



THE AMERICAN LEGION
POST 10 Business & Professional
 P.O. Box 591046, San Antonio, TX 78259-1046
 Post 10 Website: post10.weebly.com



January 2024 NEWSLETTER

Commander's Comments:

Commander: *Burt Quintanilla*



Our next meeting will be **Saturday, Jan 6nd, 0900**, at **Lupe Tortilla Mexican Restaurant** located in Stone Ridge Market at 21003 US 281 North, San Antonio, TX 78258. The restaurant opens at 0900, and meal and drink orders are taken at that time, before the membership meeting begins. **Dress:** *Saturday casual. Legion cap.* **Menu:** Order breakfast from group menu. Receive military discount at the register. **Masks are recommended, however, not mandatory.**

Commander's Column

Post 10 Legionnaires,

Caren and I hope that you have had a great Christmas, Holiday Season, and New Year Celebration with your family and friends! It's the close of another bountiful year and we all hope that we remain at peace! We offer prayers and supplications for the safety of our armed forces who come under attack in various deployed locations in the Middle East.

In closing out the 2023 calendar year, there are many items that we are tracking as Legionnaires. We continue with Buddy Checks as part of our Veteran-to-Veteran supportive philosophy. We have milestone events coming in the first half of the 2024 calendar year (such as Boys State). And, there is still the initiative of a possible shotgun tournament managed by one (two?) of our BSA troops. The tournament details are illusive as I am trying to actually speak with a BSA Alamo Council Point of Contact to discuss approvals and limitations, and then provide their contact data to Nick Benedetto. It is going to be another great year for Post 10!

Here at the end of the year, I did encounter a news article that I want to share with you. It is an American Legion I reviewed where our individual efforts might be able to alleviate the current shortfalls in recruiting and those numbers probably translate into the Legion of the Future.

Legionnaires asked to help recruit soldiers

By [Jeff Stoffer](#) – American Legion – 22 August 2017

[Legionnaires asked to help recruit soldiers | The American Legion](#)

U.S. Army Brig. Gen. Kevin Vereen came to the 99th American Legion National Convention in Reno, Nev., Tuesday with a request: "We need your help. We will need a future generation to step up."

How can American Legion members do that? "Tell your story," said Brig. Gen. Vereen, deputy commanding general of the U.S. Army Recruiting Command. "We want you to be an ambassador for our military."

LEGION WEBSITES:

POST 10
Post10.weebly.com

20th DISTRICT
Aldistrict20.weebly.com

3rd DIVISION
TxLegionDiv3.org

DEPT. OF TEXAS
TxLegion.org

NATIONAL
Legion.org

POST 10 OFFICERS:

COMMANDER:
Burt Quintanilla

VICE COMMANDER:
Nick Benedetto

ADJUTANT:
Eric Mayer

JUDGE ADVOCATE:
Nathan Hastings

SERVICE OFFICER:

FINANCE OFFICER:
Hector Cavazos

AMERICANISM:
Eric Mayer

SGT-AT-ARMS:
Ralph Celento

WEBMASTER:
Eric Mayer

CHAPLAIN
James M Noel

IMMEDIATE PAST
 POST COMMANDER:
Sharlene McCuan

EXECUTIVE

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

Commander's Comments:

Commander: Burt Quintanilla

Brig. Gen. Vereen asked thousands of Legionnaires who gathered from around the world to visit their local recruiting centers, meet with those who are tasked with growing a U.S. military that now represents less than 1 percent of the American population and explain the benefits and opportunities of service.

He noted that the Army offers training in more than 150 career fields, including certification and credentialing programs for specialized civilian careers (an opportunity strongly advocated and forged by The American Legion over the last decade), and tuition assistance for troops looking to advance their educations while in uniform. "They may not know what's available to them," BGen. Vereen said. "They will not know it unless we tell them."

He told the crowd that the majority of young people today are "disconnected" with military service and cannot usually tell the differences between the branches.

Too many young people, he added, are not aware of what it takes to wear the uniform. He said 71 percent of Americans ages 17-24 don't meet the qualifications to serve. "The No. 1 thing is obesity," he said. "We need to work with our youth to be fit to fight."

He added that too few young people understand the benefits of getting enough sleep, exercising and eating healthy. "We've got to educate them," he said. "We all have a role to play."

Brig. Gen. Vereen, who joined The American Legion at the convention, said members have "an open invitation to be a recruiter for us. You have access where we don't always have access.

"Our military is built on people. It's all about future generations." END

NOTE: More Food for Thought. Here is a link to the Council on Foreign Relations article (13 Jan 20) that outlines the demographics of our current military force composition in 2018. It outlines that: "Enlisted military members come from all fifty states and the District of Columbia, but some contribute more than others. In absolute terms, the top five for recruitment in 2018 were California, Texas, Florida, Georgia, North Carolina, and New York, which is reflective of their relatively large populations." END

[Demographics of the U.S. Military | Council on Foreign Relations \(cfr.org\)](https://www.cfr.org/defense/demographics-of-the-u-s-military/p27767)

We have plenty of American Legion societal contributions to make in 2024.

Take care.

Humberto L. Quintanilla II (Burt)

Commander, American Legion Post 10



Christine Stabile, a U.S. Forest Ranger, shows off the Veterans park pass. Veterans can get free access to all National Parks and other federal lands with this ID card.

Did you know that military retirees can qualify for a free pass for access to national parks and other federal lands and forests.

Christine Stabile, a forest ranger and Air Force retiree, shared how veterans and Gold Star families can get a military pass to all national parks and federal forests.

A starting point to get more information is here:

<https://www.nps.gov/orgs/1207/11-8-2022-lifetime-pass.htm>.

Like some government info sites, the release gives the background to the President Biden policy to allow veterans free access to these parks.

However, if you want to spend \$10 to get the pass from the U.S.

Geological Service, you can find this at this link:

<https://store.usgs.gov/MilitaryPass>.



JANUARY '24 DAILY HOLIDAYS AND OBSERVANCES

1 Jan	New Years Day
6 Jan	Post 10 Membership Meeting
15 Jan	Martin Luther King Jr Day
16 Jan	Persian Gulf War Began (1991)
27 Jan	Signing of Vietnam Peace Accord (1973)
28 Jan	U.S.-Vietnam Cease Fire (1973)

2024

HAPPY NEW YEAR

Registry of Dangerous Dogs

SAN ANTONIO (December 1, 2023) – The City of San Antonio’s Animal Care Services (SAACS) introduced a searchable dangerous dog registry that details where legally deemed “dangerous dogs” are located. The online tool lists the specific address in addition to the number of dangerous dogs at the location. The registry is located online at: [SAACS.info/DogLaws](https://saacs.info/DogLaws). There are currently more than 100 dogs deemed “dangerous” in San Antonio. The map will be updated as cases occur and includes the address of all active dangerous dogs as well as the number of dogs designated per address.

“The City of San Antonio’s Dangerous Dog Registry allows us to keep our community informed and safe,” said Shannon Sims, Director of Animal Care Services. “Over the past year, ACS has worked diligently to increase the number of Animal Care Officers to improve the response time to critical calls. This Dangerous Dog Registry is part of ACS Strategic Plan that supports a safe community for residents in their neighborhoods.”

The interactive online registry of dangerous dogs comes after a recent Attorney General ruling that allows Animal Care Services to release information regarding the location’s dangerous dogs.

The City’s ordinance mirrors State Law which currently defines a “dangerous dog” as an animal that makes an unprovoked attack outside the owner’s property that causes bodily injury or a dog that acts in such a way that a person reasonably believes would cause bodily injury should they get out of their yard.

To report a dangerous dog, call 311 (210-207-6000) or visit [SA.gov/ACS](https://sa.gov/ACS). If a dangerous dog is posing an immediate threat to life, please call 911.

ELECTION YEAR 2024 IS UPON US!

by Larry Lamborn, Election Judge

American Legion voters should mark the following dates on their calendars. Some candidates' campaign signs appeared even in December alerting us to hard-fought primary elections in March, to say nothing of the November Presidential election. If you or an eligible member of your family is not registered to vote, please observe the dates as established by the Texas Secretary of State. You only need to register once, but you must apply for an Absentee Ballot before each election.

- **TUESDAY, 5 MARCH -- Joint Democratic-Republican Primary Election**
 - voter registration closes on Monday, 5 February
 - last day to apply for an Absentee Ballot is Friday, 23 February
 - Early voting will extend from Tuesday, 20 February, through Friday, 1 March
 - (You must advise which party primary ballot you wish to cast.)
- **SATURDAY, 4 MAY -- General Election for local political subdivisions**
 - voter registration closes on Thursday, 4 April
 - last day to apply for an Absentee Ballot is Tuesday, 23 April
 - Early voting will extend from Monday, 22 April, through Tuesday, 30 April
- **TUESDAY, 28 MAY -- Joint Democratic-Republican Runoff Election**
 - voter registration closes on Monday, 29 April
 - last day to apply for an Absentee Ballot is Friday, 17 May
 - Early voting will extend from Monday, 20 May, through Friday, 24 May
- **TUESDAY, 5 NOVEMBER -- General (National) Election**
 - voter registration closes on Monday, 7 October
 - last day to apply for an Absentee Ballot is Friday, 25 October

Early voting will extend from Monday, 21 October, through Friday, 1 November

OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE!!

Complaints are heard that there are not enough polling places. Give this a moment of reflection and critical thought. There are three huge factors limiting Bexar Elections. The first is the need to find suitable, secure buildings -- schools and libraries are generally available to BCED, but other buildings may or may not be available, secure, or affordable. Some churches charge exorbitant rents.

ELECTION YEAR 2024 IS UPON US!

(continued)

Second, Bexar Elections only has a finite number of machines and computers. More machines can be purchased, of course, but only if Commissioners Court approves funding. Storage and maintenance then become secondary considerations.

*The key limitation, however, is **YOU**. Bexar Elections is ALWAYS short of election officials. BCED needs good people to step forward as Election Judges and Clerks. You may have splendid facilities and all the voting machines you could hope for, but if there are too few election officials, you cannot effectively administer an election. Many judges are retiring due to advancing age or (in some cases) intimidation.*

If you would like to become an Election Judge or Clerk, please contact me at nctonalarry@gmail.com. I would be happy to tell you what being an Election Judge is all about. and help you get into a training class for new judges or clerks.

HIGH SCHOOL OPPORTUNITIES

High school students? YES! If a student is 16 or older, we want them as Student Election Clerks. This is a salaried position and provides a window into the most fundamental process of American citizenship -- you cannot get this knowledge and experience in a classroom. (nctonalarry@gmail.com)

High school students also should be aware of the Bexar Youth Voter Festival to be held Tuesday, 30 January, at Palo Alto College from 10 am to 2 pm. There is no charge. All students are welcome and will meet elected officials including District 9 Councilman John Courage. I will have a simulated polling station with real voting machines and a mock election for the students. Many exhibitors will be present.

WHERE DO I VOTE?

In our immediate area there is only one Early Voting polling station -- Brook Hollow Library. However, on Election Day, under current state law, you may vote at any of the following locations: Brook Hollow Library, Bradley Middle School, Thousand Oaks Elementary, or Faith Lutheran Church.
(SUGGEST DROP AND PUT IN BCED AND TXVOTE.)