

# AMERICAN LEGION POST 419 REVEILLE

Veterans Helping Veterans & Serving the Community Since 1932

Issue 1-46

958 Homestead Road, Santa Clara CA 95050

July 2021

## American Legion: Commander's Report

Hello all. **Happy Birthday America!** Hope you all have a great and safe 4<sup>th</sup> of July. To our WWII members and friends, thank you for keeping us free. July is the start of the Legion year so please pay your dues as soon as possible.

The post held installation last month. To the few who came thank you for supporting the post in its basic activities. Installations hold a place for me, they are the start of a new year. Giving hope for becoming better as a post and serving our veteran community in a more robust way.

In the past we would have the hall filled with members and District 13 officers to assist in the Installation. We have grown tired in a way but with the end of Covid let us regain our momentum and reach out to fellow veterans and their families to join us.

Thank you to Brenda and her team for fixing small sandwiches and salad. Thank you also Past District Commanders Gene Fannuchi and Dennis Foggie for doing the installing of Post and Sons officers. Welcome also, Cindy Newman, new Auxiliary District President for installing the Auxiliary officers.

Have ideas for activities you would be interested in?? Let 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice commander Richard Peralez know and we can discuss at an Executive meeting. Craft Faire will be held this year so get your shopping shoes on and put those gold dollars in your pockets.

Lunches are only getting better, so stop in or take out. The club room now has regular hours and will expand as you members come back.

Breakfast will be on the 4<sup>th</sup>, our regular 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday.

Please take care of yourselves. As we get the Post up and running again we need everyone's support. Thank you to those who have worked tirelessly during the past year and especially those who have made donations.

Again, California will also see Michael Fox elected as National Commander of the Sons Of The Legion. Stay tuned for much action from him. One of his programs is placing flags on veterans' graves. See <https://prestonsharp.net> , for more info.

May God take care of you and keep you and your families healthy.

Commander Ralph



# Sons of the American Legion: Squadron Adjutant's Report

Greeting to All

Well, here we are again end of another month and the middle of the year.

But for us June is the end of our Year for 2021.

July 1<sup>st</sup> is the beginning of 2022, seems crazy but that's the way it is.

So, first is membership, we have a lot to do to get our roster back up to where it was. Covid took the sails out of everyone and now we need to work a little harder. New verbiage to use for new members is to Invite them to join.

Since we are now starting to open up, it's time for us to start looking as to what events we want to take on. What would be a good event for the squadron to do? Need your input so we can start planning something. We also need more volunteers to get these events going. Lets have a good year.

Now is anyone interested in becoming a member of the Honor Guard? We are in the need of a few more people who could make time in helping us to render Honors for Veterans. If interested ask us for information. One way of supporting the post.

June 18<sup>th</sup>, the detachment held it's convention in San Diego, both live attendance as well as over the Zoom app, for those who weren't able to attend.

A Resolution 1-2021 was brought before the floor to condense the 6 area Vice Commanders down to 3 Vice Commanders. So there would be the North, Central and South. After a 1<sup>st</sup> and a 2<sup>nd</sup>, discussion on the floor with both Pro and Con statements ended with the original makers tabling any voting until the next regular meeting.

100% membership certificates were handed out since it covered 2 years.

Membership transmittals was discussed and for the present time we are going back to the way we use to do it, paper transmittals. The My Legion way has been causing problems for many, with either logging in or just not getting through. Needs work.

We are looking forward to the National Convention which will be held in Phoenix in a couple of weeks. Our Leading candidate for the S.A.L. National Commander Michael Fox will be introduced and hopefully will be elected. It has been more than 20 years since California Son has held this title.

A lot of information of why we are and what we do.

Be Safe on the Fourth

Steve Villegas

Squadron 419 Adjutant



# American Legion Auxiliary: President's Report

Hello all,

Happy summer hoping that the warmer weather and change in socializing is finding you all well. Happily, I am able to say that the auxiliary is going very strong and finally meeting in person again. This is very exciting for everyone. So once again I asked all members of the auxiliary to please join us in person for our monthly meeting, the 2nd Wednesday of every month. We do have a zoom option for those that are not near post 419. I really encourage all auxiliary members to please attend our meetings and make your voice and vote count.

I would also like to remind everyone that our children and youth program chair really needs stuffed animals for our young people. They should be no more than 12" tall. So, if your shopping or have grown children who want to rehome their beloved stuffies from their childhood this would be a perfect way to pay it forward.

I want to personally thank all of our members for keeping us going however we really would love to see you in person.

Cheryl Rafferty

ALA Santa Clara Unit 419 President



## ALA Fast Stats

- ★ 4 million hours volunteered in serving veterans and military
- ★ \$1.1 billion value of members' mission outreach
- ★ More than 8,000 local units
- ★ 32,034 volunteer hours spent on and at ALA Girls State
- ★ \$1.4 million presented in annual scholarships
- ★ 3.6 million collected from distributing handmade poppies to benefit veterans programs
- ★ Learning opportunities through our Mission Training events and ALA Academy courses
- ★ Part of a membership that makes up The American Legion Family



## Adjutants Report

July 1<sup>st</sup> of each year marks the beginning of the new Membership year. Your annual dues submitted to the post are an important means for The American Legion to receive monies for use in all of our programs. Programs such as helping Children and Youth, such as Legion baseball, or helping Veterans who need emergency financial assistance for rent or food for their families. The Legion has several programs which produce scholarships for college for our young people. So, you see your membership is especially important to our veterans and their families.

It takes many hands to execute these programs so your volunteer hours help each post perform these programs.

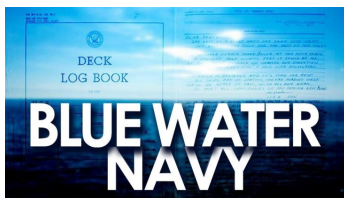
The dues for Post 419 are again only \$45.00 So Please send in your dues when you receive your renewal notices. The Membership dues are due between July 1<sup>st</sup> and December 31<sup>st</sup> each year, and you receive your membership card for the following calendar year.

*Due to Computer Applications updates our login for the Post 419 Website has changed.*

*Type in ( <https://alpost419ca.org/> ) or ( [alpost419ca.org](http://alpost419ca.org) ) this will initiate a login to the website.*

Gene Grundstrom

Adjutant Post 419



The [Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act of 2019](#) gave VA an opportunity to consider new and previously submitted Blue Water Navy claims. Now, thanks to collaboration with the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA), VA and NARA are helping to determine ship locations and to digitize more than 1,800 vessels' deck logs.

The data contained in these ships' deck logs is critical in determining qualifying ship locations in accordance with the law. For the first time, VA will have each of these ships mapped with precision, providing a comprehensive view of their locations.

VA estimates that there are between 420,000 and 560,000 Vietnam-era Veterans who may be considered Blue Water Navy Veterans. The law also extends benefits to survivors and dependents of those Veterans with confirmed service and whose claims would have been granted as a result of the new law.

### **What Veterans need to know**

NARA's and VA's collaboration has already assisted in granting more than 22,524 claims since Jan. 1, 2020. The effort digitized more than 29 million images from U.S. Navy and Coast Guard deck logs. It has also provided data, such as ship name, date and coordinates to feed an internal claims-related technical processing system that identifies the vessels that may have traveled within the offshore waters of the Republic of Vietnam. This proactive approach ensures that Rating Veterans Service Representatives have the evidence needed to render a decision the first time a case is reviewed.

This effort has resulted in faster service for Veterans and reduced the need for physical handling of archival records which preserves our nation's historical documents. NARA is in the process of redacting the images to make them publicly accessible on the [National Archive's website](#).

### **How to file a claim**

VA works with [Veteran Service Organizations](#) (VSO) and other partners to ensure Veterans and survivors are aware of the changes and know how to determine [eligibility for disability compensation](#) or [Dependency and Indemnity Compensation \(DIC\)](#) when filing a claim.

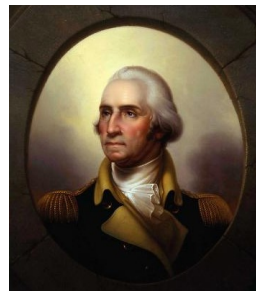
If Veterans, survivors or dependents have previously filed and were denied a claim, they can file a supplemental claim. VA encourages Veterans to work with an approved claims representative or [VSO](#) to determine if they qualify. To learn more, please visit <https://www.benefits.va.gov/benefits/blue-water-navy.asp>.

# American Legion: Service Officer / Chaplain Report

Hello all,

I hope this newsletter finds you in good health and good spirits. I'd like to share a quote from our first President just days before America declared independence ~ encouraging his troops to support each other and to always remember the greater cause for which they were fighting for...

*“Let us therefore animate and encourage each other,  
And show the whole world that a Freeman,  
Contending for liberty on his own ground,  
Is superior to any slavish mercenary on earth.”*



**George Washington**

July 2nd, 1776

General Orders

As *Free Men and Women* who have had the opportunity to honor the General's Orders, the Fourth of July is significant as we continue to honor and respect our country. One of the Veterans Organizations that is committed in serving our Veterans, and is in their 75th year of Veteran-Centric services, is the VA affiliated [Veterans Canteen Service](https://www.vacanteen.va.gov/VACANTEEN/index.asp) (VCS). Established in 1946, please visit the website <https://www.vacanteen.va.gov/VACANTEEN/index.asp> for the vast amount of healthcare and other services or visit our local offices:

**PALO ALTO:** Veterans Canteen Svc (VCS) #164  
VA Medical Center  
3801 Miranda Avenue  
Palo Alto, CA 94304  
Phone: 650-585-5754

**SAN FRANCISCO:** Veterans Canteen Svc (VCS) #662  
VA Medical Center  
4150 Clement Street  
San Francisco, CA 94121  
Phone: 415-750-2128

On this Independence Day, may you be blessed to spend time with family, friends and your community. We as Veterans understand the sacrifices made by our forefathers who faced life and death decisions in their quest for liberty. The Declaration of Independence established our rights and gave us a government *“of the people, by the people and for the people.”*

**Thomas Jefferson**, 3rd US President & one of the authors of the Declaration of Independence, proclaimed the importance of Independence Day...*“For ourselves, let the annual return of this day forever refresh our recollections of these rights, and an undiminished devotion to them.”* He died 2 days later on July 4th.

In closing, I hope that your days are blessed and that you have the grace of God in your lives. May you find a moment, on this July 4th, to reflect, smile, enjoy and celebrate the freedoms of our great nation!

**Sunny Dosanjh**

*“It will be celebrated, With Pomp and Parade...Bonfires and Illuminations*

**Service Officer & Chaplain**

*From one end of this continent...To the Other.”* **John Adams**, 2nd US President





*June 6, 2021 – 9:00 AM to 11:00 AM*  
*At our First Sunday of the Month Breakfast*  
***Bud's 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday Celebration***



*June 10, 2021 – 11:30 AM to 2:00 PM*  
*At our Second Thursday of the Month Birthdays*



**Happy Birthday**  
**Carol**



**Happy Birthday**  
**Janice**



**Happy Birthday**  
**Stan**



**Happy Birthday**  
**Marty**



**Happy Birthday**  
**Liz**



**Happy Birthday**  
**Kelly**



**Happy Birthday**  
**Louie**

**Happy Birthday**  
**Everyone!**



**Who Baked**  
**the Cakes?**





*You are invited*  
***Vet to Vet Café***

*Enjoy a cup of coffee while chatting  
with a Veteran.*

*Every Saturday morning 9 am – 10:30 am*

*American Legion Post 419*

*958 Homestead Rd., Santa Clara*

*Sponsored by Dignity Memorial*

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*Hostess, Karen Carter*

**408 560-6691**

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# 2021 Calendar of Events

HOST	EVENT	DATE
Legion	First Sunday Breakfast	July 4th, 2021 9-11 am
Legion	First Sunday Breakfast	August 1st 2021 9-11 am
Legion	First Sunday Breakfast	Sept 5th 2021 9-11 am
Legion	First Sunday Breakfast	Oct 3rd 2021 9-11 am
Legion	Veterans Craft Faire	Nov 6th 2021 10-am—3 pm
Legion	First Sunday Breakfast	Nov 7th 2021 9-11 am

\*A Planning meeting is being scheduled to further identify fundraiser events for the Post, SONs and Auxiliary. Date TBD. (Email blast will be sent when date is confirmed.)

Important Contact Information - Post 419, Squadron and Auxiliary



## The American Legion Family