



# BOYS NATION

**Joshua Kenneth Cheadle of Newport Coast, California  
elected 2018 American Legion Boys Nation President**

Joshua Cheadle of Newport Coast was sponsored to Boys State this year by Newport Harbor Post 291 in the 29th District. He went on to be selected as a representative to Boys Nation.

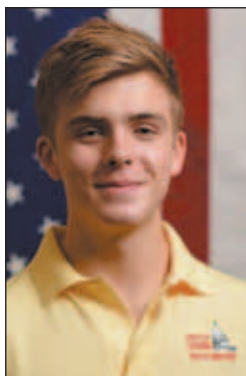
As soon as he arrived at American Legion Boys Nation, Joshua Cheadle was “inspired” by how passionate and excited everyone was. Now, he’ll lead that passion as president of Boys Nation 2018.

Cheadle, the Federalist candidate from California, defeated Idaho Nationalist Braden Thomas Tuesday night in an election which was run as a mock presidential campaign in the Boys Nation presidential election.

Two representatives from each of the 50 Boys States represent their home state or, in the case of the District of Columbia, their district as a senator. The senators caucus at the beginning of the session, organize into committees and conduct hearings on bills, allowing delegates to learn the proper legislative procedures according to the U.S. Senate. Activities include mock party conventions, legislative elections, debates, speeches and visits to Capitol Hill and other historical sites. Delegates will also visit the offices of their state’s respective members of Congress and present bills of their own creation.



Joshua Kenneth Cheadle of California celebrates with his fellow senators after being elected 2018 American Legion Boys Nation President at Marymount University in Arlington, Va., on Tuesday, July 24, 2018. Photo by Lucas Carter/The American Legion



Since Boys Nation began in 1946, a number of its graduates have been elected to public office, including presidents, congressmen, state governors and state legislators.

Just after his 54-46 victory, Cheadle said it still didn’t feel real.

*“I mean, it’s just such an incredible honor, and I thought it would be great to have this responsibility, but it’s not (just that),” Cheadle said. “It’s great to know that a bunch of people saw my speech, heard my message, and thought that I would be the best leader for them, and for that, I am so grateful, and I am going to work so hard to make sure that this is the best experience possible.”*

To do so, Cheadle said he’s focused on making sure his fellow senators achieve what they want to do the rest of this week.

*“What I’m trying to achieve is not what I want to do, it’s making sure that everyone else can do what they want to do and that’s helping them pass their legislation, talking to them, and just making sure that everything’s passed, everything’s done with honor, with integrity and we do it to the best of our abilities,” he said. “Make this a memorable experience not because this is Boys Nation but because of what we accomplish at Boys Nation.”*

Cheadle’s fellow Federalist, Aabid Razvi of Texas, defeated Nationalist Levi Hren of Wyoming 73-27 in the vice-presidential election.

Before the voting, the presidential candidates answered questions on a variety of topics, including the U.S. embassy in Jerusalem, the opioid epidemic, Russian interference in U.S. elections, media bias, civil discourse and illegal immigration, while the vice-presidential candidates weighed in on topics including tension between law enforcement and minorities, the deficit, negative campaign ads, and the legalization and subsequent taxation of marijuana.

An incoming senior at Sage Hill School

with a cumulative GPA of 4.50, Cheadle plans on attending the University of Pennsylvania and pursuing a career in business and/or finance. His extra-curricular activities include Boys Scouts of America, Youth and Government, Mock Trial, Sage Hill Alumni Development Endowment, Student Ambassador, Stock Portfolio Management, UBS Wealth Management, Second Nature Aquaponics, and a Sage Debate Board Member. His community service includes the Costa Mesa Boys and Girls Club, Orange County Debate League, and El Sol Science and Arts Academy. If that’s not enough, Cheadle is also on the Sage Varsity Sailing where he serves as skipper and crew on FJ sailboats in regattas throughout the state.

Honors and Awards:



Joshua Kenneth Cheadle of California delivers remarks after being elected the 2018 American Legion Boys Nation President at Marymount University in Arlington, Va., on Tuesday, July 24, 2018. Photo by Lucas Carter/The American Legion

Boy Scouts of America (BSA), 20 merit badges, Eagle Scout; Debate, MSPDP National Championships (8), 2nd Best Speaker and 5th Bester Team award Mock Trial, Outstanding Performance as a Pretrial Attorney

(Contributing sources)

<https://www.legion.org/boysnation/242686/boys-nation-day-5-election>

<https://www.businesswire.com/news/home/20180725005375/en/California-Student-Elected-President-2018-American-Legion>

Sandy Schneeberger, Boys State Commission-Area 5

Photos by Lucas Carter/The American Legion



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### NOTICE:

- Submissions to the *California Legionnaire* must be submitted by the due date published in the *California Legionnaire* and on the Department website [www.calegion.org](http://www.calegion.org)
- Photos should be no less than 580KB. If emailing from your smart phone, send at the highest resolution. Do not embed photos into your Word.doc nor an email. Send photos as separate images, use a numbering system to match photos with their appropriate photo caption which should be typed in a Word.doc. Images that are pulled off of web sites will not reproduce well, if at all. PDFs must be saved as high resolution from their original document. Email articles to: [aide\\_deptcmdr@att.net](mailto:aide_deptcmdr@att.net) with the words **California Legionnaire** in the subject line of your email so that it will not be overlooked.
- All submissions become the property of The American Legion Department of California. All submitted material is subject to edit, rework and omission. We are not responsible for lost items or misplaced material.
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# LEGIONNAIRE OF THE YEAR

By Louie M. Adame, Chairman, Leadership Commission



The Department of California of the American Legion recently held its annual convention at the McClellan Air Base outside of Sacramento, CA June 21-24, 2018. And each year, the Department of California selects one Legionnaire from over 88,000 members for its "Legionnaire of the Year" award. On June 22, 2018, The Department of California of The American Legion, at its 100th annual convention held in Sacramento, CA, announced that Robert M. Brower was selected as its recipient of the prestigious "Legionnaire of the Year" award. Robert M. Brower is a six year member of The American Legion Newport Harbor Post 291 in Newport Beach, CA and serves as the Legislative Commissioner representing Area 5 (the five

Southern Counties) and as the District 29 (Orange County) Finance Officer.

The tireless efforts of this Legionnaire, who continuously advocates for veteran's interests, spent his personal funds to make multiple trips to Sacramento and a trip to D.C. for the annual "Storm the Hill," in order to meet our legislators personally garnering support and providing necessary information so lawmakers can make informed decisions. A Legionnaire who selflessly invests personal money, commits this much time and effort lobbying and advocating for our veterans truly deserves the Legionnaire of the Year award. Mr. Brower is still an instrumental member of the Orange County Veterans Memorial Cemetery project in Southern California where the City of Irvine continues assessing options as a result of referendum on the June 5 ballot in Irvine. Mr. Brower dedicates a lot of his time monitoring and providing input on veterans' legislation at the local, state and federal levels.

Mr. Brower has demonstrated relentless determination and perseverance on legislative issues that affect veteran's rights and benefits every day. Over the past year, this candidate has donated hundreds of hours of personal time following more than 70 veteran

related bills pending in Sacramento covering all four pillars of The American Legion, tracking the Legion's 115th Congressional Congress legislative priorities, and steadfastly advocating for a veterans cemetery in the community so our fellow veterans will have a final resting place. The cemetery alone has been an extremely contentious and emotional issue that demands the leadership, drive, and fortitude of this candidate to see the completion of this enormous project, while simultaneously volunteering time to the post, district, and department.

Mr. Brower served in the U.S. Army from 1968 to 1970 during which time he spent a year in the Republic of South Vietnam where he served as a reconnaissance squad team leader with Company E, of the 2nd Battalion of the 506th Infantry of the 101st Airborne Division. During his tour of duty, Sergeant Brower was awarded two Bronze Stars, one for heroism in ground combat, two Purple Hearts, a Combat Infantryman Badge, two Air Medals, a Vietnam Service Medal, Army Commendation Medal, Army Commendation Medal and other service awards. Sergeant Brower was part of the battle of Fire Support Base Ripcord, the last major engagement between U.S. forces and the North Vietnam Army.

## THE AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENT OF CALIFORNIA

### Legion College Class 2 - 2018

OCTOBER 26<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup>  
REDWOOD CITY, POST 105

REGISTRATION OPENS ON AUGUST 6<sup>th</sup>  
ONLINE AT [WWW.CALEGIONCOLLEGE.ORG](http://WWW.CALEGIONCOLLEGE.ORG)  
SEATING IS LIMITED



PREREQUISITE: MUST BE A GRADUATE OF THE AMERICAN LEGION BASIC TRAINING CLASS  
[HTTP://WWW.LEGION.ORG/ALEI](http://WWW.LEGION.ORG/ALEI)

## American Legion Riders - Area 3

July 14, 2018  
Post 509 - Fresno



Back row, left to Right: Department American Legion Rider, Area 5 Vice President, Gene Hobdy, Department American Legion Rider, Sgt. @ Arms, Mike Smith, Department American Legion Rider Vice President, Rey Ruiz.  
Front row, left to Right: Detachment of California Senior Vice Commander, Philip Stuart (Tiny), Detachment of California Area 3 Vice Commander, Dave Smith, Department American Legion Rider Area 3 Vice President, Paul La Pierre, Department of California American Legion Area 3 Vice Commander, Roy Santiago, Department American Legion Rider President, Mick Sobczak



## FROM THE DEPARTMENT COMMANDER'S DESK



**Larry Leonardo, Sr.**  
Commander

**MEMBERSHIP,  
COMMUNICATION  
MENTORING**  
"We have the Watch...  
The Legacy  
Continues"

I would like to thank the members of the Department of California for

the opportunity to serve as your State Commander for 2018 – 2019. I would also like to express my gratitude to the many Posts, District and Areas that I visited during my campaign, for the hospitality to myself as well as my team mates. And finally, to the members of the Committee to Elect for their guidance, support, encouragement and camaraderie. I appreciate the support shown by all.

During my campaign through out the state, my message was **M-C-M...Membership, Communication and Mentoring**, three things we need to improve upon to make sure the American Legion remains strong, relevant and active, for the next 100 years, starting NOW.

Membership is job "1" not only for our Membership Team, our Post and District First Vice Commanders,

but to every Legionnaire in the great organization. Each of you are our greatest Public Relation asset we have. Our actions, our programs and our community involvement, on a daily basis is our greatest PR effort.

**Communication** allows us to exchange ideas, provide constructive criticism and of course recruit new members, renew our members and retain our members, without two-way communication we can't do our jobs efficiently. Face-to-Face communication is still our best recruitment, retention and renewal tool. So is a friendly handshake. Our web-site is our communication hub, we will revamp it, we will update it in a timely manner and utilize it to enhance our exposure, provide the tools needed for our leaderships' operations and keep our membership informed.

**Mentoring** our members, new and old. Mentoring in the proper practices of the American Legion, from running a meeting, to the proper Legion protocol preserving our traditions and rituals. Ensuring the proper wearing of the official uniform of the American Legion. Instructing our members on the various programs, the Four Pillars, providing opportunities for self-improvement through the

many programs such as "Basic Training" California's American Legion College and the numerous membership training tools available to help you learn and prosper in your Post, District, Area and Department positions.

My motto "**We have the Watch... The Legacy Continues**" the first part means the new guard has taken over the watch, fresh and ready to take their place in this organization, "the Legacy Continues" doesn't mean we continue with the status quo, it represents what our American Legion founders envisioned in this great organization, the Four Pillars, our preamble, strong leadership, strong advocacy for our veterans, their families and strong involvement in our Communities, States and Nation. Veteran serving America. We must continue the "**WHAT**" we do and improve and update the "**HOW**" we do it in a full thought out and efficient manner.

We know **WHAT** to do, after all we had 100 years to do it, now we need to know **HOW** to do it. I begin with YOU, the greatest asset of the American Legion. The Commander steers the ship, the Adjutant and his or hers Office Staff makes the machinery operate, but the Navigation and the course we take is determined by YOU, the

Blue Cap Legionnaires through your leaders at the DEC and the Annual Convention. This is a team effort, if we all pull together we can make the Dept. of California the envy of all the other Departments.

Rest assured, I will do my very best to represent the Dept. of California, to lead our Department in to the next 100 years, it may not happen overnight or even in one year but the changes we need to proceed into the next 100 begins now and with our renewed effort and enthusiasm, we will keep the momentum rolling in the right direction.

I've said many times, when we address the need for progress, we must pay attention to the process. A well implemented process will insure well-planned progress. Your help is needed as you are the #1 asset of this organization and you determine our course. Let's make California membership grow and prosper.

By the Numbers,

**"100 years...Four Pillars...One Team"**

Yours in comradeship and devotion to mutual helpfulness.



## DEPARTMENT VICE COMMANDER — AREA 1



**Marj Goosey**

At the 100th California State Convention of the American Legion, Greenville resident and member of Indian Valley Post 568, Marj Goosey, was elected

Department Vice Commander for Area 1. Area 1 includes the Seven Districts bordering on or north of the I-80 Corridor; the Area extends north to the Oregon border, east to the Nevada border, and west to the Pacific Ocean. Marj, a four-time

District Commander for District 3, is the first Legionnaire from this District to serve as Department Vice Commander since 2001.

The photo to the left shows Marj being 'capped' by fellow Legionnaire, Paul Wise, also a member of IVP 568. Paul will serve as Area Chaplain for the term beginning with the capping ceremony and ending at the June 2019 State Convention in Ontario. Paul is also First Vice Commander for District 3 (again!) this term.

Marj is a Vietnam-era Army



Veteran and has been a member of IVP 568 for 14 years. American Legion Indian Valley Post 568 meets

the second Tuesday of the month at 7 pm at the Legion Hall at 430 Main in Greenville. If you have served this country Honorably or know someone who has, come visit one of our meetings to learn more. We need YOU! A lot is happening and you could be part of it.

Marj is also a member of California American Legion Press Association (CALPA).

Contact info for Marj: marj.goosey43@gmail.com or 530 375 0063.

Thank you



## DEPARTMENT VICE COMMANDER — AREA 2



**James Scariot**

I am both honored and humbled to have been elected Area 2 Vice-Commander for 2018-2019. I look forward to working with the commanders of District 8, District 9,

District 10, District 13, District 26, and District 28.

Although some of you have heard what I am about to say, many people

don't know about me. I served on active duty at Ft. Leonard Wood, MO for basic training and wheel mechanic school. I then went to Ft. Knox, KY for the track vehicle mechanic's course. I served in the California Army National Guard from 1970-1975. I spent my final year in the Pennsylvania Army National Guard where my official classification was Senior Teletype Repairman. My actual position was driving a 5 ton tow truck

I am married to Kathleen (Kathy) F. Scariot. We just celebrated our 41st anniversary. We have

three children, Tina, Tony, and James Jr. (deceased). We have 5 grandchildren: Brian, Zachary, and Katie Scariot; James and Jenna Snyder. We are originally from Pittsburgh, PA but moved to Salinas 2 months after we married. Between Tony, Kathy, and me, we have served the citizens of Monterey County and the Monterey County Sheriff's Office a total of 74 years. I retired in 2006 after serving for 23 years.

During the time I have been a member of the American Legion, I have served as Salinas

Post 31 Commander, Jr. Past Commander, Chaplain, Judge Advocate, Vice Commander, and Executive Committee multiple times. I have served as District 28 Commander, Jr. Past Commander, Vice Commander, and Executive Committee multiple times. I have served as a commissioner on the SAL Commission, Foreign Relations and National Security Commission, and Ways and Means Commission. I am currently the liaison for Congressman Jimmy Panetta for the National Legislative Committee for California.

# 100th Department Convention Highlights

Photos by Fred Shacklett



## Save the Date:

### Area 1

August 25-26, 2018  
Post 165, Vacaville

### Area 3

September 29, 2018  
Bakersfield

### Basic Training: American Legion Style

September 15, 2018  
Hollywood Post 43  
(see flyer in this issue)

### Area 4

September 29, 2018  
Battleship Iowa Post 61, San Pedro

### Los Angeles County Council

September 22, 2018  
Commanders & Adjutants Dinner  
American Legion Post 790-West Covina  
(see flyer in this issue)

### Legion College Class 2 – 2018

October 26 – 28, 2018  
Redwood City, Post 105  
(see flyer in this issue)

### Area 6

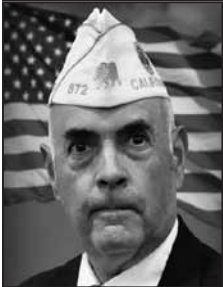
October 27, 2018,  
Post 280, East Pasadena

# Highlights... *cont. from page 4*





## DEPARTMENT VICE COMMANDER — AREA 3



Roy A. Santiago

Greetings,

While we await our membership goals, we must keep in mind, last year's numbers (as to percentages, numbers renewed and newly recruited)

are in the past and now serve

as benchmarks of the record of progress. We must pursue higher membership #s, be ambitious and achievement oriented. It's a good thing. Be alert for opportunities to generate finances from outside sources. Seek out community involvement in support of our VA & R Foundation. "Helmet for Heroes" is just one tool in our bag of tools... our mission is to strengthen our Legion Family within our Posts/Districts. Encourage all to take the Legion Institute on-line. It's always

easier to recruit & retain when we know our programs/commissions. District Commanders, begin your visitations and eliminate the "Goose eggs" ASAP. Work with your counterparts in the Legion Family. Assist the Leadership in your Posts/District, be proactive, and have a positive mental attitude. The Fiscal year has just begun. Let's have a fabulous Centennial year. Commissioners, attend the Area meetings & DEC's. Send in your reports as well. Communicate in

between meetings. Together, we will achieve great things and make new milestones. "God Speed"

Respectfully Submitted:

Roy A. Santiago  
Cell -(408) 891-6835  
Email - prhman@yahoo.com

P.O. Box 178  
Hughson, CA 95326



## DEPARTMENT VICE COMMANDER — AREA 5



Tracy Rascoe

To begin, I would like to thank each and every Legionnaire for continuing to serve our great country and special thanks to those in Area 5 for electing me as your Area Commander. As

with any election, there were various challenges. However; as the cup is half full...challenges can provide excellent lessons!

I've been blessed in the past with years of excessive travels across our beautiful country as it enabled me to visit Posts in +20-states. Even prior to my joining any VSO, I enjoyed visiting Posts to help support, meet the locals and get to know their community. As a business operations and adult learning person, I also value learning the good, the bad and

even the ugly of business operational aspects.

With this in mind, my motto for this year is "Control the Controllable!" It's a common core approach that can be used by individuals, teams or organizations. In our case, let's focus our energies on things which we can control.

When individuals, teams or businesses come to me with issues, I often refer to "My 3-P's". These are: Policies, Procedures and People. For space purposes, I'll make this short but hopefully meaningful.

Policies: Like regulations in sports. WE MUST know what are the parameters internally and externally, i.e. Bylaws (National, Dept. & Post), House Rules, submissions (documentation, payments, etc.), etc. Do we know what they are? How often are they reviewed?

Procedures: Like the plays in

football. In order to have proper procedures, we first need to know what successful outcomes we wish to obtain - each play. First, do we know our Business? i.e. Pillars, Basic Training, LEAD's, American Legion College, Membership, etc. I mean, if we were in the widget making business, I'm sure one does not expect to be a leader of widgets by paying a fee, wearing a badge, a hat and reading a page or two about it. What does it take to make us successful? Do we have a plan and procedures for it? i.e. General SOP's for canteen, hall rentals, membership, etc. a strategic plan. Can we learn how to do it better and if so, from whom?

People: The players in the game. This is the one that is often the first to be blamed; however with facts, it's more often the last at fault. I say this because we should trust but verify...were proper policies and procedures in place and effectively taught before pointing the finger

at a person(s). In addition; my fellow comrades, we must stop the "Telephone Game"...some of our greatest people losses are from the fragments of these grenades and some...well they are intended to cause smoke.

Lastly; as adults we know good communication is vital in any relationship. In addition; as wartime veterans, many of us are well aware of the unwanted outcomes due to improper communication. WE (me included) must control our communication if we want to reduce unwanted outcomes within our presently shrinking organization. We the people must be a true value to our most important asset - our membership!

Comrades let's keep it simple, we cannot change the past but we can change the future - "CONTROL THE CONTROLLABLE" and let's have a great 100th Year!!!



## DEPARTMENT SERGEANT-AT-ARMS



Eric Kurtz

Greetings to my American Legion Department of California Family. I want to start by saying thank you to each and every one for your support and for putting your trust in me to serve

you as your Department of California Centennial Sgt-at-Arms for the 2018 - 2019 year. I am looking forward to being able to work with and serve each and every one of you, as well as seeing as many of you during this

special 100th anniversary year for the American Legion as a whole and the Department of California. The most important things that I have for this year is the taking care of the business at hand, continuing growth in ritual and protocol, and the important comradery before, during, and after the day's business at hand as family.

There is a very special lady that I need to acknowledge who has been an important part of my life for the past two years, even with all the travels for the American Legion and personal lives, through thick and thin, Cynthia Chacon. Thank you, sweetheart, for being there for me even when you were not always able

to be with me at every event. There are not enough words in the universe to say how much I Love you, and how grateful for everything that you have done for me. You have been the greatest navigator and traveling companion, especially during my campaign for Department Sgt-at-Arms.

There are several good friends that I have served for and with over the past several years as Assistant Sgt-at-Arms during Department conventions and DEC's, and those who have mentored and encouraged me for this great position of service in the American Legion and the Veterans that we serve. I want to

encourage everyone, especially the newer and younger members to take the step up to volunteer at the post, district and department levels for the American Legion and learn about the organization, the many jobs and positions, and the traditions that we have. We all need to continue to learn and grow in the rituals and protocols so that we can help and mentor our new and younger members and encourage them to become our next leaders. Let's make this a great year for the American Legion Department of California.

For God and Country,  
Semper Fi



## DEPARTMENT CHAPLAIN



John Aldridge

Blessings everyone,

I'm honored to be appointed as your Department Chaplain for this 2018-2019 year by Commander Larry Leonardo. I'll try and do the best job I can to serve the Department.

Congratulations to all newly

elected and appointed Department, Area, District and Post Officers. I also extend my congratulations to newly elected and appointed Officers of the American Legion Auxiliary, Sons of the American Legion and American Legion Riders.

Congratulations to Lionel Moreno! During the 2018 Department Convention, Lionel Moreno was presented the "2018 Post Chaplain of the Year Award" for his distinguished service to the Chaplaincy. Chaplain Moreno is

from Area 6, District 18, Post 75. There were 11 other Chaplains recognized for their many hours of services rendered, miles traveled and out of pocket expenses. Chaplains perform a much-needed service in our communities to our family members and friends. It's only appropriate they be recognized for the many Solemn occasions they attend and the essential services they perform. Their willingness to serve, travel, and give freely of their time and resources is truly praise worthy. God Bless every Chaplain in service

to God and Country.

Two events took place for Chaplains at the Department Convention, the Chaplains Conference and the Chaplains Breakfast. The theme at our Conference was "Chaplains Working Together". Overall the Conference was well attended. We shared experiences, exchanged information and discussed quite a few concerns. I hope to see more Chaplains attend

—CHAPLAIN, see page 7

## DEPARTMENT HISTORIAN



Wayne Yee

### Team Work!

The 2018 Department Convention is now part of history. Last year, during this time, I was contemplating about the new tasks ahead.

This year I can reflect on what I have accomplished and what I want

to do, "moving forward to build a network of future Historians." I've come to learn that the best resources were the Past Department Historians. I would like to "Thank" Anna Brown (1967-68), Dolores Shick (1981-82), James Higuera (1992-93), Marilyn Rideaux (2005-06), Raymond C. Baxter (2007-08), Froggy Barghoon (2008-09), and Steven Weber (2009-10) for taking the time and extending their expertise in grading the History Books for the Department History

Book Contest.

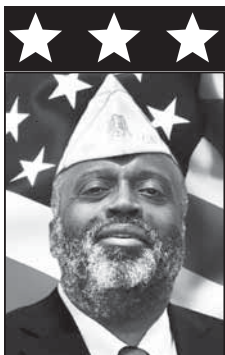
We are all volunteers, and in many instances, have more tasks than time to accomplish what we have scheduled. For all future Historians, please feel free to focus on a team effort. I am recruiting all to be part of this team. We can't be everywhere at any given time. Your inputs and photos are important. Any submissions will be credited to the individuals who contributed

the resource. Every individual has talent, and I want to tap into that.

I have appointed Henry Sanchez (North) and Fred Shacklett (South) to be Assistant Department Historian. I encourage everyone to contact me and volunteer your services for the Post, District or Area that you represent.

My Email address is: w.yee@att.net

## DEPARTMENT MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR



Harry Woods

Hello Team California

This article is going to be short and sweet and straight to the point. If you recall in my last article I said we have to get off to a fast start to have any chance of

meeting our membership goals. You have your four-part membership plan. Remember that was calling renewals, contacting post 1000's, setting up a membership table once a week at a local store, setting up a membership table at as many community events as possible. You've gotten the support of your post and you're ready to go.

National has sent the first renewal notice, and 60% of all the members that are going to renew, do it after the first renewal notice. That means that six out of ten of your members will automatically renew, the rest will require a little more motivation. This is where the post membership

team jumps into action and gives the members a personal call. If you want to try something else first, go right ahead, but over the years the personal call has been the best. Here's why, you have an opportunity to clear up any misunderstandings or answer questions if they exist, and you can save memberships. If you don't have a phone number, obviously text or email them. I would also suggest that you make it a priority to get phone numbers for all your members. Something that I believe has been neglected in the past, is reaching out to the spouse of a new or transferring member, if applicable, even if they're not interested they'll appreciate the gesture. This creates a more welcoming environment and, will ease the veteran's transition into your post, because the spouse feels more comfortable.

So, what do you say on your renewal call? This can vary depending on your relationship with the member, but I would ask myself what I would want to hear if someone called me. I would ask about them, and see if they're okay,

especially if I hadn't seen them for a while. If everything is fine, get them up to speed on what's happening at the post and gently remind them about dues. If you have an early bird event, that you put on, remind them about the great dinner they'll be enjoying for acting quickly. The early-bird incentive event should be built up and marketed as a big deal.

Communication is extremely important with all your members. but it is especially important for your first to three-year members. Contact them with emails, newsletters, texts and by phone at minimum once a month. Don't worry about bothering someone, let your enthusiasm show, after all if you're not excited about the legion why should they be. I'm told that even if they don't respond, they like the idea that the post is keeping in contact, and when they can, they'll support the post. There's no substitute for personal contact.

I'll be in Indianapolis for the membership workshop during fall DEC so goals will be established after I get back with a number, but for planning purposes assume your

goal, as a district, is the same as the beginning of last year, even if you closed a post. The commander will ultimately make the decision depending on the goal we're given. In the final analysis don't worry about the number just go out and renew, retain and get new members, and good things will happen. Remember you only have to do the challenging work of getting 100% membership once, then it's a matter of maintaining it, while continuing to grow at a steady pace. I've asked at National and I was told that on average you'll have to replace 15% of your membership every year, so plan on it. The ideal position to be in is 110%, so you just have to reload and that's important because you never know where your next superstar is coming from. The bottom line is, do the right things long enough consistently and you'll be successful. Help each other and ask for help when you need it.

IT'S UP TO YOU TO CREATE A WINNING TEAM!

Have a great summer and always look for the gold

### -CHAPLAIN, from page 6

the Conference next year. The Chaplains Breakfast was purely social. We enjoyed good food, great fellowship and an outstanding Speaker, NEC Janet Wilson.

If this is your first time being a Chaplain or if you have questions, please connect with other Chaplains in your immediate area. There are Chaplains at every level in the American Legion (Post, District, Area and Department). I'm sure that Chaplains in the Auxiliary, Sons, and Riders will also avail themselves to assist when possible with whatever needs doing. A cohesive working relationship is a productive one. The Chaplains Handbook is available on the National website for downloading and the Chaplains

Prayer book is available at Emblem Sales. Shortly after being installed, our new Commander briefly talked about good Customer Service. I think his speech was an inspiring one and a very good reminder to Chaplains because we sometimes encounter members requesting our services under the most extreme circumstances. And, the aging of our members makes it essential that we be alert and prepared for all Service needs. Remember, we exist to serve others.

During Memorial Services, we want to honor and pay tribute to all Legion family members who've transferred to Post Everlasting. At upcoming DEC's, I would appreciate



District Commanders giving me the number of post everlasting transfers for the last 10 days prior to Memorial service. The Department HQ staff will provide me with the total number of Post Everlasting

transfers up to 10 days prior to Memorial service. This will help eliminate duplicate counting of Post everlasting members during the service.

Finally, God sees in us what others sometimes don't see, our value and our potential. One of the best things we can do in our great organization is to encourage each other, help each other and above all, Pray for each other. I personally thank all American Legion family members for their service. God Bless you and keep you.

*Do not judge others, and you will not be judged. Do not condemn others, or it will all come back against you. Forgive others, and you will be forgiven.*

Luke 6:37

**Deadline for the  
October issue of the  
California Legionnaire is  
September 8, 2018**

**To advertise in the  
California Legionnaire  
contact Debra Leak 559-638-2244  
debra@midvalleypublishing.com**

# DEPARTMENT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE – 2018/2019



Department Commander  
Larry Leonardo



Department Adjutant  
William "Bill" Siler III



Department Sgt-at-Arms  
Eric Kurtz



Department Chaplain  
John Aldridge



Judge Advocate  
Autrey James



Parliamentarian  
Eddie Fletcher



Department Service Officer  
Marc Jenkins



Department Vice Commander-Area 1  
Marj Goosey



Department Vice Commander-Area 2  
James Scariot Sr.



Department Vice Commander-Area 3  
Roy Santiago



Department Vice Commander-Area 4  
Peter Bernard



Department Vice Commander-Area 5  
Tracy Rascoe



Department Vice Commander-Area 6  
Julio Jimenez



District 1 Commander  
Ricky Cooper



District 2 Commander  
Rick Kern



District 4 Commander  
John Leach



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Wayne Holland



District 6 Commander  
William Boles



District 8 Commander  
Eduardo Ramirez



District 9 Commander  
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District 10 Commander  
Walter Sterling Wright



District 11 Commander  
Paula Bibby



District 12 Commander  
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District 13 Commander  
Sherry Henry



District 14 Commander  
Leslie Chappel



District 15 Commander  
Ralph Wenzinger



District 16 Commander  
Janice Somers



District 17 Commander  
Jimmy Cummings



District 18 Commander  
Scott Sinclair



District 19 Commander  
Louis R. Gard Jr.



District 20 Commander  
Ellen Mitchell



District 21 Commander  
Monique Clemons



District 22 Commander  
Chris Yates



District 23 Commander  
Jeep Barnes



District 24 Commander  
David Gibson



District 25 Commander  
Charles Hicks



District 26 Commander  
George Smith



District 27 Commander  
Randolph Morehead Sr.



District 28 Commander  
Natasha Pinedo



District 29 Commander  
Martha Huff



National Executive Committeeman  
(Elect) Larry Van Kuran



Alt. Nat'l Exec. Committeeman  
(Elect) Kenneth Kramlich



Past National Commander  
Bruce Thiesen



## SAL COMMANDER'S CORNER



**James R. Fischer**  
Commander 2018-2019

*Detachment of California*

Greeting Comrades,

As we begin this new Legion year, let us re-dedicate ourselves to building a better

Detachment. Back to the basics, a simple yet powerful statement.

Respect, communication, teamwork, and information which should be cornerstone principles for the Sons of The American Legion.

Respect – we all have a desire to help our Veteran's and their families. As I'm sure we all have different ideas on how to do this, no idea is wrong. Foster and develop those ideas to see if they can make a big impact on our organization or improve the lives of our Veterans. It is important for us to have a culture of mutual respect. We are all here for the same reason. Let us support each other in every way, come along side new ideas, develop existing ideas, and work our program to the fullest.

Communication – we all have cell phones. When we send out emails or text messages and get no response, let's pick up those phones and make a call. It amazes me that we all have time to play games on our phones, but not enough time to make a call. A simple, "how are you?", "how can I help you?", or "do you need anything?" can go a long way. It helps people feel that they really matter, which they do. We have a lot of methods for communicating, I just want to encourage everyone to utilize all of them. Figure out how your Districts and Squadrons like to be communicated to. Ask them, "hey what is the best way I can make sure you are getting the Detachment information?" That is a powerful question, that people love to answer.

Teamwork – it doesn't matter who is in charge. It doesn't matter if they do things a little different. What matters is the end result. If a person steps up and is willing to spearhead a project then we owe it to the program to get behind that person and support them to the fullest. Many hands make light work. None of us is a strong and smart as all of us. Therefore, none of us should be alone doing a task or working this program.

Information – we have a website, a Facebook page, and a newsletter. You should be connected with all 3 of these tools. Let's use these things and get this information to all of our members. This is a great opportunity

for us to "brand" our organization and continue to get our name out there in the public to raise awareness and support for our program. Please go to our website at [salcalifornia.com](http://salcalifornia.com). Our Facebook page can be found at SAL Detachment of California, search for our page and please "like" us. Our newsletter is called the Adventure and is a state of the art best in the land type of publication, it can be found at [sonsadventure.com](http://sonsadventure.com). Tip, the flip book newsletter is set to music which is a fantastic feature but in order to shut off the music from your phone viewing you need to close the app. All 3 of these information tools are at your disposal and should be used to send information, tell us what you have coming in your Squadrons, share pictures, share videos, and develop ideas and content.

As your Commander this year, my "pet" project will be Project Hero. This falls under VA & R, this is an organization that helps Veterans with mental and physical disabilities by providing bicycles and rides to go on. Our new VA & R chairman Roger Coggins has been a huge supporter of this program. He will be doing a presentation at our Fall DEC in Amador this year. As the year progresses you will hear more and more about this project to support Project Hero and many other programs that the SAL supports. I urge you to get as involved as possible in all of these opportunities to serve and help make our world a better place for our Nation's heroes.

Our Detachment will be sponsoring a resolution at the National Convention this year in Minneapolis, MN. An amendment to our National Constitution hasn't happened in over 30 years, this is exciting for all of us in this great state. California has a great opportunity at the National level to lead by example and inspire future leadership in our organization. Thank you to all who are helping to take California higher within the Sons.

In closing, let's work together, treat each other with respect, share information / ideas / resources, and pick up the phone and talk to each other. I am extremely excited about this year, I am proud to be your 2018-2019 Detachment Commander, and I am driven by the hard work displayed by the members of this Detachment. This is going to be a fun and great year!

For God and Country in Support of the American Legion Family.

# Legislative Advocate



**Seth Reeb**  
Legislative Advocate

On July 6, the legislature began its summer recess which will go until August 6. When they return from recess, they will hear the bills which are still alive. August 31 is

the last day that bills can be voted on. Legislation that survives this process will go to the governor for his signature or veto. Legislation that does not make it past August 31 is dead. The governor has until September 30 to sign or veto bills. Bills that are signed by the governor, for the most part, take effect on January 1, 2019 (some bills have clauses which specify that they take effect at other dates).

The general election is on November 6 this year. There will be a new governor as well as some new legislators to replace those who were termed out, moved on to other office, etc. The new legislature for the 2019-20 legislative session will meet for the first time on December 3, 2018 for an organizational session and swearing-in.

Below is a list of the top bills that we have been advocating on for the department and their current status (as of July 5). Currently, the American Legion-Department of California is in official support of 35 bills. We are also tracking many other bills which may have relevance to veterans or the military and could be amended in the upcoming 2 months. We will provide a final status of all legislation in early November.

### Top Supported Bills:

#### AB 1873-OBERNOLTE (R-BIG BEAR LAKE)

Would repeal the \$5 fee provisions in current law to obtain "veteran" designation on your driver's license, authorizing an applicant whose veteran status has been verified to make a veteran designation request and requiring the department to make that designation on the applicant's license, without the additional charge of \$5.  
Location/Status: senate appropriations committee.  
Position: SUPPORT

#### AB 2325-IRWIN

#### (D-FULLERTON)

Would prevent a county from denying an eligible veteran county mental or behavioral health services while the veteran is waiting for a determination of eligibility for, and availability of, mental or behavioral health services provided by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs.  
Location/Status: on the governor's desk.  
Position: SUPPORT

#### AB 2521-QUIRK-SILVA (D-FULLERTON)

Seeks to curb abuses by unscrupulous lenders who seek to deny deployed military members the benefits of the California military families financial relief act via a loophole in the law.  
Location/Status: on the governor's desk.  
Position: SUPPORT

#### AB 2568-REYES (D-GRAND TERRACE)

Would require county jails to, upon detention of a person, perform a case summary that includes checking if the person has served in the United States military.  
Location/Status: senate appropriations committee.  
Position: SUPPORT

#### AB 2801-SALAS (D-BAKERSFIELD)

Addresses the problem of veteran's and law enforcement memorials being vandalized. Seeks to create penalties for these actions.  
Location/Status: senate floor.  
Position: SUPPORT

#### SB 1043-NEWMAN (D-FULLERTON)

Increase in local assistance funding for county veterans service officers (from the current \$5.6 million to \$7 million).  
Location/Status: dead.  
Position: SUPPORT

#### SB 1080-NEWMAN (D-FULLERTON)

Sb 1080 would streamline the state's driver licensing requirements for active duty military and their families, so they can begin earning extra income from transportation network companies (ridesharing companies like Uber and Lyft) without unnecessary fees and delays.  
Location/Status: assembly appropriations committee.

—AVOCATE, see page 11

**–ADVOCATE,**  
*from page 10*

**SB 1137-VIDAK  
(R-HANFORD)**

Sb1137 will require california department of veterans affairs and the california department of consumer affairs to increase awareness and notification for veterans regarding professional licensing.

Location/Status: assembly appropriations committee.  
Position: SUPPORT

**SB 1314-NGUYEN  
(R-GARDEN GROVE)**

Will require the california department of veterans affairs (calvet) to develop a plan to accommodate veterans with complex mental and behavioral needs at the state's veteran's homes.

Additionally, the plan shall also include improvements in the security of each home to ensure the safety of all residents, staff and visitors of the veterans homes.

Location/Status: assembly appropriations committee.  
Position: SUPPORT

**SB 1357-GAINES (R-EL  
DORADO HILLS)**

Reinstate the "veteran" license plate which will be available to only veterans.

Location/Status: dead.  
Position: SUPPORT

To access the legislature's website which has the language, status, votes, and analyses of all legislation from 1999 to the present, go to: <https://leginfo.ca.gov/faces/billsearchclient.Xhtml>

# IMPORTANT CONTACTS

Headquarters Staff	Name	Phone	E-Mail
Department Adjutant	Bill Siler	559-875-8387	<a href="mailto:bill@calegion.org">bill@calegion.org</a>
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Membership Coordinator	Allie Mosby	559-875-8387	<a href="mailto:allie@calegion.org">allie@calegion.org</a>
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Receptionist	Erica Alcorn	559-875-8387	<a href="mailto:erica@calegion.org">erica@calegion.org</a>

Area Vice Commanders	Name	Phone	E-Mail
Area 1 Districts: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7	Marj Goosey	530-375-0063	<a href="mailto:marjgoosey@aol.com">marjgoosey@aol.com</a>
Area 2 Districts: 8, 9, 10, 13, 26, 28	James Scariot	831-449-1474	<a href="mailto:bifsdad33@att.net">bifsdad33@att.net</a>
Area 3 Vice-Commander Districts: 11,12, 13, 14, 15, 27	Roy Santiago	408-891-6835	<a href="mailto:prhman@yahoo.com">prhman@yahoo.com</a>
Area 4 Districts: 17, 19, 23	Peter Bernard	310-288-0720	<a href="mailto:dupontbernard@att.net">dupontbernard@att.net</a>
Area 5 Districts: 21, 22, 25, 29, 30	Tracy Rascoe	760-425-0470	<a href="mailto:tracyrascoe@yahoo.com">tracyrascoe@yahoo.com</a>
Area 6 Districts: 16, 18, 20, 24	Julio Jimenez	818-919-9545	<a href="mailto:jimenezjulio12@yahoo.com">jimenezjulio12@yahoo.com</a>

## Sons of the American Legion

Commander	Jim Fischer	909-816-0629	<a href="mailto:jamesrfischersr@gmail.com">jamesrfischersr@gmail.com</a>
Adjutant	Ned Fox	unpublished	<a href="mailto:nedley70@surewest.net">nedley70@surewest.net</a>

## American Legion Riders

President	Mick Sobczak	951-526-4717	<a href="mailto:president@alrdoc.org">president@alrdoc.org</a>
Secretary	Debbie Proffitt	562-980-6084	<a href="mailto:secretary@alrdoc.org">secretary@alrdoc.org</a>

**American Legion Auxiliary  
Department of California**  
San Francisco War Memorial Building  
San Francisco, CA 94102-4570  
(415) 861-5092  
FAX (415) 861-8365

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**Deadline for the  
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[debra@midvalleypublishing.com](mailto:debra@midvalleypublishing.com)**

# Ways and Means Commission

**Janice Somers,**  
**Chairman, 2017 - 2018**

Legionnaires:

Thank you for all your support this year!!! There were seven campaigns held throughout this year to fund our Department veteran service officers programs (VSOs). The kickoff was the calendar mailing, followed by the holiday cards, mailing labels, the special century club, sweepstakes, department centennial coins, and the note pads.

The Ways and Means Commission campaign's net proceeds fund the Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation Division (VA&R Division) which pays for the Department VSOs. This is the only program the division supports. The VA&R Division budget was almost one million dollars this year. There are 23 veteran service officers that work for our department. Many of them are part time workers. We fell short nearly \$500,000 of the projected net income. The general fund had to subsidize the VA&R Division budget.

So where do we go from here? Continuing to ask our Legionnaires to support seven campaigns throughout the year is not working. Many do not use the products and many who supported the campaigns

before cannot financially do so now and many of our big supporters transferred to Post Everlasting.

We are offering a yearly VA&R OPT-OUT campaign. What this means is that by donating a minimum of \$50.00 each year, you will be removed from the rest of the year's campaign mailings. Please bear with us as sometimes your donation and our campaign mailing will cross paths and overlap. It will take some time for the process and the reconciliation of the mailing list to align. Since this will take time to build up, your support of the campaigns is still very much needed. If you want to receive all the campaign items and are not on the mailing list, please let the department know. Donation checks can be made to: Department of CA. The memo section must have "VA&R Division" for proper accounting. Credit cards are accepted at the department for the VA&R Division.

A huge thanks goes out to the donors of the convention centennial coin auction, Don Reed, Col. James C Crump Jr., Tracy Rascoe, Alfred Cordillo, and Christina Hickey. Thanks Doc for being the auctioneer. A big thank you goes out to the AL Riders, Pacific Palisades Post 283, and several other districts and posts who donated to the VA&R Division

at the convention. At time of print, the names and donations were not available. Look for them in the next CA Legionnaire.

At the next DEC in August, we will auction off Department centennial coins 6, 7, and 8. The March DEC, we will auction off Department centennial coins number 9 and 10. The 100th centennial coin will be auctioned off at the convention in Ontario!

Thank you to every post, district, Legionnaire, Sons, and guests who purchased centennial coins at the convention. We sold \$8,200 dollars-worth of coins. There are over 2500 non-numbered centennial coins (\$20.00) that need to be sold. Please pass this call-to-action on to your fellow Legion family members. The order form is on the department website (calegion.org).

If you would like to sell some coins. come to the table at the August DEC. You will need to sign out for them. If you cannot sell them, please turn the coins back in. If you lose any of the

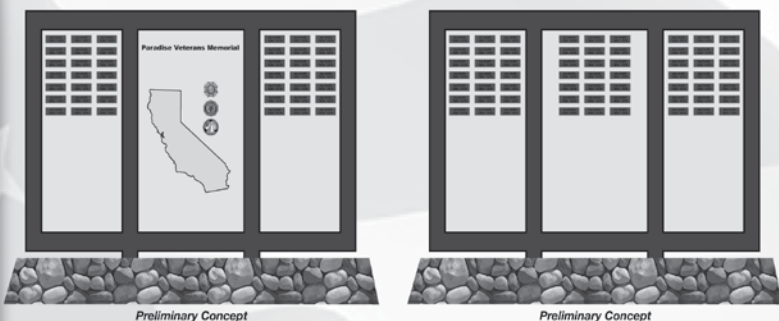
coins, it will be your responsibility to pay for the missing/lost coins.

The posts are asked to donate \$100 for their numbered coin. (For example:0279, it is a great chance for the post to have a drawing or auction to make some funds as well.) Any non-designated post numbered coin is \$30.00. For example, 0700 is not affiliated with a post and will cost \$30.00. The numbered coins go from 0001to1000. Districts are being asked to donate \$200 for their district coin D-1 to D-30. Like the post coins, we are hoping the districts can make some extra funds as well by auctioning off their district coin.

The 100th anniversary centennial calendar should be in the mail around August 1. This year's calendar, we hope you will find more fitting ... our story begins and continues. Thank you for your continued support in the coming year. Together, we are making a difference in California's Veterans lives!!!



## Paradise Veterans Memorial Wall



The Paradise Veterans Group would like to erect a memorial wall to honor and remember those who served and those who gave all for our country.

A marble and granite company (namely Strata) in Chico has donated two 12'x8' granite slabs to help us start the project.

We would like the businesses in Paradise and Magalia to help us with a fund raiser by donating a tax deductible donation of \$50.00 each, in order to help with the construction of the memorial site.

The design of the wall was created by members of the American Legion, the Veterans of Foreign Wars, and the Disabled American Veterans.

"Let's remember our fallen Heros."

Thank you,

*Lawrence St. Germain*  
Lawrence St. Germain

Donation can be mailed to:  
The American Legion Post 259  
6550 Skyway  
Paradise, CA 95969  
Attn: Lawrence St. Germain  
Project manager  
Telephone: 530-413-9277  
Non-profit #0925 Established 1934  
Tax ID# 94-6102308

## Basic Training: American Legion Style



Leadership by example is an ethos instilled in every veteran the first day of basic training. The best instructors inspire trainees with their knowledge.

Knowledge is an essential ingredient to any recipe for success. If you were an uncertain customer, would you buy a car from a salesperson who had no idea what type of engine was beneath the hood? Likewise, would you be impressed by an "experienced" American Legion leader who did not know any of the words to the Preamble of our Constitution?



Join Olivia Headley and Tim Mosman for the two-hour seminar on BASIC TRAINING in 2018 on September 15 at Hollywood Post, 2035 North Highland Ave. 10 a.m.

LOS DOS AMIGOS have taught for the past 4 years The American Legion Extension Institute, our online training course which is being rebranded as American Legion Basic Training and will be free to all members of the American Legion Family. We truly believe this seminar will enhance the recruiting and retention of members.

The American Legion has 100 years of fascinating history. It has four pillars upon which it was founded and many distinct programs, each with unique features and missions that support those pillars. Veterans do not automatically become familiar with the nuances and procedures of our programs on their first day of Legion membership. They don't often wish to study every provision of our National Constitution and Bylaws nor do they want to memorize the *Post Officers Guide*. Much of what they need to know can come with experience but it usually takes an effort and a willingness to learn.



Our numbers continually prove the more involved a Legionnaire is in our organization, the more likely he or she will be to renew membership. "American Legion Basic Training," will go a long way to baiting the hook and building brand loyalty for those with the desire to lead and participate in The American Legion.

Register with **TIM MOSMAN 213 388 2655**

Receive the 35 Quiz Questions which will be answered at the Seminar  
[www.calegion.org](http://www.calegion.org) [www.legion.org](http://www.legion.org) eMail [Olivia@att.net](mailto:Olivia@att.net)

# WHO ARE YOU MENTORING?

By **Eric W. Measles**  
*Chairman, National Veterans  
Education, Other Benefits and  
Homelessness Committee Vice  
Chairman, National Legislative  
Council The American Legion*

I frequently ask my colleagues and fellow Legionnaires this question. I myself, consider the mentoring process as a method to ensure the continued success of our beloved Organization. I was blessed to be mentored by two, truly outstanding California Legionnaires, Past Department Commander, James Hackney,

and Past National Commander, Bruce Thiesen. Other 'seasoned' Legionnaires have contributed and continue their input, direction and guidance. A short list would include, Joanne Evans, Dee Schick, R.T. Lee, Roy Nichols, PDC Willy Wilkin, Wally Martinez and my close personal friend, James T. Higuera. I believe we can all use a little direction in our Legion lives.

The learning process never ceases. I myself, am personally mentoring

a few CA Legionnaires, that I feel are very worthy of moving forward and becoming leaders of this Department. The following excerpt addresses one of those Legionnaires.

Annually, the State of California acknowledges the hard work and dedication of Veterans that have given of themselves to the support and progress of their fellow Veterans. Each member of the California Assembly annually selects their honoree and presents their choice at a Luncheon held in their honor in Sacramento.

**MICHAEL HJELMSTED- US  
MARINE CORPS/GLOBAL  
WATCH ON TERRORISM**

Michael Hjelmsted served in the U.S. Marine Corps from 1993-2009. While in the service of his country, he deployed to Iraq in support of combat operations during the Global War on Terrorism, acting as Combat Correspondent and New Media Chief with the Marine Expeditionary Force. Since leaving the service, he has utilized his experience to work as a military



*"Michael Hjelmsted sharing his accomplishments at the Department Convention this past June. Awards included in this photo are: Gold Brigade Recruiter, 100% District Commander, and RECRUITER OF THE YEAR"*

technical advisor on numerous films and television shows in Hollywood.

Michael continues to work for service members and veterans as the 1st Vice Commander of Hollywood Post 43; Junior Past Commander

of the 24th District, and as a member of the National Media and Communications Council. Mr. Hjelmsted was recognized by his Assemblyman, Richard Bloom, of the 50th Congressional District of California.

There is a wealth of other accolades that could be shared, regarding Michael's accomplishments, however, I will refrain from sharing and perhaps embarrassing him. It should be noted, however, that Michael and his team did reach the 100% Membership Goal with the 24th District. The ONLY District to do so this past membership year. He was also a "Gold Brigade" Recruiter and was named Recruiter of The Year at our most recent Convention in Sacramento.

Please be sure to stop me when we meet again and let me know, WHOM YOU ARE MENTORING.

*as always.....  
for God and Country.....*



## Los Angeles County Council Annual Commanders & Adjutants Dinner & Comedy Show

### American Legion Post 790

# Saturday Sept. 22<sup>nd</sup> 2018

Cocktails at 4:00 PM & Dinner at 5:00 PM

## Tickets: \$25

Non-refundable

*Attire: Gentlemen - Coat & Tie / Ladies - Cocktail*

**330 W. Azusa Ave., West Covina, CA 91791**

For Ticket Info Contact J.R. Duarte: (626) 692-3842



# The History of Perris Post 595

**Iral Evans**

*Past Post Commander,*

*1995 – 2005*

*(Additional history input from Joanne Evans)*

Perris Post 595 was chartered in May 1944. A group of veterans from the Perris area banded together and formed the American Legion Perris Post 595. The members met at each other's residence until they found a Post home in 1945. They purchased two military barrack type buildings from Camp Haan (March Air Force Base) for the price of \$1.00 each and placed them on the land the Post members purchased on the corner of 6th and D streets, where it still stands.

The buildings were moved down the old Highway 395 on military flatbeds to the present site in the City of Perris. Members of the Post who were electricians, cement specialists, carpenters and the dedicated laborers who did a little bit of everything worked hard to get these buildings set up and going. Walls were knocked down. The old kitchen plumbing from the mess hall section was pulled out and replaced with new flooring. The ladies from the newly formed Auxiliary worked with the Legionnaires by making dinners, preparing special functions to raise money and of course adding the special touch with curtains, a little paint, and whatever assistance was needed to start the Post home.

During the next twenty years,



*Iral Evans, Past Commander, Perris Post 595 displays post history books as far back as the 1940s.*

membership increased and improvements began to show. With the membership increasing from 105 in 1972 to almost 350 in 1978, things began moving. In 1976-1977, the SAL Squadron 595 was chartered and so was the Junior Auxiliary. The Juniors, with their marching drill team, won first place in five parades in 1976, the 200th birthday of our great nation.

In 1984, we took advantage of the opportunity to secure one more barrack from Nutrilite Company in Lakeview for \$1.00. This section was added to the already "L" shaped building to make it "U" shaped. With the addition, we were able to provide meeting space for the Auxiliary and offices for them as well as the Sons.

Over the years we have lost many, many members to "Post Everlasting." In the mid-10990's so many of our members from World War II were in their mid to late 70's. Our membership which had risen to 550 slowly dropped to the lower 400's because of deaths and aging veterans who could no longer be active. Many of our charter SAL members are now Legionnaires because they served in military service since the late 1970s.

Perris Post 595 has seen six of its members go on to be District 21 Commanders. One has served as Department Sgt-at-Arms, three were Department Vice Commanders representing Area 5, and one as Department Historian. Two of our SAL commanders have gone on to be District

21 commanders and one Detachment Vice Commander-Area 5.


Since July 2007, many changes have occurred to Post 595. The city of Perris updated the outside of the building with RDA funds in 2011. The American Legion Riders chartered an Outpost at Perris Post 595 in 2013. The "Riders" raise monies for children of Veterans who have been killed or who are permanently disabled from war wounds and they have raised money to save these children from all over the United States. They too are Veterans and American Legion members.


Working closely with the City of Perris while serving as Post Commander, I was able to get the City to reinstate the Veterans Day Parade in 2001. This event continues annually on the second Saturday of each November to honor our veterans of all wars. Presently, we have 10 of members serving on active duty in Iraq and Afghanistan.

The history of Perris Post 595 Legionnaires, Auxiliary, and Sons of the Legion goes on to carry a proud tradition of dedication to "God and Country." The goals and objectives remain the same, to help our fellow veterans and children if Veterans as well as to serve our community.

Deadline for the  
October issue of the  
*California  
Legionnaire*  
is  
September 8, 2018

To advertise in the  
*California  
Legionnaire*  
contact **Debra Leak**  
**559-638-2244**  
[debra@midvalleypublishing.com](mailto:debra@midvalleypublishing.com)



**Freedom Blooms**  
  
**When Veterans are Served**

American Legion Auxiliary  
 Department of California  
 Department Training & Workshop  
 August 11-12 2018  
 Clovis Veterans Memorial District  
 453 Hughes Ave  
 Clovis California

Doors open at 8:00 AM on both days  
 Training workshop will be from  
 Sat., Aug. 11, 2018 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM  
 Sun., Aug. 12, 2018 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM

Lunch Reservations is \$10.00 each day  
 which includes Coffee & Donuts each  
 morning

Make Checks payable to ALA District 14  
 Mail to:  
 Sandy U Felix  
 1272 Villa Ave Space 59  
 Clovis CA 93612-2798  
 Phone 559 269-2798


Deadline August 5, 2018

**Housing**  
 Best Western-Clovis Cole  
 415 Clovis Ave  
 Clovis CA 93612  
 559 299-1547  
 2 Queen Beds \$141.99 (10)  
 King Bed \$136.99 (4)  
 Deadline: July 10, 2018  
 \*\*\*


Comfort Suites  
 143 Clovis Ave  
 Clovis CA 93612  
 phone: 559 299-9992  
 2 Queen Beds \$129.00 (5)  
 King Bed \$129.00 (5)  
 Deadline July 11, 2018

All are Welcome Both Days

Department Officers, Chairmen, and District Presidents are  
 required to attend.



American Legion Auxiliary  
 Department of California  
 Northern Workshop  
 Saturday, August 18, 2018  
 9:00 am to 3:00 pm  
 Haggin Grant Post #521  
 6700 8th Street  
 Rio Linda, California 95673

**Freedom Blooms**  
  
**When Veterans are Served**

Breakfast Goodies and Lunch  
 \$10.00

Doors open at 8:00 am  
 for registration

Please Make Checks to ALA Unit  
 #521

RSVP  
 By August 15, 2018  
 Glenda Schultz  
 138 W Elverta Road  
 Elverta CA 95626  
 916 335-3345  
 grschultz@sbcglobal.net

**All Are Welcome!**



Deadline for the  
 October 2018 issue of the  
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**September 8, 2018**

## Attention California Legionnaires

The American Legion Auxiliary Sacramento Convention Committee wishes to thank you for your support in helping to make the 98th American Legion Auxiliary Department of California Convention an enormous success.

The ALA's mission is to support The American Legion, advocate for Veterans, Military and their Families, the convention is one way that is done.

Your support in the events at the 2018 Sacramento Convention was much appreciated, from participating in the President Banquet/Commander's Ball to buying Opportunity Drawing Tickets. We can't thank you enough.

We would like to give an extra big "Shout Out" to some individuals and Posts for their extraordinary assistance with the Convention:

Pacific Palisades Post 283 and Commander Jere Romano  
 Amador Post 108 and Al Lennox and Floyd Martin  
 Mission City Post 564  
 The Committee to Elect and Larry Leonardo  
 CAL-VAR Foundation-Helmets for Hero's  
 Dave Cockrill (Area 1 Vice-Commander) and TAL District 6 Members, Henry Sanchez, John O'Brien, Robert Nichols, Jason Baltad and Bob Perryman  
 The Department Convention has not been held in Sacramento in 30 years and with your help it turned out great.

Wendy O'Brien  
 ALA Sacramento Convention Chairman



# THE LAST BUGLE CALL

Reporting Period: 05/1/2018 to 06/30/2018  
423

## Deceased Comrades

(Full report will be in the end of year Book of Reports)

*O Lord, You have shown us that death is but the gateway to a more glorious life and that we must not fear its coming, and we know, also, that neither life nor death can separate us from Your love. Assure us, yet again, that our departed comrades are not lost to us, but sharing new life with You in the kingdom of our Father, where we shall in your good time be reunited. We know them to be with You forever ... Amen.*

## The American Legion Membership Application

Sign-up on-line TODAY at: [www.calegion.org](http://www.calegion.org) – OR –  
Mail Membership application and \$47 to:  
TAL DoC Post 1000 Application  
1601 7th Street,  
Sanger, CA 93657

Please make your check payable to  
**TAL DoC Post 1000**

NOTE: \$0.95 of annual dues goes to the California Legionnaire, the official publication of The American Legion-Department of California, to help offset the cost.

### NEW MEMBER APPLICATION - THE AMERICAN LEGION

_____ (Name)			_____ (Phone)
_____ (Mailing Address)			_____ (Date)
_____ (City)	_____ (State)	_____ (Zip)	_____ (Post#)
_____ (Membership ID# former member)	_____ (Email Address)	_____ (Guest)	

**Please check appropriate eligibility dates and branch of service below**

<input type="checkbox"/> Aug. 2, 1990 – cessation of hostilities as determined by U.S. Government	<input type="checkbox"/> U.S. Army
<input type="checkbox"/> Dec. 20, 1989 – Jan. 31, 1990	<input type="checkbox"/> U.S. Navy
<input type="checkbox"/> Aug. 24, 1982 – July 31, 1984	<input type="checkbox"/> U.S. Air Force
<input type="checkbox"/> Feb. 28, 1981 – May 7, 1975	<input type="checkbox"/> U.S. Marines
<input type="checkbox"/> June 25, 1950 – Jan. 31, 1965	<input type="checkbox"/> U.S. Coast Guard
<input type="checkbox"/> Dec. 7, 1941 – Dec. 31, 1946	<input type="checkbox"/> Merchant Marines 12/7/41 – 12/31/46 (only eligibility)
<input type="checkbox"/> April 6, 1917 – Nov. 11, 1918	

I certify that I served at least one day of active military duty during the dates marked above and was honorably discharged or am still serving honorably.

_____ Signature of applicant	_____ Name of recruiter
---------------------------------	----------------------------

30-009 (2009)

## Department of California elects its' 103rd Commander



Above: Larry Leonardo being installed as the 103rd Department Commander on June 24, 2018 by Past National Commander, Bruce Thiesen, while his family observes. Below: Commander Leonardo, taking over the leadership of the Department.

Photos compliment of Fred Shacklett, District 19

