

## American Legion Family



**American Legion 21<sup>st</sup> District**

**Mailing: Adjutant 2019-2021**

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**Bandera, Texas 78003**

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1 July 2020

### Leaders of the 21<sup>st</sup> District,

First and foremost, I want to thank GOD for affording me the opportunity to be your District Commander during this time. Not only has he placed me in the company of such fine folks as yourselves, he has allowed me to express our God given rights and Constitutional Freedoms to the Department of Texas American Legion. Almost as important, we want to thank each and every one of you for the OUSTANDING membership year we have had. We finished the year (1 Jul 19 – 30 Jun 20) in First place out of 22 Districts in the State. According to the Department's (State) tally, our final numbers are: Goal - 2,155, Total Members - 2,357, which equals 109.37%. This is the 1<sup>st</sup> time the 21<sup>st</sup> District finished the year #1 and we set an all-time high for our District. Each of you should take pride in the fact that you were a MAJOR factor in us achieving this great milestone. It's even more remarkable when you consider COVID-19 put a hamper on most of our activities for the past 4-5 months. Please extend our extreme gratitude to each of our individual members as without them this obviously would not have been possible.

Second, we all know that our Politicians and Legislative leaders only listen to us because of the volume of members we have and we need to maintain and even grow to ensure our voices are heard. With this, yes, we just finished the GREATEST year ever for the 21<sup>st</sup> District, but I am sure we can continue the progress and do as good or even better in 2021. National and State Legion Leadership have approved monetary awards for Posts who retain 100% membership for the year 2021 by 31 Dec 2020. (Last year Boerne Post 313 was our sole 100%er). Although it is only July 2020, we request that you ask your members to renew their membership for 2021 this coming Fall and to keep doing so each Fall, year end and year out.

Third, our Convention call on 30 May went very well. A few Posts had technical difficulties, but all in all it ran pretty smoothly. As a reminder, we approved our District C&BLs as well as a resolution. The resolution will clarify roles of the Legion Service officer's and our County Service officer's. This will help us serve our Veterans in the most efficient manner possible. We also received solid constructive feedback that will help us improve in the future. All of the convention information is posted on our webpage.

Fourth, we are in the midst of planning for our District Executive Committee (DEC) meeting. It will be a one-day event to be held in Junction, TX on the 17<sup>th</sup> of Oct, which follows our Department DEC in Sep. Our District Convention/Election of Officers will take place in Junction, TX 19-21 Mar of 2021 after the Mid-Winter Department convention in Feb 2021. More information to follow in the coming weeks.

Again, WE whole heartily thank you for this past year's success, and truly appreciate the leadership you have provided to our Posts and communities of which our Nation, State, Division & District are much obliged.

As always, please feel free to contact us as you see fit.

Below are our membership stats along with some ideas for future Post advertisement/improvement.

"For God & Country"

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'W. H. Bess, Jr.' with a stylized flourish at the end.

William "Joey" Bess, Jr.  
Commander, 21<sup>st</sup> District

Stats: As you will see, we have 18 Posts who were at least 100% and 26 of 30 who were at least 90% or better. Simply OUTSTANDING!!!

POST	LOCATION	% of GOAL	POST	LOCATION	% of GOAL
TX POST 0313	BOERNE	321.74%	TX POST 0489	LEAKEY	103.92%
TX POST 0298	DELRIO	162.50%	TX POST 0479	UVALDE	101.83%
TX POST 0650	HARPER	134.48%	TX POST 0208	KERRVILLE	101.29%
TX POST 0437	KINGSLAND	129.17%	TX POST 0583	CENTERPOINT	100.00%
TX POST 0470	NORTH LAKE BROWNWOOD	128.57%	TX POST 0244	FREDERICKSBURG	97.80%
TX POST 0237	JUNCTION	126.53%	TX POST 0378	MENARD	96.77%
TX POST 0289	GOLDTHWAITE	125.00%	TX POST 0008	BALLINGER	95.59%
TX POST 0032	SANANGELO	121.31%	TX POST 0308	BANGS	95.24%
TX POST 0196	BROWNWOOD	120.37%	TX POST 0370	LLANO	95.00%
TX POST 0572	SANANGELO	120.17%	TX POST 0410	LAKEHILLS	94.15%
TX POST 0277	LAMPASAS	118.82%	TX POST 0027	SAN SABA	91.84%
TX POST 0026	BRACKETTVILLE	106.82%	TX POST 0487	PRIDDY	90.32%
TX POST 0595	DELRIO	104.76%	TX POST 0285	MASON	81.48%
TX POST 0157	BANDERA	104.24%	TX POST 0116	LOMETA	78.95%
TX POST 0489	LEAKEY	103.92%	TX POST 0257	ELDORADO	77.78%
TX POST 0479	UVALDE	101.83%	TX POST 0013	INGRAM	71.43%
	<b>21st DISTRICT TOTAL</b>			<b>109.37%</b>	

Advertisements/Announcements could include:

- 1) A "Your Membership supports" flyer could include the following:
  - a. We support: Veterans & Their Families, local Volunteer Fire Department, the County Boys & Girls Club, Elementary/Jr High/High schools, Boy/Cub Scout Packs, Girl Scout troops, Local 4H, Local Library, Local Meals on Wheels, Local Little League Baseball, Local Cemeteries, Local Food Banks, Local Churches etc...We also provide scholarship opportunities for graduating HS Seniors and send young Men and Women to the Boy's and Girl's State programs of Texas, where they are educated on the inner workings of how our State government conducts our day to day business.
- 2) Membership renewal input into local publications could read: If you have access and/or prefer to sign up or renew your membership on-line, please copy and paste the following address into your web browser and it will take you to the appropriate site to renew.

<https://www.members.legion.org/tal/newjoin?joinsource=D20003&msclkid=9258a9a1c087164a1d49f75cfc74caab>

**Your 21<sup>st</sup> District Leadership team:**

Commander: William "Joey" Bess, Jr  
 Vice Commander: Jose (Joe) Saucedo  
 Adjutant: Susan Junker  
 Finance Officer: Susan Junker  
 Sergeant at Arms: William "Will" Evans  
 Service Officer: Dennis Birchall  
 Chaplain: Fred Greene  
 Historian: Kristi Stee  
 Hubmaster: Dennis Fedak