



COMMANDER'S CORNER

As we know, the mission of The American Legion (TAL) is to enhance the well-being of America's veterans, their families, our military, and our communities by our devotion to mutual helpfulness. The American Legion's vision statement is "The American Legion: Veterans Strengthening America". Members of our Executive Committee gladly shared these descriptions with our local business community at the recent San Ramon Chamber Business Expo.

Since about 95% of Americans have never served in the military, it is not surprising that Veteran Service Organizations may be a bit of a mystery to our neighbors; and even some veterans are only vaguely aware of the TAL if at all. By engaging with the community in a variety of ways, we seek to raise awareness and support for our mission. Our own post, active over 100 years, has



Neil Giles, Bob Landy, Mark Heinemann, and Phil Connolly share about The American Legion at the SR Chamber Business Expo

donated over one million hours and one million dollars to veterans' projects/rehabilitation, youth programs, and the local community. We have encouraged the government to keep its promise to care for veterans and their families, and we have strengthened America by investing in youth. It's well said by a national TAL leader, that "this commitment comes naturally to the men and women who swore to defend and protect the



Post 246 provides refreshments at Parks RFTA Army Family Action Plan Annual Meeting

United States through military service." I take pride in our membership, post, and national organization, and I welcome you to take the time to connect with all three and share the Tango Alpha Lima story broadly. In other news, we are pleased and fortunate to have Executive Committee member and Program Director, Mike Yura, head up our first Poker Tournament. Keep it on your radar with more exciting details to come. We extend a warm welcome to our new Post member John Burke of Danville. Glad to have you aboard, John!



Mike Yura and Gary Soto enjoy a laugh at Post Executive Committee

We will hold this month's Post meeting on **Tuesday, 04 April, at 6 p.m.** at the Veteran's Memorial Building of San Ramon Valley. Doors open for fellowship and food at 5:45 p.m. Hope to see you there! – Michelle Lee

The American Legion | Mt. Diablo Post 246

Meets Monthly | 400 Hartz Ave, Danville, CA 94526

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<https://www.americanlegionpost246.org>

Email: CommanderPost246@gmail.com



THE SALVO

APRIL 2023

AMERICAN LEGION MT DIABLO POST 246 – CONTINUING TO SERVE

MEETINGS

Always RSVP for regular 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.



Adjutant Bob Landy in Action

New Schedule 2023:

General Meetings are first Wednesdays – Odd Months from 12:00-2:00 p.m.
— Even Months from 6:00-7:30 p.m.

In the Second Floor

Meeting Room, Veterans Memorial Building of San Ramon Valley (VMBSRV), except where noted (June – Thursday at 6 p.m.; August – No Meeting; October 1st Sunday at 1:00 p.m.). EXCOM business meetings, 3rd Saturdays, 8:30 a.m. at VMBS.

UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS

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

04 April, 6:00 p.m., General Membership Meeting, VMBSRV, Adam del Castillo, Contra Costa College

03 May, Noon, General Membership Meeting at VMBSRV – Commander Sean Gannon, Chief of Naval Forces Korea staff member and Navy Reserve member

20 May, 8:30 a.m. Phillips 66 Refinery and Carbon Plant, Walk of Honor for Vets, Crockett Community Center

21 May, 1:00 p.m., High School Swearing-in, Town Green (front of Danville Library)

29 May, Memorial Day, Various Events more TBA

08 June, 6:00 p.m., General Membership Meeting at VMBSRV, Braydon Drevlow

04 July, TBD, Kiwanis 4th of July Parade

05 July, Noon, General Membership Meeting at VMBSRV, Autry James

August, No Meeting

OFFICERS AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

(Third Saturday of the Month from 8:30-10:00 a.m. in the Second Floor Meeting Room). For 2023:

- 15 April
- 20 May
- 17 June
- 15 July
- August No Meeting



2nd Vice Commander Alan Scharlach & Finance Officer Phil Connolly Enliven Meeting

DISTRICT 9 MEETINGS

District 9 will hold its next regular meeting on 16 May at 7:00 p.m. at the Martinez Veterans Memorial Building. All members are welcome and encouraged to attend. Bring \$15 bring cash/check for dinner.



Tony Webb, Phil Pezzella, Michelle Lee, Marty Leach at March 2023 District 9 Meeting

COMMUNITY

A DOG OF YOUR OWN

Learn more about ARF Pets for Vets [here](#) and Athen’s Dog Training/Real Service Dogs [here](#).

LPC VETERANS FIRST GARNERS ACCOLADES FROM STUDENTS

Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, and Coast Guard veterans attributed their success and smooth



Honoring Women Veterans

military/academic transition to the Veterans Resource Center at Las Positas College at the “Honoring Women Veterans” event. The 11th annual event included student testimonials and stories of military service, certificates of achievement, scholarship awards, reading of the CA Governor’s Proclamation, welcome by the Livermore Mayor John Marchand, honor quilts, and a delicious lunch catered by Bruno’s Italian Cuisine in Livermore.

TRAVIS AFB CELEBRATION OF 50th ANNIVERSARY OF OPERATION HOMECOMING, 31 MARCH, 0930

Our Post is an in-kind sponsor of this honoring POWs from Operation Homecoming event, 9:30 a.m.3:30 p.m. at Travis AFB AMC passenger terminal. Invite only. RSVP Required. Contact Michelle Lee at commanderpost246@gmail.com by 27 March 2023 to attend.



FREE GOOGLE CLOUD TRAINING AVAILABLE FOR VETERANS

Google is providing free Google Cloud services training to veterans. To take advantage of this training, you must be a member of The American Legion Family, 18 years of age, and committed to completing the self-paced program in 6 months. For more information, contact Autrey James or Roberto C. Arnold to enroll. <https://calegion.org/google-cloud-training/>

WALK OF HONOR FOR VETERANS

The Phillips 66 Refinery and Carbon Plant are hosting its Walk of Honor in-person on 20 May, Crockett Community Center, 850 Ponoma Street, Crockett. Transportation is provided to and from the bridge where the Walk is held. Check-in begins at 8:30 a.m. and the Walk begins at 10:00 a.m. Our Post is a Star Sponsor of this event benefiting the Viet Nam Veterans of Diablo Valley and the Crockett Community Services District. Post members may email commanderpost246@gmail.com for one of the two complimentary walk registrations. First come, first served.

POST OPERATIONS

POKER TOURNAMENT

Ready to work on your poker face? Or better yet, your poker hand? Mike Yura and the whole crew will be

working on planning, coordinating, and directing this upcoming event. Willing to lend a hand? We'd sure appreciate it! Contact Mike Yura at (925) 366-4684 or email:

commanderpost246@gmail.com

MEMBERSHIP

Membership Renewal

We are very close to reaching 100% renewal 1) go to www.legion.org and click on the RENEW button, fill out the form, and you are done; or, 2) send the Post a check for \$45 to P.O. Box 133, Danville, CA 94526. Dues will increase to \$50/yr. in July 2023.

AL BOYS AND GIRLS STATE ALA GIRLS STATE SELECTIONS

Thanks to Eric Ardell, Michelle Lee, Harvalee Grimm, Heidi Kenniston Lee all TAL Boys and Girls State and ALA Girls State selections are completed and the selected Delegates will attend the programs in the 3rd or 4th week in June. These signature American Legion and American Legion Auxiliary national programs have helped millions of young people understand local government, develop their leadership skills, and inspire their life-long civic engagement.

POST VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

- Assistant Adjutant
- Post Assistant Photographer



Contact Mark Heinemann if interested helping make our post ever better.

FLAG & EMBLEM STORE

Want AL wear or supplies? Contact Alan Scharlach. See what's available [here](#), then Tel: 925-858-4199 or send email cab1ho@sbcglobal.net include the item number, quantity, color, and size; etc. and telephone number. Send or give him a check for your items.

POST OFFICERS & COMMITTEES

Post Officers for 2022-2023:

Commander: Michelle Lee
1st V. Cmdr: Mark Heinemann
2nd V. Cmdr: Alan Scharlach
3rd V. Cmdr: Eric Ardell
Adjutant: Bob Landy
Finance: Phil Connolly
Chaplain: Mary O'Donnell
Historian: Gerald Lindahl
Judge Advocate: Mary O'Donnell
Service Officer: Leroy Vares
Sgt. At Arms: Floyd Cox
Past Commander: Mark Heinemann

Executive Committee:

Neil Giles, Gary Soto, Mike Yura

Appointed Officers & Committee Chairpersons

Asst. Adjutant: Open
Asst. Finance: Raoul Miranda
Asst Sgt-at-Arms: Raoul Miranda
Supply Officer: Alan Scharlach

Boys State: Eric Ardell
Girls State: Michelle Lee
Oratorical: Neil Giles
Scouting Rep: Alan Scharlach
Asst. Scouting Rep: Mike Yura
VMB Ops Committee: Bob Landy
Museum Committee: Bob Sada
Protocol Officer: Floyd Cox
IT Coordinator: John Farmer
Asst. IT Coordinator: Neil Giles
Board of Trustees: Ron Lowe / Eric Ardell / Alan Scharlach
East Bay Stand down Rep: Mark Heinemann
Veterans Outreach: Mark Heinemann
Program Dir: Mike Yura
Salvo Editor: Michelle Lee
Asst. Editors: Mark Heinemann, Eric Ardell, Bob Landy, Alan Scharlach, Adriana Santos
Post Webmaster: Rusty Orvik and Sons

HELMETS FOR HEROES DONATIONS



Bring some coins and bucks to our next meeting for [Helmets for Heroes](#). Thanks to Charlie Jursch for his generous donation!

And thanks to all those who add to the helmet each week.