22nd District Executive Committee Meeting Minutes August 17, 2025

The 22nd District Executive Committee Meeting was held on August 17, 2025, at American Legion Post 521 in Pasadena, TX.

District Commander Robert Harvey called the meeting to order at 2 p.m.

Opening Ceremonies were conducted in due form.

Roll Call of Officers and Posts

All current District Officers except the Judge Advocate (excused) were in attendance. The district still has vacancies for a Service Officer and Public Relations Officer. All posts except 391 & 596 were represented. Post 391 was excused, and Post 596 was absent. There was a quorum.

Commander Harvey acknowledged Past NECman Butch Sparks, Past State Commander Lynn Sparks, Past District Commanders, Harry Woodstrom, Jim McGuire, and Joseph Thomas, Past District Commander, and current SAL Commander for the 2nd Division.

Officer Reports:

<u>Finance Officer</u> Lynn Sparks read the District Finance Report (ATTCH1). Motion by Lynn to accept the report, second by J. T. Thomas. Motion accepted.

<u>Historian</u> Hector Hernandez reported that he is still working with posts to get information on their history so he can work on the District Yearbook. He gave a verbal report on his recent activities in this area. (ATTCH 14)

Sergeant -At-Arms Rene Sanchez said there were thirty-one members in attendance.

Commander Report: Commander Harvey discussed items that were covered at the Department Convention as well as at the District Commander's School which he attended.

Post Reports:

Post 52 – No Report

Post 77- Post Commander Hernandez read his report to the body. (ATTCH 2)

Post 164- Post Commander Krum read his report to the body (ATTCH 3)

Post 319- Post Commander Thomas read his report to the body. (ATTCH 4)

Post 391 – No Report- Excused

Post 416 – No Report

Post 472 – Post Commander DeLeon highlighted his post's activities. (ATTCH 5)

Post 490 – Post Commander Sanchez highlighted the post's activities. (ATTCH 6)

Post 521 – Post Commander Reed highlighted the post's activities.

Post 596 – No Report - Absent

Post 654 – Post Commander Giron highlighted his post's activities (ATTCH 7)

Committee Reports by Chairs that were at the meeting:

ALR – No report. Chair absent.

Americanism/School Awards - No report - Chair Excused

Baseball – No report. Chair absent.

Boys State; Oratorical; Webmaster – Chairman Woodstrom provided a verbal overview of these important topics. Harry also provided the body the website for our 22nd District. It is www.legiondist22.com. Also please check the web site to make sure the information in your post is correct. (ATTCH 8)

Community Service – Chairperson Sherry Thomas provided an overview of community activities by posts that have provided her input. (ATTCH 9)

Constitution and By-Laws: Chair Butch Sparks asked posts to review their C&BL's and if needed they should be revised and sent to Department for review and approval. Stated that the approved copy of the District C&BL's had not been returned to us. In discussion with the State Judge Advocate, he believed they were approved. Checking with Nancy at Department to obtain a copy.

Hubmaster – Robert Crutchfield is the new Hubmaster and if you have information to send please contact him at crutchfieldcooks@gmail.com.

Junior Shooting – Jim McGuire gave the membership an overview of the Junior Shooting program.(ATTCH 10)

Legislative – Rene Sanchez gave a report of various Veteran Related topics that the Legion is supporting. (ATTCH 11)

Membership – District Membership Chair Jim McGujire provided information on the districts membership goals and actions needed by the Posts to get our membership numbers back on top. (ATTCH 12)

National Security – Chair J.T. Thomas gave an update on the important topic of illegal immigration and the problems it is causing us. (ATTCH 13)

POW/MIA – Chairman Hector Hernandez highlighted the status of this program. He also invited posts to attend the National Cemetery Council meetings held the first Monday of each month at 6 p.m. at the Heritage Funeral Home which is located adjacent to the Houston National Cemetery. (ATTCH 15)

S. A. L. Advisor No Report. Chair Jimmy Mitchell excused.

Scouting – Chairman J.T. Thomas informed the body of the available 2nd Division Scholarship for \$1000 that is given out to a Scout each year. Asked the body to contact him for more details. (ATTCH 13)

School Awards – No Report. Chair Jimmy Mitchell excused.

Unfinished Business - None

New Business

Butch Sparks made a motion to appoint Jim McGuire as district Vice Commander until our next election. 2nd by J.T. Thomas. motion carried.

Butch Sparks made a motion that the District Commander send a notice to Post 596 advising them their charter is in jeopardy, and a reply is required by October 15th on actions taken to start performing as a Post, If no actions are taken the district will be initiating cancellation procedures. 2nd by Jim McGuire. Motion carried

Lynn Sparks made a motion to approve purchase of district checks at a cost of not more than \$20 and stamps not to exceed \$20. 2nd by Jim McGuire. Motion carried.

Commander Harvey asked about the 22nd District Spring Convention and asked if any post wanted to host it. Post 521 Commander Gordon Reed stated that the convention could be held at Post 521 during April 2026. Butch Sparks moved to set the Spring Convention Date as April 11, 2026 at Post 521, located in Pasadena, TX. Gordon Reed seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Good of The Legion:

Harry Woodstrom gave an overview of the Siegmund Fund and passed out brochures to attendees to take back to their post.

Post 164 Commander Sandy Krum announced that a Legion College will be held at Post 164 on September 26, 27 & 28. Sign up procedures have been sent out. Everyone is welcome to sign up. Attendance is limited to 50 students.

Closing Ceremonies were held in due form.

Butch Sparks

22nd District Adjutant

Enclosures

AMERICAN LEGION, DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS 22ND DISTRICT FINANCE REPORT

August 17, 2025

CHASE	BANK	CHECKING

		Credits		Debits	Balances
Previous Balance April 12, 2025					\$ 33,994.09
DEPOSITS:					
4/14/25- Fines	\$	35.00			
4/14/205-Silent Auction	\$	385.00			
4/15/25- S.A.L. Raffle	\$	282.00			
5/5/24 Post 52 Donatioin	\$	1,100.00			
5/15/25 SAL Reimb for flag bag	\$	8.00			
	FROM THE STATE OF		-		
TOTAL DEPOSITS	\$	1,810.00			
CHECKS WRITTEN: 4/14/25-Ck# 1134 Emblem Sales-					
Caps-SAA/Chaplain 4/14/25 Ck#1135 TAL Dept Natl			\$	165.93	
Delegates			\$	70.00	
4/16/25 Ck# 1136/Emblem					
Sales/SAL Flag Set			\$	157.92	
5/14/25/Ck#1138 Siegmund Fund					
Donation from Post 52			\$	100.00	
6/23/25 Ck#1139 Abilene					
Christian U - scholarship Manning			<u>\$</u>	1,000.00	
TOTAL DEBITS			\$	1,493.85	
					\$ 34,310.24
Less Outstanding Oratorical					
Awards					\$ (4,000.00)
Available Funds					\$ 30,310.24

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NDS	Bal	ance Fwd	Cree	dits	Del	oits	Bala	ance
General Fund	\$	5,978.03	\$	1,520.00	\$	335.93	\$	7,162.10
Baseball	\$	4,048.83					\$	4,048.83
Boys State	\$	3,012.43					\$	3,012.43
ERF	\$	6,927.01					\$	6,927.01
JSSP	\$	0.69					\$	0.69
Nursing	\$	8,814.75			\$	1,000.00	\$	7,814.75
Oratorical	\$	4,000.00					\$	4,000.00
S.A.L.		12.00	\$	290.00	\$	157.92	\$	144.08
Scouting	\$	1,200.35					\$	1,200.35

\$ 33,994.09 \$ 1,810.00 \$ 1,493.85 \$ 34,310.24

Less Outstanding Oratorical Awards of \$4,000.00 \$ 34,310.24

Respectfully submitted by

Respectfully submitted by Lynn Ellen Sparks 22nd Dist. Finance Officer



JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A. P O Box 182051 Columbus, OH 43218 - 2051

PO BOX 140527

AUSTIN TX 78714

July 01, 2025 through July 31, 2025

Account Number:

000000637571170

CUSTOMER SERVICE INFORMATION

Web site:

www.Chase.com

Service Center:

1-877-425-8100 1-888-622-4273

Para Espanol: International Calls:

1-713-262-1679

We accept operator relay calls



CHECKING SUMMARY

Chase Platinum Business Checking

	INSTANCES	AMOUNT
Beginning Balance		\$35,310.24
Checks Paid	1	-1,000.00
Ending Balance	1	 \$34,310.24

Your Chase Platinum Business Checking account provides:

00048441 DRE 201 210 21725 NNNNNNNNNN 1 000000000 D8 0000

AMERICAN LEGION, DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS

- No transaction fees for unlimited electronic deposits (including ACH, ATM, wire, Chase Quick Deposit)
- 500 debits and non-electronic deposits (those made via check or cash in branches) per statement cycle
- \$25,000 in cash deposits per statement cycle
- Unlimited return deposited items with no fee

There are additional fee waivers and benefits associated with your account – please refer to your Deposit Account Agreement for more information.

CHECKS PAID

CHECK NO.	DESCRIPTION	DATE PAID	AMOUNT
1139 ^		07/03	\$1,000.00

Total Checks Paid

\$1,000.00

If you see a description in the Checks Paid section, it means that we received only electronic information about the check, not the original or an image of the check. As a result, we're not able to return the check to you or show you an image.

^ An image of this check may be available for you to view on Chase.com.

DAILY ENDING BALANCE

DATE 07/03 AMOUNT \$34,310.24

SERVICE CHARGE SUMMARY

Monthly Service Fee	\$0.00
Other Service Charges	\$0.00
Total Service Charges	\$0.00



July 01, 2025 through July 31, 2025

Account Number:

000000637571170

IN CASE OF ERRORS OR QUESTIONS ABOUT YOUR ELECTRONIC FUNDS TRANSFERS:

Call us at 1-866-564-2262 or write us at the address on the front of this statement immediately if you think your statement or receipt is incorrect or if you need more information about a transfer listed on the statement or receipt.

For personal accounts only: We must hear from you no later than 60 days after we sent you the FIRST statement on which the problem or error appeared. Be prepared to give us the following information:

Your name and account number; A description of the error or the transaction you are unsure about, and why you think it is an error or want more information; and The amount of the suspected error.

We will investigate your complaint and will correct any error promptly. If we take more than 10 business days (or 20 business days for new accounts) to do this, we will provide provisional credit to your account for the amount you think is in error so that you will have use of the money during the time it takes us to complete our investigation.

For business accounts, our practice is to follow the procedures described above as detailed in your Deposit Account Agreement or other applicable agreements, but we are not legally required to do so. For example, we require you to notify us no later than 30 days after we sent you the first statement on which the error appeared. We may require you to provide us with a written statement that the disputed transaction was unauthorized. We are also not required to give provisional credit,

IN CASE OF ERRORS OR QUESTIONS ABOUT NON-ELECTRONIC FUNDS TRANSFERS: Contact us immediately if your statement is incorrect or if you need more information about any non-electronic funds transfers on this statement. For more details, see your Deposit Account Agreement or other applicable agreements that govern your account.

JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A. Member FDIC

22nd District DEC

Sunday, August 17,2025

Post 77 Report

Good afternoon members of the 22nd District of the American Legion.

Post 77 has been busy these last four months attending the 22n District,

2nd Division, and State Department Conventions. Unfortunately, we were not able to send a representative from Post 77 to the National Convention. We hope to be present next year for the National Convention. To Austin

In May, we sent over 25 boys that are Juniors in High School to Boys State. Post 77 is grateful to the posts in both Pasadena and Katy to help facilitate the logistics in sending our boys to Austin.

At each and every one of our Conventions we had new commanders get elected and rise to become leaders at each level.

22nd District Commander Robert Harvey, stepped in after Commander Contella's resignation.

2nd Division Commander Steve Kim was elected.

State Department Commander Rich Huntley was elected.

As for Post 77, we are currently sitting at about 47% membership and we hope to be at 55% at the end of the month.

We are hoping to have our Oratorical Contest in the month of October, and I hope to have more information at next month's meeting.

Post 77 hopes to resume our fundraisers to help support our programs, veterans and communities.

Lastly the Commander of Post 77 is currently unemployed, by his choice. He would like to State that he will now have more time during the day to lead his post and help others in the District.

ATTCH Z



22125 Kingsland Blvd. Katy, Texas 77450

Commanders Community Service Report

22nd District Convention

August 17, 2025

Post 164 has again been very busy in our community. Let me also say that none of the activities listed below could have happened or been the success they were with the dedicated support of Auxiliary Unit 164, SAL Squadron 164 and the Legion Riders Chapter 164. We truly are the example of the "Legion Family".

May 2025:

The post attained 100% membership, capped with 36 345 roster transfers and 25 new members, bringing us to milestone of 380 members, an all-time high for us. (Hours incalculable)

We began preparing for our upcoming fireworks sales fundraiser. (20 hours)

We voted for and elected our new officers for the upcoming year.

Post 164 attended the JROTC Recognition Ceremony for Mayde Creek High School in the KISD and awarded medals of recognition for military achievement and academic achievement to two deserving to cadets.

Several Post Officers attended the 2nd Division Convention in Beaumont for 75 Hours.



22125 Kingsland Blvd. Katy, Texas 77450

Our Honor Guard conducted funeral honors, flag ceremonies and school events for 282 Hours.

The Post hosted our SAL Squadrons monthly dinner.

Participated with our Auxiliary in our Memorial Day Poppy handout for 96 Hours.

Conducted our monthly "Breakfast with a Veteran" event for 30 Hours.

We had an information table at the Katy VA Clinic twice a month. 8 hours of service.

Assisted 2 veterans with claims forms and documents for 10 hours of service.

Held a PTSD Support group weekly. For 20 hours of service work.

Held a weekly game night at the post.

June 2025

Our Honor Guard participated in 180 hours of funeral details and community flag events.

Conducted our monthly Breakfast with a Veteran with 130 meals served, 30 hours of service.



22125 Kingsland Blvd. Katy, Texas 77450

Assisted 3 veterans with VA Claims and 1 with rent assistance. For 40 hours of service.

Held a PTSD Support group weekly. For 20 hours of service work.

Held a weekly game night at the post.

Supported our SAL Squadron with their monthly dinner.

July 2025

Concluded our fireworks sales fundraiser with the most successful sales period on record for us.

7 members attended the Department Convention in Austin.

We had an information table at the Katy VA Clinic twice a month. 8 hours of service.

Held a PTSD Support group weekly. For 20 hours of service work.

Attended a community support event at the Katy VA Clinic with an information table for 12 hours of service work.

Supported our SAL Squadron with their monthly dinner.

Held a weekly game night at the post.



22125 Kingsland Blvd. Katy, Texas 77450

August 2024:

Breakfast with a veteran 120 meals served for 20 hours of service.

Weekly PTSD Support group was disbanded due to dwindling support.

Weekly game night at the post.

The Honor Guard conducted funeral honors and flag events for 60 hours to this point.

VA Information table for 6 hours.

Upcoming in August and September:

Information table at the Katy Community Expo

Hosting a community Patriots Day event on 9/11

JSSP class starts on September 13.

Coordinating a JSSP shot off with Post 324 Jersey Village. (Nov)

Hosting the Department American Legion College September 26-28.

Continuing support for:

Our Auxiliary with their fundraising tables for Pies for Hope and Wreaths Across America.

SAL Squadron

American Legion Riders



22125 Kingsland Blvd. Katy, Texas 77450

The Nafoud Temple

Civil Air Patrol

Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity

Boy Scout Troop 567

Marine Corp League

Disaster Preparedness – August 2025

During the month of August, members of Post 319 attended several CERT programs held at by the Harris County Office of Emergency Management. The courses included handling of animals during a disaster, Drone Operations, Chaplaincy, Chainsaw safety, administering NARCAN, IED awareness, dealing with homeless and vulnerable population during a disaster and HAM radio operations. These courses are valuable in determining the needs of our community and the additional training needed to fulfill the needs. This training also indicated other possibilities available to the 22nd District, that I will discuss under new business. Post 319 has scheduled a hybrid CERT training with Harris County OEM and the Pasadena Fire Department. This training is scheduled for this coming Saturday from 8am – 5pm. Please confirm your intent to attend by the end of today.

Post 319 Commander's Report

Post 319 participated in the JROTC awards ceremonies for 2 local schools in the month of May, as well as attending the Division Convention. At the end of May, the Cortez/Norris Legion family participated in a Memorial Day ceremony at Grandview funeral home.

In June, the Legion family partnered with Kicker Insures Me for a Flag Day celebration, during which, the incoming officers were installed.

In July, members of the Post attended the Department Convention, receiving numerous membership awards. We also submitted a Post Yearbook for the Historian's competition.

In August, members of the Post attended several CERT training programs at the Harris County Sheriff's training facility, members donated over \$800 in school supplies to elementary schools in Deer Park and La Porte.

We are currently just below 50% in membership for the 2026 year.

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph Thomas, Commander

ATTCH Y

From Commonda Post 472 To adjutant Juan A De Leon - Report from Host 472 8-17-2025 Montership Lords 50% 43,72 And need 12 to reach 50% Things to ochieve goods: O Adjainlant sent email to non pied members & Membershy chargerer work to reach all members and sach executine member work to kelp schiere gral and recruit new member. Coarter ta advertue Segun info to join.

Events as if June 2025

O Post gave it scholarship value \$1000.00 a piece

O Honor quark performed 5 funerals for

Veteran. Up croning event for fort 472 D Sept 13, Second annual Lunchen to Gray and afganten Vetern, lunch provide by Oline Harder that to Not Corne, Jane Set Salozar, and Edward lession.

O Sept 14, Dance Freder Patrices by 2nd Vice 3 Mr 5-12. Fleet Week of Port of Houston Post will dedicate a flog raising coroning lods in got Edo, Second ward for the commenty Nov 8: Military Bull for army Marin and and Novy 250 anniversity

Nov 11. Veteror Day Cet Celebration Honoring all

Veteron. Before Before and after perture.

Oct- Dolf- Townsament pending ATCH 5





Salute to Service Luncheon "Honoring Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans" Second Anniversary September 13, 2025

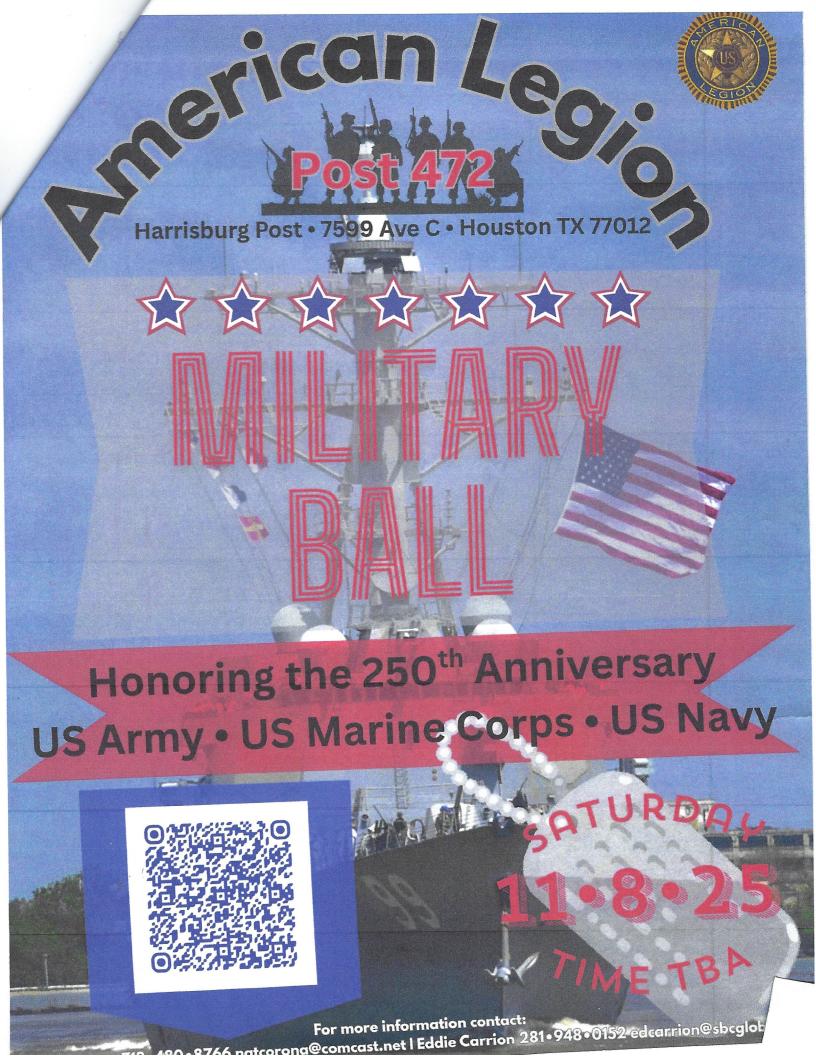
11:00 a.m.—3:00 p. m.

@ American Legion Harrisburg Post 472

7599 Ave. C. Houston, TX 77012

For more information contact:

Nat Corona: 713-480-8766. nateorona@comeast.net Eddie Carrion: 281-948-0152. edearrion@sbeglobal.net



South Houston Post 490 - Commander's Report

District 22 Convention

August 17, 2025

- Post 490 Officer Election on May 14, 2025
- May 18th Attended Boys State Orientation Three Candidates for Texas Boys State
- Received Donation from Dora Blue Post 518 Willis at 2nd Division Convention in May
- Received Donation from Auxiliary Post 411 Conroe at Department Convention
- David Witucki Recruiter of the Year and 9th Year Gold Brigade Award
 - o Article on his awards submitted and published in Legion Times
- Historian Yearbook earned 3rd Place at Department Convention
- Represented District 22 at the Legislative Meeting at Department Convention
- Post Everlasting Jerome Blaylock, Robert Nouis, Jon Nelson
- August 13 Care Planning Institute's Tenelle Anderson talked at General
 Membership Meeting about VA healthcare benefits for home care services.

Community Outreach

- Continued Post Contributions to Siegmund Foundations.
- Continued Monthly Post Contributions to St. Jude Children Research Hospital
- Continued Monthly Post Contribution to Shriner Hospital Burn Center
- Held Family Fund Day Arts and Craft Fundraiser May 3, 2025, at Post 490
 Parking Lot
- August 5th Ceremony to present Flag to the Family of Fallen Soldier at Ellington Airbase
- Donated \$1000 for local School Supplies for local schools
- Joined South Belt Ellington Chamber of Commerce Chamber hosted a welcome ceremony for the Post
- Nick Hughes Service Officer coordinating <u>Fleet Week Nov. 5-12</u> potential volunteer activities
- Sent letters out to Local High Schools Principals and Counselors regarding American Legion programs for youth, scholarships, JROT and school awards, flag education...)

Upcoming Events

 Our Meeting are now being Held at South Belt Ellington Chamber of Commerce – 10500 Scarsdale, Houston Tx

- Post 490 will have a "spotlight table" at the 24th Annual Evening of Cuisine at the Lone Star Flight Museum on Thursday September 18th
- Labor Day Event Family fun day with kid games, music, food Including Five Gun Raffle Fundraiser on September 1st– Tickets for sale
 - o Members that have renewed receive free \$5 raffle ticket

Membership

- Post 490 has 624 members (60.2%) as of 8:30 8-16-2025
 - o 20 new members
- Weekly renewals emails, letters, texts and phone calls to members.

Enhance and Improve Communication Methods

- Weekly Post 490 Email Blast Fantastic job by Richard Hughes and Wendell
 Denney on keeping American Legion members updated and engaged.
- <u>Bi-Weekly Commander's Membership Newsletter</u> continues to keep membership engaged.
- Implemented an SMS (Texting) Program to enhance our retention efforts sends out reminders periodically
- New Facebook page implemented

Building

- The Board of Trustees continues to maintain post property. Excellent job by Board of Trustees (Earl McLearen (Chair), Rickie Smith, Terry Contella, Jesse Martinez)
- Initiated Bill Board renewal research for Negotiations on Contract renewal

Finance/Budget

- Monthly Finance Committee Meetings Continues to do a great budgeting and fiscal management. Budget for 2024-2025 finalized and approved.
- Submitted IRS 990/990T electronically.

Post Commander Report for American Legion Post 654 DEC Meeting, Aug. 17 in Pasadena, TX.

- *Held a WWII veterans birthday and obtained a proclamation from the Mayor of the city of Houston office to present to Mr. David Loedro, a WWII Army, silver star and purple heart recipient.
- *Have issued out more than 3k Houston Astros tickets for military veteran and their families to enjoy a free game at Daikin Park.
- * Have nominated over 30 active duty personnel, wounded warriors, members of our greatest generation/the forgotten war for on the field military recognition at astros game since our last DEC meeting.
- * Hosted 20+ military veterans in club level area of NRG for ALL Houston Livestock show and rodeo concert during RODEOHOUSTON.
- * Donated \$500 towards a Miss Teen Houston Latina
- * Donated \$300 towards the Texas Brigade Baseball league
- *Donated \$150 towards the Houston Wardogs veterans baseball team
- *Donated \$500 towards the Vietnam Veterans Reflection Day
- *Found a veteran to be issued a brand new smoker. Had a donor looking to help someone obtain a new pit to help them feed their family or expand business.
- *Hosted a veterans casino night at the post which drew in a bunch of people. We made some good funds and our canteen had a great evening.
- *submitted 12 veterans to participate in the "battle of the branches" fishing tournament. NAVY won!
- *Had the privilege to fill in 2 golf foursomes for the annual W.W RED EMMONS memorial golf tournament.
- *submitted 12 military veterans to participate in the Society of American Military Engineers (SAME) annual clay shoot tournament at Westheimer Shooting Centers.
- *Myself and 4 veterans from our post volunteered to be chaperones for a childrens field trip with Farney Elementary school in Cypress. We visited the Houston Interactive Aquarium and animal preserve.
- *A Texa's VFW Past State Commander asked me to fill in 25 slots for military veterans to attend the WURTH 400 RACE part of the NASCAR series cup at the Texas Motor Speedway in Ft. Worth. Collaborating with other organizations to help us grow.

- *Every 2nd and last Friday we host steak night are our post and its continuously growing. We are doing anywhere from 100-150 steaks bi weekly and our canteen is doing well on those nights.
- *Found 4 military families to have their bedrooms fully furnished by a donor (wanted to stay ananomously) but he it really blessed those families.
- * in Parnership with the Houston Dynamo FC soccer team ive given out over 750 tickets for military veterans and their family to enjoy a match at Shell energy stadium.

I have the privilege to nominate the HEROES OF THE MATCH for most of the games played here as well

- *Teamed up with Oasis Of Love and VAST to help get close 100 homeless residing at Cloudbreak/Tunnels for Towers.
- *Hosted HIVES FOR HEROES at no cost at the Post as they wanted to display how bee keeping and harvesting honey can help vets dealing with PTSD.

Hosted a commemorative event marking the 75th anniversary of the Korean war at the post with the Korean War Veterans Association.

- *Submitted a few veterans to sing the National Anthem at Daikin Park before the start of an astros game. 4 times since our last DEC they have chosen my nominee
- *In partnership with VFW Post 8790 we helped distribute and raise funds to help the victims of the recent floods in kerville.
- * The Houston Texans gave me tickets for all their training day practices so I put them in use by sending our military veterans to enjoy.
- * A fishing charter out of Galveston (Navy veteran operated) offered to take me and some of my leadership team fishing at no cost. We wanted to show us appreciation for what he sees we do on social media.

22 District Reports 8-17-2025

Boys State

The 2025 Boys State program only remaining activities are the Statesmen reporting back to their sponsoring post with their experience, lessons learned and support for next year's program. The 22nd District was number four in District performance with 108 Statesmen participating in the Boys State program. Posts participating are to be congratulated for their effort in recruiting, reviewing, selecting, financing and transporting the boys. 22nd District post participating were:

- Post 52 Houston 6
- Post 77 Houston 39
- Post 164 Katy 46
- Post 319 Deer Park 2
- Post 472 Houston 3
- Post 490 South Houston 4
- Post 521 Pasadena 8

Oratorical

The 2026 Oratorical contest has started. Here is the directed calendar from the Department of Texas:

- Local School (If Held) and Post contests must begin after November 1st, 2025 and be completed by December 14th, 2025
- District contests may be held on or after December 15th2025 but not later than January 11th,
 2026
- Division contests may be held on or after January 12th, 2026 but not later than February 8th,
 2026
- The Department of Texas contest will be held February 16th, 2026 (February 23rd alternate) in Lubbock, TX.

The Assigned topics for 2026

- Amendment IV Unreasonable search and seizures
- Article III Section 3 Treason against The United States
- Article iV Section 4 State guarantee against invasion and domestic violence
- Article VI Clause 3 Senators and representatives bound by oath to support the Constitution

ATTCH &

Web Master

The District web site continues to be undated. The address is https://txlegiondiv2.org. The following committee pages have new content:

- Membership
- Junior Shooting
- Oratorical
- Boys State
- Webmaster

All post commanders should check the post directory pages and all committee chairs should check the committee pages for content that is missing or out of date.

Respectfully submitted

Lany Woofthom

Harry Woodstrom

Report for Sherry Thomas Sunday, August 17th, 2025

Post 77

Post 77 attended the following conventions:

22nd District Convention in Katy, Texas

2nd Division Convention in Beaumont, Texas

Department of Texas Convention in Austin TX.

In May, Post 77 sent out over 20 boys to Boys State.

We are currently looking to resume our fundraisers to be able to support our programs.

We are planning to hold our oratorical contest and we should have more information next month.

Post 77 is working with other organizations, including LaShondra Jones of the City of Houston to expand our reach into the community.

This is all I have to report at this time

ATTEH 9)

South Houston Post 490 - Commander's Report

District 22 DEC

August 17, 2025

Community Outreach

- Continued Post Contributions to Siegmund Foundations.
- Continued Monthly Post Contributions to St. Jude Children Research Hospital
- Continued Monthly Post Contribution to Shriner Hospital Burn Center
- Held Family Fund Day Arts and Craft Fundraiser May 3, 2025, at Post 490
 Parking Lot
- August 5th Ceremony to present Flag to the Family of Fallen Soldier at Ellington Airbase
- Donated \$1000 for local School Supplies for local schools
- Joined **South Belt Ellington Chamber of Commerce** Chamber hosted a welcome ceremony for the Post
- Nick Hughes Service Officer coordinating <u>Fleet Week Nov. 5-12</u> potential volunteer activities
- Sent letters out to Local High Schools Principals and Counselors regarding American Legion programs for youth, scholarships, JROT and school awards, flag education...)

ATTCH 9-2

Post 319 Community Report

Post 319 participated in the JROTC awards ceremonies for 2 local schools in the month of May.

At the end of May, the Cortez/Norris Legion family participated in a Memorial Day ceremony at Grandview funeral home.

In June, the Legion family partnered with Kicker Insures Me for a Flag Day celebration.

In August, members donated over \$800 in school supplies to elementary schools in Deer Park and La Porte.

AMERICAN LEGION JUNIOR SHOOTING SPORTS

The American Legion Junior Shooting Sports Program is a gun safety education and marksmanship program that encompasses the basic elements of safety, education, enjoyment and competition. Shooters use the .177 caliber air rifle. Both males and females can participate, through Legion sponsorship; disabled youth are encouraged to join, as competitive shooting is a sport that creates an equal playing field for all competitors.

WHO CAN PARTICIPATE?

In shooting sports, you don't have to sit on the sidelines: Anyone under 18 (or high school seniors no older than 20) can participate. Physical ability and size are no match for mental toughness and discipline in this co-ed skill sport.

Why Shooting Sports?

After demonstrating knowledge of safety techniques, you will join the centuries of Americans who have mastered marksmanship for survival and sport. But the appeal doesn't stop at our nation's borders — the best marksmen from around the globe vie for Olympic gold. In fact, 2002 American Legion Three-Position National Champion Jamie Corkish won a gold medal at the 2012 Olympics. As you become a better marksman, you'll gain responsibility, confidence and self-reliance. To hit your mark, you will also have to improve your ability to concentrate. Plus, you'll develop a skill you can enjoy and hone throughout your life.

Beginner: Safety First

All participants start with rifle safety and fundamentals. The Legion prides itself on safety. There has never been a rifle-related injury in Junior Shooting Sports Program history. You'll learn the right way to handle, load, aim and fire a rifle.

Intermediate: Build Skills

Once you have mastered the basics, you can take air rifle courses from the National Rifle Association or the Civilian Marksmanship Program through your club. These will help you develop your skills, set personal goals and work to achieve established performance standards.

Advanced: Compete With Others

Your club may hold competitions among its own members, or it may host or attend regional matches. The two basic kinds of competitions are postal and shoulder-to-shoulder. In a postal match, you and fellow participants shoot at targets and then mail them off to be scored. Shoulder-to-shoulder matches are in-person and scored in real-time. The American Legion Junior Three-Position Air Rifle Tournament begins with postal matches. The best 30 junior marksmen from across the country earn an expense paid opportunity to contend for the National Championship in Colorado Springs, Colo. In the same facility where Olympians train, those junior marksmen will compete in a shoulder-to-shoulder match for the title.

Legislative Committee Report - 22nd District Report

8-17-2025

The American Legion Supports the Following Legislation

The **Service Dogs Assisting Veterans (SAVES) Act**, based on Resolution No. 134: Service Dogs for Injured Service Personnel and Veterans with Mental Health Conditions. We want to ensure that veterans have access to service dogs!

The Shipbuilding and Harbor Infrastructure for Prosperity and Security (SHIPS) for America Act to improve the maritime security of the United States. This crucial domain has been overlooked for too long. Our members are clear in their belief that the US needs sustained investment in our national security to reduce the chances of armed conflict.

The Guard and Reserve GI Bill Parity Act of 2025 (HR. 1423/S. 649) is crucial to rectifying this inequity. Currently, National Guard and Reserve servicemembers only earn credit toward their Post-9/11 GI Bill benefits when they mobilize and deploy for federal missions. National Guard and Reserve servicemembers activated under state orders do not accrue eligibility for Post-9/11 GI Bill benefits.

Major Richard Star Act -This long-overdue reform—backed by The American Legion and more than 60 other military and veteran organizations—would ensure that combat-injured retirees can receive both their Department of Defense retirement pay and the disability compensation earned through their sacrifices. Current law reduces retirement pay by the exact amount of VA disability compensation received, a policy that punishes wounded veterans for their service and injury. We call this what it is: a "wounded veteran tax," and it must end.

The Love Lives On Act aims to correct egregious wrongs by proposing the following actions:

- Eliminate the age limit for remarrying without loss of benefits.
- Allow remarried surviving spouses to retain education benefits.
- Preserve Commissary and Exchange benefits for remarried spouses.
- Enable remarried spouses to regain TRICARE benefits if the subsequent marriage ends.
- Abolish the "Hold Themselves Out to Be Married" clause, an outdated law causing unnecessary fear and inhibiting freedom.

Visit the Legislative Action Center to read about this legislation and conveniently send a message to your Congressional representatives.

https://www.votervoice.net/AmericanLegion/home

ATTCH H

22ND DISTRICT DEC 17 AUG 2025

DISTRICT MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Commander,

The 22nd District is as of August 15, 2025, is sitting in 1st Place in the Department of Texas with 54.74% of our goal of 2534. Now the goal is to stay there. You have several Posts doing very well and several who are doing basically nothing. The following Post have met the 50% target:

Post 416	100.00%	last transmittal 7.23.25
Post 490	59.40%	last transmittal 8.14.25
Post 164	54.59%	last transmittal 8.15.25
Post 521	53.81%	last transmittal 8.14.25
Post 77	50.89%	last transmittal 8.14.25

The following posts have not met the 50% target yet:

Post 319 49.18% need 1 more renewal last trans 8.	
Post 52 48.39% need 1 more renewal last trans 7.26.25	5
Post 472 43.72% need 12 more renewals last trans 8.14	.25
Post 654 33.50% need 34 more renewals last trans 8.3.2	25
Post 391 20.00% need 6 more renewals last trans 4.21.2	25

They have 3 PUFLs and 1 member renewed online

Post 596 16.00% need 9 more renewals last trans 3.12.25

They have 2 PUFLs and 2 members renew online

Commander the Posts who have not met the 50% target need to make a hard push next week and get the transmittal submitted by August 25th at the latest for then to be counted by National by the 31st of the month. It is taking National about 5-7 days to process the transmittal.

The 75% target date is Sept 30. If you are at 50% do not slow down. If you are not at 50% you need to get busy because that 75% date of September 30 will be here before you know it.

The following Post have duplicate members on their roster:

Post 164 Meile, William

Post 319 Stafford III, Charles

Post 490 Floyd, Daniel

Currently, I do not know how to get them off their roster, but we are waiting on an answer to this issue.

I have visited with Post 472 at their membership meeting this past week. Spoke with the Commander and his membership about MyLegion and have offered to show them how to use the program when they are ready.

I spoke with the Adjutant of Post 77 Sharon Bradley about MyLegion this past week and offered to assist that Post with the use of MyLegion.

I am ready and willing to assist any Post in the District with the use of MyLegion. You just need to ask.

Several posts have deceased members on their roster this year I would remind them to make a donation to the Siegmund Fund in that members name.

Jim McGuire

22nd District Membership Chair

National Security

Currently, the Trump Administration has increased the work force within the Immigration and Customs Enforcement, resulting an increase in the apprehension of undocumented immigrants and especially those wanted for serious crimes committed while in the United States. This is just part of the current administration's plan, they have also increased active duty naval patrols in the gulf and around several Latin America countries to patrol for the distribution of illegal narcotics. Our national security can only improve with these types of initiatives and we should actively look at ways of supporting our military members that are involved in these and other directives that put them in danger.

Scouting Report

Commander and fellow Legionnaires,

Currently, the only report I have concerning scouting is that Post 319 has an Eagle Scout project that is nearing completion. This project will provide the Post with 4 flag disposal boxes to be placed throughout the cities of Deer Park and La Porte. I would request that if any other Posts are sponsoring Packs or Troops or coordinating Eagle Scout projects to please let me know.

Sincerely,

Joseph Thomas, District Scouting Chair

22nd District DEC

Sunday, August 17, 2025

Historian Report

Good afternoon, Legionnaires of the 22nd District. The American Legion was founded in March of 1919 in Paris France by military officers and enlisted. Our American Legion was Officially chartered by the 66th US Congress on September 16th, 1919. Theodore Roosevelt Jr, Son of President Theodore Roosevelt. Since its founding, the American Legion purpose is to hold the US Government accountable for services and benefits that we presently receive as Veterans. In 1944 the American Legion drafted and passed The Readjustment Act of 1944 Commonly known as the "GI Bill". Most of our benefits of today are through the American Legion who have worked tirelessly to make sure our veterans have a higher quality of life.

For over 100 years the American Legion remains strong and relevant to serve not just the veterans, but local communities, states and nations. Our programs have been around for decades with American Legion, Oratorical, and Boys/Girls State and Nation, just to name a few.

In doing some research, I came across one of the oldest American Legion in our Greater Galveston/Houston area, that honor goes to Post 20 in Galveston TX located at 1503 23rd Street, 77550 in the

The oldest post in Houston is Post 52, which is led by Commander John Nordenstrom, followed by the John R Burkett- Beverly E Miller Post 77 which was chartered in 1948 and is observing its 77th anniversary.

In May of this year, I was lucky to attend the Division Convention in Beaumont and it was held at the Dorie E Miller Post 817. This post in Beaumont is over 80 years old and legend has it that it was chartered during segregation in Texas, which at that time all black posts were given a distinctive post number that started with a number 8.

In closing I would like every post to submit a bit of history, so we can keep the memories of our past to help build for the future. Thank you!

22nd District DEC

Sunday, August 17th, 20245

POW-MIA Report

Good afternoon, Legionnaires of the 22nd District. Today I would like to report that Department of Defense POW MIA Accounting Agency has accounted for 14 servicemen that was missing in action and were missing from World War II, Korean War, and Vietnam War. The names of those servicemen are as follows:

A Lingo US Army WW II

B Secunda US Army Air Corps WW II

W Owen US Army Air Corps WW II

E Norcross USMC WW II

J Calfee USAF Vietnam War

E Ross US Army WWII

L Miller US Army WWII

J Walko US Army WWII

W Pytak US Army Korean War

J Pirtle US Army Air Corps WWII

R Fields US Army Koren War

J Burker US Army Air Corps WWII

J Baker US Army Korean War

This month of August from the 5th to the 15th t agency made public the discovery and the identification of these missing in action veterans. Welcome home and rest easy veterans and thank you for your service to a forever grateful nation.

In other news this past week the Houston National Cemetery and the NCCGH held a memorial Service in the name of Spirit of 45 to remember the 80th anniversary of the end of World War II.