



**For God and Country**

# American Legion

## Post 598

### Monthly Newsletter

### The Can Do Post



Vol. 15 No.12

<http://www.alhorizoncitytx598.org/>

December 2015

THIS NEWSLETTER IS A MONTHLY PUBLICATION ISSUED BY AMERICAN LEGION POST #598  
141 Elsworth., Horizon City, Texas 79928 915-852-4823

## Commander's Corner



Happy Holidays Post 598.

We have several events coming up soon for the Holidays! Horizon City 2015 Christmas Parade is this Saturday, December 5th. We will be entering a float for the contest again this year. Float judging is Friday, December 4th at 6:00 pm and Christmas Tree Lighting is at 7:00 pm. come out to support your Legion! This year's theme is Greatest Inventions. We will take on the Military theme and be building a Tank!

El Paso Region Annual Bowl-A-Thon is also scheduled for Saturday, December 5th. If you would like to be on a team, contact Auxiliary President, Eva Valles for more information.

Post 598 AL Riders will be hosting this year's Christmas Party! Date is Saturday, December 19th. Contact one of our Riders for more information. Let's make this a great party and have everyone show up.

Operation Keep Kids Warm Annual Coat Drive is upon us. Please drop your donation of either a coat, blanket, or shoes off at the Post or place a donation of money (asking for at least \$5.00) in the specially marked Lock Box at the post.

We are doing well with the membership drive. PLEASE REMEMBER TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP ONLINE, <http://tinurl.com/7qnh3lr>, or at the Post if you have not already done so. We are shooting for 100% by the end of the year! Every new Legionnaire, S.A.L. or Auxiliary member makes us a better post; so I challenge each member to bring one new member into the Family this year! At the beginning of this new 2015-16 year, Post 598 had 137 Active Members. The ALL-TIME HIGH for the LEGION was 234. If each of us recruits just one new member, we will surpass our Post record and be able to better support our Veterans, their families and the community as a whole. Let's make the commitment and do this.

I always enjoy talking with our Legion Family, so if you see me, please take a minute to stop and chat. If you have suggestions or comments on how to make our organization better, please feel free to let me or one of our Officers know. Remember, we are on track to make Post 598 the premiere post in the El Paso area AND the 16th District by treating each service member as if they were our own son or daughter, adhering to our core values of "For God and Country", and supporting our Veterans and their families in any way that we can.

Thank you and God Bless the United States and OUR Post 598 during this holiday season.

For God and Country.  
Antonio Salcido (Tony)  
Commander American Legion Post 598

## Ladies Auxiliary News

### A BIG THANK YOU TO EVERYONE

Hello ladies, I know its holiday season and everyone gets busy, so please let me know if you would like to wait until January for our meeting. I'll keep everyone posted on any new upcoming events as I find out.....

**Thank you and hope everyone has a wonderful and blessed Christmas....**

DON'T FORGET EVER YEAR WE AS A LEGION FAMILY HAVE COME TOGETHER AND WORKED ON "OPERATION KEEP THE KIDS WARM" and any donation would be greatly appreciated; monetary, coats, shoes, gloves, blankets and anything else to keep the kids warm.

Let's not let this tradition fade away

Don't forget to make our next meeting and make sure your dues are paid as Karen has the dues cards.

### FOR GOD AND COUNTRY

Evarista "EVA" Valles  
Auxiliary President

## December Fun Facts

1. The poinsettia, a traditional Christmas flower, originally grew in Mexico, where it is also known as the 'Flower of the Holy Night'. Joel Poinsett first brought it to America in 1829.
2. The first Christmas was celebrated on December 25, AD 336 in Rome.
3. Artificial Christmas trees have outsold real ones since 1991.
4. Franklin Pierce was the first president to decorate an official White House Christmas tree.
5. Electric Christmas lights were first used in 1854.
6. Nearly all of the most popular Christmas songs including 'Winter Wonderland', 'Chestnuts roasting...', and 'I'm Dreaming of a white Christmas' were written by Jews.
7. The US playing card company 'Bicycle' had manufactured a playing card in WW2. That, when the card was soaked, it would reveal an escape route for all POWs in Germany. The Nazis were none the wiser!



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## PLANNING COMMITTEE NEWS

The Planning Committee continues to be very busy. The Veteran's Day Dinner was very nice, and the lasagna was amazing. Thank you everyone for your help to again make this a great event.

We have started Monday Night Football starting at 6:00 pm every Monday and Sunday NFL Football opening the bar early at 11:00 am to enjoy each other's company for the games. Keep in mind there is an 8 butt rule in order to open early, so please sign up each week by Saturday if you plan to attend. The first week we had great representation from the Post and we all had a wonderful time!

Unfortunately we did not have a Thanksgiving Dinner for the Soldiers this year. Ft Bliss told us that they did not have any soldiers for us this year. They then did notify me of some soldier's last minute (5 days prior) but by then people had already committed to other plans and I had to decline. We will hopefully be able to have more back next year.

### Upcoming Events:

Saturday December 5th- Horizon City Christmas Parade. We need help decorating float and/or participating in the parade (walking or riding). Contact me if interested so that I can get you your wristband for parade day.

Saturday, December 5th- Annual Bowl-A-Thon at Bowl El Paso. Currently we only have one team assembled! We need more. Contact Eva Valles for more information.

Now until December 19th- Annual Keep Kids Warm Coat Drive. Please find it in your heart to donate either a coat, blanket, shoes, or money towards the purchase of these items. You can contact any officer or place donation in the lockbox at the Post.

Saturday, December 19th- AL Riders will be hosting the Annual Christmas Party. Contact any Rider for more information.

Thank you all for the generosity you have all given me with your time and commitment. I look forward to the upcoming events still to come. Please find it in your heart to volunteer some of your time to help us give back to our community. I truly feel blessed to call Post 598 my family.

For God and Country, Happy Holidays

Amista Salcido, Pharm.D.  
Second Vice Commander  
Planning Committee Chair

## SAL's Scoop...

A few things I would like to bring up are:

Our meetings are on the third (3rd) Friday of the month and your attendance would be greatly appreciated especially the Officers.

I am collecting aluminum cans to help the Legion. This time the money will be used to buy weed killer to help keep the grounds clean. Also, plastic bottle caps are being collected, they will be recycled to make prosthetic limbs for soldiers and veterans. You can leave the materials at the Legion or my house, 350 Cross River Rd. or call me for pick up.

The Sons of the Legion also are running the "Queen of Hearts" game on Friday night at 7:00 pm to raise money for the smoke eaters. You should come to the Post on Friday night and take a chance on the Queen of Hearts as the next winner might be you. Also, you might be surprised as to what is happening at the Post on the weekend with NFL Football Thursday Sunday and Monday.

The 16th District Convention is over and was it a blast and for the members that have never attended one, you sure missed something that you would remember for a long time. That is the place to get to know the District Officers as well as other Officers that attended from other Post.

I have thought about this for a while and I can remove an Officer of the S.A.L .if they miss 3 or more meetings without an excuse and notify the Commander as to the fact you will not make the meeting. There are enough new members that are willing to step up. There are things to be voted on and checks to be written.

If you would like to contact me, please feel free to do so at any time. My cell # 915-820-0244, e-mail [pohara@elp.rr.com](mailto:pohara@elp.rr.com)

### FOR GOD AND COUNTRY

Patrick O'Hara  
SAL Commander

**"Then the Grinch thought of something he hadn't before! What if Christmas, he thought, doesn't come from a store? What if Christmas...perhaps...means a little bit more!"  
Dr. Seuss, How the Grinch Stole Christmas!**



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## SOME RIDER DUST

I hope all are doing well and had a pleasant Thanksgiving Day.

We will start planning for the Polar Bear run. Need everyone's input on a location and looking on making it on the 2 Jan instead of 1 Jan, for two reasons 1) give enough time for hangover recovery, and 2) businesses will be open. AWOL is still working on scheduling a date with Yolanda, of the USO, in which the most riders are able to participate for the presentation.

This past month Barnett Harley Davidson erected a 90' flag pole with a 20' x 38' American flag in from of their business and dedicated it to all the Veteran's and the people of El Paso.

Football is in full swing, come out to the Legion and cheer for your team. Because the 4th Saturday falls after Christmas day, we will have our riders meeting on the third Saturday, 19 December. Other events in December is the Bowl-a-thon and the Horizon City Parade.

**We will have a Christmas party/pot luck event and Secret Santa (\$5 coat donation and \$10 minimum gift) on 19 Dec 2015 starting at 7 pm; the Riders and Sons of the American Legion are spearheading this event.**

### FOR GOD AND COUNTRY

Jesus "SHADOW" Velasco  
DIRECTOR  
ALR 598

### AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS CHAPTER 598

#### OFFICERS

#### For the year 2015-2016

DIRECTOR: Jesus Velasco (Shadow)  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR: Scott Hilgenberg (Shooter)  
SECRETARY: Rebekah Hilgenberg (AWOL)  
TREASURER: Debra Duran (Jewel)  
ROAD CAPTAIN: Darvin Sachtoben (Sock)  
HISTORIAN: Jerry Tillison (Frosty)  
CHAPLAIN: Darvin Sachtleben, Jr. (Sticks)  
MEMBERSHIP: Ruben Duran (Lawman)

#### Meetings:

4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of the month 10:00 am  
ALR 598 Fri-Fest: 4th Fri. of Month

**NOTICE**  
**New BAR TAB number**

**# 277**

**NOTICE, NOTICE, NOTICE, NOTICE**  
**AS OF JANUARY 1st. THE AMERICAN LEGION**  
**DUES WILL INCREASE FROM \$35.00 TO \$40.00**  
**SO SAVE \$5.00 AND PAY YOUR DUES BEFORE**  
**THE 1ST OF JANUARY**

Hello Post 598 Family, greetings from Columbia, SC!!! I hope this letter finds everyone well. Just wanted to take a few moments of your time to reach out and say "HI". Amy, the boys and I are adjusting well to our new home, but we sure do miss you all. There is nothing like having friends just a few minutes away and a place to gather with them to share good times.

I encourage the leadership and members of each part of the 598 family to remember this. We all have busy schedules, especially around this time of year, but once ties have been severed, it is hard to rebuild them. Our Post was built by its' members and can only stay strong with mutual cooperation. Whenever we put what's better for ourselves ahead of the good of the Post, we are doing a disservice to the members and those who came, and served, before us. Thoughts like "I don't have time to be bothered with that" and "well, let someone else do it" are the easiest ways to watch traditions slip away. Lead, don't order; advice, don't force; delegate, but be willing to do your share.

I realize that Post 598 was there long before my arrival, and God willing, will survive generations to come, but it breaks my heart to know that activities like the Halloween Party, Thanksgiving with the Troops and the Christmas Party are not happening because no one has the time to organize them. This is not a "shot" at anyone; it's a shot at everyone. There are very few things, if any, that go on at the Post because of the efforts of one person. Just like it takes a village to raise a child, it takes the members to make things happen. I apologize if I offended anyone with my feelings, but you may want to take a long look in the mirror and ask why you were offended. If you are using the Post as your private "watering hole," good for you, I remember when The American Legion Post 598 was the "CAN DO POST."

That being said,  
We sincerely wish all of you a  
MERRY CHRISTMAS and Happy New Year.  
Thom Skelley  
PAST S.A.L . COMMANDER  
DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS



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#### **Post Hours:**

**Monday–Thursday:  
4:00 PM – 10:00 AM**

**Friday–Sunday:  
3:00 PM – 12:00 AM**

**2 Butt Rule  
(915) 852-4823**

#### **Planning a Special Occasion?**

**American Legion Hall, Post 598**

Available for Weddings, Birthdays,  
Quinceaneras, Meetings, etc.

**Capacity 160 Persons**

Kitchen Facilities Available

**Call 852-4823**

For Details, Prices & Available Dates

***We Offer Membership Discounts***