

# Eli Lamar Whiteley Post No. 228, The American Legion Georgetown, TX

## History of Post 228

### 2021

The Eli Lamar Whiteley Post No. 228 of The American Legion, Georgetown, Texas is located within a Sun City retirement community of some 25,000 persons. We are dedicated to being known as “the Post that serves” their community.

Per our constitution, the membership voted to not have a Post home, bar, or restaurant. In February 2021 there were only 15 initial members and we have since grown to over 70 legionnaires. Our average age is 68. We average 50 or more members in attendance per monthly meeting. Our participation at an event is approximately 40-45 percent of the membership.

The Post was very active within our retirement community with 30 plus organizations. We have a partnership with the Kiwanis Club and work with the Rotary Club when asked. Our post partnered with these organization for the following 2021 events:

- Memorial Day ceremony in Sun City: We set up/removed 700 chairs for the ceremony
- Veteran’s Day ceremony in Sun City: We set up/removed 700 chairs for the ceremony

- Sun City Fall Garage Sale: We provided assistance to various clubs who joined together to collect items, sort, and sell the gathered items at a gigantic garage sale that covers a 300-car parking lot. The monies collected are used to support youth activities and children's programs within Williamson County, Texas. We used this time to talk about the American Legion to garage sale visitors.

We participated in the "Ring the Bell" program for the Salvation Army for one day in both November and December.

The American Legion Post 228 formed a partnership with the Junior Reserve Officer Training program [JROTC] at the Georgetown High School, Georgetown Texas. We provided them with a guest speaker once per month.

In December, members of the Post went to the local Texas State Veteran's Cemetery in Killeen, Texas and helped place wreaths on the graves of our departed brothers and sisters.

The Post elected to assist with scouting on a case-by-case basis such as assisting with selected merit badges, if requested. Further support will be revisited in the future.

The Post has a very successful program to assist any veteran or spouse complete documentation required to request burial in a Veteran's Cemetery. We have assisted over 71 people this year.

The Post attended an unaccompanied person burial. When a veteran is being buried at the Veteran's Cemetery and has no one there with them, notifications are sent to various organizations within a 100 mile radius. Members of our Post attend the ceremony. At the last one held on 22 December 2021, there were approximately 400 persons in attendance, 18 of these were from Post 228.

Our post donated monies to the American Legion Kentucky Relief Fund.

Our post raised money by receiving donations from the community. We also held a raffle. This money is used for our scholarship program.

The Post formed our own Color Guard.

A website and Facebook page were created for the post.

We have been written about in several periodicals here in the Georgetown area.

## **2022**

The Post plans to sponsor two boys to the Boys State Program.

We will invite the Georgetown High School Junior Reserve Officer Training program [JROTC] to participate in the US Flag retirement ceremonies to be held at Sun City upon receipt of our Special Event Fire Permit from the Georgetown Fire Department.

We will be awarding the appropriate medal at the school year-ending ceremony and providing two \$1000.00 scholarships to qualifying Georgetown High School JROTC members.

In January, members of the post went to the local Texas State Veteran's Cemetery in Killeen, Texas and removed the wreaths placed on the graves of our departed brothers and sisters in December 2021.