

Eli Lamar Whiteley
American Legion Post 228
1530 Sun City Blvd.
Suite 120, Box 444
Georgetown Texas, 78633

Eli Lamar Whiteley was a Medal of Honor winner from the Korean War. The post approved, by a 100% vote to spend the money required to place a brick with his name, branch of service, and the words Medal of Honor engraved on it. It will be placed in the walkway by the Veterans wall in Sun City.

Per our constitution, the membership voted again to not have a post home, bar, or restaurant. We are located within a retirement community of some 25,000 persons. As of the 1st of January 2022, our membership was 70 Legionnaires. December 31st, 2022, our membership has grown to 124 members. Of these numbers we average 63 per meeting, our average age is still 68, and participation at an event is approximately 80%.

Poster 228 continues to have a partnership with the junior reserve officers training program known as JROTC in the Georgetown Independent School district. We continue to provide them with a guest speaker for two

days each month. In May of 2022, we presented 2 cadets that are college bound with two \$1000 scholarships.

The US Flag retirement ceremony continues. Currently, we are utilizing the legacy outdoor pavilions fireplace. This is conducted monthly. The Sun City community has been invited on two occasions and in 2023 we expect an increase in community participation. We have the ceremony narrated so that everyone is able to hear what is being said.

A highlight of 2022 for post 228 was that in March of 2022, the CEO of Honor Flight Austin gave a presentation at a post-meeting and stated that he would like to have an Honor Flight from Sun City. Approximately 2 weeks later 48 applications were delivered to their office, 38 of those 48 applications made the trip to Washington DC during the month of May. The remaining 10 made the flight during the month of June 2022.

The post continues to be very active within Sun City, our partnership with the Kiwanis Club has increased and we continue to set up 700 chairs for Veteran's day and Memorial Day services here in Sun City. We provided major assistance to the Kiwani's semiannual garage sales. Not only did we help pick up, sort, and relocate all of the

items that Sun City donates to this garage sale but we also provided 31 Legionnaires to assist in the sale. This garage sale covers an area of a 300-automobile parking lot and it is done twice a year. The Kiwanis Club now has established a line entry in their budget, providing post 228 with \$500 per year to send a qualifying boy or girl to the state competition each summer. Other than the 500 per year given to post 228 all of the profits that the Kiwanis make are utilized for various youth programs in Williamson County.

In November of 2022, 24 members of the post were involved in the Salvation Army's ring the bell program.

The Sunday after Thanksgiving Day members of the post again went to the VA National Cemetery and helped place reefs on the graves of our departed brothers and sisters. They will also go back in January to help remove them from the more than 12,000 graves.

We had a Christmas luncheon and over 100 members and guests were present along with a visit by Santa. April 20 2022 we had a member appreciation bar b que. It was a success.

The post has two veteran service officers and during 2022 those two Legionnaires have assisted more than 48 members and non-members with their VA applications for compensation. Several of those that were assisted have already received notification that their disabilities were increased up to 100%. This continues to be a viable program for post 228.

The post continues to assist members and non-members who desire to be buried in the Texas veterans cemetery to complete their worksheets and deliver them to the administrative office at the cemetery. We also continue to assist the widow or widower from the time of death to the time of burial. Once the widow or widower has the time and the date of interment, we contact the appropriate branch of service to provide honors if they are warranted. On average 40 or more Legionnaires attend the unaccompanied burials of a veteran.

In 2022 the post sponsored two young men to attend Boys State in Austin TX. In 2023 we are hoping to sponsor four young men to state and two females to Girls state. The females will be sponsored by our new post auxiliary which currently has 25 members in it. All of the auxiliary's documentation was sent to the appropriate

offices of the American Legion and they are waiting for their temporary charter.

Our Website is [Deb 561. WIXSITE. COM/Legion Post 228](http://Deb561.WIXSITE.COM/LegionPost228).

The post staff that was in office during 2021 was automatically voted back in to serve for 2022. The staff is currently functioning at 100% with an assistant as a backup for each position.

The post currently has two color guards consisting of eight people for the men and four for the female. In 2022 we were requested a total of nine times; we completed a color guard performance eight times. The color guard also presented and dedicated to the Grand Living Retirement Community an American, and Texas flag. A stand for each was provided so they can be permanently displayed in their auditorium. The color guard also conducted the opening ceremonies at the Williamson County veteran Christmas luncheon.

We continue to be written in the Sun Ray Magazine, a Sun City publication. During 2022 we averaged 11 of the 12 months having a photograph of our post on different occasions.

Our post is dedicated to serving veterans whether they are members of our post or not. In 2023 we hope to increase our visibility within Sun City.