

# GREATER GIG HARBOR AMERICAN LEGION POST 236

## NEWS BULLETIN ~ JANUARY 2007

### THEME

January –

- Membership – Planning for the Future
- Patriotism - flags and flag code for students
- Oratorical Events

February –

Four Chaplains Services... The American Legion observance of Religious Emphasis Week.

*The annual Four Chaplains Service commemorates one of the most selfless, heroic and dedicated events of World War II. At 12:55 a.m. on February 3, 1943, as the troop transport, Dorchester steamed toward Europe on a black night, a German submarine's torpedoes found their mark, sending the ship to the bottom quickly.*

*Aboard ship, hundreds of soldiers and sailors were thrown into panic as the ship buckled and listed. Life jackets ran out before all could get one, and some lifeboats were never launched because the ship listed badly. The cold ocean promised death to those who might jump without a jacket, and even to some who did have them.*

*Four chaplains responded to the panic and handed out life jackets until they ran out. Then each took off his own and put them on four other men. As the ship slid beneath the waves, the chaplains were seen arm in arm in prayer – a Catholic, Jew, Methodist and a member of the Dutch Reformed Church. The waves washed over them and they were not seen again.*

*Remembered annually are Chaplain John B. Washington, a Catholic priest, Rabbi Alexander D. Goode; Methodist minister George L. Fox; and Dutch Reformed Church minister Clark V. Poling.*

### DUES

Post Dues will increase effective January 2007 to \$37.00 -

Per-capita has been increased this year during their respective Conventions; Department of WA from \$10.50 to \$14.50 and National from \$9.00 to \$13.50, an increase of \$8.50 for a

combined total of \$28.00. The Post continues with no change, allocating \$9.00 per member to supplement annual income.

## MEMBERSHIP

YTD to Goal: 105 of 120 as of Jan 05,2007.

Do you know a member that has not renewed? How about candidates which are eligible for membership? Provide us with names and contact info and we will do the work for you.

## MEETINGS

Post Meeting –

Wednesday, Jan 09 2007, 7:30 P.M. at FOE 2809 Gig Harbor

District III Meeting –

Saturday, Jan 13 2007, 9 A.M. at Bremerton Post 68; District Commander, Dick Burkholder has scheduled this location and date for the mid-winter District meeting. Post Commanders and all members designated as delegates of the Post should be in attendance.

## FINANCIAL

A budget for 2007 has been reviewed and approved by the membership in November 2006. There is no immediate need to use emergency funds however financial resources are not being replenished. Your input and assistance is requested to ensure we return to a positive flow of monies for the future.

## COMMITTEES

Americanism –

Evergreen State ~ Boys State & Girls State: Your Post was very instrumental this year in sending seven male and three female students to the week long event; two of the girls attended our annual December dinner meeting. They were Kirstin Gruver and Bridgette Cooper, who was this year's elected State Governor, along with her parents Bob & Bobbi. For information on this prestigious program, link to: [www.evergreenboysstate.org/](http://www.evergreenboysstate.org/)

## GOOD Of The ORDER

WHY?

National Adjutant Robert W Spanogle has refused to provide any information in response to my written request that he identify the names, case numbers, and courts, of the two wrongful discharge lawsuits in which \$750,000 was paid to unnamed lawyers, which was cited as necessitating the "emergency dues increase" which many Departments opposed. Action is needed.

FOR GOD AND COUNTRY FOREVER; SURRENDER TO THE ACLU - NEVER!

Rees Lloyd, Commander, District 21, Dept CA

Submitted by: J.J.Clark, Adjutant Pro-tem