



# AMERICAN LEGION POST 419 REVEILLE

Veterans Helping Veterans & Serving the Community Since 1932

Issue 1-27

958 Homestead Rd., Santa Clara, CA 95050

December 2019

## FROM THE EDITOR

Happy Holidays to all!

The fun times are coming. December 7th is our Legion Family Christmas Part and December 31st is our New Years Eve Day Party.

Also, we have attached here a flyer for Post 419's entry for Christmas in The Park, downtown.

Attached again this month is the announcement from Legacy Memorial about the drop-in Vet to Vet coffee sessions that will begin at the Post on Mondays in January 2020. Drop in any time between 8:30am and 10:30am on Mondays. Nothing fancy just coffee, sweets and good conversation. This is hosted by Karen Carter of Dignity Memorial as part of their We Honor Vets program.

Best regards,  
Mel Irvin, Publisher

## COMMANDER'S CORNER:

**Wednesday, November 2<sup>nd</sup>, General Meeting** - Sgt-at-Arms Bob Turner reported on the 'Appreciation Dinner Party' that he attended at the post on Friday, October 25<sup>th</sup>. Which was sponsored by the N. West Korean American Veterans Association.

He shared with us the meeting of two comrades that served in Korea. He did not know any of them while serving, but years later, he met one of them while working at Westinghouse. When Bob compared notes with the other gentlemen, they both realized that they were with 32<sup>nd</sup> Regiment, 7<sup>th</sup> Division at the same time. Bob was with 'D' Company and his new friend was in 'C' Company. It took 68 years after the war for this meeting. His new friend is a wounded soldier and is unable to be more involved with the post activities. We were glad that he was able to attend this event in his Honored.

Beside Bob Turner, Lewis Borg is another Korea Veteran that is very active at post. If you are a Korea Era Veteran, drop by and meet them at the general meeting (first Wednesday of the month, 7pm).

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**Monday, November 11, Veteran Day Parade** – We had 5 vehicles in the parade. Most of the post members that participated in the parade were either in the cars or honor guard for district 13. Stan Ferro carried the post flag and marching behind him were Rick Gundo, Francis Borg (Auxiliary), myself, and a friend (Jerry) from post 564. Rick, Jerry, and I greeted the veterans along the route with cards and letters about the American Legion and the Post. The parade started at 1200 hours and were in 45<sup>th</sup> position. We started moving at 1240 and got to the end at 1314. It was only a 34 minute easy walk.

Prior to the parade, when I was walking to the staging area, I passed by the Legion Riders congregating under the over pass. Being in the parade, you don't get to see any of it. Next year, I will watch the parade at the starting point (SAP Center). And when Post 419 comes by, I will join in. If anyone is interested, you are welcome to join me. And along the march, we could invite other veterans to march with us. After all, the parade is to honor them.

At 1500 hours we were at Central Park for Veterans Day Ceremony. I made a short speech and went up the hill to help with the honor guard. We stood in formation and shot off 3 volleys. If you are interested in being a member of the honor guard or would like more information on it, let me know.

**Thursday, November 21, Thanks for Giving Dinner** – Over a 100 people were in attendance. We had three tables reserved for our military guests. They were accompanied by 2 babies, and about 10 little soldiers under 8 years of age. Everyone had a great time and we are getting ready for next year's Thanks-for-Giving.

**Memberships** - We are currently at 81.78% with 359 members

New members accepted to the post: **Michael Roman** – Marine and **Ron Johnson** – Navy

**Please come to the General Meeting on Wednesday, December 4th for finance reports and updates on post issues.**

Al Wong  
Commander



SONS OF THE LEGION

UNIT 419



## SAL COMMANDER'S REPORT

Hello Sons of the Legion.

Commander Jim Hoogensteger resigned as Squadron Commander this past month and Jeff Driskell has agreed to take the helm. I have agreed to help out.

Well, the Holidays have arrived. That means our Legion Family Christmas party will be held on December 7th from 5:00pm until 10:00pm. Bring the family and enjoy the fun, festivities and fellowship.

The Toys for Tots program is in full swing. Please do your best to bring a new, unwrapped toy to our box at the Post.

Until next time be safe.

Sincerely

Steve Villegas for Jeff Driskell, SAL Squadron Commander



# American Legion Auxiliary

# UNIT 419



Hello, Auxiliary.

The Legion's Veterans Craft Faire was a big success! Not only did we have a full house inside of crafters, but we had crafters willing to be *outside* just to be in the show. Veterans Tex Tyner, John Perez, and Aaron Houchen "represented" and sold their lighted bottles, paintings, and agates. The "cherry on top" of this "cake" (show) was the fact that 5 crafters booked *next year's* show *before* they left the building! And, let's not forget, that one of those crafters was an *agent for the Feds*, who wants to book the hall for census training!

Here are some crafter and customer comments at the show and emails:

"In support of the Vets, I went to this Craft Faire and bought some Christmas gifts. Your group gets a gold star for leading this effort. I bought a cute unicorn stick horse, two cozy capes, and holiday hair clips for my granddaughter, baklava, and a bunch of very cool oven mitts. Had a great time for a good cause. Looking forward to making this a comeback faire every year. Thanks, Lorraine & Kenney"

"I was impressed by all the help from your volunteers when I arrived to set up my space. Everyone was so friendly and kind. I had a very successful show with enough customers to earn back my space fee and make the work worth it. Yours is the best value craft show and I will come back next year. Joy O'Neil"

"Cindy, Cindy, we want to book these two spaces for next year . . . no, no, we don't want to wait for next year, please confirm this now!" Crafters in spaces 9 and 18.

The reason for this success is YOU and our VOLUNTEER CREW. Many thanks to Legion Family members who came and bought presents and raffle tickets for items donated by the crafters.

**BIG THANKS** to our volunteers who, in one hour on Friday, folded down the round tables and set up the crafters' tables and chairs (Al, Gene G, Steve, Jeff, Rick, Don and Stan). These volunteers were back at it early Saturday morning to help crafters, some of them elderly or disabled, to carry in their boxes of crafts and displays. Cindy's husband Ken of Post 558 hit the streets, sticking big sale signs in the ground (and put up the banner at El Camino).

The kitchen volunteers rocked and rolled cookies and hot dogs for the crowd—they sold more this year than last—and were smiling the whole time (Rick, Diana, Bonnie, Teri). Raffle wranglers, Linda McHaffie picking up donations from crafters, and Frances Borg selling the *heck* out of it (as usual), kept the momentum of FUN going through the day.

At 3 p.m., the table crew magically appeared, and POOF, the place was back to normal in an hour. Maydean and Cheryl were our muses. Ringmasters Gene Grundstrom and Auxiliary member Cindy Newman, put away the last chair, locked the doors, and said Goodnight Gracie! The next craft faire is Saturday, November 7, 2020. For a good time, be there!

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Our Unit President, Maggie Taylor is now the proud mother of a soon to be Sons of the American Legion! Little Charlie was born on \_\_11/07/2019\_\_ and the family is doing well. During her absence for the next few months, First Vice Cheryl Rafferty will preside at our meetings and is already doing a great job.

On October 26<sup>th</sup>, Unit 419 had their annual Halloween Dinner/Dance. The dinner was catered by Armando Catering, and the music was provided by DJ Ken. Some our guest came in Halloween Costumes. We had 2 winners, and each won a free breakfast at a 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday Breakfast at the post. There also were an assorted raffle prizes to be won.

On November 11<sup>th</sup>, Unit 419 participated in the San Jose Veterans Day Parade. Cheryl Rafferty, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice, drove her car and riding with her was Jeff Driskell, commander of the Son's Squadron at Post 419, Gene Grundstrom, the adjutant for Post 419, and Megan Rafferty a member of Unit 419. Walking in the parade was Frances Borg, and one of the unit members, Lucille David and her family watch the parade go by.

Unit 419 has, over the past few years, donated 50 gift baskets to the VA at Menlo Park Facilities. Our contact at Menlo Park is Brenda Barrios, along with Connie Raya the Auxiliary VAVS Rep. at Menlo Park. The gift bags will contain items such as, toiletries, socks, pens, pencils, note pads, tissues, knitted caps, and embroidered fleece scarves.

Our next big event will be our New Year's Eve Day Bash. It is different because instead of being held in the evening, we hold it in the afternoon from 12:00 (noon) to 5 pm. Once again, the dinner will be catered by Armando's Catering, and the music will be provided by Island Wave.

The unit membership is doing quite well. Currently we have 110 seniors, 6 juniors, which includes 5 new members, for a total of 116 paid members for 2020. As of November 20<sup>th</sup>, Unit 419 is at 81.69%. The unit is well on its way to reaching its goal of 142 members. We have also met the following Department Awards Accomplishment Dates:

October 31<sup>st</sup> of 30%  
November 28<sup>th</sup> of 55%  
December 26<sup>th</sup> of 65%  
February 27<sup>th</sup> of 80%

Best regards

Cindy Newman and Maydean Grunstrom

# The Reveille



This Publication is Authorized By American Legion Post 419 Inc. P.O. Box 113, Santa Clara, CA 95052-0113

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## 2019 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Legion-Aux-SAL	<b>Legion Family Christmas Party</b>	Saturday-Dec. 7, 2019-5-10pm
Auxiliary	<b>New Years Eve Day Party</b>	Tuesday-Dec. 31, 2019-12-5pm

# The Reveille



## 2020 Calendar of Events-Page One (1) of Two (2)

Legion	<b>First Sunday Breakfast</b>	Sunday Jan 5, 2020-9-11am
Legion	<b>Annual Crab Feed</b>	Saturday Jan 25, 2020
Legion	<b>First Sunday Breakfast</b>	Sunday Feb 2, 2020 9-11am
Legion	<b>First Sunday Breakfast</b>	Sunday Mar 1, 2020 9-11am
Legion	<b>St Patrick's Dinner/Dance</b>	Saturday Mar 14, 2020
Legion	<b>First Sunday Breakfast</b>	Sunday Apr 5, 2020 9-11am
SAL	<b>Socks for Vets</b>	Sat Apr 18, 2020
Legion	<b>Girl's State Orientation</b>	Tuesday Apr 21, 2020
Legion	<b>Delegate's Fundraiser Dinner</b>	Friday Apr 24. 2020
Legion	<b>First Sunday Breakfast-Mother's Day</b>	May 3, 2020 9-11am
SAL	<b>Rib Feed</b>	Saturday May 16, 2020
Legion-Aux-SAL	<b>Installation Dinner</b>	Friday May 29, 2020
Legion	<b>First Sunday Breakfast-Father's Day</b>	Sunday June 7, 2020 9-11am
Legion	<b>Annual Car Show</b>	Saturday June 13, 2020
Legion	<b>First Sunday Breakfast</b>	Sunday July 5, 2020 9-11am
Legion	<b>First Sunday Breakfast</b>	Sunday Aug 2, 2020 9-11am
Legion	<b>First Sunday Breakfast</b>	Sept 6, 2020 9-11am

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## 2020 Calendar of Events-Page Two (2) of Two (2)

Legion	<b>First Sunday Breakfast</b>	Sunday Sept 6, 2020 9-11am
SAL	<b>Surf City Dinner/Dance</b>	Saturday Sept 26, 2020
Legion	<b>First Sunday Breakfast</b>	Sunday Oct 4, 2020 9-11am
Aux	<b>Halloween Dinner/Dance</b>	Sat Oct 31, 2020
Legion	<b>First Sunday Breakfast</b>	Nov 1, 2020 9-11am
Legion	<b>Annual Craft Faire</b>	Saturday Nov 7, 2020
Legion-Aux-SAL	<b>Veterans Day</b>	Wednesday, Nov 11, 2020
SAL	<b>Thanks for Giving Dinner</b>	Thursday Nov 19, 2020
Legion	<b>First Sunday Breakfast</b>	Sunday Dec 6, 2020 9-11am
Legion	<b>Legion Family Christmas Dinner/Dance</b>	Saturday Dec 12, 2020
Aux	<b>New Years Eve Party</b>	Thursday 31, 2020

## ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS

### AT-A-GLANCE

#### UPCOMING POST EVENTS & MEETINGS FOR December 2019

December 7—Legion Family Christmas Party

December 31—New Years Eve Day Party



#### Honor Flight Bay Area Foundation

Honor Flight Bay Area Foundation, an authorized affiliate of The Honor Flight Network. If you are a WWII, Korean War or Vietnam War veterans. If you are a War veteran who has NOT had the opportunity to visit your national memorial in Washington, D.C., please contact us. This is an all expense paid trip for WWII, Korean War and Vietnam War veterans.

If you haven't submitted an application, please do not hesitate to do so. We are accepting applications for our 2020 travel year. Details are available on our Web site or by calling or emailing us. Don't hesitate to participate in this trip of a life time.

Visit our Web site for details or you may contact us at:

**Honor Flight Bay Area Foundation**  
**Office: 408-925-1999**  
**E-mail: [admin@honorflightbayarea.org](mailto:admin@honorflightbayarea.org)**

Be sure to send in your application. Applications for Veterans, guardians and volunteers are available on line at [www.honorflightbayarea.org](http://www.honorflightbayarea.org).

Guardians for the trip are volunteers who pay their own way to accompany the Veterans and provide personal assistance throughout the trip. Local assistance in applying for trips is available by contacting Honor Flight Bay Area Foundation.

#### NEED A BANQUET FACILITY FOR YOUR SPECIAL CELEBRATION OR MEETING?

The Post's banquet facility is available for rent to members and the public. The facility can comfortably seat up to 200 people. The banquet room is equipped with a stage, full service bar and an adjoining kitchen. For complete details call Paul Rivera at 408-244-3050

**Stop by and see what we have to offer.**

We are located at 958 Homestead Rd., Santa Clara, CA 95050.

WEEKLY COFFEE, DONUTS  
AND  
CONVERSATION  
BEGINNING JANUARY 6, 2020

Sponsored by



Would you consider coming to the American Legion Post 419 at 958 Homestead in Santa Clara for coffee, sweets, and visiting with other Veterans? No agenda, just coffee and conversation plus a donut or two.

Your hostess will be Karen Carter

This is part of our "We Honor Veteran" Program

All invited, No charge

It will be **every Monday morning from 8:30 am - 10:30 am**

**Beginning January 6, 2020**

You may drop in anytime between 8:30 & 10:30

or come for the entire 2 hours, your choice

Karen Carter 408 595-3333

[karen.carter@dignitymemorial.com](mailto:karen.carter@dignitymemorial.com)



Wishing you all a **Wonderful Holiday**

Visit the Park and find the Tree

191 Market Street, San Jose

Follow the Stars to Number 509