**AMERICAN LEGION ALAMO POST 2**

**3518 FREDERICKSBURG RD.**

**SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS 78201**

**FIRST QUARTER NEWSLETTER 2024**

**JANUARY-FEBRUARY-MARCH**

**COMMANDER’S CORNER**

**A MESSAGE FROM ALBERT MIRELES, JR.**

First of all, I want to express the Alamo Post 2 leadership team’s sincere gratitude to our members, Auxiliary, volunteers, and the community that have contributed to the success of our Post. We hope everyone had a great and safe holiday season. We know the Christmas and New Year’s holidays are stressful and nerve-racking, we’ve planned a free dance on Saturday, January 20th from 7:00pm to 11:00pm called “Holidays Recovery & Recuperation Dance,” featuring Richard Herrera “Rich music.” No outside beverages are allowed due to TABC rules, but can bring your own snacks. Let’s have some fun!

Now, it’s time to get back to work on events that will benefit our veterans and the community.

**Projects:** I am pleased to report to the membership that we have accomplished several projects since July 1, 2023. Our post administration continues to work hard to meet our program requirements and in establishing relationships with different non-profit veteran groups in the Alamo city. We now support the goals and objectives of the American GI Forum, the Marine Corps League Alamo Detachment 315, the United States Military Veterans Parade Association, and the San Antonio Armed Forces Parade Association. These organizations share the same interests as the American Legion’s. Together we have sponsored toy drives to benefit Toys for Tots and the community.

**American Legion Oratorial Contest:** Annually 11th grade students from across the country compete in an oral essay contest focused on the Constitution. In November Alamo Post 2 hosted the competition for the six local high schools who we support. There were 10 students who competed with the winner advancing to the 20th District competition hosted at Alamo Post 2 on Saturday, January 6th. Four students competed and while Post 2’s student was well prepared and delivered excellent speeches, he lost points for exceeding the maximum time allotted. The winner was a young woman who will advance to the Texas State competition. We’re very proud of our student and wish him future success. He has been recruited by the Naval Academy and is pending acceptance.

**Bingo:** We have obtained a bingo license that will be utilized at the new bingo hall located at the Eisenhauer road flea market. The opening date is scheduled for mid-January 2024, with playing times on Friday and Saturday. If you like to play bingo please go and support our Post.

**Sunday Tardeada dance:** Don’t forget that the Post continues to host a weekly Sunday Tardeada dance from 5:00pm to 10:00pm featuring different conjunto bands. Domestic beer buckets are available for $15. The dances support the San Antonio Armed Forces Parade Association. We are also continuing to host a weekly karaoke night on Wednesdays from 7:00pm to 11:00pm. Come join us for a great time as we listen to some San Antonions who have talent. Domestic beer buckets are available for $15.

**Weekly Friday Fish Fry Fundraiser:** In February, we are looking forward to returning the weekly Friday Fish Fry fundraiser beginning on February 16th and yes, entertainment will be provided as usual.

**Annual Rodeo Dance:** On Saturday, February 17th we will sponsor our annual rodeo dance featuring “the George Mercado band.” Admission is $20 per person or reserve a table of 8 for $160. We hope you make plans to attend and enjoy a great time with us, it’s Rodeo week!

**St. Patrick’s Day dance:** In March, plan to be a part of the St. Patrick’s Day dance featuring music by disco Pete set for 16th. Let’s see what that little leprechaun is up to.

**Building maintenance and upkeep:** On another note, our Post is an old structure built in the 1930’s and is in desperate need of constant repairs, to include plumbing, electrical, roofing and structural maintenance. Last year eliminated the water leaks, installed new tile in the men’s and women’s restrooms, replaced damaged ceiling tiles, removed paneling and replaced it with sheetrock, textured, and painted in the Main Hall.  Major projects this year include, fixing water leaks in rest of the building, fixing one of the office’s damaged wall and window, new flooring in the Main Hall, replacing a/c & heating systems throughout the building.  Refurbishing the kitchen, replacing broken windows in the building, painting walls, replacing flooring in foyer including light fixtures, fixing the parking lot, fixing outside front stucco and painting, the list goes on and on.  If you have any skills mentioned here, please consider participating to help us complete some of these tasks.

**Future events**: We will be planning other events throughout the year and which will be posted on the calendar on our website, (americanlegionalamopost2.org). Take a look at our website or Facebook page to see what’s happening at your Legion. I will close for now. Take care and be safe.

**ALBERT MIRELES, JR., POST COMMANDER**