine Samsung Scholars and

an additional 89 students were awarded \$1,100 each. The Samsung American Legion Scholarship is available to high-school juniors who participate in and complete the Boys State or Girls State programs and are direct descendants (or legally adopted children) of wartime veterans eligible for Legion membership. None of Post 52 members are active on the National level, but our membership in the American Legion makes a difference. Again, there's strength in numbers. American Legion is a great organization and it is making a difference in our communities. I hope those who have not renewed so far will reconsider and take action and renew their membership today. Those who have already, Thank you. I hope everyone who is a Legionnaire will think of these grants and scholarships and feel good that they are a part of a great organization that is truly making a difference. We all make a difference. I look forward to seeing you all at our next Post monthly meeting. *Ansel Greenwood*

Auxiliary News



Welcome 2012!! It is hard to believe that 2011 is behind us. We did end the year with some very positive momentum. Our Auxiliary Christmas Party was a very memorable one!! I will remember it with a smile for a long time. Seriously, though, it was good to see everyone and celebrate together. Thank you to everyone who helped with our Christmas project. We had a very generous donation that allowed us to do way more good than we had previously planned. We were also able to get some of the supplies donated. All of our nursing home and home-bound veterans received a package of gifts, and some much appreciated time visiting with the Post members who delivered them. The children of two active Reserve soldiers also received gifts and clothes. The two soldiers received a grocery gift card to help with the Christmas meal. I am very appreciative of the way our Post and Auxiliary members join together and support each other as we help for these very important veterans and service members.

We need volunteers to assist with serving at the Brunswick Stew Feed at the Post on Saturday January 14th. Our meeting on Monday January 16th will be dedicated to finishing the documentation of our Constitution, Bylaws and Traditions. Please remember to bring your memories, ideas and creativity.

Thank you for all that you do to make our Unit a successful and meaningful one. *Velinda Moore, President*

Chaplain's Corner

Honor I Am An American



Article 6 of the United States Military Code of Conduct, "I will never forget that I am an American fighting for freedom, responsible for my actions, and dedicated to the principles which made my country free. I will trust in my God and in the United States of America. On June 2, 1995 U.S. Air Force Captain Scott O'Grady was flying over war torn Bosnia when his F-15 fighter was struck by a surface to air missile. For six incredible days and nights O'Grady eluded the Bosnian Serbs. He was on the sixth day when a team of Marines came in with a chopper, dodged enemy fire, and pulled the young American hero to safety. At a national press conference following his return home O'Grady said "if it wasn't for my love for God and God's love for me, I wouldn't be here. Now may our God with love and peace be with you and your family, in the name of Jesus. A-Men *Bill Kimbrough*

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Return Service Requested



Attend the Meetings
& Be a Part
Bring a New Member

Franklinton American Legion Post 52
Schedule of Upcoming Events

Friday, January 13, 2012	Preparation for Brunswick Stew sale- Meet at post at 2pm
Saturday, January 14, 2012	Brunswick Stew Sale starts at 11am until all is sold. \$7 per quart. First come first sold. Members are needed to help with preparation, cooking, and sales (6am – until all is sold)
Monday, January 16, 2012	Auxiliary Meeting, 7pm
Tuesday, January 17, 2012	Executive Committee Meeting, 7pm
Saturday, January 21, 2012	District 5 Oratorical contest at 1:00pm at the post. We NEED HELP from post members to serve as time keepers, judges, etc. Call Neil Weintraub to inquire about helping 954 383-7500
Tuesday, January 31, 2012	Legion Monthly Meeting, 6:00pm meet and greet, 7:00pm supper - Ladies Night Pancakes, Sausage & Bacon, Tea, Coffee, Milk, Juice, Apple Dumpling Delight for desert
Tuesday, February 14, 2012	Executive Committee Meeting, 7pm
Friday, February 17, 2012	Mid-winter state conference on February 17-18 at North Raleigh Hilton.
Monday, February 20, 2012	Auxiliary Meeting, 7pm
Saturday, March 03, 2012	State Oratorical Contest
Saturday, March 10, 2012	Annual Awards Banquet/Legion Birthday/ Ladies Night; 6pm; Steak meal with all the trimmings \$10 per person.

2012 Post Rentals

There have been several members asking to reserve the Post for dates in 2012. There are others that have a standing date that they always use the Post. The 2012 calendar is setup so please contact Harvey Satterwhite at 919 358-5591 to get your reservation on the calendar.

Supporting Our Troops

Although our armed forces are being pulled out of parts of the Middle East, we still have a number of soldiers serving on foreign soil and are still gathering comfort items, food and money in support of monthly mailing to our troops. With your help we helped ship an increased number of packages in November and December and will continue until ALL our soldiers are home. We have received letters from these soldiers and they wanted everyone to know how very much they appreciate the packages. They know behind these care packages are fellow American who's thoughts and prayer are with them. Please consider giving to this worthwhile cause.

Post Everlasting: Donald Hight Evans, Sr. died on December 26th, 2011. Donald was a 23 year member of post 52.

Military Funeral Detail:

Post 52 is equipped to perform Military funerals and we perform them when the request is made by family. Please consider being a part of our Firing Squad and Funeral Detail. Once you have made the commitment the Post will work with you on the cost of the uniform.