



Postscripts



January 2012

The American Legion
The Worlds Largest Veterans
Organization

Four Pillars

1. Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation
2. National Security
3. Americanism
4. Children and Youth



American Legion Post 580

290 Lake Drive East, Chanhassen, MN 952-934-6677
<http://www.alpost580-chanhassenmn.org>

Open: Mon thru Sat 6:00 am to 1:00 am, Kitchen closes at 10:00 pm
Sunday 9:00 am to 1:00 am, Kitchen closes at 9:00 pm

You Are Invited



American Legion Post 580 is proud to announce the scheduled visit of American Legion National Commander Fang A. Wong on February 9, 2012.

You are all invited to this event. Please RSVP as soon as possible so that Paul and Ken can order and prepare the meal you select. Invitations are on a first come, first served basis. Sign up early as space is limited.

Accompanying Commander Wong will be our Dept Commander Chuck Kruger, Dept Adjutant Randy Tesdahl,

Dept Membership Director Denise Milton as well as additional National and Dept personnel. Dept Membership Director Denise Milton will also MC the event.

It is a great honor to have our American Legion National Commander visit our Post. The National Commander travels about 250 days of his one year term. Join with us in giving him a warm MN welcome.

See the complete invitation form on page 3.

Tom Newman, Vietnam Vet, Member, Author

One of our new Legion Post 580 members, Tom Newman, is also an author. He has authored a book titled *A Brief History of the Bible* which has been published and is now

available to the public. Tom will give us a brief presentation at our Feb 6th Membership meeting and will have books available for purchase at that time. Tom has worked a deal with his

publisher wherein he can sell the books at our Post for \$20.00 vs the standard \$27.99. Proceeds from the book sales go to 'Building Homes For Heroes'. See details on page 4.

Post 580 Legion Riders

The New Year is here and with it many expectations. I hope every one of you had a blessed holiday season, starting with Veteran's Day and running through New Year's Day, and took a moment to remember our troops serving

this great nation as well as the veteran's that have served.

At the November ALR membership meeting we welcomed a visitor and accepted the application of a new member bringing our membership total to nine. I'm very pleased that we

continue to grow, despite winter tightening its grip, about 100 days until the Spring Flood Run and the unofficial start of riding season.

On Thursday 8 December we made our first "official" chapter donation to

(Continued on page 2)

2011-2012

Legion Officers

Commander	Ron Schlangen
1st Vice	Gary Boyle
Adjutant	Glenn Anderson
Chaplin	Joyce Boje
Membership	Bernie Hamilton
Finance	Gene Borg
Svc Officer	Art Kerber
Historian	John Hoy
Sgt @ Arms	Roger Roatch
At Large	Marty Meiers
Al Large	Paul Differding
At Large	Jack Kreger
At Large	Pete Sullivan
At Large	Howard Meuwissen

Ladies Auxiliary Officers

President	Joanne Joachim
1st Vice Pres	Judith Weidner
2nd Vice Pres	Darlene Grow
Chaplain	Ellen Differding
Secretary	Deborah Pillatzki
Historian	Marlene Roufs
Treasurer	Mildred Aydt
Parliamentarian	Rosemary Mingo
Sgt At Arms	Patricia Reilly
Exec Committee	Doreen Borg
Membership	Donna Hamilton

S.A.L. Officers

Commander	Paul Palmer
1st Vice	Bob Snyder
2nd Vice	Ken Larson
Secretary	Ron Speed
Treasurer	Tom Wilson
Sgt At Arms	Jerry Mithuen
Membership	Bob Snyder

Chanhassen
American Legion Post 580
is
OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
No Sign In Required

Join Our Legion

To join Chanhassen American Legion Post 580 simply visit our club and pick up a membership application near the entrance to the bathrooms or visit our web site at www.chanlegion.org and click on **Join Us**.

Moving Forward At The Legion

Due to an amazingly busy holiday season I have not found/taken the time to gather/prompt articles from many others so this is an abbreviated newsletter.

First and foremost, Happy New Year to one and all. Some say we survived another year. With survival encoded into each of our beings is it any wonder we survived? Survival trumps even our deepest beliefs. Given a situation of survival or following ones beliefs, survival wins out every time. Survival exists in everything in life. Many war veterans have gone through the process of having to choose between their deeply engrained beliefs, or survival. They chose survival. Our maker made it so. For all of us. And everything! We are born with survival instinct built in.

Our beliefs, on the other hand, are of our own making. We have had lots of help in forming our beliefs as others share their beliefs with us and we learn. Parents, teachers, preachers, friends, relatives, books, movies, etc, assist us. And we learn. They become our beliefs. They become our truths.

As newborns each of us comes into this world filled with love, freedom, joy, peace, harmony, happiness and unity. Look at any newborn baby, anywhere in the world, and think otherwise. We are born with a brain and free will. And we

choose to add hate, anger, greed, violence and fear. We add these to what our maker gave us at birth. We add these to our mind. We change our mind!

We are born with basic intelligence also encoded into us at the cellular level. All form of life is so encoded. Think about the first cell that is formed when a mother's ovum gets together with a father's sperm. That single cell knows everything needed to build and maintain a human body. We as full grown humans, even collectively, have not been able to figure out how to build a human being from scratch like that. That first cell contains the DNA of the new person who is being created. That first cell then proceeds to 'split' itself into copies of itself, each containing an exact copy of the DNA, and continues to do so until an entire human body is created. A full grown human is made up of over 55 trillion cells, each with an identical DNA. Each with basic intelligence encoded within.

Fifty five trillion cells getting along harmoniously! In each of us! All the time! And only three billion people on earth. And not getting along. Imagine what a Happy New Year we would all have if we did!

Ron Schlangen
Post Commander

Legion Riders (continued)

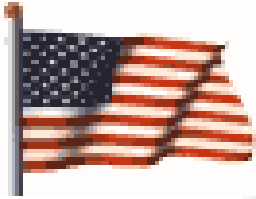
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On Thursday 8 December we made our first "official" chapter donation to the Wild Prairie Harley Owners Group (HOG). Jessica Lyter represented the Legion Riders along with the Commander and the Post donation. They are raising the money for care package donations by the USO in 2012. This group supports our Post by meeting at 580 for breakfast on Saturday mornings.

Our meetings have changed to the last Thursday of the month at 1900. Some of us get together in the bar dining room earlier for something to eat and socializing. You are more than welcome to join us.

The American Legion Riders of Post 580 Chanhassen welcomes any and all



American Legion Post 580



INVITATION

- WHAT:** Invitation to attend a social hour, dinner and program with National Commander Fang A. Wong.
- WHO:** Legion, Auxiliary, S.A.L. and Legion Riders members
- WHEN:** February 9, 2012 - 5:00 PM social hours - 6:00 dinner followed by program
- WHERE:** Chanhassen Legion Post 580 banquet room (290 Lake Drive East, Chanhassen, MN) <http://www.chanlegion.org>
- RSVP:** Call 952-934-6677 - press 3 - leave a message for Kenny Larson. He'll call you for details.
Please RSVP before Friday, February 3, 2012
Call early, space is limited. First come first served.
- COST:** \$14.95 includes tax and tip
- MENU:** Choose from one of the following three dinner choices:
- Thick cut pork chop
- Cracked crumb walleye
- Black & blue New York strip steak
All dinners served with roasted baby red potatoes, house salad & dinner vegetable.

American Legion National Commander

Fang A. Wong of East Brunswick, N.J., was elected national commander of the 2.4 million-member American Legion on Sept. 1, 2011 in Minneapolis, during the 93rd national convention of the nation's largest veterans organization.

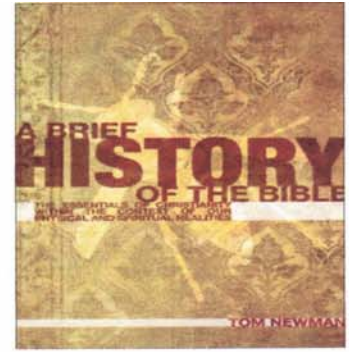
Born in Canton, China, Wong immigrated to the United States as a 12-year-old in 1960. He attended New York City public schools and became a naturalized citizen in 1963. Wong volunteered for the U.S. Army in 1969, served 25 months in Vietnam and retired from the Army as a chief warrant officer in 1989.

The national commander is the executive head of The American Legion, with full power to enforce provisions of the Legion's constitution, bylaws and resolutions of the national convention, which meets each year to govern the organization.





Book Sale Proceeds Benefit Building Homes for Heroes



Building Homes for Heroes:

- committed to supporting those who have returned home from the wars in Iraq or Afghanistan with severe wounds and disabilities
- provides others with an opportunity to help our severely wounded and disabled veterans and their families rebuild their lives
- mortgage-free homes help to ease the family's financial burden
- help to restore the individual's freedom
- enable the veteran to lead a more independent and productive civilian life



Specialist Robert (B.J.) Jackson – Next Home Recipient