



COMMANDER'S CORNER

Several more detailed articles and photographs from the 2024 Crab Feed follow in this month's Salvo. We successfully met several new challenges for this year's Crab Feed. After Joey Pucci retired, Gary Soto led an initiative to find a new crab supplier which resulted in the selection of Cali Crab Feeds. They did an excellent job of delivering high quality crab to our Crab Feed. Despite tremendous efforts of many members to meet personally with potential donors and sponsors, we had to mail some letters requesting support to local businesses. Regardless, we did receive significant donations. Please let businesses know that we appreciate their donations the next time you stop in or use their donated gift card or certificate. Additionally, please thank Alan and Lynnette Scharlach for donating a BBQ and Lizabeth Connolly for donating an estate planning package. Please also recognize Bay Area Navy Nurses Association for their gold sponsorship. Eric Ardell and Mike Yura did an outstanding job of designating donations for the raffle, silent auction, and live auction. Alan Scharlach and Mike Yura did a fantastic job of overseeing the efforts of our two Scout Troops during setup, dinner service, raffles, and cleanup. Thanks to Elizabeth Freitas for obtaining the signs, Michelle Lee and Mary O'Donnell for coordinating food orders, and members for contributing appetizers. The Crab Feed Committee, along with their significant others, demonstrated dedication and service above self throughout planning, organizing, and hosting the event. We should know the financial results of the Crab Feed at the dinner meeting at **6:00 PM on 7 February** at the VMBSRV. Looking forward to seeing you at the meeting.

Our Post is hosting the next general/dinner meeting of District 9 at the VMBSRV Community Hall at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, 19 March. Our members are responsible for setup and takedown/cleanup for the meeting. This is a great opportunity to learn more about activities of the eight posts in District 9 and about Department of California initiatives. Please plan to attend and assist as hosts. Mark Heinemann

SPECIAL MESSAGE FOR 2024:

Are you interested in becoming more active in our American Legion Post 246?

WE NEED YOU! Many members are filling several leadership jobs and, while they are very dedicated, we need wider participation of members to fill positions to develop innovative ideas, sustain, and energize our Post! This is your Post; please check out leadership opportunities and volunteer to make our Post more engaging and relevant to our members!

<https://www.americanlegionpost246.org/leadership>

The American Legion | Mt. Diablo Post 246

Meets Monthly | 400 Hartz Ave, Danville, CA 94526

Mailing: P.O. Box 133, Danville, CA 94526 | 925.272-8480

<https://www.americanlegionpost246.org>

Email: CommanderPost246@gmail.com

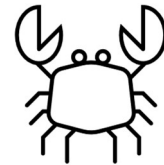
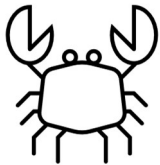


MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

As of 30 January 2024, we have 169 members on our roster and 144 (85.2%) have renewed their membership. For those who have not yet renewed their membership, please 1) go to www.legion.org and click the RENEW button, or, 2) send your check for \$50 to P.O. Box 133, Danville, CA 94526. Thank you for your continuing support.

2024 CRAB FEED PREPARATIONS

Alan Scharlach and Eric Ardell relaxed and congratulated Post 246 members and our Scout Troops after they completed setting up the Community Hall.



MEETINGS

Please always RSVP for the general meeting luncheon and dinner events by leaving a message at **(925) 272-8480** or sending your email confirmation to commanderpost246@gmail.com **3 days** in advance. Please bring cash for meeting meals.

GENERAL MEETINGS

First Wednesdays
– Odd Months from 12:00-2:00 p.m.
– Even Months from 6:00-7:30 p.m.
Second Floor Meeting Room, Veterans Memorial Building of San Ramon Valley

(VMBSRV), except where noted (March – Saturday morning social meeting; August – No Meeting; October – First Sunday at 1:00 p.m.).

UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS

Every Saturday 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon, All Vets Coffee at the VMBSRV, 400 Hartz Ave, Danville

07 February, 6:00 PM, General Membership Meeting at VMBSRV, Speaker – Mike Fedderson, USMC League, presenting Vets Roll (<https://www.vetsroll.org/>)



02 March, 9:00 AM, General Membership Meeting at VMBSRV, Coffee and doughnuts (Special Day and Time)

03 April, 6:00 PM, General Membership Meeting at VMBSRV, Speaker to Be Announced

01 May, Noon, General Membership Meeting at VMBSRV, Speaker to Be Announced

05 June, 6:00 PM, General Membership Meeting at VMBSRV, Speaker to Be Announced

OFFICERS AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

(3rd Saturday of the Month from 8:30-10:00 a.m. except 2nd Saturday in December, VMBSRV Second Floor Meeting Room). **For 2024:**

17 February	July-No Mtg
16 March	17 August
20 April	21 September
18 May	19 October
15 June	16 November
	14 December

POST 246 TRANSITION TEAM

Post 246 members continue to meet to develop a strategy to attract new and younger members to join and to take a more active leadership role in the Post. The team will meet again on 10 February. Interested? Contact: commanderpost246@gmail.com

DISTRICT 9 MEETING

District 9 will hold its next general meeting at 6:30 PM on Tuesday, 19 March 2024. Our Post is hosting. Location: Post 246 at the VMBSRV Community Hall, 115 East Prospect Avenue, Danville.

COMMUNITY

Post 246 2024 CRAB FEED



If you were not there, you missed another great Crab Feed Dinner and Fundraiser. Our 169 attendees were thoroughly entertained by our MC and auctioneer Renee Morgan, Danville Council Member.



A special thanks goes out to the members who put in the time and effort to make the event a big



success: *Eric & Mary Ardell, Pat Baratta, Phil and Lizabeth Connolly and their sons Jared & Christian, John Farmer, Elizabeth Freitas, Neil Giles, Louis Giorgi, Mark & Corrienne Heinemann, Janine Hollenbeck, Bob Landy, Michelle Lee, Steve McCreery, Raoul Miranda, Mary O'Donnell and Claes Elfving, Ed Ott, Ron Roe, Bob Sada, Alan & Lynette Scharlach, Gary Soto, and Mike Yura.*



SCOUT TROOP SUPPORT OF OUR CRAB FEED

To Scout Troops 60 & 888: On behalf of American Legion, Mount Diablo Post 246, I want to thank BSA Scout Troops 888 and 60, your leaders, parent volunteers, and all the scouts who participated in our Crab Feed fundraising event. Your efforts, professionalism, and courtesies made our event a success. We look forward to our mutual continuing support of your scout troops in the coming year. Again, thank you!
 Alan M Scharlach, Chartered Organizational Representative, The American Legion, Mt Diablo Post 246



"YOUNGSTER" (USNA 2ND YEAR) ATTENDS JANUARY MEETING

Good evening Mr. Ardell,

Thank you once again for the invite today. I will continue to work hard every day in hopes of becoming a great naval officer. Please do not hesitate to reach out to me if you need anything even while I am at the academy. Without the Legion, I would not be able to be where I am today, and all the credit goes to you guys. I will see you soon.

Very Respectfully,
 Matt E. Jao
 United States Naval Academy



BUDDY CHECKS

Buddy Checks are continuing. Please help the Post call members to check on how they are. Please let Eric Ardell and Mark Heinemann know if you can help: commanderpost246@gmail.com

DONATION IN THE MEMORY OF TOM ERICKSON

Wilma Lenz donated to Post 246 in "the sweet memory of her dear friend Tom Erickson." Tom served in the US Army during World War II and passed to Post Everlasting on 2 January 2024, six days before he would have turned 97. Tom was a member of The American Legion for 36 years and a regular at VMBSRV Saturday morning coffees.

DONATION IN THE MEMORY OF GERALD HILL

Mildred Hill donated to Post 246 in memory of her husband Gerald Hill to support our Boys and Girls State and Girls State programs. Gerald served in the US Army during the Korean War and passed to Post Everlasting in August 2022. During a Buddy Call in April 2022 to which Millie responded, she emphasized how much Gerald loved The American Legion. His family also donated 442nd Infantry Regiment memorabilia to the VMBSRV museum.

VETERANS VOICES

Contra Costa County Veterans Voices airs at 7:00 PM, second Mondays on Comcast Channel 27, ATT/Uverse Channel 99, Wave Channel 32.

VMBSRV CORNED BEEF AND CABBAGE DINNER & FUNDRAISER



"BE THE ONE"

"Be The One" is a nationwide effort of The American Legion to raise awareness of veterans in crisis. You can help end the stigma and "Be the One" to save one veteran. Learn how to help a veteran in crisis:

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

POST OPERATIONS

AMERICAN LEGION BASIC TRAINING

Become more active in learning about the American Legion! Take "Basic Training" at this link:

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



THE SALVO

FEBRUARY 2024

AMERICAN LEGION MT DIABLO POST 246

VETERANS STRENGTHENING AMERICA

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

The 2024 membership year started on 1 July 2023. Please renew by

- 1) going to www.legion.org and clicking on the RENEW button and filling out the form; or
- 2) send a check for \$50 to Post 246, P.O. Box 133, Danville, CA 94526
- 3) Please note that National Convention delegates approved raising 2025 dues by \$5.00. Post 246 approved the increase of its 2025 dues to \$55.

FLAG & EMBLEM STORE

Want AL wear or supplies? Contact Alan Scharlach. See what is available [here](#), then call 925-858-4199 or send an email cab1ho@sbcglobal.net Include the item number, quantity, color, and size; and your telephone number. Mail or give him a check for your items.

POST 246 CLOTHING

Thanks to Gary Soto, we now can offer tee shirts and sweatshirts with a unique Post 246 design. Please contact Alan Scharlach or Gary Soto if interested in purchasing items.

OFFICERS & COMMITTEES

Post Officers for 2023-2024:

Commander: Mark Heinemann
 1st V. Cmdr.: **OPEN**
 2nd V. Cmdr.: Alan Scharlach
 3rd V. Cmdr.: Michelle Lee
 Adjutant: Bob Landy
 Finance: Phil Connolly

Chaplain: Mary O'Donnell
 Historian: **OPEN**
 Judge Advocate: Mary O'Donnell
 Service Officer: **OPEN**
 Sgt. At Arms: Floyd Cox
 Past Commander: Michelle Lee

Executive Committee Members:

Eric Ardell, Neil Giles, Louis Giorgi, Mary O'Donnell, Mike Yura

Appointed Officers & Committee Chairpersons

Asst. Adjutant: **OPEN**
 Asst. Finance: Raoul Miranda
 Asst Sgt-at-Arms: Raoul Miranda
 Supply Officer: Alan Scharlach
 Boys & Girls State: Eric Ardell
 Girls State: Michelle Lee
 High School Oratorical: Neil Giles
 Scouting Rep: Alan Scharlach
 VMB Board of Trustees: Eric Ardell / Alan Scharlach
 VMB Ops Committee: Alan Scharlach
 VMB Museum Committee: Bob Sada
 Protocol Officer: Floyd Cox
 IT Coordinator: John Farmer
 Asst. IT Coordinator: Neil Giles
 East Bay & Delta Standdowns Rep: Mark Heinemann
 Veterans Outreach: Mark Heinemann
 Program Dir: Michelle Lee
 District 9 Executive Committee: Mark Heinemann
 Salvo Editor: Janine Hollenbeck
 Asst. Editors: Mark Heinemann, Eric Ardell, Bob Landy, Michelle Lee, Alan Scharlach
 Post Webmaster: Rusty Orvik and Sons