

AMERICAN LEGION POST 419 REVEILLE

Veterans Helping Veterans & Serving the Community Since 1932

Issue 1-63

958 Homestead Road, Santa Clara CA 95050

December 2022

COMMANDERS ARTICLE FOR DEC. 22

HELLO ALL Seasons Greetings AND HAPPY NEW YEAR

Hope you had a great Thanksgiving and are looking forward to the coming holidays. How you spend your Holidays by your observances I wish you well.

This months Breakfast is the 4th, it is a waffle mouth, all the other fixins. 9am to 11am. Come early and spend time meeting your neighbors. We all had a great time at the "Thanks for Giving" meal, hosted by the Sons is this month.

On Dec 17th we will have the Post Christmas Party. We are keeping the price low so all can attend.

Don't be afraid to volunteer a few hours at the post. Honor Guard, Honor Flight, clipping the plants in the yard. Just volunteer.

See you at the meeting 7 Dec at 7 pm. We will welcoming new members and a surprise finish. Take an hour to join us.

This month is also when Trees for Troops starts at Battaglia Tree Farm in San Martin. One of our members has volunteered to match the first \$300 dollars that we collect. The box will be at the breakfast. The trees this year are \$60. All of these trees ae sent to Camp Pendleton. Please donate. You can drop moneys by the post any time or buy a tree. Forms are at the post and online at Battaglia Tree Farm. Want to thank those who spent some time both weekends to help at the farm working the booth to show that Veterans support our active duty members. Dec 3 and 4 are the last days to donate cash or come down and help.

Have a good month

Ralph Jacob
Commander

AMERICAN LEGION ADJUTANT

Adjutant Report

From: veteranshealth@messages.va.gov>
Sent: Monday, November 28, 2022 10:07 AM
Subject: Retired VA phone number putting Veterans' information at risk

The Department of Veterans Affairs established **1-800-MyVA411 (1-800-698-2411)** in 2020 to help Veterans, their family members, caregivers, and survivors understand and access the broad spectrum of VA benefits and services.

VA's previous information number, 1-844-MyVA311, was retired at that time. Since that transition, MyVA311 has been repurposed by a non-federal entity claiming to be a medical equipment provider. Veterans may try to call VA using the MyVA311 number and unintentionally divulge personal information.

It is imperative that Veterans are informed that **1-800-MyVA411** is the appropriate number to call for information about

COVID-19 updates

Health care eligibility and enrollment

VA benefits, such as disability, compensation and pension, education programs, caregiver support, insurance, home loans, and burial headstones and markers among others

The nearest VA medical centers, benefits offices or cemeteries to Veterans, VA Medical Center operational updates and connection to VA Medical Center

Keep updated & let us know how we're doing.

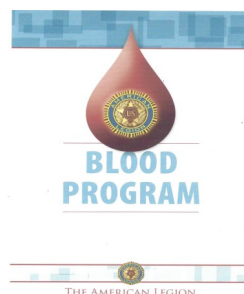
Santa Clara Post 419 in collaboration with the Santa Clara Rotary have scheduled a Blood Drive on Wednesday, March 22, 2023 from 11:00 AM – 5:00 PM

Location: American Legion Post 419
958 Homestead Road
Santa Clara, CA 95050

Here are the links: to sign up to donate.

Sign-up link (using sponsor code SANTA CLARAROTARY): <https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/drive-results?zipSponsor=SANTA CLARAROTARY>

Digital library: <https://arcontent.bottomlineink.net/Content/Orders/1441548>



AMERICAN LEGION SONS

Hoping that everyone had a great Thanksgiving with friends and family.

As always membership is always at our forefront, if you haven't paid your dues, it's a great time to get that taken care of. If you know of a member who is financially strapped, please reach out to us. We are here to help both our Veterans but also our squadron members. You need to remember we are a family.

So, our Thanks4Giving event was well attended and we had 15 Active Military and families from the Military Entrance Processing Station (MEPS) from Moffett Field. Each one was given the chance to introduce themselves and they were all very thankful to have been invited to our event. Our holiday dinner was provided by Chef Brenda, and she once again did an extraordinary job. Thank You Chef Brenda.

Ticket sales and opportunity drawing sales were handled by Francis Borg, a very big thanks for her help as well.

Many thanks to Gene and Maydean Grundstrom, for all of their work behind the scenes

Opportunity drawing went well and a few of our post members presented a couple of our guests with their drawing winnings. Thank you very much for your generosity.

Next event for the month of December is the posts Family Christmas party, which is scheduled for Dec 17th, remember to mark it down on your calendar.

Toys for Tots drive is our focus now, we have until the 20th of December to have toys donated and we will get them to the Marine Corps reserve center in San Jose. Remember new toys, and games for those kids are gratefully appreciated.

On behalf of Squadron 419's members, we all wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Steve Villegas

Squadron Adjutant

<https://www.legion.org/sons>



AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY

Hello Auxiliary and Legion family,

Reflecting on 2022 and all the amazing things our Unit 419 Auxiliary has done for our veterans, their families, our community, and Legion family would take up a lot of space on this newsletter but I wanted to bring highlight to some of the current ways we are serving and take a moment to thank all of our members for their support.

Donate Gift & December Membership Meeting Holiday Potluck

At our December membership meeting (Wednesday Dec. 14th) we will be pausing normal meeting procedures to have a holiday potluck and bring donated gifts for children (age range 8-14). These gifts will go to the San Jose Vets center holiday party and other local holiday parties that are in need for this unique age group. We no longer do a gift exchange or white elephant with members and instead focus our giving spirit on those who are truly in need. Please join us!

Events:

Upcoming: **New Years Eve daytime party** from 12-5pm, tickets are \$50 each. We will have an incredible menu catered by Brenda Manley and LIVE music by the Island Wave. Please see attached flyer for details.

Recent: Thank you to all the attendees and supporters of our Halloween party. It was a spooktacular event with so much help from our members and volunteers. Check out our Facebook page for some pictures of the event.

Holiday gift bags for the VA:

Thank you to Lucille and Patricia for collecting donated items, hand making wearables, and delivering 50 holiday bags to our VA veterans this holiday season. This has been a long time effort (previously managed beautifully by Maydean Grundstrom) and you both took it over with such passion and dedication. We will be collecting items throughout early 2023 for next year's bags. If you are interested in assisting or donating, please email our unit (alaunit419santaclara@gmail.com).

There are so many programs we support and activities our members volunteer for throughout the year. If you are looking to meet some great individuals, with giving hearts, please come to our monthly membership meetings on the 2nd Wednesday of the month. Held at Post 419, social time from 6:30-7 and meeting starts at 7pm and typically runs one hour. It has been an honor to serve again as your ALA Unit 419 President. I thank all my fellow officers for their support as I have a full-time job (with work travel required) and am a full time Mom for Charles. We truly have incredible teamwork and I am very thankful for all of you this holiday season and throughout the year.

The unit's membership is currently at 117, but there is still 5 more that have not been places on ALAMIS. So that gives a total of 122 members. We are just 25 members away from reaching our goal of 147 or 100%, and we still have the month of December to reach our 2023 goal. So if you haven't paid your 2023 dues please do so before the end of 2023, and help the unit make that goal.

Holiday blessings to everyone and hope to see you at NYE party or a membership meeting soon.

Maggie Taylor Aherne

ALA Unit 419 President

AMERICAN LEGION CHAPLAIN

As Military Veterans, Family Members of Veterans and people who care, we know what a difference one can make in a persons life. One can be genuine, sincere and caring without expecting anything in return.

We call it Service.

Service to God, Service to Country and Service to our fellow Americans.

Maybe a tall order for some ... and for others, it may be their calling in Life.

Our American Legion National Commander, [Vincent J. "Jim" Troiola](#), has started an initiative called "[Be The One](#)" targeted at reducing and eliminating the 22 per day Veterans Suicides.

If you have any ideas that may help **PLEASE VOICE THEM!**

Do not let fear, uncertainty or doubt hold you back! As an example, the following short videos were created to help Veterans. I call it Veterans Courage "The Light"



In the darkness, the inner darkness of the mind and the inner darkness of thought are where the possibilities exist for "The Light" to enter and shine. It's the start of a Journey. A Journey to Healing, Recovery, Growth and Service.

What I've experienced is that we require an "Anchor" in this Journey of Life. Whether it's your Faith, Country, Love, Life, Nature, Cosmos or your favorite "Some-Thing" or your recognition of "No-Thing," I hope that your courage and strength shines through! I pray that you find your "Anchor" in Life to keep you steady through the storms. If you do find yourself in a position where you have been blessed and graced by the Divine, then you can Be The One to shine your light on our fellow Veterans who are still trapped in darkness.

AMERICAN LEGION

BE THE ONE

End the stigma
Be the one to save one veteran. Learn how to help a veteran in crisis.
[HOW TO HELP](#)

LATEST HEADLINES

- LEGION GIVING TUESDAY** Help support Be the One on Giving Tuesday >
- ENGAGE THE PUBLIC** Engage the public, reduce veteran suicide >
- GEORGIA LEGIONNAIRES** Georgia Legionnaires find camaraderie in 'Be the One' retreat >

[MORE HEADLINES >](#)

VA Raising Your Benefit Rates

Starting January 1st, 2023, all compensation benefit rates have increased by **8.7%** to match adjustments made to Social Security benefits. The increase impacts:

- [Disability benefits](#)
- Clothing allowance
- Dependency and indemnity compensation (DIC)
- Other VA assistance programs

[Learn More](#)

Track Your VA Claim (PACT-Related or Other)

Since the PACT Act was signed into law, Veterans have set an all-time record for filing online disability compensation claims:

- VA will begin to process all PACT-Related claims on January 1st, 2023.
- Pending claims or appeals can use the [VA's online tool](#) for up-to-date status.

New Improved Insurance



New guaranteed acceptance whole life insurance program for service-connected Vets.

- Those enrolled in S-DVI may keep their coverage or switch to VALife
- Learn more about which program is right for you

[Learn More](#)

Supplement Your Pension with Aid and Attendance

These benefits can increase your pension payments to support the additional care you need. Need help with daily activities or housebound? You may qualify for an increased VA pension to help pay for:

- In-home care
- Assisted living
- Nursing home

[Learn More](#)

<https://www.legion.org> <https://calegion.org>

<https://www.va.gov> <https://www.calvet.ca.gov>

AMERICAN LEGION SERVICE OFFICER



Join Us in Our Mission

Remember ★ Honor ★ Teach

WREATHS across AMERICA
BE THEIR WITNESS

Sponsor a Wreath:
www.wreathscrossamerica.org/ca0046p
use QR CODE below



*Join us at the
Wreaths Across America
Ceremony*

*10:00 am
Saturday, December 17, 2022*

*Oak Hill Memorial Park
300 Curtner Avenue
San Jose, CA 95125*

★ **December 17, 2022** ★

National Wreaths Across America Day



Help honor local heroes!

Sponsor a wreath today to be placed on a veteran's grave this December at Oak Hill Memorial Park.

Scan one of the QR codes with your smart phone camera to sponsor wreaths and support our local Blue Star Moms and American Gold Star Mother Chapters



American Gold
Star Mothers



Blue Star
Mothers

#FindAWay2022

**American Legion
Post 419 – Unit 419 – SONS 419
Family Christmas Party**



Saturday, Dec. 17, 2022

**Oven Baked Chicken - Or Baked Ham
Mash Potatoes & Gravy – Mix Vegetables**

No Host Cocktails

Doors Open: 4:30pm

Dinner: 6:00pm – 7:00pm

Cost: \$20.00

Dancing 7:00 10:00 PM

MUSIC BY DJ Ken

For Tickets Contact:

Post 419 @ 408-244-3050

Frances Borg @ 408-243-5832

Loren Marmet @ (408) 203-8078

or

Stop By Post 419

***Please consider donating a new unwrapped toy to
Toys for TOTS which will be picked up Dec 20th
And distributed by Christmas.***

**American Legion Post 419
958 Homestead Rd., Santa Clara, CA 95050**

Sons of the American Legion

Squadron 419

958 Homestead RD, Santa Clara

Toys for Tots

November 1 thru December 20, 2022

Donation Boxes in Hall and Clubroom



American Legion Auxiliary Santa Clara Unit 419

New Year's Eve



Daytime Party



Saturday, December 31st
12-5 PM

Countdown
to
2023

Ring in the New Year
with a champagne toast
and a salute to our troops
around the world!

American Legion Post 419
958 Homestead Road, Santa Clara, CA

TICKET \$50 | DOORS OPEN @ NOON

Featuring music by the Island Wave Band
Dinner by Brenda Manley

Tickets: Frances Borg @408-243-5832 or
alaunit419santaclara@gmail.com



Vet to Vet Café

**All Military and Veterans are invited to share
coffee, donuts, & conversation**

American Legion Post 419

958 Homestead Rd. Santa Clara, CA

Thursday Mornings - 9 am – 11 am

Dec. 1 – 8 – 15

Jan. 5 – 12 – 19 – 26, 2023

Hostess, Karen Carter 408 560-6691

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MEMORIAL

2022 - 2023 Calendar of Events

HOST	EVENT	DATE
Legion	Post Executive Committee meeting	1-Dec-22 4:30 pm
Legion	First Sunday Breakfast	4-Dec-22 9:00-11:00 am
Legion	Membership Meeting	8-Dec-22 7:00 pm
SONs	Membership Meeting	9-Dec-22 7:00 pm
Aux	Membership Meeting	14-Dec-22 7:00 pm
Legion	Post Christmas Party	17-Dec-22 5:00 pm
Legion	Post Executive Committee Meeting	29-Dec-22 4:30 pm
Aux	New Years Eve Dinner/Dance	31-Dec-22 12:00-5:00 pm
Post	Membership Meeting	4-Jan-23 7:00 pm
SONs	Membership Meeting	5-Jan-23 7:00 pm
Post	1st Sunday Breakfast	8-Jan-23 9:00-11:00 am
Aux	Membership Meeting	11-Jan-23 7:00 pm
Post	Executive Meeting	26-Jan-23 4:30pm