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PRESIDENT BUSH SIGNS HR 692 ENR

On June 25, President Bush signed HR 695 ENR "Army Specialist Joseph P. Micks Federal Flag Code Amendment Act of 2007."

The legislation amended Title 4, United States Code, Chapter 1, Section 7, Subsection 7(m), to authorize the Governor of a State, territory, possession of the United States, or the Mayor of the District of Columbia to order that the National flag

be flown at half-staff in that State, territory, possession, or in the District of Columbia in the event of the death of a member of the Armed Forces from that State, territory, possession, on in the District of Columbia who dies while serving on active duty.

Additionally the legislation specifies that when the Governor of a State, territory, possession, or the Mayor of the District of

Columbia, issues a proclamation that the National flag be flown at half-staff in that State, territory, possession, or in the District of Columbia because of the death of a member of the Armed Forces, the National flag at any Federal installation or facility in the area covered by that proclamation shall be flown at half-staff with that proclamation.

NEW EDITOR

Hello, I am John Kopp, and it seems like I asked a question and voila, I seem to be the editor of our 3rd District newsletter.

I am somewhat new at this, so I beg your patience while we struggle through whatever needs to be done.

There are several things I would like to try with our newsletter. First of all, I would like it to contain news. This can be news of what is happening

district wide, or what is happening at your post. We can make this a place to brag about what we accomplish. It can be scheduled events. How many times have we said to someone from another post that we would have attended a function there if we had only known? Hopefully through this newsletter we can get the word out in time.

Another thing is getting the word out. At the pace that our postage seems to

increase every time we turn around, it is not feasible to mail this to everyone in the district. But, most of us have email. So, I will begin making a list of email addresses of members of the 3rd district, or whoever else would like a copy, and just email the newsletter out, besides the normal mailing list.

You can send you email address to:
district3news@kc.rr.com

District Oratorical Contest

THE 3RD HERD

Some how our district has become known as the 3rd Herd. For the longest time I thought this was referring to a herd of cattle and I was wondering who was calling me a steer, or was it that we are so full of bull that we make up a herd.

Actually, being a member of the 3rd Herd is quite an honor. It seems like Our district is named after 3rd Corps. So, what is the big deal, you may ask.

Well, for this Navy type, not being at all familiar with Army stuff, corps, etc, I asked. The 3rd Corps is the unit responsible for standing guard at **THE TOMB OF THE UNKNOWN SOLDIER**. Quite an honor, I would say!!!

As in past years, District III conducted the District III oratorical contest. This year we had two contestants, Mario Garciduenas, from Oak Park High School, and Keira Kessler, from King City High School. Both contestants were excellent but, Mr. Garciduenas barely nosed out Miss Kessler to be advanced to the Zone II contest which was held in St. Joseph, MO. On February 10th. There were three contestants for the Zone II Oratorical Contest, Miss Katelyn Harris from Lafayette High School in St. Joseph, Brittany Sanders from Pembroke

High School in Kansas City, and Mario Garciduenas, from Oak Park High School in Kansas City North. And, once again, the quality of speakers was outstanding. These young people are a real credit to their schools, community, and family. But, alas, there can only be one speaker advancing to the Department Level. The final out come of the contest was like this:
1st Place: Brittany Sanders
2nd Place: Katelyn Harris
And
3rd Place: Mario Garciduenas. But to all three we say "job well done"

As I was sitting there I decided to look around and take a count. Would you believe that out of the entire Zone II, that is four districts, there was a whopping 35 people there including the contestants, their parents, members of the host post, and the officials? I counted a total of 16 – that is sixteen – American Legion Covers, ranging from Department Commander to post members.

We really do need to show up for these functions and, if nothing else, show our support for the kids who work so hard trying to give a good presentation.

DNA SAMPLES NEEDED

Some time back the Kansas City Star ran an article about the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command seeking anyone who is a family member of an MIA or POW to go to www.jpac.pacom.mil to see whether a DNA sample is needed.

According to the article, the command has 28 active cases from Missouri and Kansas. In active cases, the command thinks it has identified remains but needs DNA confirmation.

Here are the other active cases in the two states and the year the service member was born:

MISSOURI:

World War II: Herbert J. Hoard, 1905

KOREA: William M. Barnard, 1932; Wardell A. Bell, 1925; Lee R. Cawley, 1933; Wilbert S. Ford, 1930; Danny J. Handley, 1931; Elton T. Henry, 1925; Roy L. Howell, 1931; James N. Larkin, 1917; Albert L. Price, 1931; Vivian W. Rhoads, 1930; Leonard Scott Jr.,

1931; James N. Wilson, 1928; James H. Yeley, 1931

KANSAS:

World War II: Verne L. Gibb, birth date unknown

KOREA: Earl B. Boyle, 1925; Charles R. Busch, 1932; Percy C. Carrol, 1925; Roy E. Elliot, 1920; John O. Gibson, 1914; Melvin L. Johnson, 1931; Edward D. Kuhn, 1928; Vernon G. Schieffer, 1924; and Ridhard E. Smith, 1930.

BOYS STATE AND CADET PATROL

It is getting close to that time of year again. Time to get our acts together and prepare for Boys State and Cadet Patrol

Hopefully, this year, as in the past our district will have an excellent showing for both programs.

If anyone has any

question, please, feel free to contact the district chairs for either.

Boys State: Gary Reno, Northern Vice Commander

(816) 628-5773
e-mail greno001@kc.rr.com
And Ed Schmidt,
Commander Post 33,

Cameron MO (816) 632-3020

This is Ed's first year and will be working closely with Mr. Reno.

Chairman for Cadet Patrol is Robert Box, past District Commander

(816) 453-1180

Schedule of Coming Events

Spring Conference
Feb. 22/23/24
Contact District
Commander for
more details.

March 1, 2008
Post 58 Smithville
2607 E. 92 Hwy.
Post Officer
educational and

information session
presented by Larry
Hogan. Begins
10:00 A.M.

April 13, 2008
District 3 Meeting
Hosted by: Clyde
Gustine Post 236
2000 Concourse
Ave.
Excelsior Springs

MO
Lunch 12:00 NOON
Meeting 1:00 P.M.

April 13, 2008
Spaghetti Dinner
Post 95 in Liberty
MO
1100 Hwy. H
4:00 PM – 7:00 PM
All you can eat

******* MEMBERSHIP *******

We are now past the first of a new year and it is time to step back and take a close look at our membership count and goals for the year. Naturally every post wishes to achieve at least 100% of what we had last year, if not surpass it. But, to date, only one post is over 100%. So, now is the time to remind those who have not paid their dues for this year that time is running out.

WARM FUZZIES

When was the last time you ever heard the words "THANK YOU" after completing a job? Didn't it really feel good to know that someone actually noticed and took the time to show their appreciation? How often have we heard of someone working in the same position year after year and then just one day up and says he or she quits? If we look closely at it, we would probably discover that that person was seldom thanked for anything accomplished over the years. The legion has many different types of certificates and many different was for posts to thank their members for a job well done. WARM FUZZIES really do do the trick every time

*For God and Country
since 1919.*

*Remember
REGISTER
AND VOTE
VOTE VOTE*

It was about this time two years ago, my son was home on leave from the Navy. He had I decided to go and have a couple of cold ones and just relax a bit. Having, myself, served in the Navy during Viet Nam, we began exchanging shipboard experiences.

For some time I had been wanting to get involved with some sort of Veterans Organization, I just couldn't decide. But, now that my son was a veteran, and he was also interested, the really only organization open to us was the Legion. So, that evening he and I filled out applications and also filled one out for my father. And the three generations joined at one time. Grandfather – WWII

Father – Viet Nam

Son – War on Terror

And, a short time later, my son and I both became PUFL.

I became involved with my post and started attending

AS I SEE IT, SORT OF

district meetings with other members from my post. If my memory serves me right, once I began attending district meetings, I have yet to miss one. Those of us going would meet at the local grocery store parking lot and car pool to where ever it was held.

But, as I sit there listening to the roll call of posts I can't help but wonder why so few posts are represented.

The thing about the district is that a post that has a membership of, say, eleven members has as much say in the goings on of the district as a post with three or four hundred members. But that voice can only be heard if a member or representative of the post shows up and participates.

By attending these meetings I have learned so much and have gotten many many ideas about different programs to try and which one to avoid. Ideas are exchanged,

friendships started or renewed.

We can all be proud to belong to one of, if not the best Veterans Organization in the world. It is as great as it is because of veterans like you, Men and women who cared enough to answer the call of their country. Who cared enough to continue serving even after military service is completed.

But, there is still so much that needs to be done. And it cannot be done without you. The district need each and every one of you, The department needs you, the legion needs you, our vets need you.

All you commanders and adjutants, try to attend the next meeting – April 13, in Excelsior Springs. If, for some reason you cannot attend, see if you can get a member of you post to come and represent you.

Just bring a covered dish, the hosting Post provides the meat for the lunch.

I wish to thank Commander Gary Nichols, Vice Commander Gary Reno, and Adjutant Robert Emery for their assistance with this and for giving me the opportunity to serve the 3rd district.

District III Newsletter Email Address: district3news@kc.rr.com

District III Web Site: www.mo3rdherd.com

