The American Legion

Bruckenthal-Cann Post 385 Newsletter

Serving Weston, Pembroke Pines, Miramar, Davie, Southwest Ranches & Sunrise

Organized June 16, 2005 Website: **www.alpost385fl.com**

FALL 2007 Volume 2 Number 3

Adjutant's Report

My Fellow Post 385 Legionnaires,

This past June at the District and State convention out Post brought home several awards and trophies for attendance. I received the Adjutant of the Year Award from the District again.

By now each and every one of you have received your 2008 membership renewal notices. As you will notice, the dues where increased by $5.00 from last year, due to National increasing their dues by $4.50 this past December 1st, 2006.

I just returned from the State Convention this past weekend in Orlando and we have been informed that the Department of Florida is also increasing their dues by $2.00 effective this October 1st.

Our Post has decided that we will not increase the membership dues again.

Our Post is asking that each member, who has not sent in their membership renewal, please send in your renewal payment by September 1st. This will ensure that we will not have to take a $2.00 per member loss this year. Each membership payment after this date will cost our Post $2.00 per member.

In a recap of this past Spring's school activities, our Post presented ROTC and School Award Medals to Everglades, Flaningan and Cypress bay High Schools.

We also presented the Americanism Medals to the Fort Lauderdale Naval Sea Cadets, the Boca Raton and Crystal Lakes Civil Air Patrol Squadrons.

I thank you for your prompt payment.

For God and Country,

Joe Motes, Adjutant

Above are our 2006-2007 District and Department trophy and plaque Awards.

OUR MEETINGS FOR THE NEXT 4 MONTH:

SEPTEMBER 4th, 2007
OCTOBER 2nd, 2007
NOVEMBER 6th, 2007

Our Post meets on the 1st Tuesday of each month at 7:00pm

at the Pembroke Falls Aquatic Center

Please check our website for the map or call me for information on each months meeting.

954-441-8735 or **954-559-3202**.

Flanagan High School does it again!

Congratulations (once again) for the great accomplishments of Flanagan's JROTC unit under the command of Stephen Nesthus! We're certainly proud of these fine young men and women.

Flanagan High NJROTC Wins National Title

By Terry Welch, Naval Education and Training Command Public Affairs

PENSACOLA, Fla. (NNS) -- The Flanagan High School Naval Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (NJROTC) of Pembroke Pines, Fla., took top honors in the NJROTC National Academic, Athletic and Drill competition at Pensacola Naval Air Station on April 14. Flanagan knocked off Corpus Christi's Flour Bluff High School, an NJROTC dynasty, which had won the competition 10 years in a row. Flanagan won top scores in unarmed platoon exhibition drill, armed platoon basic drill, the 16x100 yard shuttle relay and pulled off an impressive win on the academic test, with nine cadets finishing in the top 10.

Cadet Commanding Officer Tiana Chavez, a senior, said drive was the key to the Flanagan win. "The entire time, everybody was just motivated, completely wired," Chavez said. "We've wanted this for a long time."

Two years ago, the team took second in the nation, and, last year, took fourth. Chavez said that led many outside the program to consider the 2005 score a fluke. "I don't think anybody thought we'd come out on top," she said.

Boca Raton High School -- a school roughly 40 miles away from Flanagan -- took second in the competition for the second consecutive year.

Union Grove High School of McDonough, Ga., won the athletic competition with a near-sweep of all athletic events, winning the push-up and curl-up challenges as well as the 8x220 yard oval relay. Union Grove took third place overall. Shawnee Mission North High School of Overland Park, Kan., took fifth place, winning the drill portion of the competition.

Twenty-three NJROTC high school teams from Arkansas, California, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Kansas, Mississippi, Nevada, New York, Ohio, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, and Virginia competed in Nationals, representing the best of 615 NJROTC units nationwide. More than 900 cadets competed in the event.

The NJROTC program was established by Congress in 1964. It is conducted at accredited secondary schools throughout the nation, by instructors who are retired Navy, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard officers and enlisted personnel. The NJROTC curriculum emphasizes citizenship and leadership development, as well as the maritime heritage, the significance of sea power, and naval topics such as the fundamentals of naval operations, seamanship, navigation and meteorology. Classroom instruction is augmented throughout the year by community service activities, drill competitions, field meets, visits to naval activities, marksmanship training and other military training.

NJROTC is not a recruiting program and does not require students to serve in the military after graduation.

One thing the article does not mention is that our kids achieved the highest academic score ever in history of the National Championship. In fact, all 1700 people gave a standing ovation to the cadets. It was nothing short of "AWESOME!"

Crystal Lakes Civil Air Patrol Squadron Cadet Jacob Gabriel received our Americanism Medal.

Our own Service Officer, Peter Moore was Master of Ceremonies at this year's Weston's 4th of July Parade.

Cypress Bay High School ROTC Cadets Sara Chesney and Luis Pinto received our ROTC Medals and Cadets Campillo Tyler and Sara Farinelly received out School Award Medals.

Flanagan High School ROTC Cadets Joshua Lasley and Daiana Pena received our ROTC Medals and Ribbons.

THE MCDONALD TEAM

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Everglades High School ROTC Cadets Rachel Martin and Christopher Vanderwyde received our ROTC Medals and Ribbons.

Everglades High School ROTC Cadets Cathy Acosta and Ryan Reidway received our School Award Medal.

On May 17th, Post 385 member Stewart Fraser was laid to rest at the newly opened South Florida VA National Cemetery, which was attended by his wife Carol Fraser, and post members Robert Nagle and Joe Motes, plus other friends and guests. The following are photos of the memorial service. This is a beautiful cemetery and to see deers running lose was something else.

July August September & October Birthdays

Mark Waite	07/01
Eddie Ruff	07/02
Milton Sepulveda	07/02
Louis Pipitone	07/03
Arnold I. Levy	07/06
Luis Del Valle	07/11
Jay C. Redman	07/11
Robert Lund	07/18
Robert E. Miller	07/18
Ariosto Morales	07/19
Paul McLain	07/20
Timothy Blank	07/22
Donald Fulton	07/27
Agustin Fuentes	07/27
Felix Pedreguera	07/28
James E. Adams	07/28
Murry Sharan	07/29
Keith Philbrook	07/30
Socrates Quintana	07/30
Donald Dyer	08/01
Raymond Chote	08/03
Gregory McLellan	08/08
Jordan Raileanu	08/08
Luis G. Flores	08/09
Andrew Hudson	08/12
John A. Boyle	08/12
Peter Moore	08/12
Jorge L. Cruz	08/12
Anthony Radzville	08/15
Dr. Jackie Gardner	08/15
Brian Rosensteel	08/20
Marcos Duarte	08/24
Walter Davis	08/30
Thomas McCutheon	08/31
Lonnie Lee	09/01
Walter Estrada	09/02
James Ellison	09/02
Arnold Gelfer	09/08
John Sexton	09/10
Joseph Reynolds	09/14
Hernando Posse	09/16
James A. Roberts	09/16
Juan Gallardo	09/16
Kirk Cordova	09/17
John Coss	09/21
James Christian	09/23
Ronald Armstrong	09/24
Hugo Zarnel	09/25
Lyle Joy	09/25
Cesar Lafaurie	09/27
James A. Davis	09/27
Arthur Lopez	09/29
Roland Rodriguez	09/29
Mario Loaiza	09/30
Osvaldo R. Yero	10/01
Hector I. Santos	10/01
Kenneth Baranik	10/02
James F. Gray	10/03
Roger J. Cartier	10/07
Ian Eccles	10/07
Frank S. Mendez	10/10
Joseph M. Motes	10/12
Donald Jennings	10/12
Aaron A. Lerberg	10/12
Etienne M. Font	10/14
Pete Straut	10/16
William K. Davenport	10/17
Ezra Lubow	10/17
John Fatalo	10/18
Carol Fraser	10/20
Richmond J. Caudill	10/21
Peter J. Savoca	10/29
James J. Applebaum	10/31

Nathan Bruckenthal - Adam Cann
American Legion Post 385
2133 NW 208 Terrace
Pembroke PInes FL 33029-2320

FIRST CLASS MAIL

2006 - 2007 Post 385 Officers

COMMANDER - ROY SCHOFIELD
2900 SW 155 LANE
DAVIE FL 33331-1516
954-914-5647

1ST VICE COMMANDER - JOE MORA
19239 NW 22 STREET
PEMBROKE PINES FL 33029-4607
954-430-9888

2ND VICE COMMANDER - DONALD FULTON
16381 NW 11 STREET
PEMBROKE PINES FL 33028-1121
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2133 NW 208 TERR
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PEMBROKE PINES FL 33029-3606
954-442-6642

CHAPLIN - ROBERT NAGLE
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PEMBROKE PINES FL 33028-1353
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HISTORIAN - DIANE CALFEE
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PEMBROKE PINES FL 33024-4537
954-431-6791

LEGISLATURE OFFICER - OTIS STIGLER
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DAVIE FL 33325-5400
954-473-9101

MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN - CAROL FRASER
401 NW 103rd AVE APT 353
PEMBROKE PINES FL 33026-6018
954-436-7168

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER
By Bob Nagle

EVERY VETERAN IS A HERO

"And the world will be better for this, that one man scorned and covered with scars, still strove with his last ounce of courage to reach the unreachable stars." These poignant words form the Man of LaMancha have echoed through my mind and cushioned my heart these many years since I buried my courageous husband, Major James P. Rogan, who was killed in hostile fire while serving on his second tour in Vietnam.

Through the years I've told myself thousands of times that somehow the world is better because of his ultimate sacrifice. As I tucked the children in bed, walked the floor alone with two sick kids or answered the heartbreaking question "when is my Daddy coming home?"

Every veteran, every hero – and, in my opinion every person who has served in the Armed Forces is a hero – deserves to know that the efforts, sacrifices and hardships they so willingly suffered have been appreciated. Regardless of popularity or politics, our American fighting men and women risk everything, including their next breaths and last breaths, to guarantee our freedoms.

These are the people who didn't run across a border to hide. They stood tall and were willing to give their all. While others picketed and slandered their country, our veterans defended their rights to do so and fought to preserve the very privilege of such actions.

How fortunate we are to sleep peacefully in our beds each night while others are lying on a hard ground on foreign soil believing the world will truly be better because of their valiant efforts. Where would our nation be today if not for the actions of the veterans we so easily discard? What would tomorrow be like for all of us if our citizenry were not protected by the heroes who served us so well?

During the years I was married to a heroic and highly decorated army officer I had the opportunity to share thoughts with other wives and their husbands who were committed to the cause of liberty. Never did I hear any of them say they were only fighting to protect the rights of people who they cared about or who thought the same as they did. Yet, so often, these same soldiers were condemned for their very willingness to "march into hell for a heavenly cause."

Aren't the people who've paid such a high price owed a respect and sense of gratitude from each of us? How can it ever possibly be repaid? I believe, if questioned, every veteran would negate any monetary reward. They didn't go to war to get rich. They haven't defended us these many years with their eye on financial gains.

Each and every veteran who served our country so well deserves a debt of gratitude we can never truly repay. It isn't possible to put a dollar value on the anguish each of them and their families have suffered. When our founding fathers signed the Declaration of Independence it guaranteed us all the rights of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. These were words that had deep meaning to those brave souls who have taken up arms when called upon by our government in defense of our country.

The time has come to thank profusely, from the bottom of our hearts, our beloved veterans who were there when we needed them, who gave their all in battle, who were willing to march into hell for a heavenly cause. Let them know, at last, that the world has been better for this.
(Written by Pat Turner and published in Weston Lifestyle.)