



Veterans Helping Veterans & Serving the Community Since 1932

Issue 1-39

958 Homestead Road, Santa Clara CA 95050

December 2020

## Commanders Report

Comrades

We have now reached the last month of the year. What a year it has been. Rains, fires, Covid 19, deaths, no gatherings, outside breakfasts, a Presidential election, masks. Who would have thought we would be happy to celebrate Thanksgiving and Christmas with Zoom get togethers.

As a post we have tried to keep helping our veterans and neighbors. We have served as Honor Guards when allowed at services for veterans, thankfully most not post members. Although the Honor Flights to Wash DC have been on hold for most of the year we were able to assist the group in the use of the hall.

The day before Thanksgiving we held a Coffee and Pie day for the Fire and Police departments. With many donations and Brenda Manley cooking the pies this was done at no cost. Thanks to all who worked for donations and spent the day at the post.

Just when we thought we could be serving meals inside the building Covid came back strong and closed the inside work down. Brenda is still cooking lunches 4 days a week and we need help to set up the tables outside and bring them back in. There is a sign up sheet in the members bar (drinking at the bar is closed) during lunch hours. If you can please help.

Lunches are served Wednesday to Saturday 11:30 to 2. Take out or outside sitting.

First Sunday breakfast will be Sunday Dec 5. Bring a coat as we can only eat outside.

Join us for the next General Meeting on Zoom, DEC 2. Many topic to be discussed, including the election of a Member at Large to the Executive Committee. You should get an e-mail with the info. If not contact Gene.

The Legionnaire on line at [calegion.org](http://calegion.org) has some very interesting articles. Stay in tune with what is happening in California and the Nation for information and about Veterans and other activities.

Thanksgiving weekend and the first weekend in Dec I will be at Battaglia Tree farm in San Martin. Trees for Troops is an annual program we support to send trees to troops at Camp Pendleton. You can stop by and make a donation or do it on line.

Have a Merry and Safe Christmas. May your thoughts be bright with the hope of a New Year with gatherings allowed.

My prayers go out to all who have suffered the many ravages of this year.

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

Ralph Jacob - Commander

## Squadron Adjutant

Happy December Everyone

Hope that everyone had a enjoyable Thanksgiving under or present situation, once again in the Purple Tier. I know that a lot of members have been enjoying the Lunches which the post was able to coordinate.

If you haven't been able to make it down, you should, all good meals and at a reasonable price \$10.00

Brenda Manley has taken the reigns in the kitchen and as you many of you use to come for the Friday night dinners, always a good meal and lots of comradery. All squadrons are basically in the same boat, can't open therefore no activities. A Big Thanks to all of our volunteers who have been coming out to support the Post.

So now on to the Report

Membership Is still an ongoing effort, and renewals are coming in very slow, but Thank you to all who have renewed. Dues as you all are aware is \$25.00.

Meetings were set aside as this Covid -19 basically stopped all operations. Our events were all cancelled.

As per the Detachment, we have been holding meetings utilizing the Legions Go to Meeting.

29 members on line via phone or Laptops. Reports from districts revolved around Veterans Day participation throughout the state. As per membership the detachment has reached the 35% goal, now we need to step it up and get all members renewed. I reported on VA &R from National meeting held at the beginning of the month. Constitution & Bylaws is being reviewed for any changes.

Ways & Means, Helmets are still available, active in 6 counties and 3 other states. We have helmets, so if anyone wants one please let me know.

So as for the Detachment, we are going to try something new with all of the squadrons within the state. Town Hall meetings are going to start next month, Area 2 which we are part of will be in attendance along with Area 3 on 12/03/2020 at 7pm

Still have tickets for our Candidate for National Commander of the Son's Michael Fox. A 2020 Kawasaki 4x4 Quad is the grand Prize. Tickets are \$10.00 each. Chat me up if you are interested for tickets.

Time to Reflect – If we had known that we would be quarantined for 8 ½ months, we could have had a couple of contests. Not shaving, who would have had the longest mustache or beard. Then also who would have the longest hair. Want to throw out some names, just for fun.

Don't forget, that we have Toys for Tots Boxes in the clubroom and the hall.

Also Trees for Troops via Post Commander Ralph Jacob, need volunteers, weekend after Thanksgiving

Steve Villegas

Squadron Adjutant

# Santa Clara Appreciation First Responders

On November 25, 2020 members of Post 419 with the help of the Auxiliary Unit 419, SAL Squadron 419 and a some of friends of the post held an event to honor the Santa Clara, Ca Police and Fireman and 911 staff, to thank them for all the work they do for the community of Santa Clara. Post members have done other events for Santa Clara, but this is the first time we specifically said THANK YOU to our first responders. The whole staff was invited to stop by the post for Thanksgiving pie and coffee, however only a few were available to stop by, but they did take some back to those who were to busy to come by.

Again, Thank You Santa Clara Police and Fire fighters and other first responder staff from American Legion Santa Clara Post 419.

Thanks to Gene Grundstrom for forwarding this update.



Ready for Business



With the Crew



Welcome



A Post member  
Stopped by to  
say thanks



Some to Go

# Chaplain & Service Officer Report

Hello all,

I had the honor of conducting two We Honor Veterans (WHV) pinning ceremonies for Kindred Hospice a couple of days before Veterans Day. The first service took place at Palo Alto Commons and there were 25 Veterans with the most senior being a US Air Force lady who is 103 years of age. This was an in-person event with social distancing rules in place. The impact on the Veterans being honored was palpable and the event was appreciated by the staff, nurses and volunteers.

The second service took place at San Carlos Elms. This was a virtual event conducted via Zoom. I received permission to share some of the images below where we recognized 20 Veterans.



The service consists of three parts 1) Reading and presentation of a Certificate of Appreciation 2) Reading and presentation of a personalized poem 3) Attach the WHV pin to the Veterans lapel. Although the event was virtual, one can see the impact that it had on the Veterans. The smiles say it all!

An Honor Guard service was held at Post 419 for a Navy Veteran who had passed on earlier this year. I conducted the WHV service for his family but they didn't have Military Funeral Services due to the COVID pandemic. I'm grateful to Rick Gundo and the entire District 13 American Legion Honor Guard team in rendering Military Honors and bringing closure to the family. In addition, several other ceremonies were conducted throughout November for Honor Guard, Color Guard and We Honor Veterans services.

In closing, I feel truly blessed to be able to give thanks for all the blessings in my life. Though we face challenging times, I trust and hope that we're able to support our fellow Veterans in any way we can. And as I reflect back on Veterans Day 2020, the words of Duty, Honor and Country come to mind and I'm thankful to be a part of the American Family.

Sunny Dosanjh, Chaplain & Service Officer





## Auxiliary Report

Hello everyone, as I am writing this on Thanksgiving night I really want to wish everyone a very happy thanksgiving and best wishes for a safe and happy upcoming Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

Our wonderful auxiliary ladies are still helping with keeping our post going by volunteering at both 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday breakfast and the lunches. I really want to thank all that have come out to lend a hand.

Brenda Manley our wonderful auxiliary secretary and gracious chef with the help of Maydean Grundstrom and Francis Borg put together a yummy full thanksgiving meal with all the trimmings for lunch. The ladies also made 54 whole pies and 120 tarts that I know were delicious. The whole pies were used for the THANK YOU to the Santa Clara Police, Fire and First Responders which was held yesterday.

### **MEMBERSHIP REPORT**

Happily our membership is on the rise and is up to 125 and with the new member we will present at our Dec. meeting it will be 126 this makes our goal of 147 in close view.

As we come to end of another month remember that there are still more opportunities to join our monthly meetings which are held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month. Join us by using the Zoom link below that was provided by our wonderful 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Maggie Taylor Aherne.

Join us by home phone, computer, smartphone, or tablet/iPad.

By Phone: 1-408-638-0968

By Computer —> [Join Meeting by clicking this link](#)

**Meeting ID:** 799 421 628

**Password:** 4192020

Cheryl Rafferty

President Unit 419

# 2020/21 Calendar of Events

HOST	EVENT	DATE
Legion	First Sunday Breakfast - OUTDOOR	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)

