

El Dorado American Legion Family

El Dorado Post 119

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

FOR GOD, COUNTRY AND COMMUNITY

May 2020

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



Commander Corner

Once again I would like to reach out to the membership in an effort to keep you informed and solicit your much needed assistance. As the Covid-19 pandemic continues I would encourage each and everyone of you to continue to reach out to your friends and family members by conducting telephonic buddy checks. Some of you may not be aware that routine post business has been completely suspended for the past several weeks, this condition will continue until further notice. I would like to encourage you to provide input on your ideas on post activities that would improve participation and general attendance throughout the calendar months.

Al Stone

Adjutant Corner

To my fellow Legionnaires,

First I want to express my condolences to our long time member John (Dusty) Deryck who lost his wife Nita Deryck of 46 yrs to a long time illness last February 16, 2020. Our condolences go out to Dusty and his family.

Now here we are again and for another month not having any meetings for the purpose of exchanging information and ideas for the betterment of our post and communicating any issues with resolutions. Also who and what our members are doing and how they are faring during our stay-at-home, and keeping a safe distance from one another.

Yet rest assured that all is well with our post. There have been a few changes in officers and appointed positions since February 2, 2020. The following open positions are: Finance Officer, 1st Vice, and Executive Committee Member. If anyone feels like they would like to fill any of these positions contact our new commander Al Stone at 916-690-2835. Also our Post 119 Webmaster and Newsletter Editor is now Richard (Dick) Bergin who held this position before. If you have any articles for the newsletter please email him at rjb@rjb1.com.

Membership Corner

Once again we are here at the end of Fiscal Year 2019/2020 and again, I have a stack of unpaid membership dues cards for those who have no email address or telephone numbers so they can't be notified as to when their dues are due. Soon we will be into Fiscal Year 2020/2021. The cards come out in June, but there are still those members who are under the assumption that they only have to pay on a calendar year or on a rolling year basis. I can assure you annual dues are on a Fiscal Year, a base that starts on July 1st and runs till June 30th of the following year.

Now you may ask yourself "...so what?" Well here is the so what -- you lose your longevity in continuous years and you lose the opportunity to receive a longevity star. If your membership "...expires on January 1st (according to post bylaws, Article XII, Section 4) the membership is classed as delinquent. If delinquent after February 1the member is suspended from all post privileges." You can find the bylaws on the post website. If you still say "so what?" Well then just pay when you want and stay at year (1) one.

This Memorial Day should remind us of the greatness that past generations of Americans achieved from Valley Forge to Vietnam, and it should inspire us with the determination to keep America great and free by keeping America safe and strong in our own time, a time of unique destiny and opportunity for our Nation. Richard Nixon, 1974

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|--|--|---|
| <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 - OPEN 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</p> <p>Bar Manager, John Muir 530/409-5689 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> | <h2 style="text-align: center;">MAY Birthdays</h2> <p>Earl Purington</p> <p>Harvey Hartman</p> <p>Mike Gregor</p> <p>Terrell Zarneke</p> <p>Robert Primicerio</p> <p>James Patterson</p> <p>Ruth Tausta</p> <p>Edwin Woodard</p> <p>Edward Hagen</p> <p>Alfred Kent</p> <p>Clyde Phillips</p> <p>John Deryck</p> <p>Lowell Teach</p> <p>Norm Mahalich</p> <p>Charles Pratt</p> <p>Michael Babcock</p> <p>Bradford Jones</p> <p>Warren Wynant</p> <p>Stephen Caputo</p> <p>Harland Dains</p> <p>Michael Daronco</p> <p>Jerry Snyder</p> <h3 style="text-align: center;">New Members List 1/1/20 4/10/20</h3> <p>Albert Kirtpatrick as of 1/7/20</p> <p>Gregory Brown as of 1/14/20</p> <p>John Vail as of 1/31/20</p> <p>Daniel Jones as of 2/8/20</p> <p>Charles Fowler as of 2/13/20</p> <p>Bernell Bowse as of 2/20/20</p> <p>James Mciver as of 2/22/20</p> <p>Gary Randolph as of 2/25/20</p> <p>Douglas Roscoe as of 3/2/20</p> <p>Rich Bergin as of 3/11/20</p> <p>Cherokee De Rose as of 4/07/20</p> <p>James Austin as of 4/7/20</p> <p>Arnold Austin as of 4/7/20</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) OPEN</p> | <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>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>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</p> <p>Newsletter Editor: Dick Bergin Email: rjb@rjb1.com Tel: 530/409-8794</p> | |

"Regard your soldiers as your children, and they will follow you into the deepest valleys; look on them as your own beloved sons, and they will stand by you even unto death." Sun Tzu

"And they who for their country die shall fill an honored grave, for glory lights the soldier's tomb, and beauty weeps the brave." Joseph Rodman Drake |**May we never forget freedom isn't free." Unknown**

American Legion Auxiliary

American Legion Auxiliary

Hi All,

Well we can't talk about what a great dinner we had. Some day we will again. We will have to give the cook crew a big hug for that day to come.

I hope you are all keeping healthy in your "shelter in place." I know I'm keeping my family close. Hubby is going stir crazy. He must have mowed the lawn a dozen times and cut a couple of trees down. If this doesn't blow over soon I might not have any trees left. HA HA!

News from National: All Auxiliary officers are staying in place until 2021. I have changed my mind about resigning my office as President. I will be with you another year. I am following Nationals example. Until further notice all officers of unit 119 will stay in place until 2021. Of course there are no meetings until further notice.

Thank you!

Janie Bandera, President
(530) 677-4423

SONS CORNER

HI EVERYONE, JAKE WAS A JUNIOR LAST YEAR THAT WENT TO BOYS STATE IN SAC, AND IS A MEMBER OF OUR SQUADRON, SHIPS OUT APRIL 25

BILL

Good morning Mr. Bryant,

I'm so sorry for emailing you so late, meant to send this out way sooner.

A big thing that has happened recently is that I accepted my appointment to West Point. I'm so pumped. Right now I'm taking this opportunity of staying at home all day to workout a lot in preparation for West Point. Doing a lot of rucking and running.

Besides that I'm just relaxing these days trying to keep myself busy.

How are y'all doin with all this? Hope you are doin well and bein safe.

Best regards,

Jake Van Spanje

Riders Corner

No update, Ride safe, keep shinny side up and rubber side down.

Hey guess what? I am back, kind of like a bad penny that keeps turning up. If anyone gets confused I tend to go by my family name, which is Dick. Now keep in mind it has a capital D and not the other little d, big difference, well maybe not if you know me. I will do the best I can given the exceptional input I will be getting. In addition I will be taking over the website from Mike M..

Mike has done a fantastic job with the website and of course his many other contributions to the Post. I am sure he will still be around for us to pester.

I would also like to thank Stephanie for doing the Post's Newsletter for the last couple of years. This is not always easy to put together. Thank you and hope to meet you some day.

On the website we are going to the next revision which will make it look better on smaller devices such as cell phones. I will also be adding links about COVID-19 and some other interesting links. Of course I will take any suggestions into mind for both the website and Newsletter. "Have a great day unless you have other plans!" B Kaiser

"Let every nation know, whether it wishes us well or ill, that we shall pay any price, bear any burden, meet any hardship, support any friend, oppose any foe to assure the survival and the success of liberty." John F. Kennedy

American Legion HQ Cancels 2020 National Convention

The American Legion cancelled its 2020 national convention on Wednesday amid concerns over the Coronavirus pandemic and its potentially lasting effects. In an email to the organization's leaders, National Adjutant Daniel S. Wheeler said National Commander Bill Oxford consulted at length with his Advisory Committee regarding the safety of The American Legion Family and subsequently sent the resolution to the National Executive Committee for a final vote.

"Last night, 1,800 people in the United States died from the coronavirus, and we do not know when this scourge will end," Wheeler wrote. "That being said, we do not wish to expose any Legionnaire unnecessarily to the possibility of contamination. We will let you know when travel will again be authorized, but we do not expect it to happen in the next few months."

The National Subcommittee on Resolutions drafted Resolution #3, which in addition to the convention cancellation also included a provision to officially stop the awarding process of the 2026 national convention, which will be given to Louisville, Kentucky, where this year's convention was supposed to be held.

In passing the resolution, the organization has also cancelled the national convention for its subordinate program, The Sons of The American Legion. Wheeler wrote that all housing contracts with partner hotels have been voided as well. He went on to caution departments and posts from holding their conventions.

"That decision rests entirely in the hands of the leadership of departments and posts," Wheeler wrote. "Irrespective of whether or not departments decide to hold conventions or some type of electronic communications for the purpose of electing officers, please be advised that the NEC recommends that you keep all current officers in place until next year. National will be retaining all national officers, all commission and committee chairmen, and all commission, committee and council members until they resign or are replaced or reappointed during the October 2021 meeting of the National Executive Committee."

Per capita dues are also being kept at \$18.50 for 2021, wheeler wrote.

The news comes on the heels of a slew of event cancellations across the country, including many in California, due to COVID-19.

CA Legionnaire Leaders

With the announcement Wednesday that the National Convention (held in late August) is now cancelled, many members have been speculating on whether the Department Convention (held in late June) will be occurring. Department Commander Ed Grimsley has called for an emergency Department Executive Committee online meeting to be held Saturday April 25th to determine a path for the department which incorporates the mandates related to the Coronavirus, the requirements of our Department Bylaws, and the California codes which govern our organization. Invitations with log in instructions have been emailed to members of the DEC and a physical invitation will be mailed early next week. Please be patient as this process unfolds as no further definitive information can be provided until action and guidance is provided by this emergency DEC meeting. Membership Director Paula Bibby wants to thank those who have been using BUDDY CHECKS to look into how members are doing. Like yourself, your members are stuck at home and probably would appreciate a phone call checking up on them. Additionally, it is a great way to remind those who have let their memberships lapse that our American Legion is working hard to support veterans in our community. The 95% Membership Target Date has been extended five weeks to May 13th due to the impact of the Coronavirus. So far, over half of the posts in California are over 95% with the Department just below 91%. If we contact the 14,000 expired members from 2019 and each post submits the few memberships they have received (but not submitted), I'm sure we will pass this target and get to our 100% membership goal as a department.

-Paul M. Brown Department Adjutant

"Only our individual faith in freedom can keep us free." As another American president, Abraham Lincoln, put it, "Freedom is the last, best hope of earth." Lincoln steered the country through the Civil War, saved the Union and ended slavery.— D. Eisenhower

"What we do with this peace—whether we preserve it and defend it, or whether we lose it and let it slip away—will be the measure of our worthiness of the spirit and sacrifice of the hundreds of thousands who gave their lives in two World Wars, Korea, and in Vietnam." - Richard Nixon, 1974

Service Officer Corner

Triage in the time of Covid-19

Trying to avoid all contact other via than phone, text, email, or Zoom, but...

Marine 1.

Vet Court graduate. Yet the wheels came off. Homeless. Car is busted. Starving.

Can I talk to his parents? "No. Don't believe them."

Texted him lots of info. Talked to the H.O.T. Team.

I would not have gone out under any circumstances.

He wants to get arrested, and I think that may be his best option.

Marine 2.

Also starving. Also homeless. Also no transportation.

Too many frenemies. Can't go to the Upper Room. Can't go to the Salvation Army. Can't go to Sacramento Veterans Resource Center. Or at least won't.

Pre-Covid-19 I would have handed him McDonald's and bus passes. This time, She, who must be obeyed, told me, no way.

Next day the busses became free for the duration. I let him know.

Marine 3.

He was no more deserving than anyone else. But he has a five year old kid with pneumonia. I know the motel manager. Only Kindness pleaded with me to go see the manager. They can only stay if I show my face to the manager.

This time, my wife, and mother of four, who loves children, gave her blessing.

I went. They are in. Only Kindness will get them more permanently housed imminently.

Even though we are all self isolating, the last few days have had some wins:

Wire, who is homeless, finally got his VA pension, thanks to the county VSO team. Also thanks to EDVR driver, Tim Page, who just drove him to Mather for an essential medical appointment.

Otto, who is homeless, finally got approved for his 100% service connected benefit, and lots of money should show up by the first. Unfortunately, he got a mild, but contagious condition, and had to take a break from his recovery program for a few days until the condition clears up. Thank you to Only Kindness, Salute to Valor, and the Veterans Commission for providing the funds to keep him in a motel until he is cleared to return to his program.

Data, who is married and homeless, just got his 100% service connected money including retro pay. Thanks to all of the agencies and charities above, who kept them afloat, including fixing their car, until this happy day.

Thought we could all use some good news.

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

Their sacrifice was great, but not in vain. All Americans and every free nation on earth can trace their liberty to the white markers of places like Arlington National Cemetery. And may God keep us ever grateful.—George W. Bush, 2003

It was the transcendent fortitude and steadfastness of these men who in adversity and in suffering through the darkest hour of our history held faithful to an ideal. Here men endured that a nation might live.—Herbert Hoover, 1931

"The patriot's blood is the seed of freedom's tree." - Thomas Campbell

MEMORIAL DAY

MEMORIAL DAY FACTS, TRADITIONS, MEANING, AND MORE

WHEN IS MEMORIAL DAY 2020

This U.S. Federal holiday is observed on the last Monday of May to honor the men and women who have died while serving in the military. In 2020, it will be observed on Monday, May 25.

WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN MEMORIAL DAY AND VETERANS DAY?

On both Memorial Day and Veterans Day, it's customary to spend time remembering and honoring the countless veterans who have served the United States throughout the country's history. However, there is a distinction between the two holidays:

- **Memorial Day** commemorates the men and women who **died** while in the military service of their country, particularly those who died in battle or as a result of wounds sustained in battle. In other words, the purpose of Memorial Day is to memorialize the veterans who made the **ultimate sacrifice** for their country. We spend time remembering those who lost their lives and could not come home, reflecting on their service and why we have the luxury and freedom that we enjoy today. We might consider how we can support and safeguard their grieving families and loved ones who are left behind.
- **Veterans Day** is the day set aside to thank and honor ALL who served—in wartime or peacetime—regardless of whether they died or survived. Veterans Day is always observed officially on November 11, regardless of the day of the week on which it falls.

MEMORIAL DAY FACTS AND HISTORY

Traditionally, on Memorial Day (U.S.), people visit cemeteries and memorials, and volunteers often place American flags on each grave site at national cemeteries. A national moment of remembrance takes place at 3:00 p.m. local time. The custom of honoring ancestors by cleaning cemeteries and decorating graves is an ancient and worldwide tradition, but the specific origin of Memorial Day—or **Decoration Day**, as it was first known—is unclear.

In early rural America, this duty was usually performed in late summer and was an occasion for family reunions and picnics. After the Civil War, America's need for a secular, patriotic ceremony to honor its military dead became prominent, as monuments to fallen soldiers were erected and dedicated, and ceremonies centering on the decoration of soldiers' graves were held in towns and cities throughout the nation.

After World War I, the day expanded to honor those who have died in all American wars.

A Lasting Legacy

No less than 25 places have been named in connection with the origin of Memorial Day, and states observed the holiday on different dates. In 1971, Memorial Day became a national holiday by an act of Congress; it is now celebrated annually on the last Monday in May.

Since it all started with the Civil War, you might want to brush up on your knowledge of this event by visiting the Library of Congress Civil War collection, which includes more than a thousand photographs from the time.

WHY IS THE POPPY A SYMBOL OF MEMORIAL DAY?

In the war-torn battlefields of Europe, the common red field poppy (*Papaver rhoeas*) was one of the first plants to reappear. Its seeds scattered in the wind and sat dormant in the ground, only germinating when the ground was disturbed—as it was by the very brutal fighting of World War I.

John McCrae, a Canadian soldier and physician, witnessed the war first hand and was inspired to write the now-famous poem "In Flanders Fields" in 1915. He saw the poppies scattered throughout the battlefield surrounding his artillery position in Belgium.

The Poppy Lady

In November 1918, days before the official end of the war, an American professor named Moina Michael wrote her own poem, "We Shall Keep the Faith," which was inspired by McCrae's "In Flanders Fields." In her poem, she mentioned wearing the "poppy red" to honor the dead, and with that, the tradition of adorning one's clothing with a single red poppy in remembrance of those killed in the Great War was born. Moina herself came to be known—and honored—as "The Poppy Lady."

My fellow Americans, ask not what your country can do for you, ask what you can do for your country. – John F. Kennedy
"The cost of freedom is always high, but Americans have always paid it. And one path we shall never choose, and that is the path of surrender, or submission." – John F. Kennedy

May 2020

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

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|---|-------------------------------------|---|---|--|---|--|
| | | | | | 1 | 2 |
| <u>ALL EVENTS ARE TENTATIVE DUE TO COVID-10 RESTRICTIONS</u> | | | | | | |
| 3 | 4 40&8 Voiture 1119 5:30pm | 5 Young At Heart 9:00am/Jr. Shooters 6:00pm | 6 Post unit meet- ings/ Social Dinner | 7 | 8 Happy Hour 5pm- | 9 HAM Radio Test 9am |
| 10 | 11 | 12 Young At Heart 9:00am/State of Jefferson 4:45pm | 13 SAL: 5:30 Riders: 6:30 NSDAR 9:00am | 14 Quiet Birdmen 6:00pm | 15 Happy Hour/ Rose Ball setup 5pm | 16 El Dorado Rose Ball |
| 17 Stoneceller Homestead Camp 5:00pm | 18 | 19 Young At Heart 9:00am/Jr. Shooters 6:00pm | 20 Bartenders: 5pm E-Board: 6pm | 21 El Dorado Min- eral & Gem So- ciety 6pm, | 22 Happy Hour 5pm | 23 |
| 24 El Dorado High School Alumni 9:00am | 25 | 26 Young At Heart 9:00am/Jr. Shooters 6:00pm | 27 Gold Bug Quilt- ers | 28 | 29 Happy Hour 5pm | 30 Life Line Screening 8:30am |

It's a SCAM!

Today an unknown number of Legionnaires received an email similar to the one below - IT'S A SCAM!

Ricky,

Are you available to assist? I am out of the State now and I've got credence in you to take care of this. I would have called your phone but I presently do not have access to my mobile phone. Department of California- The American Legion Post 156 needs some gift cards for donation to Veterans at Hospice and Palliative care units for preventive items for Corona Disease(COVID 19). I have decided to make it a personal duty. I will be responsible for the reimbursement.

*Ed Grimsley,
Commander.*

It's a scam. We need to be vigilant and if or when you receive an email like this, take a close look at the email address of the person sending the email. If it does not match the email address you would normally expect to see, it is probably a scam.

However we are not experts on such issues, so we have included a link to the FBI information on Scams and Safety.

FBI Scams and Safety

<https://www.fbi.gov/scams-and-safety/on-the-internet>

We highly recommend you read and follow their professional advice. We also have included a link for you to file a complaint with the Internet Crime unit at the FBI.

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. If the balls are not lost we have a net and paddles for the ping pong table. 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.

All meeting's at American Legion Post 119, 4561 Greenstone Road, Placerville, CA 95667

* Happy hour subject to prior rental.

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

May 2020

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



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.

"Patriotism is when love of your own people comes first; nationalism, when hate for people other than your own comes first." – Charles de Gaulle

"As we express our gratitude, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter the words, but to live by them." - John F. Kennedy