

El Dorado American Legion Family

El Dorado Post 119

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

FOR GOD, COUNTRY AND COMMUNITY

November 2017



New Resource for Veterans in EDC



No such thing as a free lunch? Well, you are invited to a free lunch on Veterans' Day, Saturday, November 11 at 12:30 pm, to celebrate the opening of the El Dorado Co. Veterans Resource (EDVR) at the Veterans Memorial Building on Placerville Drive. Everyone concerned with the well-being of veterans is welcome. The EDVR – a permanent Stand Down center - will offer free services to current military personnel, veterans and their families in El Dorado Co. EDVR has been the dream of several local veteran advocates for some time. Our model comes from the Permanent Stand Down that is operated in Yuba City/Marysville – open five days a week to serve walk-in clients who need immediate help.

The EDVR will be staffed by trained volunteers who will listen to needs and try to either provide appropriate financial assistance, through gas, bus and food gift cards, and/or direct clients to sources that can help. Volunteers will also be trained on when to call 911 for medical or other emergencies.

We are working in concert with the El Dorado Dept. of Veteran Affairs, which is housed in the same building, so mutual referrals between our two offices will be easy. For example, we can send a veteran without VA benefits to the Dept. of Veteran Affairs, which files claims for benefits. On the other hand, Veteran Affairs can send an at-risk veteran, or family member, to the EDVR Stand Down for some on-site monetary aid.

EDVR is a program of the Military Family Support Group (MFSG), a local non-profit that already provides many services for veteran families, and which operates a food pantry in the VMB. The group behind the EDVR has been meeting for several months to handle the various challenges, all of which have been met.

El Dorado County has one of the largest *proportions* of military veterans in California. But since we are primarily rural, with only two semi-urban hubs (Placerville and So. Lake Tahoe), accessing services can be difficult. We hope to change that by encouraging lots of local entities to get into the act. We do not want to duplicate any existing service. Instead, our goal is to encourage collaboration in offering effective aid. We want to both save lives and improve lives of those who have been willing to give their lives for our safety.

Our mission is encoded in our motto: Honor and Empower the Military Veteran.

We are still recruiting volunteers to staff the EDVR office, which the VMB Building Managers are sharing with us. It's a great location right at the upper level entry. Volunteers will work in teams of two for mutual support and safety, and commit to one weekly three-hour shift.

There are other ways to volunteer, as well: providing transportation for a veteran to Mather VA or elsewhere in the area; presence in Veterans Court, technical and administrative support, outreach and public relations are examples.

We are proud of the expanding team that is bringing EDVR to fruition. The program committee is chaired by Bill Scrivani, with David Zelinsky as vice-chair. Suzanne Osborne-Weisnar is Secretary. Committee members at large are Julie LeConte, Christine Leigh-Taylor, Patricia Morello and Lance Poinsett. Our wider team includes Dastin and Lauren Hernandez, Tim Page, Rich Meagher, Tim Whalen, and Rich Bergin. On top of these wonderful folks we have office volunteers who have already stepped forward. We will announce their names when they have been back-ground checked and trained. Suffice it to say, we have a talented and growing cadre of support.

This effort is going to build! It is going to need more volunteers, publicity to make sure veterans know about the resource, and money! We have some start-up funds to cover an initial supply of gift cards, some printing, background checks and so on. We know Post 119 already is part of the rescue and healing process, and we thank you. If you have suggestions for how we can be more helpful, we certainly welcome them.

Respectfully and thankfully submitted,

The Rev. Dr. Christine Leigh-Taylor
Member of the EDVR Committee

The strongest people make time to help others, even if they're struggling with their own personal problems.

Service Officer Corner

Pastorale

Another quiet day, walking on the bike trail. Perfect weather.

Got a text.

"David, what was that address?"

Pastor Jim, and his crew at Pioneer Bible, were going to deliver wood to a combat Veteran and her family in Grizzly Flat.

I am just barely able to text. My wife, Connie, just showed me about spaces.

Did it. My first ever text using numbers! I figured it out.

Firewood successfully dropped off, only no one was home. The family will be surprised.

A little further, I overheard a conversation involving a mobility challenged athlete. It was not the words, but the cadence. I just had a feeling.

"Did you serve in the military?"

Six years. Army. He was a Sacramento Veteran, but we shook hands, and figured we would run into each other at Mather.

Could have told you about the three Veterans making bail as I walked. All off and running, getting into trouble.

Sometimes, you just have to absorb the warmth of the sun.

It was one of those perfect days.

Black Hawk Down

Homeless. Combat Veteran. Somalia. Veterans Court. But in South Lake Tahoe.

Barely eating. Gas only when I give him a gas card.

Taking Wellness classes. Doing his best.

Devout Roman Catholic. Loyal unto death to his wife and her kids. Not reciprocated--in fact, toxic.

At risk of freezing this winter. At risk of re-arrest when triggered by family situation.

Watched a full blown PTS(D) reaction as a helicopter flew over us, flying low. From behind him.

Put him up for a few nights. Had him fill out an application to stay at Victory Village.

Found out he did not follow up.

There are a lot of tombstones out there with this epitaph:

"I was not quite ready yet."

David Zelinsky

Service Officer

American Legion Post 119

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. We will be having bar games for drinks, 1 drink max per winning player. Come on out and have some fun and chat with other members.

The soldier above all others prays for peace, for it is the soldier who must suffer and bear the deepest wounds and scars of war. Douglas MacArthur

Honor Flight

<https://www.honorflight.org/>

The History of Honor Flight

The inaugural Honor Flight Tour took place in May of 2005. Six small planes flew out of Springfield, Ohio taking twelve World War II veterans on a visit to the memorial in Washington, DC. In August of 2005, an ever-expanding waiting list of veterans led our transition to commercial airline carriers with the goal of accommodating as many veterans as possible. Partnering with HonorAir in Hendersonville, North Carolina, we formed the “Honor Flight Network.” Today, we continue working aggressively to expand our programs to other cities across the nation.

How a Dream Became a Reality

The Honor Flight Network program was conceived by Earl Morse, a physician assistant and Retired Air Force Captain. Earl wanted to honor the veterans he had taken care of for the past 27 years. After retiring from the Air Force in 1998, Earl was hired by the Department of Veterans Affairs to work in a small clinic in Springfield, Ohio. In May of 2004, the World War II Memorial was finally completed and dedicated in Washington, D.C. and quickly became the topic of discussion among his World War II veteran patients.

Earl repeatedly asked these veterans if they would ever travel out to visit THEIR memorial. Most felt that eventually, somehow, they would make it to D.C., perhaps with a family member or friend.

As summer turned to fall and then winter, these same veterans returned to the clinic for their follow-up visits. Earl asked if they accomplished their dream of visiting the World War II Memorial. By now, for most of the veterans he asked, reality had settled in; it was clear to most that it simply wasn't financially or physically possible for them to make the journey. Most of these senior heroes were in their 80s and lacked the physical and mental wherewithal to complete a trip on their own. Families and friends also lacked the resources and time to complete the three- to four-day trip to the nation's capital.



This was our fearless Post 119 Commander Sam Bradley celebrating the 230th anniversary of our nation's Constitution being introduced by Rob Flowers before he spoke to 250 8th grade students at Camerado Springs Middle School. The Commander spoke of his own family's proud U.S. heritage and how serious military personnel take the oath they give to protect the U.S. Constitution before they begin their service to our country. Just felt like it was something worth bragging about!

“Cultivate the habit of being grateful for every good thing that comes to you, and to give thanks continuously. And because all things have contributed to your advancement, you should include all things in your gratitude.” Ralph Waldo Emerson

“Let gratitude be the pillow upon which you kneel to say your nightly prayer. And let faith be the bridge you build to overcome evil and welcome good.” Maya Angelou, *Celebrations: Rituals of Peace and Prayer*

Veteran's Day

Freeway Flags will be posted on November 11. Meet at the flag locker at 0700 that morning. Breakfast at the Golden Waffle after posting flags.

There will be a Veterans Day ceremony on Nov 11 at the El Dorado County Veteran's Memorial at 1100 hours. Arrive early for parking and seating.

Nov. 9th 1:30PM

Sunset Ranch Elementary School

2500 Bridlewood Dr. Rocklin Ca. 95765

The children and their teachers made many signs for the kids to hold up, thanking vets. There were perhaps 1-2 hundred children and 6-7 vets! They are looking for speakers and a possible honor guard. But most important are Vet's to show up to appreciate their efforts to show honor to those who have served.

November 1917:

November 6, 1917 - The village of Passchendaele is captured by Canadian troops. The Allied offensive then ceases, bringing the Third Battle of Ypres to an end with no significant gains amid 500,000 casualties experienced by all sides.

November 11, 1917 - The German High Command, led by Erich Ludendorff, gathers at Mons, Belgium, to map out a strategy for 1918. Ludendorff bluntly states he is willing to accept a million German casualties in a daring plan to achieve victory in early 1918, before the American Army arrives in force. The goal is to drive a wedge between the British and French armies on the Western Front via a series of all-out offensives using Germany's finest divisions and intensive storm troop tactics. Once this succeeds, the plan is to first decimate the British Army to knock Britain out of the war, and then decimate the French Army, and thus secure final victory.

November 15, 1917 - Georges Clemenceau becomes France's new Prime Minister at age 76. Nicknamed "The Tiger," when asked about his agenda, he will simply answer, "I wage war."

November 20, 1917 - The first-ever mass attack by tanks occurs as the British 3rd Army rolls 381 tanks accompanied by six infantry divisions in a coordinated tank-infantry-artillery attack of German trenches near Cambrai, France, an important rail center. The attack targets a 6-mile-wide portion of the Front and by the end of the first day appears to be a spectacular success with five miles gained and two German divisions wrecked. The news is celebrated by the ringing of church bells in England, for the first time since 1914. However, similar to past offensives, the opportunity to exploit first-day gains is missed, followed by the arrival of heavy German reinforcements and an effective counter-attack in which the Germans take back most of the ground they lost.

Going on at the Post

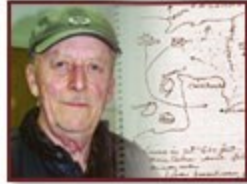
The annual District 7 Visitation of Officers will take place at the November 1st Post and Auxiliary gathering. I have heard the sound system is now working great, come on to the November General meeting and hear for yourself. Other good news is the parking lot has been repaired and is good for a few more years. Other items in the works is a foot rail for the bar and improved video through out the Post for special sport nights and events. Of course all of the updates and changes cost's money. We are collecting donations at the meetings look for the cans on the bar and help if you can.

“The central riddle I’ve set out to solve concerns the self’s continuity in change: how can we remain the same people over time, even as we change, sometimes considerably?” — Julian Baggini, *The Ego Trick*

The Veterans History Project

The Veterans History Project of the American Folklife Center collects, preserves, and makes accessible the personal accounts of American war veterans so that future generations may hear directly from veterans and better understand the realities of war.

Stories can be told through...



Personal Narratives
audio and video-taped
interviews, written memoirs

Correspondence
letters, postcards, v-mail
personal diaries



Visual materials
photographs, drawings,
scrapbooks

The Project collects first-hand accounts of U.S. Veterans from the following wars:

- ◆ World War, 1914-1918
- ◆ World War, 1939-1945
- ◆ Cold War
- ◆ Korean War, 1950-1953
- ◆ Vietnam War, 1961-1975
- ◆ Grenada--History--American Invasion, 1983
- ◆ Panama--History--American Invasion, 1989
- ◆ Operation Restore Hope, 1992-1993
- ◆ Persian Gulf War, 1991
- ◆ United Nations Operation in Somalia
- ◆ Haiti--History--American intervention, 1994-1995
- ◆ Operation Allied Force, 1999
- ◆ Peacekeeping forces--Bosnia and Hercegovina
- ◆ Operation Joint Guardian, 1999-
- ◆ War on Terrorism, 2001-2009
- ◆ Afghan War, 2001-
- ◆ Iraq War, 2003-2011

How did the Veterans History Project start?

The United States Congress created the Veterans History Project in 2000. The authorizing legislation (Public Law 106-380), sponsored by Representatives Ron Kind, Amo Houghton, and Steny Hoyer in the U.S. House of Representatives and Senators Max Cleland and Chuck Hagel in the U.S. Senate, received unanimous support and was signed into law by President William Jefferson Clinton on October 27, 2000.

AARP is the founding corporate sponsor of the Veterans History Project. In addition to providing initial major funding for the Project, AARP also spread the word to its legion of volunteers and almost 37 million members, encouraging them to get involved. Numerous state chapters have also been involved in the Project.

The Veterans History Project is made possible by the generous support of the United States Congress.

<https://www.loc.gov/vets/about.html>

**American Legion El Dorado Family
Leadership Team 2017-2018**

Post 119 American Legion

Commander	Sam Bradley	(530) 306-1070
1st Vice	Joseph Rendon	(530) 672-1161
2nd Vice	Roger Reynolds	(530) 350-7740
Adjutant	Mike Muetz	(530) 626-3956
Finance	Mike Schiavone	(530) 409-2710
Sgt At Arms	Milt Bandera	(530) 677-4423
Past Commander	Edgar "Bud" Brown	(530) 677-4135
Chaplain	Robert Flowers	(530) 417-5802
Judge Advocate	James Campini	(530) 622-0751
Bar Manager	John Shetler	(530) 672-6805
Building Manager	Mike Muetz	(530) 919-7866
Veterans Service	David Zelinsky	(530) 919-8488
Membership	Joseph Rendon	(530) 672-1161
Historian	Mike Raffety	(530) 626-8020
Executive Bd.	Rich Bergin	(530) 409-8794
	Jim Campini	(530) 622-0751
	Chuck Impey	(530) 672-1338
	Danny Mainwaring	(530) 622-0486
	John Shetler	(530) 672-6805
	Tim Smith	(530) 622-0990

Unit 119 American Legion Auxiliary

President	Janie Bandera	(530) 677-4423
1 st Vice	Rebecca Marty	(530) 677-4423
2 nd Vice	Carol McLaughlin	(530)
Secretary	Suzy Bergin	(530) 644-7806
Treasurer	Karen Dale	(530)
Chaplain	Dolores Wadsworth	(530) 677-1255
Sgt At Arms	Joy Krahn	(530) 677-6356
Marshall	Joyce Reynolds	(530) 621-3953
Exe Committee	Judy Muetz	(530) 622-9133

Unit 119 Sons of the American Legion

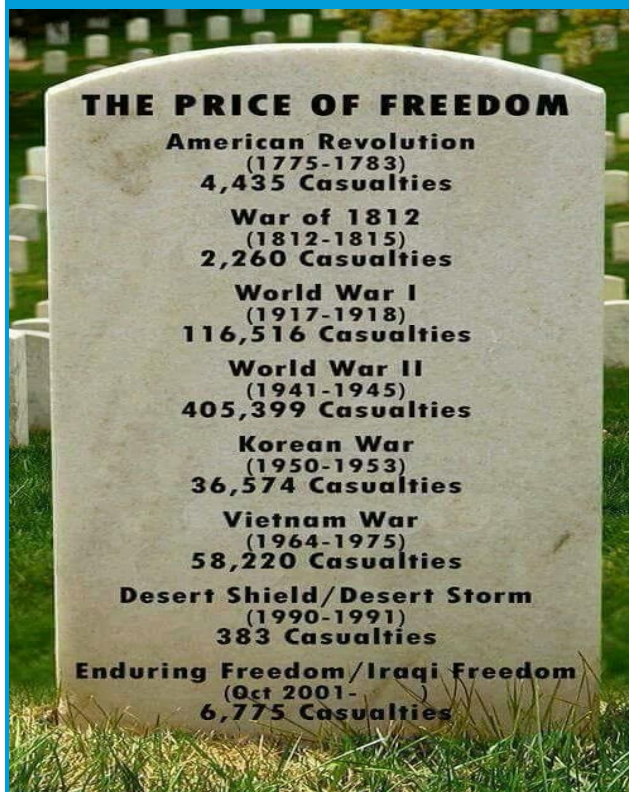
Commander:	Robert Flowers	(530) 417-5802
First Vice:	?	(530)
Adjutant:	David Zelinsky	(530)
Treasurer:	Richard Meagher	(530) 957-1069
Sgt at Arms:	Mike Ross	(530)
Historian:	Don Leddy	(530) 644-3581
Chaplain:	Robert Flowers	(530) 417-5802

Chapter 119 American Legion Riders

President:	Rich Bergin	(530) 409-8794
Vice President:	Joe Rendon	(530) 672-1161
Secretary:	Mike Muetz	(530) 622-1961
Treasurer:	Jane Fergason	(530) 409-7487
Sgt at Arms:	Jim Maxey	(530) 622-1961
Membership:	Janie Bandera	(530) 677-4423
Chaplain	Robert Flowers	(530) 417-5802
Run Coordin	Sam Fergason	(530) 409-7489
Safety Officer	Curt Tate	(530) 677-8033
Web Master:	Rich Bergin	(530) 409-8794

November Birthdays

Joseph	Rendon	Walter	Harper
Robert	Brasiel	John	Collens
Joshua	Ussery	Francis	Rawlin
Robert	Vehn	Alfred	Schaeffer
Doug	Sorenson	Frank	Liebert
Robert	Crowder	Will	Barnard
Jose	Rodriguez	Barry	Bullis
Robert	Woods	Richard	Crouch
James	Kerr	Mauro	Corsini
Ruth	Miller	Frank	Fausel
Mike	Mojonnier	George	Parkinson
Frank	Pignata	Joseph	Cuneo
Thomas	Koler	James	Pine
Paul	Schrader	Gerald	Leal
Harris	Holler	Thomas	Gautschi
Steve	Gorman	William	Bergmeister
William	Rawlin	Bennie	Crisp
Stanley	Rice	John	Miles
Anthony	Arjil	William	Fiedler
Roy	Rodgers	Robert	Brickley
Samuel	Miller	Ed	Castleman
Ronald	Panscik	Eric	Agee
John	Roberts	Richard	Bergin
Ralph	Rodgers		
Kenneth	Lykosh	Carlos	Navarete



November 2017

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

			1 Social 6pm Dinner 7pm Gen Meet 8pm	2	3 Happy Hour 5pm-9pm Chow by Leo	4
5	6 40&8 Voiture 5:30pm	7 Jr Shooters Program: 6:00pm	8 SOAL - 5:30pm Riders - 6:30pm	9	10 Happy Hour 5pm-9pm Chow by Leo	11 Veteran's Day
12	13	14 Jr Shooters Program: 6:00pm	15 Taco Night Bar Mtg: 5pm E-Board: 6pm	16	17 Happy Hour 5pm-9pm Chow by Leo	18
19	20	21 Jr Shooters Program: 6:00pm	22	23 Thanksgiving	24 No Happy Hour	25
26	27	28 Jr Shooters Program: 6:00pm	29	30		

Calendar of Meetings

November 1: Social 6:00 pm
Dinner 7:00 pm
Meeting 8:00 pm

November 6: 40&8 5:30pm

November 8:
Sons 5:45 pm
Riders 6:30 pm

November 15:
Bar Meeting 5:00 pm
Exe Meeting 6:00 pm

All Legion Members welcome.

Happy Hour dinners by Leo

All meals served with Chef's choice, entree, salad and dessert. All Meals are \$5.00.

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

"The willingness of America's veterans to sacrifice for our country has earned them our lasting gratitude." Jeff Miller

Gratitude is a constant attitude of thankfulness and appreciation for life as it unfolds. Living in the moment, we are open to the abundance around us and within us. We express appreciation freely. We contemplate the richness of our life. In life's trials, we seek to understand, to accept, to learn. Gratitude is a continual celebration of life.
— AUTHOR UNKNOWN

If no one shopped on Thanksgiving Day, the stores wouldn't open. End of story. I say we all take the pledge and stay home. Thanksgiving is a day to give thanks for what you have, not to save a few dollars to get more.
— REGINA BRETT

America's Veterans have served their country with the belief that democracy and freedom are ideals to be upheld around the world. John Doolittle

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

November 2017

PRSR 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

Commitment
 the state or quality of being dedicated to a cause, activity,
 etc. synonyms:
 dedication, devotion, allegiance, loyalty, faithfulness

Membership Dues New and Renewing Members

When you receive your renewal statement from National for American Legion Dues, please pay it through Post 119. If you make your payment this way, 15% of it will go to support our post. Your direct payment to our post benefits in two ways: first, you are making a 15% contribution; and second, you will not make the mistake of double payment. If you receive a second notice from National, check with our post first. The 1st Vice has information on when your membership expires,

Dues for 2018 is \$45.00. The increase put in place last year was due to a per capita expense increase to the State American Legion. Joe Rendon 1st Vice

*"Volunteers are not paid
 -- not because they are
 worthless, but because
 they are priceless."*

What Have You Given Today?