



The American Legion Fifth Area Bulletin

March 2007

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Post 595 600 S "D" Street Perris, CA 92570
Joanne Evans, Editor



**Ed Alvarez, 5th
Area Vice-Cmdr**

Commander's Column Ealvarz@sbcglobal.net

To start out this article we all know how busy we all are this time of the year. We have received a number of compliments on how much fun people from outside the 5th Area, who had never been to a Brawley Area meeting, had. Some people told us that "from now on they will not miss another one".

This is also a very busy time with our American Legion programs such as Oratorical. We held the Area contest at Orange Post 132 on February 11th, and the Department Oratorical Contest at Ontario Post 112 on February 25th, which Phil Heller will report on. This is one program wherein we get a lot of good public relations, because it involves the community and children and youth. We see the best outstanding students in California with the Department finals. We usually hear about the problem kids in schools, so we need to continue to support these students that are so outstanding.

Don't forget we also have the Boys' State Program coming up real soon. Here is another outstanding American Legion Program. We are always amazed at some of the famous people we have met that have been in this program—to name a few, Carolina Panther Linebacker Chris Draft, former L.A. Rams Quarterback Vince Ferragamo, former County Supervisor & former Peace Corps Director, Gaddi Vasquez. We've also met many professionals such as doctors, teachers, attorneys, and politicians, etc.

On Friday, February 9th I attended the formal Purple Heart presentation ceremony at the VAMC, Long Beach. This was quite an experience seeing these youngsters being honored for their military service.

Also in February I had the honor to represent the Department Commander at a dinner for the National President of the Auxiliary during her visitation to southern California. She visited the Long Beach VA Hospital in

the daytime and then attended dinner in West Covina in the evening.

We have learned so much this year about our great Organization and how if we work together we can get much more accomplished. Let's ALWAYS remember that there is no "I" in the word Team. None of us should be members for our own personal gain. We've also learned that all five Districts have different ways of doing things and have some good points that need to be shared with the others. Going up and down the state we find that, Districts and Areas are all different, AND that any member of any Post, Unit, or Squadron is welcome at any of the respective meetings.

Don't forget that before our next meeting at Norco on March 24-25, we have a DEC coming up. I know we have some Posts that we will be canceling but we also need to consider if some Posts need to be put on Probation. We need some explanation as to what some of these Posts are doing, when at this late date they have not submitted any membership. We need to be prepared before we go to Santa Maria, so that your Post or District (if it is necessary) will not look bad in front of the entire Department.

In trying not to write too much, I may have left out some of the events between now and when they happen, so I apologize. When things are finalized, I will let everyone know what is going on. Lastly, thank you to the Posts and Districts who have sent newsletters either snail mail or email. Thank you for sharing. Most of you do outstanding work for our veterans and their families and in your own communities. Let's all be proud and report the hours, dollars, miles traveled, etc. when the time comes!! Remember, if you ever need me, I am just a telephone call away. For God and Country,

ED

ADJUTANT'S CORNER

Joanne Evans 951-657-8704

Email":cdfpio@verizon.net

AREA MEETINGS FOR 2007 WILL START AT 10am UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTIFIED**AREA OFFICERS, DISTRICT COMMANDERS & FIRST VICE-COMMANDERS—Jackets & shirts with Ties, Please!****Deadline for June Bulletin is May 1st, 2007. No information, nothing in the bulletin.****The last Area meeting will be in Rialto on Saturday and Sunday, June 9th and 10th at the Robert Allen Romo Post 422.** If it is known where the September Area meeting will be held, it will be helpful to have a flier at this meeting.

Commanders/Vice-Commanders, Committee/Commission Chairmen please remember to bring a copy of your presentation to the meeting for the Adjutant's copy. Thank you very much.

MOST IMPORTANT — ALL PRESENTATIONS WILL BE LIMITED TO THREE MINUTES ONLY.

Joanne Evans, Fifth Area Adjutant

**HISTORIAN'S CORNER**

Iral Evans

951-657-8704 Email cdfpio@verizon.net

TO ALL DISTRICT HISTORIANS

It is report time coming up and in March you will receive your Historian Report Forms. Contact all your Post Historians and make sure they fill out their forms. The Post History is real important. These forms need to be sent in to the Department Historian. I would like to see five District History Books and many Post books from the Fifth Area at Convention. If anyone needs any help, please contact me.

Also all rules for History books are in the Offi-

cer's Manual. Follow these rules carefully if you are submitting a book for judging.

Iral Evans, Fifth Area Historian

**CHILDREN AND YOUTH**

Anna M. Pina-Brown

760-745-1233 Email Ampb0929@aol.com

All District Children and Youth Chairpersons should now have a working relationship with the posts in their respective Districts. Please begin to prepare for assisting your posts with reporting, and making supplemental reports if so indicated. I have received a supply of the new Children and Youth program update booklets from National and will provide them at the 5th Area meeting at Norco. I will also have copies of report supplements for those Chairmen who need them.

Please support your Children's Miracle Network through the hospitals in your areas. (Children's in Orange and Rady's Children's Hospital in San Diego). You can also support this program by participating in Walkathons or donating to Canisters for CMN located in your Posts or local businesses. Posts with limited activities and funds can send a donation to the National Child Welfare Foundation, Scouting, ROTC, and local Charities for children. There is no end to what you can do to support this program. Report forms will be mailed from Department in March. Children and Youth month is April. Plan a program for this and ask your Units and SAL's for assistance. Make it a true "Legion Family" event. Report what you do and ask for assistance when needed. Let's make the Fifth Area shine.

Ann Marie Brown, 5th Area Commissioner



MEMBERSHIP

Bernie Foley (951) 377-2722
Email bernieandconnie@101freeway.com

All District First Vice-Commanders need to be present at 9 A.M. Sunday, March 25th at the Norco Post 328 Fifth Area meeting.

I will be holding a brief membership session and I have information important to your program in your individual Districts.

Fifth Area is presently (Mid-February) in 3rd place and by March should be in 2nd place. Thank you for the good job you are doing. Keep up the good work. Please make sure transmittals are forwarded to Department in a timely manner (ASAP-when membership dues are received). Thanks Again!

Bernie Foley, 5th Area Membership Chairman



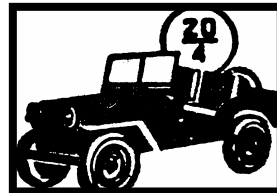
PUBLIC RELATIONS

Joanne Evans,
(951) 657-8704 Email cdfpio@verizon.net,

The month of March is here and we shall all receive our report forms. You will receive a report form for Public Relations. Please fill these out and put together books of your news releases, press clippings, and whatever other public relations your Post has participated in this year. The Public Relations Commission will be judging at Convention and I am hoping that we have lots of winners from the Fifth Area. Remember all newspapers, local and large County-wide publishers are to be in-

cluded. Please place these chronologically in your report supplement or book. Remember to thank the media personnel who support your post and the Post's programs.

Joanne Evans, Public Relations Commission



The Honor Society of Women Legionnaires, Echelon 40 of the 20 and 4 hosted their Annual Bake Sale at the January meeting of the Fifth Area at Brawley Post 60 on Saturday, January 20th.

The Echelon wishes to thank all those who supported the bake sale. We will hold our last fundraiser for this Legion year (2006-2007) in March at Norco. This will be a drawing with some wonderful prizes. The Echelon welcomes Mary Zingg and Margaret J. Mudd.

Another member signed at Brawley is Eileen Krizanski who transferred from Echelon One and our newest member, Sheryl D Palsrok.

Our National Director VIP for the 20/4, Bev Keaveny paid Southern California Echelons a visit starting in San Diego with a dinner for our Department Vice-Commander Representing Women Legionnaires, Kathleen Heeren and then came to Brawley. She is traveling across the United States visiting as many Echelons as possible.

Echelon 40 Officers

THE RONALD J. HANSON "End of Life" Room will be dedicated at La Jolla VAMC 3360 La Jolla Village Drive, San Diego. Saturday March 10th at 11:00 A.M. Nancy Hanson & family invites Ron's friends, Legionnaires, Auxiliary and Sons to join with them in remembering Ron's accomplishments with The American Legion



CHILI COOK-OFF CONTEST

Jim Drake (951) 654-7965
Email Jd2ducks@earthlink.net

Wow! What a Cook-Off! Nine (9) Chili Cooking teams, 5 Salsa entries and no moths left in any wallets. Over \$1,300. raised after expenses and payouts. Vice-Commander Ed and I thank you for your support.

The People's Choice Chili and Salsa were won by "Emmerson Big 'uns and the Chili Ain't Bad Either" from Post 255, District 22.

Judges awards went to:

1st Place—Baja Chili, Post 434, District 22—Randy and Linda Avery.

2nd Place—Jimbo's Plumber's Crack Chili, TSAL, Squadron 848, District 21, Jim Jr., Trevor and Kevin Drake

3rd Place—Emmerson Big 'uns, Post 255, District 22, The Emmersons.

4th Place—T-N-T Dynamite Chili, Post 434, District 22, Tom Snow.

How about a 'Welcome Back' to Chula Vista Post 434.

I thank all of the participants, Judges, and those who assisted in the Cook-Off. You and the ticket buyers are what makes the Cook-Off a success.

God Willing and the "Crik" don't rise, I'll try one more year.

Hope to see you down the road and please travel safely.

Jim Drake Chili Cook-Off Chairman



WAYS AND MEANS

Diana Drake (951) 654-7965
Email jd2ducks@earthlink.net

Please remember your generous donations benefit our Fifth Area Ways and Means program

that in the long run benefits Veterans and other American Legion Programs. Thank you in advance for your support and participation in Ways and Means.

Diana Drake, 5th Area Ways and Means Chairman



ORATORICAL—PHIL HELLER, CHAIRMAN

The Fifth Area Oratorical Contest was held at Orange Post 132 on Sunday February 11th. Contestants were Robert Morgan, District 21; Russell York, District 22; Eban Drost, District 25 and Mijay Folick, District 29.

Judges were Patsy Marshall, Frank Boehler, Russell Rice; Bruce Whitaker, and Honorable Dennis Stach, Judge, State of California.

The winning contestant was Russell York from National City, District 22. Russell will compete in the Department Contest on Sunday, February 25th, 2007 at Ontario Post 112 at 1P.M.

Phil Heller, Oratorical Commission Chairman

LEGIONNAIRE OF THE YEAR

Joseph Garcia, Chairman

Hello to All!

As you know there is someone at your Post that is inspiring, has been dedicated, or has been a very good example of what a Legionnaire should be. Hey! This is your chance to thank your fellow comrade Veterans, the Community, and their families. Just like our family members we take them for granted, but we love and respect them for what they do. You need to nominate them for the very prestigious "Legionnaire of the Year" award. Put together your package and submit their name to me. Call me if you have any questions or email me (909) 627-6538

email: District25Adjutant@msn.com

I urge you to send in your candidate from your Post. Let's say thanks to a fellow comrade. This is one of the best ways I know how to do it.

Joseph A. Garcia 5th Area Legionnaire of The Year Chairman

THE AMERICAN LEGION FIFTH AREA BULLETIN

NON-PROFIT ORGAN.
U.S. POSTAGE
PERRIS, CA 92572
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FIFTH AREA OFFICERS

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Adjutant:	Joanne Evans (951) 657-8704
Asst Ad:	Joe Garcia (909) 627-6538
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Chaplain:	Phil Heller (909) 792-9264
Historian:	Iral Evans (951) 657-8704
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Judge Advocate	Willy Wilkin (909) 884-5459
A/Judge Advocate	Bernie Foley (951) 377-2718
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Const. & By-Laws	John Bohmfalk (909) 795-7393
Resolutions	“ “
Steering:	Chuck Neimeyer (928) 758-6955
Steering:	Carl Asher (760)722-6768
Leg of The Year	Joe Garcia (909) 627-6538
Ways & Means	Diana Drake (951) 654-7965
Chili Cook Off	James Drake (951) 654-7965

FIFTH AREA MEETINGS

November 18 & 19, 2006
Escondido Post 149

January 20 & 21, 2007
Brawley Post 60

March 24 & 25, 2007
Norco Post 328

June 9 & 10, 2007
Robert Allen Romo Post 422

Spring DEC
March 17 & 18, 2007
Santa Maria

Convention
Palm Springs June 21 to June 24, 2007