



Veterans Helping Veterans & Serving the Community Since 1932

Issue 1-32

958 Homestead Rd, Santa Clara CA 95050

May 2020

Commander's Corner

Post 419 Beer Sale Fundraiser

As you all know from the email blast, we had a beer sale in April. The sale was to convert our beer stocks back to cash so that we could pay some of our monthly bills. At the time of this writing (April 26), we do not have the final result, being that the next sale is on April 27. In the first week on April 21, we sold 30 cases at \$25 each for a total of \$750.00. We also received generous donations totaling \$2,035 from our members and friends. If you are interested in making a donation, make it payable to 'America Legion Post 419', mail it to 958 Homestead Rd. Santa Clara, CA 95050.

I will email the results of the Final Beer Fundraiser about the same time you get this newsletter.

General Meeting

On Wednesday, April 15 – we had a general meeting via of ZOOM. A motion was made to have the adjutant make one vote for all nominees for Convention Delegates.

Steve Villegas	Ralph Jacob	Jeff Driskell	Al Wong
Don Newton	Gene Grundstrom	Richard Peralez	Rick Gundo
John Boyle	Antonio Leyba	Ken Pearson	

We also nominated Post Officers for Commander, 1st and 2nd Vices and three Executive Board Members. We are still looking for a few more nominees for these positions. If you are interest, please let us know. We really need new people with new ideas to help the post move forward.

You should have received an email from the Adjutant for a general meeting with instructions to sign on by computers, cell phones, or landlines.

General Meeting via of ZOOM

Wednesday, May 6th

1:00 PM pacific time

Memorial Day in May

Many Americans do not understand the true meaning of Memorial Day. They do not take the time to observe Memorial Day for what it was established to be.

Continued on page 2

Memorial Day is a national holiday to honor military service members who died fighting in a war. It was observed on May 30 from 1869 to 1970. In 1968 Congress passed the Uniform Monday Holiday Act, which established Memorial Day as the last Monday in May in order to create a three day weekend for federal employees. This went into effect in 1971 and was declared a federal holiday.

With the order of 'Shelter in Place', it should be a good family time to take a look at Memorial Day. Ask your family members and friends, what is Memorial Day? Let me know what kind of answers you get.

Proper reflection and remembrance of the fallen while serving in the U.S. military may enlighten the understanding of the cost of freedom. Pride and Patriotism in this nation may be acceptable again.

Al Wong
Post Commander

Chaplain's Report

As I write this report, we are hopefully at the end of our long winter of Covid-19. We went from don't shake hands because it is flu season to stay at home because something worse is stalking us.

I also hope and pray that you have all lived well during these trying times. The nation, state, American Legion, and Post have shown great resilience. I know we have all suffered, if not from illness, just from loss of work and being removed from family and friends. We can look forward to a brighter day with help from God and those around us.

If you need help please reach out and take advantage of the many organizations available to you. Talk to someone. If in crisis use the VA crisis line at 1-800-273-8255.

Please listen to the governors as they slowly get us back to some kind of normal. Post 419 will reopen as soon as we can. Commander Al Wong, and the rest of the officers remember you in our prayers. We all look forward to the day when we can meet in person. With God's grace, that will be soon.

Ralph Jacob
Chaplin Post 419



Important Contact Information — Post 419, Squadron and Auxiliary

GENERAL CONTACT NUMBER — 408-244-3050 (You may leave messages here any time of the day or night.)

Post Adjutant email contact — www.americanlegionpost419@comcast.net (excellent means for sending information and/or requests to Post officers).

Auxiliary Contacts - See officer contacts on page 5 or email ALAunit419santaclara@gmail.com.



Squadron 419 Report

As we are presently in Shelter in place and social gathering is also ordered to halt, we are not having any type of functions. Boys State has been cancelled. All activities are on hold or cancelled.

The only thing still going on is membership, for those members who have not yet renewed there is still time.

For this month's information, it will be a history lesson about Sons of the American Legion.

The organization of the Sons of the American Legion was created in September 1932, within the American Legion at the 14th National Convention in Portland Oregon.

In 1939, the S.A.L. was riding the crest and was about seven percent as large as the parent organization. The S.A.L. was destined to grow even larger, but on the horizon was World War II. With the passing of time, thousands of young men found themselves old enough to be in the armed services. Many of the S.A. L. members never returned, for those that did, they found that they were eligible to become members of the American Legion, in 1942, the doors were opened for the returning veterans.

Membership dropped from a high of 72,633 in 1939 to a low of 5,631. Lots of factors caused those lean years for the program. Those young men now returning as veterans had no grown children in the immediate postwar years. Housing shortages, a nation on the move, with the G.I. bill that sent thousands of veterans back to school, and then the Korean War, which put many reservists back into uniform, these were the contributing factors.

In 1963 the enrollment had climbed back up to nearly 17,000 members

Together, members of the American Legion, Legion Auxiliary, Legion Riders make up the Legion family.

All four place high importance on preserving our American traditions and values, improving the quality of life for our nations children, caring for veterans and their families, and perhaps more important, teaching the fundamentals of good citizenship.

The Sons have always assisted the legionnaires with legion family programs and events. Our family boasts a combined total membership of nearly 4.2 million members.

The S.A.L. has study programs for the younger members. One such program is called "The Ten Ideals," which teaches the elements of patriotism, health, knowledge, training, honor, faith, helpfulness, courtesy, reverence, and comradeship. If a member completes the Ten Ideals program, he is eligible to continue with another program called the "Five-Point Program of Service." This program covers patriotism, citizenship, discipline, leadership and legionism.

The Sons focus on more than just membership. At all levels, the Sons support the American Legion in promoting a wide variety of programs. The Sons assist their posts in other activities as in Veterans programs, Veterans Administration home and hospital volunteerism, Children Youth projects, and fundraising.

Continued page 4

In 2007, the Sons had raised over \$5 Million for the American Legion Child Welfare Foundation. Members had volunteered more than 223,900 hours in Veteran Hospitals throughout the country and raised over \$915,688 that has gone to directly to VA hospitals and VA homes for a variety of items including TV's, radios, medical equipment and clothing for patients.

The Sons of the American Legion is one of the many organizations that sponsors and supports the Citizens Flag Alliance, a coalition formed to secure flag protection legislation through an amendment to the U.S. Constitution. They alert their communities to the importance of respect for the flag and they encourage flag education programs in schools and other local organizations.

Here at Post 419, we try to hold at least one event every three months and also assist during memorials and holidays for the post.

Dual members are a key and are here to assist in mentoring new and younger members.

Steve Villegas
Squadron Correspondent 419



Auxiliary News May 2020

419 Cares

Last month, President Maggie sent out a heartfelt video message to our members offering shopping assistance, errands, or a friendly ear if needed. That offer is still good, so reach out to us below. We are glad that everyone seems to be adjusting to the new, temporary, reality. Many of you have been helping too by sewing masks, doing shopping, and comforting others over the phone or via an "app." Corona virus does not stop us. On the ground, our boots never stop walking as we raise money and work hours for our veterans, youth and community.

Memorial Day & Poppy Letters

Next month, we will send out our annual poppy fundraising letter with a hospitalized Veteran's hand-made poppy inside. **This mailing was put together by one member using a face mask and gloves—and sealed with a tear off strip or wet sponge to protect you.** If we are unable to gather on Memorial Day due to the health orders, please wear your poppy with pride *at home* and say a prayer for our Veterans. We're working on a Memorial Day at Home for you, so stay tuned.

Learn New Things & Improvise

Many of us are taking the corona virus situation in stride as a *learning* experience and improvising. I'm personally trying to remember all the things my mother, a depression kid, did to make food last and repair household items. Yesterday, I gave my husband a haircut with my Dad's clippers and scissors! I'm happy to report no blood was shed but, boy, does he look like a punk rocker! I've discovered how to stretch a meal or make do. Out of bread? Use pancakes for grilled cheese sandwiches topped with jalapenos and apricot jam or whatever is left. Mmmm good!

Continued on Page 5

Membership News

Maydean is happy to report that “WE MADE GOAL PLUS 4” or 146 members as of this writing on April 24, 2020. Welcome new members: Felicia Lynn Carlucci, Chiara Lynn Carlucci, Leslie M. Cook, Catherine (Cate) Cook, Susie K. Taylor, Cathy Langley, Sally Palacio, Linda D. Howland, Anita J. Romero, and Unit 1000 transfer Sheree Pettigrew. We also sincerely thank all renewing members and paid-up-for-life members (PUFLS). Making membership goal is important to keep our organization growing and capture the attention of Congress for veterans’ affairs. How did we gain 14 members to reach goal? Thanks to the members’ ideas at the February meeting, members signing up close relatives, Maggie’s video/Cindy’s email with membership perks, and Maydean’s handwritten renewal letters. Sadly, we didn’t gain any spouses of Post 419 members, but we hope they will join us starting in July because they have a unique perspective on how to help Veterans. Besides, it’s a Girls Night Out too!

Monthly Membership E-Meeting from Home

Our March meeting was cancelled due to the virus, but we rebounded at our April meeting from the comfort of home. Members joined the Zoom meeting by home phone and by “app” for a funny, but productive meeting. Members from as far away as San Diego (Barbara Peralta) and Arizona (Mary Artibee) were at this meeting with lots of fun, fresh ideas.

Join us for our next E-meeting on Wed., May 13, 2020 with social time at 6:30 p.m. and meeting start at 7 p.m. Join us by home phone, computer, smartphone, or tablet/ipad. There is no cost to you and no need to provide personal info, thanks to Maggie’s employer Kickfire. The Zoom meeting details are below. Maggie & Cindy are tech support.

Join Zoom Meeting:

By Phone: 1-408-638-0968

By Computer (click on link below): <https://kickfire.zoom.us/j/799421628?pwd=VStWOXYOL1FNRzI2RFdLdkZfVStUUT09>

Meeting ID: 799 421 628

Password: 4192020

As President Maggie would say, “God bless you and your loved ones. Please stay safe and healthy and remember to take care of each other.” -- Cindy Newman, Treasurer and Past President, Stay Safe, Stay Well, Stay Home, and Stay Away From the Scissors! See Contact Us – 419 Cares Below

CONTACT US – 419 CARES

- American Legion Auxiliary Santa Clara Unit 419: ALAunit419santaclara@gmail.com
- Maggie Taylor, President and Zoom Help, (909) 731-4309, maggietaylor8@gmail.com
- Cindy Newman, Treasurer and Zoom Help, (650) 219-1041, cnewman419@yahoo.com
- Maydean Grundstrom, Membership Chair (408) 732-5257, megefg@sbcglobal.net
- Linda McHaffie, Chaplain (408) 247-4746, earlmchaffie@gmail.com



ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS

HONORING OUR MILITARY VETERANS WWII, KOREAN AND VIETNAM

Honor Flight Bay Area Foundation — 598 Veterans Honored with trip to Washington, D.C.



Honor Flight Bay Area Foundation is preparing for its 6th year of operation in 2020. Since organizing in 2014, we have flown 598 veterans to Washington, D.C. to visit their war memorials. This is an all-expense paid trip for the veteran and our way of thanking them for their service and sacrifice.

If you are a WWII, Korean or Vietnam war veteran who has not been to D.C. and seen your war memorial, you are invited, encouraged, to participate in this trip of a

lifetime. Applications are available at www.honorflightbayarea.org. Full details of the trip and information about Honor Flight Bay Area is available at our Web site.

2020 Flight Schedule Update

Trip #25: — June 7-9 Cancelled

Trip #26 now #24: Sept 13-15

Trip #27 now #25: Oct 18-20

New Trip #26: Nov 8-9

ALERT — COVID-19. The current public health situation requires the cancelling and rescheduling of flights. Trips planned for April 26-28 and June 7-9 are being rescheduled for a later date. Honor Flight Bay Area will continue to monitor this public health situation and make adjustments to our flight schedules and activities as warranted. The health and well-being of our veterans and all participants is critical to us.

Honor Flight Bay Area encourages everyone to follow the guidelines provided by the CDC and local public health officials in combating this virus.

Note that we are continuing to accept applications during this situation and encourage all veterans interested in an Honor Flight to submit your application. Once this situation is behind us, our practice of reviewing applications and screening applicants will continue as in the past.

As we have done in the past, prior to each flight we will conduct an orientation meeting for all participants. This gives you the opportunity to meet your fellow travelers and learn about the trip itinerary. A few weeks after each flight we hold a reunion where participants can share their experiences from the trip. All of this is a truly memorable experience... for the veteran, the guardian and our volunteers.

Many of our senior veterans are concerned with health issues and the ability to make this trip. Let us help you evaluate your situation before you disqualify yourself. Part of the application process involves a private conversation with an Honor Flight Bay Area health professional.

Guardians, escorts, are also needed to assist our veterans. If you are interested in volunteering as a guardian, you can obtain an application at www.honorflightbayarea.org. Or, if you just want to volunteer to help Honor Flight Bay Area with the logistics and work required to organize each flight, an application for volunteers is available at the Web site.

A huge thank you to Post 419 and to all of the members and volunteers who have helped to make our honor flights a success.

I look forward to everyone's continued support for our 2020 honor flights and to working together to safeguard our veterans and communities at large.

Don Newton

Co-Founder and Director, Honor Flight Bay Area Foundation

2020 Calendar of Events

Host	Event	Date
Legion	First Sunday Breakfast Mother's Day	May 3, 2020 9 - 11am Cancelled
SAL	Rib Feed	Saturday May 16, 2020 Cancelled
Legion Aux SAL	Installation Dinner	Friday May 29, 2020 Cancelled
Legion	First Sunday Breakfast Father's Day	Sunday June 7, 2020 9 - 11am Cancelled
Legion	Annual Car Show	Saturday June 13, 2020 Cancelled
Legion	First Sunday Breakfast	Sunday July 5, 2020 9 - 11am
Legion	First Sunday Breakfast	Sunday Aug 2, 2020 9 - 11am
Legion	First Sunday Breakfast	Sept 6, 2020 9 - 11am
Legion	Surf City Dinner/Dance	Saturday Sept 26, 2020
SAL	First Sunday Breakfast	Sunday Oct 4, 2020 9 - 11am
Legion	Halloween Dinner/Dance	Sat Oct 31, 2020
Aux	First Sunday Breakfast	Nov 1, 2020 9 - 11am
Legion	Annual Craft Faire	Saturday Nov 7, 2020
Legion	Veterans Day	Wednesday, Nov 11, 2020
Legion Aux SAL	Thanks for Giving Dinner	Thursday Nov 19, 2020
SAL	First Sunday Breakfast	Sunday Dec 6, 2020 9 - 11am
Legion	Legion Family Christmas Dinner/Dance	Saturday Dec 12, 2020
Aux	New Years Eve Party	Thursday Dec 31, 2020

Service to others is the rent you pay for your room here on Earth." — Muhammad Ali

