

THE PARIS NEWS

Century of Service

American Legion Post 199 celebrates 100th anniversary

By Jennifer Bussey

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KLARK BYRD/*The Paris News*

The American Legion Post 199 is named in honor of Second Lt. Warren A. Teague, the son of a doctor who lived in Deport, who died of the Spanish flu before being deployed to France to serve in World War I.

DEPORT

A century of community service was celebrated by The original charter for the American Legion American Legion Post 199 in Deport on Saturday. Warren Teague Post 199 was issued on Aug. 1,

1920, and ratified by the Department of Texas on Aug. 20, 1920.

A large celebratory barbecue is being planned for October, when, hopefully, coronavirus restrictions will be lifted.

“We are planning to celebrate the 100th anniversary of our charter as soon as the situation permits, with a rededication of the Honor Room and food for all. We are hoping to commemorate this momentous occasion in October and will announce a final date as soon as possible,” said Robert Ogg, a Vietnam veteran and commander of Post 199.



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Robert Ogg stands within the Honor Room in Post 199, for which organization holds great pride for and is dedicated to those who have fought for this country.

The Honor Room displays photos of service members who have called Deport and its surrounding areas home. Some members who have passed on still have family members who send

pictures of their loved ones to be put inside of the room.

Located at 124 Monroe St. in Deport, the organization takes its mission very seriously. According to the organization’s website, that mission is: “To promote a better understanding of the principles of democracy and to inculcate among all people a higher appreciation of the benefits of American citizenship. To serve the needs of all veterans and their families. To fulfill our commitment to community, state, and nation.”

“This post tries diligently to live up to our mission. Our first priority is to take care of our veterans and our veterans family. Our second mission is our commitment to the community,” Ogg said.

From letting the community host Easter Egg hunts and the Freedom Festival on their lawn and to giving away \$4,500 worth of scholarships every year, Post No. 199 serves its community diligently. The post has also allowed use of their building by the city council and Project Deport if those organizations normal meeting venues are undergoing construction, remodeling or are otherwise unavailable.

“I appreciate the time they gave defending our country and admire that they are still serving our country by being great role models to our society by teaching them to serve others selflessly in all they do,” Project Deport president Crystal Folsie said. “It brings such joy to my heart to watch them as they show such compassion for our nation and I pray as I watch that it inspires the younger generation to one day want to be like them.”

Post 199 is named in honor of Second Lt. Warren A. Teague, the son of a doctor who lived in Deport, who died of the spanish flu before being deployed to France to serve in World War I.

“He went to the east coast and he was promoted to corporal, then sergeant and finally they sent him to Officer Candidate school in Camp Lee in Virginia,

Fort Lee now. They made him a second lieutenant and he joined a unit that at that time was in training to go to Europe. He contacted the spanish flu and died,” Ogg said.

“His wife was from Utah, and when he died, she went to the East Coast and brought him back. She interred him at the old Deport cemetery in 1920.

She didn’t marry again until the 1970s. When she died, [the locals] took him to the Greenleaf Cemetery and buried them side by side,” Ogg said.

Originally, the post’s location was east of the current building. That building, which was an old barn, has since been torn down and currently has the veterans’ memorial monument in its place, which was dedicated in 1946.

“On that monument are seven names of local boys who did not return from World War I and are buried in France. There are 14 names of local boys who did not return from World War II. Their names are also on that monument. There are other plagues for subsequent conflicts such as Vietnam, Korea and current conflicts,” Ogg said.

The current building was originally a T-shirt store that has since been renovated with two additional bathrooms and an extra space added for the Honor Room.

The post has 71 members, with its youngest being among the recent high school graduates.

9/13/2020

Re: Special Request from The American Legion

Subject: **Re: Special Request from The American Legion**

Date: 9/11/2020 5:12:57 PM Central Standard Time

From: klark.byrd@theparisnews.com

To: legion1dis@aol.com

Ms. Bussey no longer works at The Paris News, however, the article was written while she was employed and it belongs to The Paris News. You may share the article as long as it continues to be credited to The Paris News.

Thank you,
Klark Byrd
Managing Editor
The Paris News

On Fri, Sep 11, 2020, 4:53 PM Bobby Baker <legion1dis@aol.com> wrote:

Hello Ms. Bussey,

I represent the First District in which Paris and Deport are included. The recent article (Aug 2, 2020)on Warren E Teague, Post 199 Deport was great.

The Post and the District would like to send this to our State and National Organizations for possible inclusion in their newsletters and publications.

We need a release from you and the Paris News to be able to accomplish this task. We have been in this situation in previous occasions with other publications, but could not obtain a release.

We hope we can obtain one so Post 199 may be able to receive State and National Recognition on this achievement.

Thank you for your consideration.

FOR GOD AND COUNTRY - VETERANS STILL SERVING AMERICA

Bobby Baker
1st District
Adjutant