

El Dorado American Legion Family



El Dorado Post 119 MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FOR GOD, COUNTRY AND COMMUNITY

September 2017

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

VA Appeals Reform Becomes Law: On Wednesday, the president signed into law the *Veterans Appeals Improvement and Modernization Act of 2017*, which now provides three options for veterans to appeal disability rating decisions made by the Veterans Benefits Administration, as well as allows some veterans already in the appeals process to opt into the new system. The three options available to veterans dissatisfied with their initial claims rating decisions are to seek a higher-level review by a regional office on the same evidence presented to the original claims processors; to file a supplemental claim with a regional office that would include the opportunity to submit additional evidence; or to opt for an expedited consideration of their appeal directly to the Board of Veterans' Appeals. The entire intent of the new law is to speed the appeals process. "As a former veterans' service officer myself, Many veterans the will be better served under this new law.

George W. Smith
ALRDOC Service Officer

Android App for the Post

There is now an App for your Android phone: there is one for the iPhone as well. The App has everything the Post's web site has. There will also be icons for each of the Units at the Post. Click on one of the icon's for information on each of the Units. In the near future there will also be news bulletins.

This is how to get it:

- ◆ Go to Google Play, searched for American Legion El Dorado Post 119.
- ◆ That gave me the American Legion-Connectu Media App (for Post 119).
- ◆ After downloading the App and opening it a search page appears.
- ◆ Type in Post 119.
- ◆ A Legion emblem followed by Post 119, El Dorado Placerville, CA will appear.
- ◆ Select that item and our App will appear.

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. Be sure to come to Happy Hour on September 15. 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.

Happenings around the Post

We have a couple of things we would like to fund through the general membership. One item is a fund for the Honor Guard. The Post would like all the members in the Honor Guard to dress alike. The fund would provide pants, shirt and tie for each active member. Current estimate is about \$1,000.00. Look for the kitty jar and pop in what you can. Another item we are looking for is music CD's. We have a 300 CD player donated to the Post. If you have any good CD's and would like to donate them please bring them to the Post. All types of music is welcome.

Service Officer Corner

Quiet days

There are days of drama, when a homeless, suicidal Veteran gets housed, or an inmate is unearthed as a Veterans Treatment Court candidate.

And, sometimes, there are quiet days.

KAR confirmed he will go to training to become an Outdoor Leader as we try to get a Military Outdoors program started with the Sierra Club. Begin a budgeting process.

Volunteer Services at Mather confirmed that there is money available for Mather connected Veterans if they are referred by their Mather social worker. Maybe housing or transportation. Thank you to Sew 4 Vets and Elizabeth Fulgaro for the referral.

Found a homeless Veteran family, and told them a gas card is waiting for them at the El Dorado County Department of Veteran Affairs.

Time to unplug one homeless Veteran's phone, and figure out what to do with another homeless Veteran's abandoned phone.

Put out pleas for funds.

Invite a Veteran to be a volunteer.

Left a message for a Veteran on probation. "Take this seriously."

Check out House Manager office and East room annex in anticipation of setting up Permanent Stand Down presence.

Probably some other stuff.

Just a quiet day.

David Zelinsky
Service Officer
American Legion Post 119

Hi,
I'm writing to thank you for the resources [here](#) you've put together to help those who serve. My father-in-law is a disabled vet and lung cancer survivor, and it has meant the world to be able to find resources to help him pay for everything he needs. You're really doing a great service for people like him - I cannot thank you enough.

I'm happy to pass on some other pages we've found useful, in case you or your viewers might think so too:

[Aging Vets - How to Plan Wisely for Your Future](#)
[Residential Leases and the Military - Your Rights](#)
[Resources for Vets & Families Living with Cancer](#)
[Military Veterans Resource Center](#)
[Assistive Tech for Veterans and Military](#)
[Guide to Military Moves](#)
[Behavioral Health for Veterans](#)
[Mental Health Needs of Vets & Families](#)
[Justice for Vets](#)

Thanks,

Meagan Clark

"No act of kindness, no matter how small, is ever wasted." ~ Aesop

"For to be free is not merely to cast off one's chains, but to live in a way that respects and enhances the freedom of others." ~ Nelson Mandela

Junior Shooting Sports Program

The American Legion Junior Shooting Sports Program is a gun safety education and marksmanship program that encompasses the basic elements of safety, education, enjoyment and competition. Shooters use the .177 caliber air rifle. Both males and females can participate, through Legion sponsorship; disabled youth are encouraged to join, as competitive shooting is a sport that creates an equal playing field for all competitors. Contact your local Legion post, Sons of The American Legion squadron or Auxiliary unit for information about affiliating as a club or individual.



Junior Shooting Sports is a three-part program that combines the Basic Marksmanship Course, Qualification Awards and Air Rifle Competition into a well-rounded activity.

Basic Marksmanship Course

The Basic Marksmanship Course, given to Shooting Sports participants, offers comprehensive instruction for beginning shooters with little or no marksmanship experience. Designed for an instructor's easy use, the course teaches gun safety and marksmanship fundamentals, using short lectures or discussions, followed by hands-on activities. The package includes:

Instructor's guide

Detailed information for teaching the course.

Student handbook

Now in its third edition, a comprehensive reference text for beginners that thoroughly covers the fundamentals of position shooting.

Learning tools

Six quizzes and a final exam.

Qualification Awards

Graduates who want to keep improving their skills can enroll in air-rifle qualification courses provided by the National Rifle Association and the Civilian Marksmanship Programs. These courses offer personal skill-development ladders for shooters to achieve established performance standards.

Air Rifle Competition

The annual 3-Position Junior Air Rifle National Championship is a tournament that begins with postal matches. State and/or regional champions are determined and advance to a qualification round (also a postal match) to determine the athletes who will earn expense-paid trips to compete in the national championship. The national championship is a shoulder-to-shoulder match held each July at the USA Shooting range facilities at the Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs.

This post sponsors a Jr. Shooters program that meets at the Post on Tuesdays, 6pm. We use air rifles and normally shoot indoors. Firearm safety and education, teaching kids how to shoot and enjoying shooting sports are what we are about. This program is open to boys and girls. For further details call Bud Brown 530-677-4135.

“It is hard to fail, but it is worse never to have tried to succeed.” ~ Theodore Roosevelt

“The most practical kind of politics is the politics of decency.” ~ Theodore Roosevelt

“The only man who never makes mistakes is the man who never does anything.” ~ Theodore Roosevelt

“In any moment of decision, the best thing you can do is the right thing, the next best thing is the wrong thing, and the worst thing you can do is nothing.” ~ Theodore Roosevelt

American Legion Auxiliary

Hi Everyone,

I heard everyone had a good time at the August dinner and the tri-tip was delicious. Thank you to the cook crew who always make a good meal for everyone. Your hard work is appreciated.

Since Auxiliary had the privilege of hosting our Girls State participants at our August dinner I would like to tell you about the Girls State Program. Four out of our 5 selectees came to dinner and told us about the experiences and the fun they had.

Purpose

The purpose of ALA Girls State is to provide citizenship training in every Department of the American Legion Auxiliary for girls who have completed their junior year of high school; to afford them an opportunity to live together as self-governing citizens; to inform them about the duties, privileges, rights and responsibilities of American citizenship, in order that they may understand and participate in the functioning of their government; and to help them grasp the meaning of some of the responsibilities which they must assume when they become adults.

Selection

Girls State is a highly selective program designed for young women with above average academic standing, outstanding character and exemplary leadership qualities. Administered by the individual states, Units follow the guidelines established by their respective Departments regarding selection and participation. Unit 119 sponsors 5 delegates in conjunction with the local high school educators. It is crucial to continually cultivate the relationship with school personnel to ensure recruitment of qualified candidates.

If you are interested in being a chairman for any of our programs please come to the meeting and let me know. We could use your help.

Please remember to bring your donations for our monthly raffle. Everyone is welcome to donate members or not. Remember the raffle helps keep the Auxiliary afloat.

Thank you!

Janie Bandera, President

Cake List for September: Rebecca Marty, RoseMary Lewis, Karen Dale, Betty Butcher, Joyce Reynolds

Cake List for October: Jackie Schmidt, Janie Bandera, Sue Coffey, Pat Nerwinski, Joy Krahn, Suzy Bergin, Carol Muller

“We must scrupulously guard the civil rights and civil liberties of all our citizens, whatever their background. We must remember that any oppression, any injustice, any hatred, is a wedge designed to attack our civilization.” ~ Franklin D. Roosevelt

“It isn’t sufficient just to want. You’ve got to ask yourself what you are going to do to get the things you want.” ~ Franklin D. Roosevelt

“It’s a terrible thing to look over your shoulder when you are trying to lead and find no one there” ~ Franklin D. Roosevelt

“I am neither bitter nor cynical but I do wish there was less immaturity in political thinking.” ~ Franklin D. Roosevelt

Post 119 Riders Corner

Five White Crosses



Ever drive down Mormon Immigrant Trail Road and see 5 White Crosses on the south side of the road? On my first ride with Folsom Harley Owners Group in 2001 this is where we went. Randy Urbina was the leader of that ride. He would often take new riders to this spot. Sadly Randy passed away a few years ago from cancer. What makes this place special for those who ride motorcycles?

The accident:

The initial reports of the accident, which occurred 5.7 miles east of Sly Park Road on Saturday, September 2, 1989, were also incorrect stating that the bikes had inadvertently just hit some wood in the road. Not so, and after an extensive CHP investigation it was found that a 1-ton flatbed truck filled with firewood was westbound on Mormon Immigrant Trail. A pack of about 35 motorcyclists were riding behind each other two-abreast in the eastbound lane on their way to the annual Hope Valley Run. For unknown reasons, the truck lost control on a straight stretch of road. The truck traveled off the right side of the road, then apparently over corrected and the truck careened back across the westbound lane. When the truck entered the eastbound lane, the first two motorcycles in the formation struck the truck broadside. The truck then overturned directly into four of the cycles crushing them and their riders. At the same time, the large load of firewood spilled out onto the roadway forcing four more motorcycles to go down. Meanwhile the truck caught fire apparently due to a ruptured gas tank on one of the bikes or the truck itself, sending out a wall of flame engulfing everything.

Dead at the scene were Douglas Wall, 24, of Reno; Jeffrey Pearl, 41, of Foster City; Deborah Sund, 23, and her husband, Jeffrey Sund, 31, of Carmichael, along with James Carter, 35, of Sacramento.

Behind the 5 crosses perched atop a large concrete pedestal, is a burned up motor of a Harley Davidson with a large plaque attached. The last paragraph seems to sum up the feelings of those loved ones left behind to mourn. It reads, ***“This marks one of the worst tragedies in motorcycle history. The purpose of this memorial is to never forget those of us who have fallen, and to remind us how precious life is and how quickly it can be taken away. Live to ride, ride to live, God speed and please be careful.”***

It has become a permeant memorial for those who ride.

It has become a custom for those Riders who visit the site to leave something in remembrance. The entire memorial is covered and lovingly adorned with relics, mementos, knick-knacks and other offerings laid there in honor of the fallen riders. Even the crosses, themselves, sported bandanas, key chains, and flowers from recent visitors.



path way to the crosses



Items left on the engine



Parts of this article came from Rhonda Navarrete who is a Auxiliary Member and a Rider of this Post. In addition I used some wording from an article written by RJ “Cowboy” Carter, no he is not related to James Carter.

**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 Ferguson	(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 Ferguson	(530) 409-7489
Safety Officer	Curt Tate	(530) 677-8033
Web Master:	Rich Bergin	(530) 409-8794

September Birthdays

Lon Schmidt	Michael Schiavone
John Baker	Jerry Bluemel
Lester Braithwaite	Samuel Johnston
Steven Kimberlin	Burke Lincoln
Edward Goltz	Ronald Depass
Andrew Chilton	Christopher Deryck
David Munn	Arnold Austin
John Carpenter	William Sands
James Watson	Thomas Simpson
James Scott	Vernon Thompson
George Alleman	Donald Brown
Ruth Morris	William Hellwig
Wayne Varozza	Clark Gleason
William Roser	Rebecca Lawler
Gordon Vicini	Robert Miller
Michael Bamber	Luis Lemus
Peggy Voegel	Richard Covey
Rod Barton	

Lean On Me

**“Sometimes in our lives we all have pain
 We all have sorrow
 But if we are wise
 We know that there’s always tomorrow
 Lean on me, when you’re not strong
 And I’ll be your friend
 I’ll help you carry on
 For it won’t be long
 ‘Til I’m gonna need
 Somebody to lean on
 Please swallow your pride
 If I have faith you need to borrow
 For no one can fill those of your needs
 That you won’t let show
 You just call on me brother, when you
 need a hand
 We all need somebody to lean on
 I just might have a problem that you’ll un-
 derstand
 We all need somebody to lean on
 Lean on me, when you’re not strong
 And I’ll be your friend
 I’ll help you carry on
 For it won’t be long
 ‘Til I’m gonna need
 Somebody to lean on”**
 ~ Bill Withers

“The happiness of your life
 depends upon the quality of your thoughts.”
 ~ Marcus Aurelius

September 2017

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

					1 Happy Hour 5pm-9pm	2
3	4	5 Jr Shooters Program: 6:00pm	6 Social 6pm Dinner 7pm Gen Meet 8pm	7	8 Happy Hour 5pm-9pm Chow by Leo	9
10	11 40&8 Voiture 5:30pm	12 Jr Shooters Program: 6:00pm	13 SOAL - 5:30pm Riders - 6:30pm	14	15 Happy Hour 5pm-9pm Chow by Leo	16
17	18	19 Jr Shooters Program: 6:00pm	20 Taco Night Bar Mtg: 5pm E-Board: 6pm	21	22 Happy Hour 5pm-9pm Chow by Leo	23
24	25	26 Jr Shooters Program: 6:00pm	27	28	29	30

Calendar of Meetings

September 6: Social 6:00 pm
Dinner 7:00 pm
Meeting 8:00 pm

September 13:
Sons 5:45 pm
Riders 6:30 pm

September 20:
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.

Great leaders inspire. They maintain a hopeful attitude, even in the face of discouraging setbacks, constant criticism and abundant opposition. People don't follow discouraged leaders. They follow those who persist with hope. Rick Warren 2008

Youth to join in National Anthem sing-a-long on Sept. 11

On Sept. 11, youth nationwide are asked to "unite and sing together" "The Star-Spangled Banner" at 10 a.m. PST and 1 p.m. EST.

The [American Public Education Foundation](http://www.theapef.org) (APEF) began the National Anthem movement two years ago to get "students involved in learning the words and meaning of our nation's anthem, as well as uniting as a country is key," said Mia Toschi, founder of the National Anthem movement and APEF national director. "When students come together to celebrate citizenship, everyone wins."

To participate in the sing-a-long of "The Star-Spangled Banner," sign up online at this URL = [.https://www.theapef.org/](https://www.theapef.org/)

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

September 2017

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

“A smart person knows
what to say. A wise per-
son knows whether or
not to say it.”
~ Author Unknown

AMERICA
Henry van Dyke
I love thine inland seas,
Thy groves of giant trees,
Thy rolling plains;
Thy rivers' mighty sweep,
Thy mystic canyons deep,
Thy mountains wild and steep,
All thy domains;

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

Thy silver Eastern strands,
Thy Golden Gate that stands
Wide to the West;
Thy flowery Southland fair,
Thy sweet and crystal air,
O land beyond compare,
Thee I love best!