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Welcome to
The American Legion
The World's Largest Veterans Organization
El Dorado Post 119

Commander's Report By Michael Raffety Dinner 6:30 p.m. May 3rd

Following dinner May 3, a membership meeting will begin approximately 7:30 p.m. This is an important meeting because it will be the second nominations for post officers. All members of the executive board are urged to attend the May 3 Membership meeting and participate in final nominations. Election of post officers will be at the June 7 meeting.

We had a pretty good turnout for dinner April 5. Dinner was ham, mac-and-cheese and salad. Finance Officer Mike Schiavone reported that we broke even on dinner.

I'd like to thank Mike and Judy Muetz for leading the Star-Spangled Banner. Legion members and spouses do a great rendition of the national anthem.

I also appreciate Stephanie Carlson for producing this bulletin. I stamp and mail about 94 written bulletins and Stephanie emails the bulletin to everyone else.

Adjutant Joe Rendon keeps minutes of the Membership meetings and executive board meetings and makes up the agendas.

Finance Officer Mike Schiavone pays property taxes on time, makes federal filing and reimburses expenses in a very timely manner.

The hardest working person is Service Officer David Zelinsky. Dave helps homeless veterans get benefits and gets back on their feet. He even occasionally delivers the sermon at our church.

I'm feeling pretty healthy and look forward to leading the post for the coming year. Thanks to all the post members who have supported me.

God bless America and sign up to work the Beer Tree during the fair. The signup book is at the bar.

Adjutant Corner / Membership Corner

As the Adjutant and Membership chair I am concerned about where the post is heading. This year I have been purging the database of members who have not paid annual dues, some for the past two years, and more for this past year -- 131 in total.

Does everyone understand how the Fiscal Year works? The current fiscal year dates run from 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023. It is not a running year nor is it a calendar year. That is why I keep harping on the fact that it is getting close to the end of our Fiscal Year.

I can understand why some of our members have not paid since they have moved out of California and out of the area. I also understand why members have not come to the dinners or events at the post due to COVID-19 & Omicron, but I don't understand why so many wish not to communicate WHY they are dropping their membership.

If you are getting this message in the newsletter either by Hard Copy mailed to you or via Email, then you are the lucky ones, since you are a continuing paid member. If anyone has any suggestions, and would like to help me contact these folks please let me know.

Now on the business at hand we had first call for election nominations for post officers at the April 1st Membership Meeting. We will have the second call for nominations at the May 3rd Membership Meeting. Do not be afraid to get involved. If interested come out and get nominated for the post officer position you would like to have. You and your voice are important to the growth and sustaining membership of this post.

Business meetings are as follows:

Dinner/Membership Meeting – 1st Wednesday;

Legion Riders and Sons – 2nd Wednesday; and

Executive Board – 3rd Wednesday.

Membership Dues New and Renewing Members

When you receive your renewal statement from National for American Legion Dues, please pay it through Post 119. Dues for fiscal year 2023/2024 are \$45. If you receive a second notice from National, contact Post 119 Membership Director for information on your membership and when you lastpaid. Please check your ID card first.

Service Officer Spotlight

Suicide

1. He had a bad day in Vet Court. As he was leaving, right next to a deputy, he yelled out, "I am going to swallow a bunch of fentanyl, and kill myself."

I had to call it in. Good folks at APS, but they always ask if you called the sheriff, so I just call them. Call it a welfare check. The Veteran called me. He was indignant.

"I was eating my dinner in peace, and two deputies knocked on my door." "You are welcome."

2. "I am in the ER. I tried to kill myself. I am going to try again. I want to get out of here."

Drove over to ER. Explained to the staff about the suicide threat. Persuaded him, barely, not to leave. I looked at my emails while home, and saw that he had been accepted to the Navigation Center. Called ER to ask them to let him know. He was gone.

He would not respond to texts or phone calls. Called the city police. Told them my concerns. They know him well, and what he looks like. I drove around for an hour. No sighting. That night, I remembered he has an ankle monitor so his parole agent can ping him, and know where he is. Left her a message.

The next day, found out he has a new parole agent, and she found him. Alive. It was more of a challenge to get him into the shelter than I expected after receiving numerous assurances that he was in, but as of the moment I am composing this, he is in. The shelter is low barrier as far as getting in, but if your behavior is inappropriate, you will be evicted. I give him 24 hours.

But at least he didn't die on my watch.

David Zelinsky
Service Officer
American Legion Post 119
530-919-8488





Rider News

On March 30, 2023 members of Post 119 rode to Rusch Park in Citrus Heights to visit the Moving Wall, also known as the Wall That Heals, a traveling three quarter size replica of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington DC. The display arrived in Sacramento on March 28th and remained in Rusch Park until April 2nd. Etched on the display are the names of over 58,000 men and women who perished during the Vietnam War. A mobile education center accompanies the display. Volunteers provide security for the display and assist visitors to locate specific names on the wall. Vietnam veterans visiting are also presented with a special commemorative pin.

Post 119 members visiting the wall were Sam and Jane Fergason, Joe Rendon, and Ron Sharp. Also participating were Ron's wife Robin and good friend Kona Ryan.

Sam Fergason

Director

ALR Chapter 119



Sons Spot

no report

Thank you

Lane Ybright

SAL Squadron Commander

Grampys_5150@yahoo.com

Sons Meetings 3rd Wednesdays @ 6 pm

Belly Up To The Bar...

Enjoy the post! See ya there,

Barb

American Legion Auxiliary

No report

From your Editor: If you would like to take on the task of this newsletter, please contact the Commander.

Enjoy this newsletter. If you have suggestions, or something you want me to add to the newsletter, you can reach me at

Steph2472@yahoo.com *Steph*

I



A very happy birthday to those who were born in May!!!

For upcoming events/calendar, [click here](#)

Did you know?

[2023 American Legion Baseball Scholarship nomination form available](#)

[Our support for children counts](#)

[What's next for Vet Centers](#)

The American Legion has podcasts and videos to listen to or watch...

Podcast Link <https://www.legion.org/tangoalphalima>

Watch videos here and stay up to date on all things

Legion <https://www.legion.org/magazine/videos> and

The VA has started an initiative focused on supporting veterans through self-care.

<https://www.va.gov/WHOLEHEALTH/get-involved/get-healthy.asp>

"Borne The Battle" is a weekly, interview-based podcast that recognizes each battle, challenge, and sacrifice our Veterans endure during and after their service, as well as,

spotlighting important resources, offices, and benefits VA offers our Veterans.

<https://blogs.va.gov/VAntage/84285/accessing-va-podcast-network/>

RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP!!!!



Executive Team

Commander Mike Raffety

(530) 626-8020

1st Vice Sam Bradley

(530) 626-3956

2nd Vice James Leadbetter

(530) 558-5381

Adjutant Joe Rendon

(530) 672-1161

Finance Mike Schiavone

(530) 409-2710

Sgt At Arms Milt Bandera

(530) 677-4423

Chaplain Gary Gonzales

530-621-0344

Judge Advocate **Vacant**

Bar Manager Barb Schiavone

(530) 409-7746

Building Manager James Leadbetter

(530) 558-5381

Veterans Service David Zelinsky

(530) 919-8488

Membership Joseph Rendon

(530) 672-1161

Historian **Vacant**

Newsletter Editor Stephanie Carlson

(530) 409-9716

Executive Board Members

Jim Ayers (916) 739-9421

Bud Brown (530) 677-4135

L. Flannery (530) 903-1965

James Donahue - (530) 919-7130

Sam Ferguson - (530) 409-7489

Bob Russell (530) 626-5533

All Legion Members welcome.

Chapter 119 American Legion Riders

President Sam Fergason

530-409-7489

Vice President Carlos Navarette

(916) 204-6038

Gary Goverdale

(707) 339-2362

Treasurer

Jane Fergason

(530) 409-7487

Sgt at Arms

James Leadbetter

(530) 558-5381

Membership Sam Ferguson

(530) 409-7489

Chaplain Bud Brown

(530) 677-4135

Run Coordinator Sam Ferguson

(530) 409-7489

Safety Officer **Vacant**

Unit 119 American Legion Auxiliary

President Janie Bandera

(530) 677-4423

1st Vice Rebecca Marty

(530) 677-4423

2nd Vice VACANT

Secretary Carol Mueller

(530) 622-0674

Treasurer VACANT

Chaplain Dolores Wadsworth

(530) 677-1255

Sgt At Arms Joy Krahn

(530) 677-6356

Marshall VACANT

Executive Committee VACANT

The Auxiliary Meets on the First

Wednesday of each month at 2000

Unit 119 Sons of the American Legion

Squadron Commander

Lane Ybright

530-363-5650

Grampys_5150@yahoo.com

Adjutant and First Vice Gary Coverdale

(707) 339 2362

Treasurer

Membership Bob Springer

(925) 321 0017

Sgt at Arms and Chaplain Rich Klinke

(916) 207-5674

Historian Vacant

The Squadron meets on Third

Wednesday of each month,

MEETING STARTS AT 1730

40 & 8

Chef de Gare

Milt Bandera 530-677-4423

Commissaire Intendant

Bob Russell - 530-626-5533

Correspondent

Bud Brown 530-677-4135

Conducteur

Bob Russell (530) 676-5533

Garde de LaPorte

Leo Cooper (530) 306-3969

Chef de Train

Milt Bandera (530) 677-4423

Lampiste Vacant

**40 & 8 meets the first Monday of each month
at 1730**



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