



THE SALVO OCTOBER 2023

AMERICAN LEGION MT DIABLO POST 246

VETERANS STRENGTHENING AMERICA

COMMANDER'S CORNER



Extending a huge thank you to the members who helped set up before and clean up after the Boys & Girls State and Girls State luncheon on October 1 including Bob Sada, Mike and Susan Yura, Alan Scharlach, Neil Giles and his guest, and Lorrie and Tim Sammons. A special thanks to John Reese for taking pictures at the luncheon. Thanks also to Harvalee Grimm of the American Legion Auxiliary for her help in planning and putting on the recognition program. Finally, and most importantly, thanks to the delegates and their families for attending and making the event a big success.

Please join your fellow Post members at these special Post activities coming up: Veterans Day weekend VMB "Space and Robotics" pop-up museum; Army-Navy Football game at the VMB; Wreaths Across America at the Alamo Cemetery; the High School Oratorical Contest (<https://www.americanlegionpost246.org/oratorical>); and finally, our one and only Crab Feed Dinner & Fundraiser. These activities take time and effort on the part of many of our members, their significant others, and other community members. Get involved and come help make these many activities a success; give me a call at (925) 272-8480 or email commanderpost246@gmail.com to find out how you can help. Ticket sales to members begins November 1.

Please welcome new members David Carney, a Navy Vietnam era vet from Alamo; Mark Mason, an Army Vietnam vet living in Danville; Neville Guard, an Air Force Cold War vet from San Ramon; and Joe Accarino, an Air Force Vietnam vet transferring from Henderson, NV Post 40. We look forward to seeing you at our November meeting.

Membership is every member's responsibility; we need your help. Do you know a local vet – relative, neighbor, business associate? Talk to them about joining the Legion or give Eric Ardell their contact information and he will take it from there.

"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>

Thank you for your continuing support.

Mark Heinemann

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



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 (August - No Meeting; October 1st 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

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, Department of Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency Representative

10-12 November, Veterans Day Pop Up Museum - Theme: "Space and Robotics", VMBSRV Community Hall

11 November, 4:45 PM, Mount Diablo Beacon Lighting for Veterans Day

06 December, 6:00 PM, General Membership Meeting at VMBSRV, Sidharth Anand, Troop 888 Eagle Scout Candidate, Alamo Cemetery Project to identify and mark veterans' graves

07 December, 4:45 PM, Mount Diablo Beacon Lighting for Pearl Harbor Day

09 December, 11:00 AM, Army-Navy Game, VMBSRV

16 December, 11:00 AM, Wreaths Across America, Alamo Cemetery

03 January, Noon, General Membership Meeting at VMBSRV, Tim Sammons (US Navy, Retired), "PT Boats of the Tonkin Gulf"

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 2023 and 2024:

21 October	18 November
09 December	20 January
17 February	16 March
20 April	18 May
15 June	17 August

DISTRICT 9 MEETING

District 9 will hold its next general meeting at 7:00 PM in 2H November 2023 (date to be confirmed) at the Martinez VMB, 930 Ward Street, Martinez. All members are welcome and encouraged to attend. Bring \$15 in cash/check for dinner.



COMMUNITY

DANVILLE CAR SHOW

Post 246 members staffed a table in front of the Veterans Memorial Building at the Danville Car Show on September 10 to recruit new members and raise awareness of our Post 246 in the San Ramon Valley. Eric Ardell and Mary O'Donnell joined forces in the second shift after relieving George English, Korean War era veteran, and Mark Heinemann who worked the first shift.



RON LOWE AWARD

By Order of Secretary of the Army, Major General Ronald Lowe, U.S. Army (Retired), was awarded the High Honor of "Distinguished Member of the Civil Affairs Regiment United States Army." Mike Conklin, Chairman and CEO – Sentinels of Freedom, presented the award to MG Lowe. MG Lowe has made immeasurable contributions to our Post 246, our Veterans Memorial Building, Sentinels of Freedom, other veteran service organizations, our community, and nation.



PARKS RFTA COMMUNITY EXPO

Please help staff a Post 246 information table from about 10:30 AM to 2:00 PM (including set up and tear down) on Thursday, October 12 at Parks RFTA. Email commanderpost246@gmail.com if you can help.



DIABLO VALLEY COLLEGE STUDENT VETERAN SCHOLARSHIP

Please help Diablo Valley College grow the Mickey Ganitch All Veterans Memorial Scholarship Fund through donations to the DVC Foundation. Post 246 will collect donations to the scholarship fund from members and match up to \$500 in member donations to give to the scholarship fund. Please make your donation check out to American Legion Post 246 and add a note to the memo line that it is for the DVC Foundation Mickey Ganitch Scholarship Fund.

TAL BOYS AND GIRLS STATE ALA GIRLS STATE RECOGNITION

Eric Ardell and Michelle Lee hosted the recognition luncheon on October 1 for our delegates to the 2023 Boys and Girls State and Girls State programs. Each delegate gave us a short talk on their experiences at the program with the unanimous opinion that it was a life altering experience. The delegates posed with local dignitaries of Danville Mayor Robert Storer, Danville Council member Newell Arnerich, San Ramon Vice Mayor Mark Armstrong, SRVSD President Rachel Hurd, and SRVSD Board Member Shelley Clark. Mayor Storer presented certificates, Boys & Girls State medals, and Danville challenge coins to the delegates.

TAL Boys and Girls State Delegates:

Christian Chang, Rubin Jain, Jax Milasincic, Alexander Shen, Surya Devasenapathy, Steven Staelin, Abigail Chen, Ethan Chen, and Ethem Guluc

ALA Girls State Delegates:

Sanika Saleem, Ananya Pinnamaneni, Alyssa Yu, Molly Schinnerer, and Aria Capelli



VETERANS DANCE

District 9 (the eight American Legion Posts in Contra Costa County) and Brentwood Post 202 are co-sponsoring a family-friendly dance at 6:00 PM on Friday, October 20 at the Brentwood Veterans Memorial Building, 757 1st Street, Brentwood. Tickets are \$10 per person and \$20 per family. Contact Phil Pezzella at (925) 354-2868 for tickets.

VETERANS VOICES

Contra Costa County Veterans TV Show airs on 2nd Mondays on Comcast Channel 27, ATT/Uverse channel 99, Wave Channel 32.



POST OPERATIONS

MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

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

1) going to www.legion.org and clicking on the RENEW button, filling out the form, and you are done; or, 2) sending the Post a check for \$45 to P.O. Box 133, Danville, CA 94526

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; etc. and your telephone number. Send or give him a check for your items.

AMERICAN LEGION BASIC TRAINING

Please consider taking American Legion "Basic Training" at this link:

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

If you want pre-read materials, contact Mark Heinemann at

commanderpost246@gmail.com

POST 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: Leroy Vares

Sgt. At Arms: Floyd Cox

Past Commander: Michelle Lee

Executive Committee Members:

Eric Ardell, Neil Giles, Mary O'Donnell

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

Salvo Editor: Mark Heinemann

Asst. Editors: Eric Ardell, Bob Landy, Michelle Lee, Adriana Santos, Alan Scharlach

Post Webmaster: Rusty Orvik and Sons