

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)

Begin forwarded message:

On Monday, June 26, 2023, 9:14 AM, American Legion Post 119
<Steph2472.yahoo.com@send.mailchimpapp.com> wrote:

[View this email in your browser](#)



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. July 5th

There was a pretty good turnout for dinner June 7. The dinner featured one of my favorites – meatloaf.

The General meeting started pretty much on time, very close to 7:30 p.m. After our preliminaries, District 7 Adjutant Mike Scott swore in the new officers and executive board. That was followed by the swearing in of the Auxiliary officers. I did call on Service Officer Dave Zelinsky for a 1-minute report, since he came with a tie that night. Following induction of the new officers the meeting was adjourned at 8 p.m. Thank you, Mike Scott, for traveling over from Roseville to swear in our new officers and executive board.

Former Post 119 member Ray Groves will travel with his wife Sharon from Arizona to our Legion Hall where Ray will celebrate his 100th birthday. A World War 11 veteran, Ray participated in the South Pacific campaign as a Marine. He enlisted in 1943. I tried calling a number I was given for Ray Groves, but only got a message that the mailbox had not been set up yet. I'll have to wait for his party at our hall Aug. 31 to get more detail on which particular campaigns he was involved in.

May 19 Legion member George Lehr was DJ for Happy Hour with some Karaoke thrown in. George played classic rock and roll and oldies. I missed that event, but George thought it was a pretty successful evening.

May 20 featured a jet painted in patriotic colors and with an eagle on hit. It is hauled around by a patriotically painted truck. All that was at the VFW parking lot. Several Legion members set up a booth to recruit new members. The best dressed person there was Adjutant Joe Rendon who wore his Chief Petty Officer white uniform, actually, Master Chief Petty Officer. I found out why he's so crusty. He's a Bosun's Mate. Those guys know how to tie knots like Boy Scouts. They get to drive little boats like the Captain's Gig or the Admiral's Gig or the liberty boat for the crew. Bosun's Mate is the senior rating in the Blue Water Navy.

I reckon the next senior rate is Quartermaster, since they handle the wheel on the bridge and keep the ship on course. The ship's captain sits on the bridge and drinks coffee, occasionally ringing for a change of speed or telling the quartermaster to change his heading.

When I was in Antarctica, I got to take a five-day cruise on a Coast Guard Icebreaker. They had already broken through the Ross Ice to Shelter Cove, bringing with them a cargo ship tied up in the cove and the first Antarctic tourist ship. The coast guard ship I was on patrolled the channel to make sure it was open. I got to get up on the bridge with the captain and the quartermaster. I got to see giant icebergs and lots of Adele penguins jumping off of ice flows.

Finally, Memorial Day we set up flags along the freeway and later I substituted for Mac the sergeant major, who was on a cruise on the QE 11 with his wife. It was a fascinating voyage because there was a group of D-Day veterans who were going on to Normandy. They told their stories each night during the voyage. I substituted for Mac, which entailed walking around the entrance to the Veterans Monument with a clipboard and signing up four veterans to lead the pledge of allegiance. The ceremonies were well done and the lead speaker impressive.



Adjutant Corner

Just a reminder that June is the installation of elected post officers for the post.

FY2023/2024

Elected Officers

CDR - Mike Raffety

1st Vice – Lauralee Flannery

2nd Vice – James Leadbetter

Finance Officer – Mike Schiavone

Appointed Positions

Adjutant – Joe Rendon

Post Service Officer – David Zelinski

Chaplin – Gary Gonsalves

Membership – Joe Rendon

Historian – OPEN

Judge Advocate – Jack Vranes

Sgt at Arms – Milt Bandera

Newsletter Editor – Stephanie Carlson



If you want to make a difference step up and be part of the change and take a seat in an open position, or apply for an appointed position. **Change will not take place if you want to go with the status quo. So please step up and get involved; it doesn't hurt to volunteer.**

The following is something to remember sent in by a member The title is:

“10 WAYS ON HOW TO KILL AN ORFGANIZATION”

- (1) Don't go to Meetings.
- (2) Arrive late to the Meeting.
- (3) Find fault with the Officers and Members.
- (4) Never accept an Office, it is easier to criticize than do it.
- (5) Nevertheless get annoyed if you are not appointed to a committee.
- (6) If appointed to a committee, don't go to the meetings.
- (7) If asked by the chair to give you opinion, say nothing. Afterwards tell everyone how things should have been done.

- (8) Do no more than necessary when others are rolling up their sleeves to pitch in.
- (9) Hold back your dues for as long as possible, or don't pay your dues at all.
- (10) Don't bother getting new members, but if you do make sure they are gripers like yourself.

Membership Corner

Greetings to all on this nice spring day, and the time is drawing near to think about MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FOR 2024. The dues are still \$45.00 and there will not be an increase for quite a while.

In the past I have been recognizing people who have been loyal and continuous members over the years, and have kept their membership current with a STAR for the number of uninterrupted years to be attached to their cap or hat. Now I will be giving out certificates in recognition of the same, since the cost of the embroidered stars has gone up. In the past the post has **not recognized** the service and loyalty of the Paid Up For Life and Honorary Life Members in the same way as annual members, and that is my fault. This past week I sent out stars to those PUFL/HLM members to recognize and give a **BIG THANK YOU** for their loyalty and sticking with our post. Also there are a few members who have reached that magic number of 50 years of continuous membership who still need to be recognized and that will be forthcoming soon.

Your dues, event rentals, and participation in post events such as Friday Night Happy Hour, monthly dinners and more all help to support the post so come to a Membership or Executive Board Meeting and submit your suggestion of events you would like to see at the post.

At each monthly dinner for the past seven or more years that I have been attending, most of the 80 to 90 members in attendance come for the food and drink, but do not stay to submit suggestions on how to support the post. You can even suggest what you would like for the dinner menu. Recently there was a suggestion to have the membership meeting at the same time as the monthly dinner.

So as you can see suggestions are for the betterment of the post and the membership. So why not stay for the Membership Meetings or come to the Executive Board meetings and participate, be the solution of a sound post. **Don't be part of the silent Majority.**

Service Officer Spotlight

Otto and Couch

Otto and Couch are two combat Veterans who fought in the Mideast.

They have both had a rough time adjusting to civilian life.

Criminal justice and homelessness. Mental health, and self medication.

Eight years ago, I would have put my money on Couch. Seemed to have a stable marriage. Graduated from Vet Court.

Able to look out for the other guy.

Then it all fell apart. Wife left him. Drugs. Psychosis. Living in squalor and homelessness.

Worse part is denying psychosis, and refusing to take appropriate meds.

Recently arrested in Placerville instead of his usual arrest in Sacramento.

I did not get to Placerville jail fast enough. Sacramento already got him on an outstanding warrant.

Discussed his case with Sarah Whitley, Sacramento county case worker, Veterans Justice Outreach, VA. Also talked to Sherry DeLisle, same job as Sarah, but for El Dorado county.

And talked to Otto.

I always believed in the natural strength and leadership of Otto, but there were so many failures. He was always the first one through the door in combat.

Civilian life, not so good.

Finally, after numerous arrests and rehabs, something changed.

Today he is a certified alcohol and drug use counselor, dedicated to serving Veterans.

Maybe someday Couch will be assigned to work with Otto.

Maybe then, it will finally turn around for Couch.

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

Rider News

On June 14, 2023 four members of American Legion Riders Chapter 119 were honored to provide a flag line for the funeral for Mr Larry Romersa at the Sacramento Valley National Cemetary, Dixon, CA.

Larry was a Korea War veteran and a long time Legion member. Larry was also a founding member of the Sierra Riders motorcycle club organizing and leading numerous charity rides.

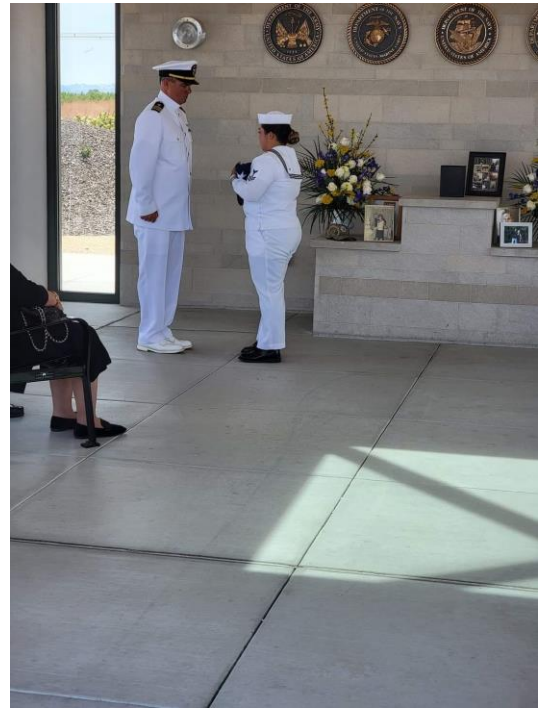
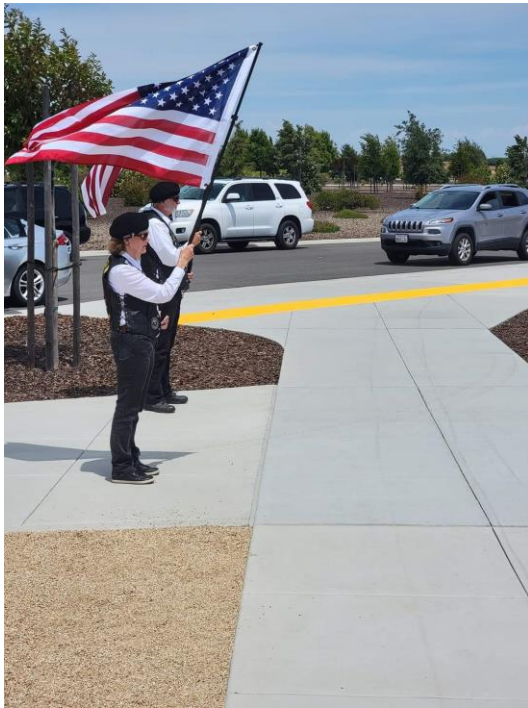
AND

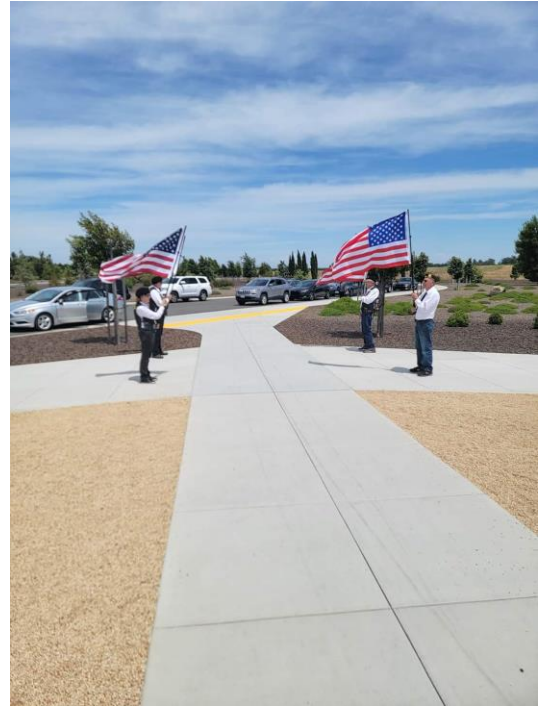
Congratulations to our Jane Fergason who won the 2023 El Dorado Rose competition at the Rose pageant at the El Dorado County Fair. Jane was sponsored by the American Legion Post 119 Placerville and the American Legion Unit 119 Auxiliary. Jane will be making appearances over the next year at numerous Chamber of Commerce activities throughout El Dorado County in her new role. Thanks to the American Legion for sponsoring Jane and her friends who came to the pageant in support.

Sam Fergason

Director

ALR Chapter 119





SQUADRON 119

**CUSTOMIZED
KERSHAW KNIVES
\$45.00 EACH**

**CHECKS PAYABLE:
SONS OF AMERICAN LEGION
POST 119**

**OPTIONS:
DONATION TO SQUADRON
FOR RAFFLE ITEM
OR PERSONAL USE
AND
POST NUMBER
OR SQUADRON NUMBER**

**PROCEEDS BENEFIT
HELMETS 4 HEROES
VETERANS AWARENESS
& REHABILITATION**

**ANY QUESTIONS CONTACT:
BILL BRYANT, COMMANDER SQUADRON 119 - (530) 409 8414 - 3291 SHADOW LANE, PLACERVILLE CALIF 95667**

Sons Spot

Last month the Sons were notified by David Zelinsky of a single mother veteran needing to get her car repaired. Thanks you to Eagle Radiator for doing the work, the Sons donated the funds for the repairs. In June and through the next year the Sons will be working with the Auxiliary to devise a plan to bolster membership and to revitalize our roll in our community. We will be tackling the Boys and Girls State scholarships together and more. New and Exciting things are around the corner. Stay tuned.

And the **Sons will be hosting dinner again on the 28th of July and we will be serving bbq pulled pork sliders w/ coleslaw and a veggie.**

Thank you

Lane Ybright

SAL Squadron Commander

Grampys_5150@yahoo.com

Sons Meetings 3rd Wednesdays @ 6 pm

Belly Up To The Bar...

Friday, 7/7, we will have Last 5 Standing 5:30-8:30 for your listening pleasure!!! And don't forget meals by Michelle of Creative Fusions...talk about a win/win!

Beautiful July weather with Friday Happy Hours!

Here's a rundown of Friday Happy Hour dinners subject to change:

7/7 - Meatloaf

7/14 - Lasagna

7/21 - BBQ Chicken

7/28 - BBQ Pulled Pork Sliders

See ya there!

Barb

American Legion Auxiliary

Great news from the Auxiliary!

Membership for Unit 119 is at 95.65%. With only 32 members, keeping current members is a necessity, but we are also looking forward to finding new members through community outreach. Recommitting ourselves to our incredible programs will be an outstanding way to attract membership. We are also eager to work with The Sons of the American Legion and the Legion itself as a family to rally membership drives in the near future. Opportunities are placed before us all the time and I encourage

all of the American Legion Family to be ambassadors of welcome to different membership opportunities. Sometimes it's the simplest interaction that can lead to a new member and, as we all know, membership has many benefits. With the fair coming up I hope we all ask our beer tree patrons to join our Family.

As you all know May was the official Month of the Poppy. I believe our Poppy program represents the purest way our Auxiliary serves. Did you know that every single cent that we collect is used solely for our veterans and their families? The paper, envelopes, postage and even the Poppies themselves are paid for out of our General Fund and the monies collected are mandated to be used for the purpose of helping veterans and that alone. Veterans hand make the poppies and each veteran that participates is paid to do so making them even more special. Because of this, the Auxiliary would like to extend thanks to all of you that contributed to this wonderful program.

Our June dinner was delicious as usual! Many thanks to our wonderful Kitchen Crew. Be sure to enjoy breaking bread with our entire membership the first Wednesday of every month. Another thanks to all that provide raffle donations and our ticket purchasers! Every penny will help us accomplish bigger and better things within our community. It allows us to live up to the motto "Service Not Self" and we are appreciative your support.

June brings warm weather and new beginnings. I am happy to announce that we have new officers in place for the upcoming year. It is also my privilege to tip my hat to the outgoing officers with vast gratefulness for the service they have steadfastly provided during their time in office. I hope to uphold the values and traditions they have passed along while incorporating innovative changes to better our Auxiliary. I am also anticipating new faces with fresh ideas at our meetings in the future.

The new and returning officers for Unit 119 are as follows:

President, Ann Marie Sutherland

First Vice, Christina Cowherd

Second Vice, Judy Muetz

Treasurer, Lulu Silva-Manuel

Secretary, Carole Muller

Chaplain, Dolores Wadsworth

I am excited to work with my Auxiliary sisters and all of the American Legion Family to better our Unit, Post and the experiences of each and every veteran that walks through the doors of Post 119.

With Gratitude,

Ann Marie Sutherland

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 July!!!

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 Ferguson

530-409-7489

Vice President Carlos Navarette

(916) 204-6038

Gary Goverdale

(707) 339-2362

Treasurer

Jane Ferguson

(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

Unit 119 American Legion Auxiliary

President

1st Vice

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**



Copyright © 2023 American Legion Post 119, All rights reserved.

You are receiving this email because you opted in via our website.

Our mailing address is:

American Legion Post 119

PO Box 421

Placerville, CA 95667-8248

[Add us to your address book](#)

Want to change how you receive these emails?

You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).

