

**AMERICAN LEGION MT DIABLO POST 246** 

VETERANS STRENGTHENING AMERICA

# **COMMANDER'S CORNER**

The thoughts of gratitude and sacrfice evoked from the multiple Memorial Day Events in our area continue to linger as we enter



USA MG Lowe (Ret) Congratulates Service Inductees and Academy Appointees

into June. I am reminded of how fortunate and thankful we are to live in a community, with town and city governments, VMBSRV Veterans Service Organizations, and citizens who honor those service members in multiple ways. The remembrance programs at San Ramon Memorial Park, Oak Hill Park in Danville, and the Beacon lighting were wellattended events. Earlier in the month, the joint effort VMBSRV Swearing-in, Chaired by Mary O'Donnell, was also a tremendous success as attested by the proud faces of the students and parents who were honored. Finally, in May, we participated in the San



Mark Armstrong, San Ramon Vice Mayor, Delivers Memorial Day Remarks



Jim Hill, Vice-President, VNVDV, MC's 31<sup>st</sup> Memorial Day Remembrance

promoted the meaning of Memorial Day, and informed residents of the local veterans service organizations, membership benefits and service opportunites. In surveying the 2022-23 Post year, we c

Ramon Art and Wind Festival where we handed out poppies,



Sharing a laugh at the VMBSRV Swearing In

In surveying the 2022-23 Post year, we can take pride in the good works we have completed, money and time donated, programs supported, friendships strengthened, and joys and

sorrows shared. Our team accomplished much and worked together well, despite ocassional challenges of timing, scheduling, health, travel, et cetera, we pulled together and delivered our best team effort. Because of your talents, abilities,

commitment, dedication, and character we thrived. Thank you to everyone, including spouses and family members, who contributed to the work of our Post this past year. Whether you rolled-up your sleeves and got to work, or, because of cicumstances, you cheered



Alan Scharlach, 2nd Vice Commander, Works Booth at Festival

us on from the bench or the sidelines, donated funds, or even provided critical feedback, sage advice or wisdom, your encouragement and support, no matter how small or, just as often--how big, made all the difference in accomplishing a successful year. It was a pleasure to serve as your Post Commander; and it's an honor and

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 <u>https://www.americanlegionpost246.org</u> Email: <u>CommanderPost246@gmail.com</u>



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experience that I will always treasure. Our Post will be in good hands with Mark Heinemann at the helm once again in 2023-24. He and your officers and Executive



Committee members for 2023-2024 will be installed at our July meeting and I hope that you will join me in applauding his leadership and service and supporting him as commander.

In looking ahead, **Please note that this month's Post Meeting is on Thursday, 08 June at 6 p.m.** I will be serving as a counselor at Boys and Girls State 17-24 June and look forward to giving a report on this newly imagined program next month. We will be well-represented at the

Mark Heinemann Assumes Command July 2023

Department Convention 23-25 June by Executive Committee Member, Judge Advocate, and Chaplain -- Mary O'Donnell. Please join me in

thanking Mary for stepping up to represent us as our Post's state delegate. Our participation in the annual Kiwanis 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade is secured and thanks to Mark Heinemann, Alan Scharlach, Ed Ott, and others we will have vehicles to ride in and Scouts to walk with us at the parade. Have a great summer and see you around the VMBSRV! – Michelle Lee

# MEETINGS

<u>Always RSVP</u> 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.

# 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 8<sup>th</sup> – Thursday at 6 p.m.; August – No Meeting; October 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday at 1:00 p.m.). EXCOM business meetings, 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturdays, 8:30 a.m. at VMBS except no meeting in July.

# **UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS**

<u>\*\*\*\* Every Saturday 8:00 a.m. to</u> <u>noon, All-Vets Coffee at the VMBSRV,</u> <u>400 Hartz Ave, Danville.</u>

05 June, 11:30 a.m. Post 246 Women Veterans Tea, Contact Michelle Lee, Leave a message at 925-272-8480 with contact info, or at <u>commanderpost246@gmail.com</u> RSVP Required

08 June, 6:00 p.m., General Membership Meeting at VMBSRV, Speaker: Braydon Drevlow, Concert Pianist, Adventure Traveler, providing international travel perspectives about his journeys to the remotest corners of the earth.

23-25 June – American Legion State Convention, Visalia, CA

04 July, Kiwanis 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade, Downtown Danville (Contact us if you would like to ride in the Parade)



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05 July, Noon, General Membership Meeting at VMBSRV, Autry James, Past Department (CA) Commander

August, No General Meeting

06 September, Noon, General Membership Meeting at VMBSRV

01 October, 1:00 p.m. TAL Boys & Girls State, and ALA Girls State Recognition Luncheon, VMBSRV, (this is in lieu of our regular monthly meeting)

01 November, Noon, General Membership Meeting at VMBSRV, TBD

#### 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:

June
July No Meeting
August
September
October

#### **DISTRICT 9 MEETINGS**

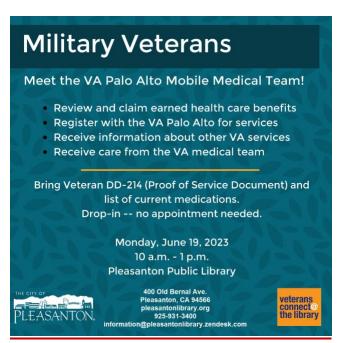
District 9 will hold its next regular meeting on July 18, 2023 (Tues) Martinez Veterans Memorial Building 7:00 PM. All members are welcome and encouraged to attend. Bring \$15 in cash/check for dinner.





Contra Costa County Veterans TV Show airs on 2<sup>nd</sup> Mondays on Comcast Channel 27, ATT/Uverse channel 99, Wave Channel 32. Check out past episodes <u>here</u>.

# VA Mobile Medical Team, 6/19



# WHAT A COURT OF HONOR!

Eight (8) Boy Scouts, all from the same patrol in Troop 60 (sponsored by our Post 246) achieved the rank of Eagle Scout. In the history of the Golden

Gate Bay Area Council, never have so many Scouts in the same Troop, let alone the same Patrol, earned their Eagle. This was such a momentous achievement that a





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representative from the National Boy Scouts of America was present to open and close the Court of Honor. Several representatives from the Golden Gate Bay Area Scouting Council were also present. Additional dignitaries presenting special Certificates of Achievement, books, or challenge coins were Mayor of Danville Robert **Storer**, Ed Stevenson from the Marine Corps League Detachment 942, and Alan Scharlach, as the Chartered Organizational Representative for American Legion Mt. Diablo Post 246. Supporting Alan and the Post was our Past Commander and 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Commander Mark Heinemann. Alan had the honor of not only presenting Certificates of Citizenship from our Post, but also Acclamations of Achievement and Certificates of Recognition from Congressman Mark DeSaulnier of California's 10<sup>th</sup> District, and California State Assemblymember Rebecca Bauer Kahan. The Eagle Scouts achieving these honors were:

Varun Desai, Aalyan Aamir, Sanjiv Simha, Amandip Dutta, Madhav Nair, Ayan Bhatia, Arnesh Peddi <u>and</u> Anirudh Kris<u>hna.</u>



These Scouts were all from the "Fast and Furious" Patrol of Troop 60. For their projects, the Scouts made wood cabinets, wood bookshelves, picnic tables with built-in benches, wooden planters, wooden garden boxes, and built and placed mile markers on a Mount Diablo hiking trail.

After the closing of the Court of Honor, the troop welcomed all guests to a fabulous feast in celebration.

Alan Scharlach 15 May 2023



# TAL BOYS AND GIRLS STATE ALA GIRLS STATE SELECTIONS

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

# **TAL Boys and Girls State:**

Christian Chang Rubin Jain Jax Milasincic Alexander Shen San Ramon Valley California California California



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Surya Devasenapathy AthenianSteven StaelinAthenianAbigail ChenMonte VistaEthan ChenMonte VistaEhem GulucMonte Vista

# ALA Girls State:

Sanika Saleem Monte Vista Ananya Pinnamaneni Dougherty Valley Alyssa Yu California Molly Schinnerer San Ramon Valley Aria Capelli Athenian

# **MEMBERSHIP**

#### Membership Renewal

1) Go to <u>www.legion.org</u> 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 for the 2024 membership year.** 

Welcome back to Daniel Young, who has rejoined our Post! Welcome to new member, Tom Silva!

#### **AMERICAN LEGION WEAR**

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

#### **HELMETS FOR HEROES DONATIONS**

Bring some loose change and bills to our next meeting for <u>Helmets for</u> <u>Heroes</u>.



# POST OFFICERS & COMMITTEES

## POST OFFICERS FOR 2022-2023:

Commander: Michelle Lee 1<sup>st</sup> V. Cmdr: Mark Heinemann 2<sup>nd</sup> V. Cmdr: Alan Scharlach 3<sup>rd</sup> 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





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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: Eric Ardell / Alan Scharlach East Bay Standdown 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