

CCC LEGACY CHAPTER 123 NEWSLETTER

3412 Pleasant Run Road, Irving, Texas 75062

July 2013

Chartered: Nov. 1, 1985. **Past Presidents:** *Nelson Oats, *Harold Ballard, *W. O. Mullin, *Verle Oringderff, *Harold Trammell, *William Oakley, Frank Polenta, *S. L. Baker, *George Payne, *Harry Steinert, & *Al Clement. *deceased. **Current Officers:** President-Mike Pixler, phone contact: 817-929-1557, First Vice President-Jim Rau, phone contact: 817-367-3343, Second Vice president-Pat Mann, phone: [info later], Secretary/Treasurer- Larka Tetens, [info later], Sergeant at Arms-Troy Jones, Chaplain-Rev. James Pixler, Kitchen Committee, [Open], Historian-Ruby Pixler, Reporter at Large & Newsletter Editor-Bill Stallings, phone contact: 972-255-7237.

Monthly Meeting is held on the **second** Saturday of each month from 10:30 AM to 1PM at the North Side Multipurpose Center, 1801 Harrington [North], Fort Worth, TX 76106. Dues are \$10 a person annually and are effective from Oct. to Oct.

Directions: Interstate Hwy 30 runs east & west. It accesses the downtown Fort Worth area from the south. Exit north on Henderson St. After a couple of miles it crosses a fork of the Trinity River and becomes State Hwy 199 which goes to Lake Worth, and the Fort Worth Nature Center & Refuge. When you reach the traffic light at the intersection of 18th St. NW, turn right [east] and go up the hill four blocks to Homan St. Turn left [north], and go a block to the Y. Stay right and continue into the Center's rear parking lot. Our meeting room door with the CCC sign is to the right as you approach the building. Bring a friend & enjoy fun, fellowship & food. Sign the register for you may win the \$10 door prize.

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES: None this month.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY: Janet Ketter, 07/01; Betty Gebhard, 07/06; Frank Borello, 07/09; Lela Scarbrough, 07/12; Pat Mann and Steve Wingo, 07/17; Ruby Pixler and Evelyn Timblin, 07/26; and U.J. King, 07/28.

MINUTES OF MEETING OF CCC LEGACY CHAPTER 123, ON SATURDAY, July 13, 2013. Weather: Clear, Temp. 91, Attendance: 16.

Meeting called to order/welcome by President Pixler at 11:00 AM.

Invocation was made by Merle Timblin.

Pledges to the flags were led by Sgt-at-Arms, Troy Jones.

Pixler reminded the members of the purpose of the CCC Legacy and the Civilian Conservation Corps, 1933-1942.

Minutes included in the "Special Edition" of the newsletter was read by Pixler. A motion to accept as read, made by Troy Jones, 2nd by Pat Mann, motion passed.

The financial report was next, with a copy of the report made available to the members present. A motion to accept as written, made by Steve Porter, 2nd by Tony Rodriguez, motion passed.

Sick call, birthdays and anniversaries were recognized by the phone committee and members present. Evelyn Timblin and Ruby Pixler were our birthdays for the month of July. Both celebrate their birth on 26 July. Members present sang "Happy Birthday" to them. There were no anniversaries identified for July. A general brief by the phone committee of the sick call of the chapter follows: Jerriene Crooks is back home, recovering. Richard is less at a loss in the kitchen now. We wish her a continued and speedy recovery. Bill McKee is still doing fine, and says hello.. He will not attend because Robbie is on vacation. Merle and Evelyn Timblin were present after having company and being missed in June. G.C. Murray is doing fine, he said, with dialysis three times a week. He is on oxygen 24/7 now, but is in good spirits for being 93. Frank Borello is doing well. He will not be bowling during the summer, but will start back in September. Frank will receive a replacement CCC magnet from the chapter soon. Larkin Dilbeck said that he and his daughter, Larka Tetens, would be at the meeting and share their trip overseas. Fay Clement had vein surgery in her left leg this past week and should have surgery on the right leg sometime in the next 2 weeks. She said the pain was such she almost was not able to walk. Says hello to all and hopes to be at a meeting in the future.

The old business was a reminder of the CCC Legacy Reunion in Tucson, AZ, October 24-27, 2013. At this time CCC Legacy Chapter 123 will only have 3 members attending.

New business included a reminder from Pixler to vote for a CCC Legacy board member with the ballot in the Journal. For those who fail to vote by the August chapter meeting, a chapter vote by name may be available. More to follow.

The program/guest section was the Battle of the Bulge Remembered. CCC Boy, Larkin Dilbeck, daughter Larka Tetens, and other family members shared their trip to Europe and a bit of history of the 740th Tank Battalion. The story shared was very exciting and informational. It seems two of the boys, Larkin Dilbeck and Merle Timblin, were basically at the same location at the same time. Just different batteries and such. Perhaps we can continue the story at the next meeting: falling over a rail, meeting a tank around the next corner, 3 WWII veterans on the flight over, staying in an old railroad station remodeled into a fine hotel, and more.

Questions and comments were next with 1st VP Jim Rau leading the way sharing a story about his brother, Copperhead snakes, oak leaves in a bucket, and the three-legged "CCC Dog, Little Bit." Jim will be attending the annual general membership meeting of the Fort Worth Nature Center & Refuge following the meeting. Hopefully, he will share the program at our next meeting, 10 August, 2013.

Pass the Can/Drawing was next, with Tony Rodriguez winning the \$10 door prize and immediately returning it back to the chapter. Thanks Tony.

The blessing was offered by Merle Timblin.

A motion to adjourn was made by Tony Rodriguez, 2nd Pat Mann, motion passed. We adjourned at 12:12 PM.

A wonderful meal was enjoyed by the CCC Legacy Chapter 123 family and friends.

Respectfully submitted for,
Chapter Secretary/Treasurer,
Mike Pixler, President
CCC Legacy Chapter 123

The President's Corner, 13 July, 2013

The subject for this corner is: Will we catch up?

For those of us who never seem to have the time to do anything different in life, I ask you, "Will we ever catch up?" Do not take this as a complaint, even though it may be, a little. That's what keeps you going. We all try to perhaps fill voids in our lives by supporting issues that bring us joy and pleasure. As time goes by, other issues seem to become more important than what it was we were doing earlier. Going to the American Legion on Friday night; nope, don't have time for that. I've got to get that report finished for the next day. For years and more years if a deadline was not met, or a report late, the issue just not worked as fast as I thought it should be, it would bother me until it was complete or I would take the issue and work it myself to completion. For many years that system worked pretty well; today, not so much. Because of my way of working issues for years, which worked has managed to get me to the point that it forced me to step back and take a look at what is really important. I is of my opinion, and I'm sure I'm not alone, that the priority is, has been, and will continue to be family. Family must be the priority. So, as we work more with family, the issues will just have to wait. We'll get to them. We'll get it right, for sure. It's just going to take a little longer than it did. If there is a job to do, and you're responsible for that job, do it. Most of us do not have the time to do it for you anymore. Will we catch up? I doubt it. It's like how do you eat an elephant; one bite at a time.

We had a pretty good turnout at the meeting in July. Over twice the number of members present in June, and it was not a meeting without a "boy." Speaking of a meeting, hope to see you at the August 10, 2013 meeting. Be thinking about bringing one other member, who is here local, you can go by, give them a ride to the meeting and back home. There are members out there that would come if they had a ride. And don't get me started on the kids and their parents at home that need a ride and them not stepping up to the task. Take care of family.

Yours in Service,

Mike Pixler, President
CCC Legacy Chapter 123

An Apology and an Explanation

Due to your newsletter editor being out of pocket for about six weeks or so having open heart surgery, the June Newsletter was not published. A special edition for June has been added to this month's newsletter [late also]. We apologize for the interruption.

WHEN INSULTS HAD CLASS

The following insults are from a time before the English language was boiled down to four-letter words.

"HE HAD DELUSIONS OF ADEQUACY."

Walter Kerr

"HE HAS ALL THE VIRTUES I DISLIKE AND NONE OF THE VICES I ADMIRE."

Winston Churchill

"I HAVE NEVER KILLED A MAN, BUT I HAVE READ MANY OBITUARIES WITH GREAT PLEASURE."

Clarence Darrow

"I DIDN'T ATTEND THE FUNERAL, BUT I SENT A NICE LETTER SAYING I APPROVED OF IT."

Mark Twain

"HE IS A SELF-MADE MAN AND WORSHIPS HIS CREATOR."

John Bright

"I'VE JUST LEARNED ABOUT HIS ILLNESS. LET'S HOPE IT'S NOTHING TRIVIAL."

Irvin S. Cobb

"HE IS SIMPLY A SHIVER LOOKING FOR A SPINE TO RUN UP."

Paul Keating

"HE LOVES NATURE IN SPITE OF WHAT IT DID TO HIM."

Forrest Tucker

"HIS MOTHER SHOULD HAVE THROWN HIM AWAY AND KEPT THE STORK."

Mae West

"IN ORDER TO AVOID BEING CALLED A FLIRT, SHE ALWAYS YIELDED EASILY."

Charles, Count Talleyrand

"SOME CAUSE HAPPINESS WHEREVER THEY GO; OTHERS, WHENEVER THEY GO."

Oscar Wilde

"HE HAS VAN GOGH'S EAR FOR MUSIC."

Billy Wilder

"I'VE HAD A PERFECTLY WONDERFUL EVENING. BUT THIS WASN'T IT."

Groucho

WE NOW PRESENT THE STORY OF A LONG TIME MEMBER OF CHAPTER 123: ROBERT L. [BOB] NETTLES IN HIS OWN WORDS

I was born in 1920, the sixth child of Stella and Emery Nettles in the Box Church community of Limestone Co., Texas. At the age of five, my mother passed away and I was raised by my father, older brothers, and two sisters. After the death of my mother, my father was persuaded by his brother to move near him in New Mexico. After selling our livestock and farm equipment, we packed up and moved to Clovis and then to Claude, NM, which was supposed to be greener pastures, but it didn't turn out that way, what with the dust storms and colder weather. After a year we moved back to Box Church to our family farm. Eventually, I helped my father with the farming and then moved in with my brother Leslie and family to help him with the farming.

I realized early on that farming was not for me, so in October, 1937, at the age of 17, I joined the Civilian Conservation Corps [CCC]. I served 9 months in Co. 817 helping to build Mother Neff State Park and 15 months in Co. 849 at Lake Brownwood State Park. The CCCs built parks in many states during this time and most are still in operation to this day. I received my discharge in October, 1939, and for a while returned to the farm in Box Church.

In August, 1940, I entered the National Youth Administration [NYA] at Burnet, Texas.

The NYA was somewhat different from the CCC. It was a trade school where we worked four hours a day and went to school for four hours. We also worked four hours on Saturday. The work was in the rock quarry, building and construction, and many other jobs. We spent three months in different trades: for instance auto mechanics, machine shop, wood working; carpentry, drafting, plumbing and electrical. I preferred machine shop and later found employment with the American MFG of Texas in Fort Worth. I worked a few months in the machine shop and ran a lathe on the four-inch shell line, making shells for the U.S. Navy. The pay at NYA was only \$12.00 a month, but it included everything from room and board to clothing.

In June, 1942, I enlisted in the U.S. Navy in Dallas, Texas. Audie Murphy enlisted on the same day and same location, but in the U.S. Army. I served on the U.S.S. Kendrick 00612, one of the destroyers of the "Bristol" class [second group]. We took part in the antisubmarine war in 1943 and did a lot of convoy duty; escorting large convoys of merchant ships in the Atlantic and North Atlantic Oceans. Later we were the first destroyer squadron to operate in the Mediterranean Sea. We took part in the invasion of Sicily and Southern France, and were awarded a battle star for the Anzio Campaign. We were off shore of Italy when Germany surrendered. We were then sent through the Panama Canal to San Diego, CA, to re-arm for the Kamikaze planes in the Okinawa area when the Japanese surrendered. We were in Pearl Harbor, HI, when the war ended. We breathed a sigh of relief when the Japanese gave up. We were dreading going into combat against the Japs and those suicide planes. I was discharged from the Navy in October, 1945.

After the war, I went to school on the G.I. Bill, completing high school and received a college degree in Fort Worth. I went to work for the Texas Electric Service Company in Fort Worth, working in the transmission section of the power department as a data analyst. I retired in 1983 after working thirty-two years.

I met and married Johnnie Ruth Wallace in 1961. We enjoyed traveling, gardening and cooking together. My specialty was making peanut brittle which I have made and given to many folks and shared my recipe with them also. We met Byron Nelson and his wife Peggy at church, and I gave them some peanut brittle as well as the recipe because they liked it so well.

One of my favorite hobbies was playing golf at several different municipal golf courses. I watched many golf tournaments at Colonial Country Club. I also enjoyed going to CCC reunions and was editor of the Blue Eagle News of the CCC organization for several years. I was head of the committee that spearheaded getting the CCC Memorial marker at Mother Neff State Park.

Johnnie and I eventually moved into a retirement center in Fort Worth. We had thirty-six wonderful years together before she passed away. She was a wonderful person and I miss her every day. I still live in the retirement center, and life goes on!

Bob, now 93, recently had two small heart attacks, and for the time being is confined to his bed at his retirement center. He would appreciate a call from friends at 817-514-1120, or a note to 5000 Meadow Lakes Dr., Apt. 120, Fort Worth, TX 76180.

A traveler pulls into a hotel around midnight and asks the clerk for a single room. As the clerk does the paperwork, the man looks around and sees a gorgeous blonde sitting in the lobby. He tells the clerk to wait while he disappears into the lobby. After a minute he comes back, with the girl on his arm and says, "Fancy meeting my wife here. Guess I'll need a double room for the night."

Next morning, he comes to settle his bill, and finds the amount to be over \$3000. "What's the reason for this?" He yells at the clerk. "I've only been here one night!"

"Yes," says the clerk, "but your wife has been here for three weeks."

....with thanks to Mike Pixler

The Civilian Conservation Corps Legacy is a non-profit organization dedicated to research, preservation, and education to promote better understanding of the CCC and its continuing contribution to American life and culture. *"I propose to create a Civilian Conservation Corps to be used in simple work, more important, however, than the material gains will be the moral and spiritual value of such work."*

--FDR, 1933

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