

El Dorado American Legion Family

El Dorado Post 119

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER
FOR GOD, COUNTRY AND COMMUNITY

July 2020

Visit our Website at <http://www.legionpost119.org/>



Commander Corner

Here we are approaching the middle of our summer with the virus pandemic hopefully winding down. Our Post resuming normal meetings and social gatherings is totally dependent on the El Dorado County board of health issuing expanded guidelines. Our latest communication with them failed to determine a specific time frame that would allow our Normal post activities to resume. As of June 9th, the El Dorado County Fair has been cancelled. Most of you well know that our Post derives a large part of our funds revenue from County events that are now lost to us. We must make a serious effort to develop new Post income streams. I would like to encourage all of our membership to keep their personal contact information up to date. It assists your post officers in the performance of their assigned duties when they have available to them current phone numbers, home addresses and email addresses. I want to thank all of you for your service and wish you continued good health.

Adjutant Corner

To my fellow Legionnaires,

Here we are again at the beginning of another month of this pandemic, and El Dorado County is starting to release it's grip on business with the guidelines from the County Public Health Department, but most of you know that.

I am sorry to say that the post is NOT having our monthly social dinners or any large social events such as weddings or receptions, celebrations of life, birthdays, anniversaries, etc.

So our suggestion to our members is to be safe and enjoy the time we have off and enjoy one another in your families, but remember if our veterans need anything the post is still here for you. We do still conduct business over the telephone. **Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 9 am to 11 am.**

Also there is "**NO FRIDAY HAPPY HOUR**" until further notice.

If any post members are concerned about the current bylaws that have been updated, you can see the ratified post bylaws on the post website.

American Legion (AL) Fair Beer Tree

FYI,

I was advised just this past week that the El Dorado County Fair is CANCELED for 2020 and that the future of our County Fairs looks pretty bleak.

Not everyone was on board with celebrating on July 4, the day Congress approved the Declaration. John Adams wanted to celebrate on July 2, the day Congress voted for independence.

One US president, Calvin Coolidge, was born on July 4. So were Nathaniel Hawthorne, Neil Simon, George Steinbrenner, and Malia Obama.

The only two signers of the Declaration of Independence who later served as President of the United States were John Adams and Thomas Jefferson

July 4 wasn't deemed a federal holiday until 1870, nearly 100 years after the nation was founded.

<p>Post 119 Officers Commander, Al Stone 916/690-2835 Adjutant, Joe Rendon 530/672-1161 1st Vice - OPEN 2nd Vice -James Leadbetter 916/ 254-7529 Finance - Mike Schiacone 530-409-2710 Sgt. At Arms, Milt Bandera 530/677-4423 Chaplain, Edgar "Bud" Brown 530/677-4135 Judge Advocate — OPEN Veterans Services, David Zelinsky 530/919-8488 Membership, Joe Rendon 530/672-1161 Historian, Mike Raffety 530/626-8020 Bar Manager, Barbara Riley 530/409-7746 Building Manager, James Leadbetter 916/ 254-7529</p>	<p>Chapter 119 American Legion Riders President, Joe Rendon 530-672-1161 Vice President, Carlos Navarette 916/204-6038 Secretary, Gary Coverdale 707/339-2362 Treasurer, Jane Fergason 530/409-7487 Sgt. At Arms, Mike Ross 916/747-7637 Membership, Critter Springer-Maxey 530/622-1961 Chaplain, Robert Flowers 530/417-5802 Run Coordinator, Sam Fergason 530/409-7489 Safety Officer - OPEN Historian — OPEN</p> <p>Legion Riders meet the second Wednesday of each month at 6:00 p.m.</p>	<p>40 & 8 Chef de Gare, John Krahn 530/677-6356 Commissaire Intendant, Al Rawlin 530/903-6768 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 - Open</p> <p>40 & 8 meets the first Monday of each month at 5:30 p.m.</p>
<p>Executive Committee (1) Jim Ayers 916/739-9421 (2) Bud Brown 530/677-4135 (3) Sam Bradley 530/626-3956 (4) John Krahn 530/677-6356 (5) Bob Russell 530/626-5533 (6) Lauralee Flannery 530/903-1965</p> <div style="border: 1px solid blue; padding: 5px; margin-top: 10px;"> <p>The Philippines gained their own independence from the US on July 4, 1946 by signing the Treaty of Manila.</p> </div>	<p>Unit 119 Sons of the American Legion Commander, Robert Flowers 530/417-5802 1st Vice, Bill Bryant 530/409-8414 Adjutant, Bill Bryant Treasurer, Bill Bryant Membership, Bill Bryant Sgt. At Arms, Mike Ross 916/747-7637 Historian — OPEN Chaplain, Robert Flowers 530/417-5802</p> <p>Squadron meets the second Wednesday of each month at 5:30 p.m.</p>	<p>Unit 119 American Legion Auxiliary President, Janie Bandera 530/677-4423 1st Vice, Rebecca Marty 530/677-4423 2nd Vice, Carol McLaughlin 530/642-2153 Secretary, Carol Mueller 530/622-0674 Treasurer, Judy Muetz 530/622-9133 Chaplain, Dolores Wadsworth 530/677-1255 Sgt. At Arms, Joy Krahn 530/677-6356 Marshall, Joyce Reynolds 530/350-7740</p> <p>Auxiliary meets the first Wednesday of each month at 8:00 p.m.</p>
<p>American Legion Post 119 meets the first Wednesday of each month.</p> <p>Social Hour: 6:00 p.m. Dinner: 7:00 p.m. Meetings: 8:00 p.m</p>	<p>Website: http://www.legionpost119.org/ Email: eldoradopost119@att.net Telephone: 530/626-3956 Newsletter Editor: Dick Bergin Email: dick@mrj3s.com Tel: 530/409-8794</p>	<p>Barbecue is also big on Independence Day. Approximately 150 million hot dogs and 700 million pounds of chicken are consumed on this day</p>

American Legion Auxiliary

Hi All,

Still looking for volunteers for our programs. Auxiliary has quite a few programs that need chairman to handle the programs throughout the year. We are really in need of a Girls State Chairman. Anyone interested is helping out please contact me at 530-677-4423 or email jbandera@pacbell.net.

El Dorado County fair officially cancelled for the year. The Legion will be suffering. The Beer Tree makes up a good part of their budget.

Hope everyone is staying safe and healthy.

Thank you!

Janie Bandera, President
(530) 677-4423

Bottoms Up With 2x the Rum

On the second anniversary of Independence Day in 1778, American troops were fighting the American Revolutionary War. During this time, George Washington ordered a double ration of rum for American soldiers to celebrate the holiday with.

The White House held its first 4th July party in 1801

Robert Wilkie VA Secretary

I want to acknowledge the very difficult time we find ourselves in as a nation. And today I want to express my profound love for America and the Veterans who fought in uniform to fulfill the promises of our founders for every American. In the meantime, please pray that America's strength and resolve can be found in her everyday leaders like those who have honorably served.

And we can, once again, in Lincoln's words, bind up the nation's wounds together. Our Veterans well know that in the military, we work together toward the common goal to accomplish the defense of our nation. We must listen to one another, genuinely care for one another, and recognize that our dreams are tightly woven together. Just as President Lincoln saw the need to take care of our Veterans as a nation.

We understand that our fate as a people is a shared one. We need each other in ways too numerous to enumerate. We will enjoy the fruits of liberty that our Veterans fought so bravely to gain and preserve only if we strive as a people who sincerely believe in the rights of all men and women.

VA will continue on the path of genuine concern and caring for our Veterans and their families. The nation can look to Veterans Affairs as a beacon of hope that has no other reason for existing but to serve those who serve so willingly to preserve and protect the rights of their fellow citizens, [that] respect and dignity are the rights of all men and women.

Without regard to background social standing or beliefs, our Veterans fought. For the right of conscience. I know our noble employees who have proven themselves as courageous and dedicated throughout this pandemic understand that better than anyone. Let us determine to stand together, work together and care for one another; to heal our wounds and realize the dreams as Mr. Lincoln said, "...of a more perfect union."



Department of California Ed Grimsley met with Sidney Walton at American Legion Post 282 on May 31.

A WWII veteran has finished his national tour of meeting with the nation's governors to raise awareness about the declining number of veterans from the Greatest Generation.

The 101-year-old Sidney Walton met with Idaho Gov. Little on Friday. He met with California Gavin Newsom in July.

Department of California Ed Grimsley met with Walton on May 31.

President Trump met with Walton in the Oval Office on April 11, 2019.

Walton, who survived the China-Burma-India theater of war, is reportedly one of America's oldest WWII veterans. His No Regrets Tour began in April 2018 in Rhode Island.

President John Adams, Thomas Jefferson and James Monroe all died on the Fourth. Adams and Jefferson (both signed the Declaration) died on the same day within hours of each other in 1826.

Traditions place the origins of "Yankee Doodle" as a pre-Revolutionary War song originally sung by British military officers to mock the disheveled, disorganized colonial "Yankees" with whom they served in the French and Indian War. It is believed that the tune comes from the nursery rhyme Lucy Locket. One version of the Yankee Doodle lyrics is "generally attributed" to Doctor Richard Shuckburgh, a British Army surgeon. According to one story, Shuckburgh wrote the song after seeing the appearance of Colonial troops under Colonel Thomas Fitch, V, the son of Connecticut Governor Thomas Fitch

"America was not built on fear. America was built on courage, on imagination and an unbeatable determination to do the job at hand." President Harry S. Truman

"Intellectually I know that America is no better than any other country; emotionally I know she is better than every other country."
—Sinclair Lewis

The 4th of July

Decoration of Independence Preamble

We the People of the United States, in Order to form a more perfect Union, establish justice, insure domestic Tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America.

The Declaration of Independence: What Does it Say?

Pulling down the Statue of King George III

After a public reading of the Declaration of Independence at Bowling Green, on July 9, 1776, New Yorkers pulled down the statue of King George III. Parts of the statue were reportedly melted down and used for bullets. Courtesy of Lafayette College Art Collection Easton, Pennsylvania

The Declaration of Independence was designed for multiple audiences: the King, the colonists, and the world. It was also designed to multitask. Its goals were to rally the troops, win foreign allies, and to announce the creation of a new country. The introductory sentence states the Declaration's main purpose, to explain the colonists' right to revolution. In other words, "to declare the causes which impel them to the separation." Congress had to prove the legitimacy of its cause. It had just defied the most powerful nation on Earth. It needed to motivate foreign allies to join the fight.

Preamble

These are the lines contemporary Americans know best: "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of happiness." These stirring words were designed to convince Americans to put their lives on the line for the cause. Separation from the mother country threatened their sense of security, economic stability, and identity. The preamble sought to inspire and unite them through the vision of a better life.

List of Grievances

The list of 27 complaints against King George III constitute the proof of the right to rebellion. Congress cast "the causes which impel them to separation" in universal terms for an international audience. Join our fight, reads the subtext, and you join humankind's fight against tyranny.

Resolution of Independence

The most important and dramatic statement comes near the end: "That these United Colonies are, and of Right ought to be Free and Independent States." It declares a complete break with Britain and its King and claims the powers of an independent country.

Fun Facts About the 4th of July

Americans Will Enjoy 150 Million Hot Dogs During the 4th

According to the National Sausage and Hot Dog Council (NHDSC), Americans are expected to eat 150 million hot dogs over the July 4th holiday. This is part of an estimated 7 billion that are expected to be eaten during the summer season from Memorial Day to Labor Day.

There is Something Written on the Back of the Declaration of Independence

... and no, it isn't a treasure map written in invisible ink.

According to the History Channel, a simple message is written upside-down across the bottom of the signed document that reads, "Original Declaration of Independence dated 4th July 1776."

According to the same article, no one knows who wrote this or when, but it was believed to have been added as a label during the years of the Revolutionary War when parchment was frequently rolled up for transport.

A Much Smaller Start

Although an official national census was not completed until 1790, the U.S. Census Bureau estimates that there were only about 2.5 million people living in America in 1776 when the Declaration of Independence was signed.

As of 2017, it has grown to become home to 325.7 million people.

"I know not what course others may take; but as for me, give me liberty or give me death! Patrick Henry

"In the truest sense, freedom cannot be bestowed; it must be achieved. President Franklin D. Roosevelt

"Observe good faith and justice toward all nations. Cultivate peace and harmony with all." President George Washington

July Birthdays

NAME

Ben Collins	Edwin Digesti
Edgar Quint	Robert Young
Kenneth Ball	Jamie Gulley
James Murray	Brett Perkins
William Srader	Robert Graham
Daniel Murphy	Kurt Taylor
Jeffery Lee	Donald Carlson
Lee Sanders	Clifford Schmidt
Franklin Finegan	Daniel Barnes
Michael Muetz	Dedrie Flowers
Gerald Smith	John Dale
David Smyth	Angelo Battaglia
Steven Tracy	John Smith
Johan Lai	William Bradley
James Campini	Phillip Thulander
Robert Craven	James Wassner
Albert Freitag	Gerard Pare
Cal Krueger	Raymond Hyder
Samuel Ferguson	Michael Toop
Angela Hastings	Ken Mikulecky
Harry Norris	Edward Ellsworth
John Davis	James Maxey
Paul Harlow	Louis Gagne
Richard Solomon	Richard Humphery
Jason Shepherd	Kurt Luther

Note from Editor

If you DO NOT see your NAME in the month of your Birthday there a couple of possible reasons.

- ◇ You were not born, you just appeared one day.
Not sure what to do about this one.
- ◇ Your profile at the legion doesn't have your birthday listed.
You will need to contact the Post and have your profile updated.
- ◇ You are a member of the Auxiliary.
Sorry they do not give me that information.
- ◇ You are a member of the SONS.
Sorry they do not give me that information.

Missed June birthday:

Bill Schultz, Life Member, June 1933

Old Glory Violates The U.S. Flag Code

How many of you own a flag t-shirt, beach towel, shorts, headband, or any other item that is representative of the U.S. flag? Turns out that you're in violation of the U.S. Flag Code.

The U.S. Flag Code states that you are in violation if you sell or display any "article of merchandise . . . upon which shall have been printed, painted, attached, or otherwise placed a representation of [the flag... in order to] advertise, call attention to, decorate, mark, or distinguish the article or substance on which so placed."

That being said, in this instance, the Flag Code is not enforced or even enforceable, so don't worry - you won't get arrested by the Flag Police. forced or even enforceable, so don't worry - you won't get arrested by the Flag Police.

Fireworks have been a major part of Fourth of July since the earliest celebrations. In 1884, miners blew up the post office in Swan, Colorado, because it wasn't supplied with fireworks.

The Philippines gained their own independence from the US on July 4, 1946 by signing the Treaty of Manila.

Membership Corner

Congratulations to all who have paid to maintain their membership, we are at 109.32% in our membership for District 7. Our goal was to get 547 paying member and we are at 598 paid members.

Sadly to say we still have 62 members that have expired and will be dropped as of 30 June 2020. If these members do decide to pay their dues for FY 2020/2021 their continuous years will be dropped to year one. I know, I know you have heard this before, and I sound like a broken record. If you know of any members that have not paid their dues for FY2019/2020 please advise them.

Even though this COVID-19 has us still locked in place somewhat we can call our friends and/or neighbors who you know are members of our local American Legion and do a buddy check or a welfare check just to see how they are faring during this time. This is a good thing, because if they are ill or house bound folks they would like the fellowship that comes with your call. Likewise if someone has died please notify the post so we can take action to help, and update our records.

"America has never been united by blood or birth or soil. We are bound by ideals that move us beyond our backgrounds, lift us above our interests and teach us what it means to be citizens." President George W. Bush

American Legion Riders (ALR) Corner

The ALR President Ray Ruiz has tentatively announced that we may have the ALR Convention in Hollywood around October 5th, but remember that is still tentative, and we are not there yet.

As president of our Chapter 119, I cannot remind you enough that we do need to ride but also need to be in compliance with the state safety guidelines. So with that said be safe and stay your distance in small groups like 4 or 7 people on bikes. Just to update you on the chapter's reports, the only one still pending is the Chapter Bylaws that have not been completed and turned in.

Service Officer Corner

Shirkin' and Workin'

Let's start with the shirkin'.

Since Covid 19 started, no more jail visits. No more court rooms. No more arraignments. No more inmate workers. No more transport to recovery or ER.

Used to work about 30 hours per week.

Might not go back to the old ways other than to train someone. Hopefully, a staff member at county Department of Veteran Affairs. Now for the workin'.

Still putting in about 15 hours per week.

Phone. Text. Internet.

Will put on a Zoom class for the El Dorado County bar to train attorneys in what I do. Especially in jail.

A few snippets from this week:

1. His wife has declared war on him. A night in jail. Restraining Order.
Referred him to a fellow Veteran with expertise in these matters. Will buy him some new tires to keep the vehicle safe.
2. Hearing loss. VA says no. Back hurt. VA says, just 20%.
Let him know that working with the county he gets American Legion support too. County uses Legion for Power of Attorney. He will keep fighting for his benefits.
3. She has having trouble getting him into VA. Covid 19 restrictions. Never used Mather.
They got the enrollment with Mather straightened out. Let them know about El Dorado Community Health Center. Mission Act. Helps to have options.
4. Dialysis.
No ride? Then he dies.

Caregiver covers him Monday and Wednesday. Put together a team of six to cover Friday. Should work until the snow starts.

David Zelinsky
Service Officer

"We, the People, recognize that we have responsibilities as well as rights; that our destinies are bound together; that a freedom which only asks what's in it for me, a freedom without a commitment to others, a freedom without love or charity or duty or patriotism, is unworthy of our founding ideals, and those who died in their defense." President Barack Obama

"Liberty, when it begins to take root, is a plant of rapid growth." President George Washington

"The essence of America — that which really unites us — is not ethnicity, or nationality or religion — it is an idea — and what an idea it is: That you can come from humble circumstances and do great things. That it doesn't matter where you came from but where you are going." Condoleezza Rice

"I'd like to be remembered as a person who wanted to be free and wanted other people to be also free." Rosa Parks

"They who can give up essential liberty to obtain a little temporary safety deserve neither liberty nor safety." Benjamin Franklin

"Only our individual faith in freedom can keep us free." President Dwight D. Eisenhower

"Patriotism means to stand by the country. It does not mean to stand by the president or any other public official, save exactly to the degree in which he himself stands by the country. It is patriotic to support him insofar as he efficiently serves the country. It is unpatriotic not to oppose him to the exact extent that by inefficiency or otherwise he fails in his duty to stand by the country. In either event, it is unpatriotic not to tell the truth, whether about the president or anyone else." President Theodore Roosevelt

Happy Hour at the Post

Don't forget Friday happy hour. Food by Leo and a nice adult beverage and the best part is spending some time with your Legion comrades. Pool table is available along with new pool cues. On occasions we are doing different things during happy hour. Since we have a nice projector we occasionally will watch a movie. Come on out and have some fun and chat with other members.

* Happy hour subject to prior rental.

July 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Auxiliary Unit, Dinner, Social & Mtgs. 6PM	2	3 Happy Hour 5pm	4
5	6 Voiture 1119 40 & 8	7 Young At Heart 9:00am	8 Sons of AL meet- ing. Legion Rid- ers, 6PM	9 Quiet Birdmen Hanger 6PM	10 Happy Hour 5pm	11 Ham Radio Test 9:00am, West Slope Unit Group
12 Baby Shower 1pm	13	14 Young At Heart 9:00am, State of Jefferson 4:45PM	15 Bartenders: 5pm E-Board: 6pm	16 El Dorado Min- eral & Gem So- ciety 6pm,	17 Happy Hour 5pm	18
19	20	21 Young At Heart 9:00am	22	23	24 Happy Hour 5pm	25 Scrapbooking 9am
26	27	28 Young At Heart 9:00am	29	30	31 Happy Hour 5pm	
<u>ALL EVENTS ARE TENTATIVE DUE TO COVID-10 RESTRICTIONS</u>						

Fast Facts

The American Legion was chartered and incorporated by Congress in 1919 as a patriotic veterans organization devoted to mutual helpfulness.

There are nearly 2 million members of The American Legion, making it the nation's largest wartime veterans service organization.

The American Legion has more than 12,000 posts in communities throughout the United States. In addition to posts in every state, The American Legion has posts in the District of Columbia, France, Mexico, Puerto Rico and the Philippines.

In 1944, President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed into law the original GI Bill, or Servicemen's Readjustment Act, ushering in monumental changes in U.S. society. Six months earlier, The American Legion wrote the first draft of what later became the "GI Bill of Rights" – considered The American Legion's single greatest legislative achievement. Higher education becomes democratized after 8 million veterans go to school on the GI Bill, get better jobs, buy houses in the suburbs and raise families.

On Aug. 9, 1921, a Legion-led effort resulted in the creation of the U.S. Veterans Bureau, which later became the Veterans Administration.

The first "Flag Code" is drafted during a Legion conference in Washington in 1923. Congress adopts the code in 1942. Today, The American Legion is at the forefront of efforts to pass a constitutional amendment to protect the U.S. flag from physical desecration.

The American Legion donated \$1 million to the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund for construction of the Wall in Washington, becoming the largest single contributor to the project.

The American Legion announces its sponsorship of an independent study on the effects of exposure to Agent Orange on Vietnam War veterans. Congress receives the results of the "American Legion-Columbia University Study of Vietnam-era Veterans" in 1989.

Today, more than 2,000 high school students annually participate in The American Legion's Junior Shooting Sports National Air Rifle Championships at the Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs, Colo. The first event was held in 1991.

THE AMERICAN LEGION
EL DORADO POST 119
P. O. BOX 421
PLACERVILLE, CALIFORNIA
95667

July 2020

PRSRT STD
Non-Profit
Organization
U. S. POSTAGE
PAID
Placerville, CA
Permit No. 257

Return Service Requested



Welcome to
The American Legion
The World's Largest Veterans Organization

El Dorado Post 119

www.legionpost119.org

All Meetings At:

American Legion El Dorado Post 119

4561 Greenstone Rd, Placerville CA 95667

(530) 626-3956

**MEMBERS' SPOUSES ARE ALWAYS WELCOME AT
OUR DINNERS ON MEETING NIGHT.**

The office at the Post will have someone present between 9am and 11am, Monday, Wednesday and Fridays. (Closed on Monday Holidays).

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 2020/2021 are \$45. If you receive a second notice from National, The Membership Director has information on when your membership expires.

The tune of the National Anthem was originally used by an English drinking song called "to Anacreon in Heaven." The words have nothing to do with consumption of alcohol but the "melody that Francis Key had in mind when he wrote those words did originate decades earlier as the melody for a song praise of wine." From everyone here at American Legion Post 119, we wish you and yours a safe and happy Independence Day!