

American Legion Post 143
Schulenburg, Texas
Historian Report for Fiscal Year July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019

Membership

- Total - 153
- New - 10
- Deceased - 7

Parades

- **War Wagon – James Brossmann was named the War Wagon Chief (7)**
 - Moulton Jamboree Town & Country Parade (1st Place - Best Classic Vehicle)
 - Schulenburg Festival Parade (1st Place – Best Antique Vehicle)
 - Columbus Colorado County Fair Parade – (1st Place – Best Service Entry)
 - Flatonia Czhilispiel Parade
 - Ellinger Parade (2nd Place – Most Patriotic)
 - Fayette County Fair Parade
 - Shiner Half Moon Parade – (1st Place – Miscellaneous Trophy)

Honor Guard

- **Memorial Services/Grave Site Services Provided for the following 14 Veterans:**
 - Leroy Hoffmann – 08-07-2018 (37 year Legion member)
 - Ed (Buck) Boehm – 10-12-2018 (10 year Legion member)
 - Alvin Jack Klesel – 11-30-2018 (72 year Legion member)
 - Kenneth E. Wagner – 12-18-2018 (not a member)
 - Billy Lamza – 12-28-2018 (not a member)
 - Louis Hohmann – 01-03-2019 (not a member)
 - Bruce Gillings – 01-25-2019 (9 year Legion member)
 - E. J. Hass – 01-28-2019 (not a member)
 - James Zwespher – 03-19-2019 (not a member)
 - Alponse Besetzney – 04-06-2019 (not a member)
 - Alvin J. Besetzny – 05-03-2019 (38 year Legion member)
 - Willie Cordes – 05-11-2019 (not a member)
 - Tommy Hagan – 05-20-2019 (19 year Legion member)
 - I. J. Pavlicek – 06-27-2019 (29 year Legion member)

(Out of the 14 services, 7 of the Veterans were members of Post 143)

Memorial Day Flag Placements on Veterans' Graves

- There were a total of 1,100 flags placed in the following 9 cemeteries: St. John Cemetery; Corinth Church; Old Civil War Cemeteries; St. Rose Cemetery; Schulenburg City Cemetery; Dubina Cemetery; Swiss Alp Lutheran Cemetery; Freyburg Salem and Methodist Cemeteries.

Services and Activities (31)

- 95 flags were placed along St. John Road in preparation for the July 4th picnic
- St. John Church Picnic – Flag raising with posting of the colors
- NRA Banquet at the Schulenburg KC Hall – Posting of the colors
- High Hill Church Picnic – Flag raising ceremony
- Schulenburg Elementary School – Flag raising ceremony
- Schulenburg High School Home Football Games – Flag raising (4 times)
- Veterans Day Memorial Services at Praha, Texas
- Veterans Day Celebration at Schulenburg High School
- St. Rose Church and School – Veterans Recognition
- Schulenburg High School – Flag Raising and halftime recognition of Veterans from all branches of service
- Americanism Program held at Schulenburg Elementary School with flag raising and posting of the colors (7 times)
- St. Rose Patriotic Day Celebration
- Go Texan Shrimp Boil Fundraiser – Led Pledge of Allegiance
- Proclamation Signing Ceremony at City Council Meeting honoring the 100th birthday of the American Legion
- Post Commander and 1st Vice Commander discussed post and centennial events on KBUK radio
- Twin Cities Little League Opening Ceremonies at the Schulenburg Sports Complex - posting of the colors
- Relay for Life held at Wolter's Park; Legion led the procession with the colors
- Schulenburg Annual Sausage Festival - led parade and posted colors
- Veterans Memorial Services held at Wolter's Park
- Public Library Celebration – Flag raising
- Proclamation Signed by Fayette County Judge with County Commissioner's Court in attendance

American Legion Fund Raiser

- American Legion sponsored a drive-thru meal consisting of chicken fried chicken breast and all the trimmings held on April 24, 2019. The meal was a great success with a net profit of \$6,378. (Post 143 received \$4,465 and Auxiliary received \$1,913)

Schwenke Baumgarten Funeral Home Appreciation Dinner

- Dinner provided to those members serving in the Honor Guard from the American Legion, VFW, and VVA.

Additional Functions

- Scholarships in the amount of \$1,000 each were awarded to three students: Hunter Dworaczyk, Alyssa Otto, and Madeline Sommer
- Eight Centennial Fund Scholarships were given out in the amount of \$500 each. The students receiving them were: Ashley Smith, Kaylie Zapalac, Casey Dworaczyk, Colton Dieringer, Philip Berger, Mary Wellborn, Dylan Schilab, Dylan Heath
- Sponsored two students to attend Boys' State: George Martinez and Christian Mendoza (They were escorted by Tri-County Legion Riders to Austin, Texas.)

Misc. Post Information

- Local Newspaper began running articles on Post members who had over 50 years of Legion service. Those members were: David Stahl; Bill Klesel; Alvin Anders; Leroy Lebeda; John Bohac; Wesley Janacek; and James Stanzel.
- **SAL (Sons of the American Legion) Squadron Commander Robert Hranicky reported the following functions:**
 - Donation of \$300 toward the scholarship of The American Legion-Auxiliary-Sons of the American Legion
 - Have a roster of members to do the destruction of unusable flags
 - Helped the Legion with the annual fundraiser
 - Helped the Legion Riders with annual fundraiser
 - Sold flags for The Warrior Weekend to raise money for the scholarship fund
 - Process of organizing a youth shooting class for beginners
 - Process of erecting a flag pole next to the Legion Building
- **Tri-County Chapter of American Legion Riders – McBride Chapter 143 under Director Herb Fish**
 - Rode to El Campo to participate in the Dedication of the Roy Benavides Highway
 - Escorted the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall to Schulenburg
 - Annual fundraiser in conjunction with Sausage Fest – profits go to the Children Legacy Fund
 - Rode to Washington, DC for the Rolling Thunder with riders from San Antonio, Mission and Seguin
 - Escorted boys to Boys State and girls to Girls State
 - Began the Lonestar Legacy Ride which went from Seguin, to Farr, to San Angelo, to Lubbock, to Claude, to Weatherford, and to Waco for the state rally
 - Hosted the summer meet and greet where a total of 66 riders from about six different posts attended
 - American Legion Highway 281 goes from the Mexico border to the Canada border – Riders from the north and south carried Centennial flags visiting posts along the route that were 100 years old – Banners were presented at the National Convention in Indianapolis
 - Visited the Haven for Hope home in San Antonio (for homeless veterans - supported by the VA)

- Two members with 71 years of continuous membership:
 - David Stahl
 - James Stanzel
- One member with 66 years of continuous membership:
 - Wilbert Klesel
- One member with 65 years of continuous membership:
 - Alvin Anders
- One member with 61 years of continuous membership:
 - Leroy Lebeda
- One member with 57 years of continuous membership:
 - John A. Bohac
- **Eighteen members had perfect attendance this year**

• Johnny Barton	• Tom Marek
• Harry Bartosch	• Henry Miksch
• Ken B. Berger	• Jack Neisner
• Ken J. Berger	• Harvey Oeding
• James Hatfield	• Dennis Olsvosky
• Bob Heinrich	• Emil Pauler
• Robert Hranicky	• Willy Schmidt
• Leonard Korenek	• Eugene Schramek
• Eugene Krupala	• Ed Semler
- Post 143 Legionnaire of the Year
 - Jim Chapman - 2018
- From 1919 to 2019, Post 143 has had 36 Commanders
 - James Hatfield has the longest tenure at 12 years

This past Sunday (December 1, 2019), McBride Post No. 143 celebrate its 100th birthday. On December 1, 1919, a meeting was held to organize a branch of "The American Legion" with 27 ex-servicemen attending. Instructions were given on how and why to organize. It was agreed to organize a post to be known as "Schulenburg Post".