



Veterans Helping Veterans & Serving the Community Since 1932

Issue 1-37

958 Homestead Road, Santa Clara CA 95050

October 2020

## Commanders Report

Comrades

Here it is, another month with Covid-19 the biggest topic that can be discussed. Same way I started last month's bulletin. As we move into fall it is even more important that you take care of yourselves and get all your shots. Steve get yours too. We at the post have had a few who came down with Covid-19 and so we hope that you all have returned to good health too. Keep the distance and wear your mask when outside. We all need to work together to get this over with.

Lunches are doing well. Brenda Manley took a couple of weeks and we will be trying others as the weeks roll on. Hopefully, you have stopped by for a meal or take out. Thanks for your support this is the only thing keeping the post with any income.

Sunday Oct 4 is the next Sunday breakfast. The past two months have seen a lot of people coming to enjoy a good meal and outside seating has worked well. We are now heading to the cooler months and can only hope that we can start having inside meals soon.

- Join us for lunch or breakfast, to eat in or to take out.
- Join us for the next General Meeting on Zoom Oct 7.

You should get an e-mail with the info. If not contact Gene.

Veterans day there will be no San Jose parade. The post may do some decorating as Past Commander Al had suggested Exec will decide at the next meeting. Get your flag ready to raise as we must lead the nation on how to celebrate as and for Veterans.

If you have been affected by the wildfires contact the post and we can give you information for support.

Register to vote. Vote. It is not a matter of who you vote for but let all people know what we want to see for our country and to not be taken for granted. Vote by mail or in person but to it.

The Legionnaire online at CAlegion.org has some very interesting article in its Aug issue. An October issue should be out soon with recommendations on the Propositions for this Nov elections. The American Legion does not support individuals but can support or not support ballot initiatives that affect members. Take the time to look.

See you on the Zoom. Keep all in your prayers that we can get back together soon.

Ralph Jacob  
Commander, Post 419

## Service Officer Report

Hello all,

The following are a few updates that you may find beneficial:

### Community Care

VA offers urgent care services to eligible Veterans at VA medical facilities or at in-network urgent care clinics closer to home. You can utilize the VA's urgent care benefit to treat minor injuries and illnesses that are not life-threatening, such as colds, strep throat, sprained muscles, and skin and ear infections. For more information please visit the following link: [https://www.va.gov/COMMUNITYCARE/programs/veterans/Urgent\\_Care.asp](https://www.va.gov/COMMUNITYCARE/programs/veterans/Urgent_Care.asp)

### Veterans Canteen Service (VCS)

Established in 1946, VCS was created to provide articles of merchandise and services at reasonable prices to Veterans enrolled in VA healthcare system, caregivers, and visitors. For more information please visit the following link: <https://www.vacanteen.va.gov/>

### Education Services

Amazon Web Services (AWS) is providing US Veterans, transitioning military personnel and their spouses a 50% discount on instructor-led AWS Training to learn in-demand skills found in top cloud jobs. To sign-up and learn more please visit the following link: [https://www.awseducate.com/registration#APP\\_TYPE](https://www.awseducate.com/registration#APP_TYPE)

### Veteran Business Outreach Center (VBOC)

This program is designed to provide entrepreneurial development services such as business training, counseling, and resource partner referrals to transitioning service members, veterans, National Guard and Reserve Members and military spouses interested in starting or growing a small business. The SBA has 20 organizations participating in this cooperative agreement and serving as Veterans Business Outreach Centers. For more information please visit: <https://sba-vboc.ecenterdirect.com/>

### In the Community

I was able to assist a couple of Legionnaires and their spouses by directing their efforts to the VA in Palo Alto, San Jose Vet Center and the San Jose Veterans Service Office. Specifically, If you're a spouse of a deceased Veteran who had never signed up for any Veteran services, and the deceased Veteran served in a War Time Era, the spouse may be eligible for benefits. For more information please review the following form: <https://www.vba.va.gov/pubs/forms/VBA-21P-534-ARE.pdf>

Sunny Dosanjh

Service Officer, Post 419

## Chaplain Report

I am sad to report that a couple of our American Legion Post 419 members are under the weather. Bob Dunlap, John Boyles and Charley Wilson. Please keep them in your thoughts and prayers to make a speedy recovery. The Adjutant just found out that one of our very long-time members passed away in 2018, Donald Davis. Donald was a WWII Veteran, however his service is unknown, and a member of the American Legion for 73 years.

### We Honor Veterans (WHV)

As the Pathways Hospice WHV Bay Area representative, I've had the honor of conducting several WHV pinning ceremonies in September. This is a 3-5 minute ceremony where we recognize a Veterans service to our country, community, and family. The initial purpose was to not have a Veteran die alone and have someone sit beside them. Recently, families who have requested the ceremony, have utilized the opportunity to gather family, friends and community members to recognize the Veteran. For more information please visit the following link: <https://pathwayshealth.org/veterans/>

### Honor Guard, District 13

As the Post 419 Chaplain, I have had the opportunity to assist and participate with several District 13 Honor Guard Funeral Services. One aspect of the service is that after the three volley salute, we pick up three shells, place them in a pouch and present them to the next of kin. The three shell casings stand for *Duty, Honor and Country*. For more general information please visit: <https://www.va.gov/burials-memorials/what-to-expect-at-military-funeral/>

### Veterans Courage

This is a website that I created to express my journey as a wayfarer. I'll add more detail to it as I progress on this journey and add resources that may assist others. It's a work in progress and most likely will add short 1-2 minute videos on certain subjects. I'd welcome any input and suggestions and you can find the website at <https://www.veteranscourage.org/>

### Chaplain's Role

If anyone wants to talk about religion, faith & beliefs in general, I can assist in pointing you to the appropriate folks who conduct those services. As for myself, I respect the fundamental teachings of the religions that I've been exposed to and I am careful to utilize the appropriate terminology during any services that I'm a part of i.e. God, Devine, Beloved, Source, Force, Universe, Cosmic, Higher Power or nothing at all. Please contact me at 408.209.2142 if you want to talk or if I can point you to the appropriate person.

In closing, may your life be full of grace, may your mind be at peace and may your heart be filled with love.

Sunny Dosanjh  
Chaplain, Post 419



Santa Clara Unit 419

Newsletter October 2020

### Virtual Halloween Costume Happy Hour – Friday, October 30, 2020

Costumes! Cocktails! And Your Computer!

We are continuing to find ways to connect with each other and thought that a Halloween Happy Hour on Friday, October 30th from 5:30pm-7:30pm on Zoom would be great fun for all! Put on a costume, face paint, or spooky mask and come for some virtual games and even a virtual costume contest. (See Flyer for more details)

#### Join Halloween Zoom:

By Computer (click on link below): <https://zoom.us/j/96830599044>

Meeting ID: 968 3059 9044

#### Membership E-Meeting from Home – October 14, 2020

Our next E-meeting is October 14<sup>th</sup>. Social time at 6:30 p.m. & meeting start at 7 p.m. Join us by home phone, computer, smartphone, or tablet/ipad. There is no cost and no need to provide personal info. Maggie & Cindy are tech support – see contacts below.

#### Join E-Membership Zoom Meeting:

By Phone: 1-408-638-0968

By Computer (click on link below): <https://kickfire.zoom.us/j/799421628?pwd=VStWQXYOL1FNRzI2RFdLdkZFVStUUT09>

Meeting ID: 799 421 628 Password: 4192020

#### Poppy Wreaths and Other Creative Ways to Connect

At our September e-meeting, we discussed some new ideas on how we can support our veterans and ALA programs. We will be setting up socially-distant wreath making kits so they can be distributed for poppy program donations. More info to come in October.

#### CONTACT US – 419 CARES

- American Legion Auxiliary Santa Clara Unit 419: [ALAAunit419santaclara@gmail.com](mailto:ALAAunit419santaclara@gmail.com)
- Cheryl Rafferty, President, (408) 417-7765\*, [iamdonnbosgal@yahoo.com](mailto:iamdonnbosgal@yahoo.com)
- Maggie Taylor Aherne, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice, Past President, and Zoom Help, (909) 731-4309\*, [maggietailor8@gmail.com](mailto:maggietailor8@gmail.com)
- Cindy Newman, Treasurer, Past President, and Zoom Help, (650) 219-1041\*, [cnewman419@yahoo.com](mailto:cnewman419@yahoo.com)
- Maydean Grundstrom, Membership Chair (408) 732-5257, [megefg@sbcglobal.net](mailto:megefg@sbcglobal.net)
- Linda McHaffie, Chaplain (408) 247-4746, [earlmchaffie@gmail.com](mailto:earlmchaffie@gmail.com)

\*texts okay

Newsletter prepared by Maggie Taylor Aherne, 1st Vice and Past President



# 2020 Calendar of Events

HOST	EVENT	DATE
SAL	First Sunday Breakfast	October 4, 2020 9-11 am
Legion	Halloween Dinner/ Dance	Saturday October 31, 2020
Aux	First Sunday Breakfast	November 1, 2020 9-11 am
Legion	Annual Craft Faire	Saturday November 7, 2020
Legion	Veterans Day	Wednesday, November 11, 2020
Legion/Aux/SAL	Thanks for Giving Dinner	Thursday, November 19, 2020
SAL	First Sunday Breakfast	December 6, 2020 9-11am
Legion	Legion Family Christmas Dinner/Dance	Saturday December 12, 2020
Aux	New Years Eve Party	Thursday December 31, 2020
Legion	First Sunday Breakfast	January 3, 2021 9-11am
Legion	First Sunday Breakfast	February 7, 2021 9-11am

## Important Contact Information - Post 419, Squadron and Auxiliary

**General Contact Number:** 408.244.3050 (You may leave message here any time of the day or night)

**Post Adjutant Email Contact:** [www.americanlegionpost419@comcast.net](mailto:www.americanlegionpost419@comcast.net)

