



THE AMERICAN LEGION  
POST 10 Business & Professional  
P.O. Box 591046, San Antonio, TX 78259-1046

Post 10 Website: [post10.weebly.com](http://post10.weebly.com)



## OCTOBER 2021 NEWSLETTER

### LEGION WEBSITES:

POST 10  
[post10.weebly.com](http://post10.weebly.com)

20th DISTRICT  
[aldistrict20.weebly.com](http://aldistrict20.weebly.com)

3rd DIVISION  
[txlegiondiv3.org](http://txlegiondiv3.org)

DEPT OF TEXAS  
[txlegion.org](http://txlegion.org)

NATIONAL  
[legion.org](http://legion.org)

### POST 10 OFFICERS:

COMMANDER:  
Sharlene McCuan

VICE COMMANDER:  
Tom Aslakson

ADJUTANT:  
Eric Mayer

JUDGE ADVOCATE:  
Nathan Hastings

SERVICE OFFICER:  
Burt Quintanilla

FINANCE OFFICER:  
Hector Cavazos

AMERICANISM:  
Eric Mayer

SGT-AT ARMS:  
Nick Benedetto

WEBMASTER:  
Eric Mayer

CHAPLAIN:  
James M. Noel

IMMEDIATE PAST  
POST COMMANDER:  
Tom Aslakson

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

Bob Masten  
Rick Trent  
Dan Martin  
Richard Lee  
Richard Bowser  
Rocky Whitt  
Post 10 Officers



### Commander's Notes:

Commander: Sharlene McCuan ([cqsm@sbcglobal.net](mailto:cqsm@sbcglobal.net))

**GREAT NEWS: We are now back to Face-to-Face Meetings**

**Our next monthly meeting will be ---- October 2nd at 0900 at Lupe Tortilla Mexican Restaurant** located in the Stone Ridge Market at 21103 US-281, San Antonio, TX 78258. **Masks are highly recommended!**

**Commander's Note:** Autumn's here with its usual cooler temperatures, however, we're still under a cloud of uncertainty during this pandemic. On a brighter note, we're able to meet in person and serve our nation again, and support the 4 Pillars of The American Legion: Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation, National Defense, Americanism, and Children & Youth. As the largest and most influential organization of U.S. veterans, our membership numbers count. I'd like to welcome our new members and transfers. I ask those who still need to renew their membership to do so at this time. You can do it through [MyLegion.org](http://MyLegion.org). Our membership numbers give us a strong voice in Washington D.C. **The American Legion has been a loyal advocate for veterans, military members, their families, and the communities in which they reside.** Our membership numbers and our volunteer service hours show Congress the huge impact we're making on our communities. You can email your volunteer hours to Glenda Rast (our coordinator) at [grast2021@gmail.com](mailto:grast2021@gmail.com), or enter them on our Post 10 website: [post10.weebly.com](http://post10.weebly.com). I'd like to thank those who have contributed to our Boys State funds. If you'd like to donate, you can also do that on [post10.weebly.com](http://post10.weebly.com). I encourage all to take The American Legion Basic Training Course available on [post10.weebly.com](http://post10.weebly.com) or [MyLegion.org](http://MyLegion.org). It takes you through the history of The American Legion, from its founding in 1919. "Over a century of service, patriotism and camaraderie."

Have a great October! - Commander McCuan



**Post Adjutant: Eric Mayer [[ericlmayer@gmail.com](mailto:ericlmayer@gmail.com)]**

### Post 10's 2022 Members - Processed by MyLegion.org

Date	New Members	PUFL	Online Renewed	By Mail Renewed	"Transfers"	Total Current "Received" to Date
Sep 27, 21	1	66	58	67	1	193
Sep 27, 21	0.3%	19.5%	17.1%	19.8%	0.3%	56.9%

**CLICK HERE --- Quickest way to renew your 2022 membership - Online**



**Burt Quintanilla, Post Service Officer [PSO],**  
*cdrhlq2@aol.com*

**AMERICAN LEGION POST 10 – SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS  
SERVICE OFFICER GENERAL MEETING COMMENTS  
SATURDAY 2 OCTOBER 2021**

**Agent Orange exposure and VA disability compensation**

Agent Orange was a tactical herbicide the U.S. military used to clear leaves and vegetation for military operations mainly during the Vietnam War. Veterans who were exposed to Agent Orange may have certain related illnesses.

If you have an illness caused by exposure to Agent Orange during military service, read below to find out if you may be eligible for disability compensation and how to apply.

3 New Presumptive conditions have been added to the Veteran's Affairs list in 2021. If the VA has denied your claim in the past you are automatically eligible for a re-look. You do not have to file a new claim.

1. Bladder Cancer; 2. Hypothyroidism; 3. Parkinsonism

Visit the VA Agent Orange Exposure Website to review the complete discussion.

[Agent Orange Exposure | Veterans Affairs \(va.gov\)](https://www.va.gov/agent-orange-exposure/)

"The political clout of the veterans groups helps explain much of the support of the VA system. The combined numbers of veterans and family members hovers around 15-20 % of the US population. It is the Veterans Lobby that is a very influential part of the "iron triangle", along with Congressional Veteran's Committees, and the Executive Branch, that work to protect veterans benefits and interests."

(SOURCE/REFERENCE: "Serving America's Veterans - A Reference Handbook". Authors: Korb, Duggan, Juul, and Bergmann. Copyright 2009. Page 52)

**BOYS STATE UPDATE**

An Open Letter to Post 10 -- from one of our Boys State Delegates

Mr. Masten,



Thank you so much for sending me to Boys State. I had a great time, and I am glad I was able to participate even with it being virtual. It was valuable experiencing state and local government processes and campaigning for a position. I did find out that campaigning is not my strong suit but I would enjoy helping someone else campaign in the future. I enjoyed it and learned so much that I am hoping to be a counselor next year if I am unable to attend a service academy. I know that the American Legion works very hard to organize and host Boys State across the US and am grateful I got to be one of the few to attend. I have already related my experiences to my brothers and some of their friends. They are excited and hoping to attend in future years.

Respectfully, Daniel D

Note: It costs \$325 to send a Post 10 Delegate to Boys STATE. Please consider donating at <https://alpost10.square.site>

## Thomas Ward Custer

**Two-time recipient of the Medal of Honor for bravery during the American Civil War.** A younger brother of George Armstrong Custer

"Thomas Custer was born in New Rumley, Ohio, the third son of Emanuel and Marie Custer. The paternal line was of ethnic German descent. He enlisted in the Union Army, in September 1861, at age 16, and served in the early campaigns of the Civil War as a private in the 21st Ohio Volunteer Infantry. He saw action at numerous battles, including Stones River, Missionary Ridge and the Atlanta Campaign. He mustered out in October 1864 as a corporal. Commissioned a second lieutenant in Company B of the 6th Michigan Cavalry, he became aide-de-camp to his brother George Armstrong Custer and accompanied him throughout the last year of the war.

Custer distinguished himself by winning successively the brevets of captain, major, and lieutenant colonel, although he was barely 20 years of age when the Civil War ended. He was awarded two Medals of Honor. He was the first soldier to receive the dual honor, one of only four soldiers or sailors to receive the dual honor during the Civil War, and one of just 19 in history. Both actions that earned Custer the Medal of Honor involved capturing Confederate regimental flags (2nd North Carolina Cavalry flag at Namozine Church on April 3, 1865, and again at Sailor's Creek on April 6, 1865). Such battle flags "denoted individual persons, or units, on the field of battle. The flag symbolized the honor of the regiment...In combat, with the field full of noise and smoke, the soldiers watched their regimental flag and if it advanced or retreated they followed. The names of the battles that the regiment participated in were sometimes stitched onto the flag. The loss of a regimental flag was a disgrace to the command.

Custer earned his first Medal of Honor for actions during the Battle of Namozine Church, April 3, 1865. Among Union forces charging Confederate barricades, Custer had his horse leap a barricade while coming under fire. The Confederates fell back in confusion before him, while he saw a color bearer. Racing forward he seized the flag of the Second North Carolina cavalry from the bearer and commanded those around him to surrender. He took three officers and eleven enlisted men as prisoner, took them back behind the federal column, and requisitioned another horse, as his had been shot during the charge. Similar actions in the Battle of Sailor's Creek resulted in Custer being the first American soldier to receive two Medals of Honor. Riding alongside Colonel Charles E. Capehart when the command to charge was given, he raced his horse toward the enemy barricades through a line of rifle fire, then leapt the barricade to be surrounded by the enemy. He discharged his pistol to both sides, scattering the enemy. He noticed Confederates attempting to make a new battleline and saw the color bearer they were rallying to. Custer charged the bearer. Colonel Capehart reported the rest of the events in a letter to Libbie Custer:

"I saw your brother capture his second flag. It was in a charge made by my brigade at Sailor's Creek, Virginia, against General Ewell's Corps. Having crossed the line of temporary works in the flank road, we were confronted by a supporting line. It was from the second line that he wrested the colors, single-handed, and only a few paces to my right. As he approached the colors he received a shot in the face which knocked him back on his horse, but in a moment he was upright in his saddle. Reaching out his right arm, he grasped the flag while the color bearer reeled. The bullet from Tom's revolver must have pierced his heart. As he was falling Captain Custer wrenched the standard from his grasp and bore it away in triumph." — Colonel Capehart" *Source - Wikipedia*



<b>Born</b>	March 15, 1845 New Rumley, Ohio
<b>Died</b>	June 25, 1876 (aged 31) Little Bighorn, Montana Territory
<b>Buried</b>	Fort Leavenworth National Cemetery
<b>Allegiance</b>	<span><span></span></span> United States of America
<b>Service/branch</b>	United States Army Union Army
<b>Years of service</b>	1861–1876
<b>Rank</b>	<span></span> Captain <span></span> Brevet Lieutenant Colonel
<b>Unit</b>	<span></span> 21st Ohio Volunteer Infantry Regiment <span></span> 6th Michigan Volunteer Cavalry Regiment 7th U.S. Cavalry Regiment
<b>Commands held</b>	Company C, 7th U.S. Cavalry
<b>Battles/wars</b>	American Civil War <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Battle of Namozine Church</li><li>Battle of Sailor's Creek</li></ul> Indian Wars <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Battle of Washita River</li><li>Battle of Honsinger Bluff</li><li>Battle of the Little Bighorn †</li></ul>
<b>Awards</b>	Medal of Honor (2)



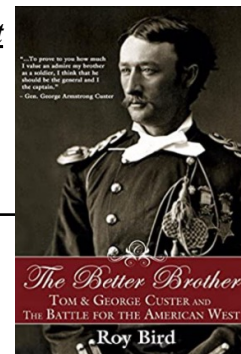


Title: *The Better Brother: Tom & George Custer and the Battle for the American West*

Author: Roy Bird

Paperback: July 12, 2011

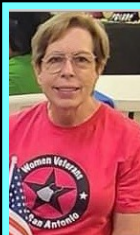
Source: Amazon Review



"Years of painstaking research have uncovered more detail on Thomas Ward Custer, the younger brother of the legendary General George Custer. Historians are now coming to understand the full influence of Tom Custer on his brother and American life, from his heroic exploits during the Civil War to his legendary bravery during the Indian Wars, where he served under his brother as his aide-de-camp. Had Tom not been overshadowed by his more famous brother, he might well have become one of the more notable characters and military officers of the American West.

Despite winning two Congressional Medals of Honor, his legendary feud with Rain-in-the-Face, the shooting scrape with "Wild Bill" Hickok, and many other fearsome exploits, Tom has taken a backseat to George in the American imagination. Only recently has his influence on the history of the United States become fully understood and appreciated by scholars.

Author Roy Bird takes us inside the circle of Tom and Autie, whose close-knit relationship and intense rivalry in hunting, military skills, business, and even romance would span from their boyhood farm in Ohio to their heroic end at the Battle of Little Bighorn, where they were, as always, together. Bird's *The Better Brother* is not only the story of two brothers whose incredible talents and healthy rivalry drove each other to greatness, but also a story at the center of American history." *Source*



Glenda Rast is now maintaining our **Post 10 Volunteer Hours.**

Please use this link to provide updates to your community volunteering at <https://post10.weebly.com/service-hour-reporting.html> OR at our Monthly Post Meetings. Pls see Commanders Notes Above.

**This Month ---- Post 10 Participated in:**  
**Pine Wood Derby      Womens Veterans      Blood Donations**  
**of San Antonio**



***October Birthdays - from our database***



Alan	Clay	Henry	Bernal	Marvin	Carr
Alfred	Evans	Homer	Woodward	Michael	Shadle
Archie	Cain	Jack	Wark	Rafael	Yzaguirre Jr
Clarion	Croy	James	Thomas, Jr	Ralph	Celento III
David	Barger	Larry	Gawlik	Richard	Lee
Edmond [Rich]	Walker	Leonard	Zapadinsky	Susan	German
Harold	Cartwright	Louis	Zamora	Terry	Masten

## October - Highlights

**October: *Breast Cancer Awareness Month* and *Agent Orange Awareness Month***

**R.E.D. FRIDAYS** - Wear red every Friday to Remember Everyone Deployed



**October 08: *Alvin C. York Day*** (World War I Hero) - Sergeant York was one of the most decorated U.S. Army soldiers. His Medal of Honor actions occurred during the U.S.-led portion of the Meuse-Argonne Offensive in France.

**October 09: 20th District Fall Convention, 9 am-5 pm (registration from 8-9 a.m.), at Bicentennial Post 579, 3002 Gunsmoke, San Antonio, TX 78227.** No cost. Must bring and be listed on Post 10's delegate form, and must bring current American Legion membership card.

**October 11: *General Pulaski Memorial Day*** - honors General Kazimierz Pulaski, a Polish hero of the American Revolution who suffered at the Siege of Savannah on October 9, 1779.

**October 13: *U.S. Navy 246th Birthday*** - celebrates establishment of U.S. Navy in 1775.



**October 17: Fall Classic Annual Golf Tournament sponsored by The Sons of The American Legion, Squadron 593.** Olympia Hills Golf Course, 12900 Mount Olympus, Universal City, TX 78148, 8 am shotgun start (7:30 am showtime at course); \$70 per person or 1 payment of \$280 per 4-person team; includes golf cart and meal and drinks afterward. POC: David Paris (210)325-3874 or Joe Falco (210)722-4316. Proceeds go toward SAL's Boys State sponsorship and civic projects.

**October 21: "*National Pets For Veterans*" Day** - honors service/therapy animals. (1) Visit a shelter and offer to pay the adoption fee for a veteran. (2) Collect dog/cat toys and donate them to a local animal shelter. (3) Visit a VA facility and thank the veterans. (4) Remember veterans and honor them. (5) Raise pet awareness on how many animals could make wonderful pets. (6) Raise awareness of the mental health benefits of having a pet.

**October 26: *Day Of The Deployed*** - honors those deployed.



**October 28: *National First Responders Day*** - honors these Essential Workers. The American Legion honors a Firefighter and EMT of the Year, (as well as an NCO of the Year). Please forward the names and contact information of any nominees as soon as possible to our Post 10 leadership.

**NOTE:** POST 10 is the Chartered Organization for several Cub Scout packs and a Scouting BSA troop. There is no financial obligation. **Pack 500** (Hardy Oak Elementary School) is **currently holding a mulch/top soil fundraiser (in lieu of popcorn); \$5/bag, with 50% of proceeds going toward Pack 500 activities.** Orders will be taken through October 8. Please contact Commander McCuan at: (210)-260-3916 or [shar3729@sbcglobal.net](mailto:shar3729@sbcglobal.net) or Adjutant Mayer at: [ericklmyer@gmail.com](mailto:ericklmyer@gmail.com) if you'd like to place an order.