



COMMANDER'S CORNER



Last month we had the pleasure of hosting our Boys State and Girls State Delegates at a luncheon and they, in-turn, impressed us with their thoughtful reports on their experiences at these nationally respected programs. One student talked about how elected officials need to have concrete policies and explanations of how the policies would work. She talked about

feeling empowered and having a new appreciation of how much work goes into running our country at every level and how people have made sacrifices for our freedom. Another student gave an equally insightful message about how he learned, among other things, that the leader/official "amplifies the voice of our citizens." Kudos to all involved. Stay tuned for details about how to get involved in 2023.

Our Post members enjoyed our first-time attendance at the San Ramon Culture in Community event where we proudly hosted the USA booth. Our booth was festooned with red, white and blue banners, flags, posters, information about our post and activities, a copy of the Declaration of Independence, and more. We enjoyed passing out flags to children and providing hospitality to the attendees. Approximately 2,000 people attended.



Mike Yura and Alan Scharlach ready the booth

As many know, the roots of Veterans Day spring from Armistice Day which was observed by many countries including the USA after WWI commemorating the November 11, 1918 cessation of hostilities between the Allied Nations and Germany. As time rolled on, Congress changed the word Armistice to Veterans in 1954, and all veterans were honored by our nation. People throughout our land recognized that it is no small matter to take an oath to support and defend the Constitution of the United States and to bear true faith and allegiance to the same. The interesting thing about Veterans Day is that it gives people not only the opportunity to appreciate veterans but also a chance to appreciate America in new ways. For example, this Veterans Day be sure to check out the Veterans Day museum exhibit on 11/11-13 at the Veterans Memorial Building of San Ramon Valley. The theme is *Space* and you can bet it will be informative and entertaining.

– Michelle Lee

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

We are planning an evening dinner in November. **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 at least 3 days in advance.**

Regular Meetings are first Wednesday of the Month from 12:00 to 2:30 PM in the Second Floor Meeting Room, Veterans Memorial Building of San Ramon Valley (VMBSRV), except where noted. EXCOM Meetings also at VMB.

UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS

****** Every Saturday 8:00 AM to 12:00 PM Coffee at the VMBSRV, 400 Hartz Ave, Danville**

1 November, Boys State and Girls State Planning meeting, 1:30 p.m., at VMBSRV

2 November, Wednesday Regular evening meeting – Eric Ardell
5:00 PM Meeting, 6:00 PM Speaker, Black Bear Diner, 807 Camino Ramon

8 November, CCC Veterans Service Office 75th Anniversary, 11:00 a.m. at 1025 Escobar St. in Martinez.

11 November, Friday, Veterans Day Ceremony, 11:00 a.m., VMBSRV

11-13 November, Friday-Sunday, Veterans Display Museum, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

11 November, Friday Mt Diablo Beacon Lighting for Veterans Day, 5:00 p.m.

11 November, Post 246 Hosts the Town of Danville Chamber Mixer, 5:30-7:30 p.m. at VMBSRV.

19 November, Saturday Executive Committee meeting, 8:30 a.m.

7 December, Wednesday Regular meeting – CMSGT Ray Betts, Sr Enlisted Advisor 349th Maintenance Group-TRAVIS AFB, VMBSRV, Noon

7 December, Wednesday Mount Diablo Beacon Lighting for Pearl Harbor Day, 4:45 p.m.

10 December, Saturday Executive Committee meeting, 8:30 a.m.

10 December, Saturday Army-Navy Game Potluck, Game starts at Noon.

17 December, Saturday Wreaths Across America, Alamo Cemetery, 10:00 a.m. (Volunteers Needed)

28 January, Post 246 Crab Feed VMBSRV, Community Hall, 5:30 p.m. (Volunteers Needed)

18 March, 5:00 p.m. Corned Beef and Cabbage, VMBSRV

OFFICERS AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

(Third Saturday of the Month from 8:30-10:30 am. in the Second Floor Meeting Room)



THE SALVO

NOVEMBER 2022

AMERICAN LEGION MT DIABLO POST 246 – *CONTINUING TO SERVE*

19 November 2022
10 December 2022 (Changed due to expected conflict with Wreaths Across America at Alamo Cemetery on 17 December 2022)
21 January 2023
18 February 2023

DISTRICT 9 MEETINGS

District 9 holds its regular meeting at 7:00 p.m. on the third Tuesday of odd numbered months. The next meeting is November 16, 2022 at the El Cerrito Post 340. Please let Michelle Lee or Mark Heinemann know if you would like to attend.

COMMUNITY

A SALUTE TO VETERANS! **SPONSORED BY RC PLEASANT HILL**

Rotary Club of Pleasant Hill is hosting a salute to Veterans on Saturday, 11/5, 11-2 p.m. at Back Forty Texas BBQ, 100 Coggins Drive. Music and ceremony will be part of the festivities. RSVP/Contact Michael Moore at michael@michaelmoore.io

CCC Veterans Service Office 75th Anniversary

Contra Costa County's (CCC) Board of Supervisors honors Veterans and invites the community to the Annual Veterans Day Celebration held on Tuesday, 11/8, at 11:00 a.m. The ceremony will be held in the

Board's chambers at 1025 Escobar St. in Martinez.

The keynote speaker is Retired Brigadier General Bart Gilbert. Bart served in Vietnam and retired from the Army with over 40 years of service. He also worked for CCC for 27 years and retired as the Director of CCC's General Services Department

VETERANS PANCAKE BREAKFAST

The Town Council of Danville is hosting a full breakfast for Veterans on Saturday, 11/12, 8:30-10:30 a.m. at the VMBSRV.

BUSINESSES GIVE BACK TO VETERANS

Businesses express their appreciation to Veterans with discounts, meals, and deals. See their kind offers on the VA News site [here](#).

WALNUT CREEK ELKS LODGE 1811 TO HOST ANNUAL VETERANS APPRECIATION DINNER

Join us as we honor our Veterans for their service on 11/13 with a complimentary dinner for all Veterans, and their guest. Lounge Opens: 2:00 p.m., Dinner: 3:30 p.m., \$15.00/per person for Elk non-Veteran members. Location: Walnut Creek Elks Lodge #1811, 1475 Creekside Dr, Walnut Creek, CA 94596 RSVP NLT 2 p.m. on 11/10 to: RSVP@elks1811.org or 925-935-1811.

ARMY/NAVY GAME at VMBSRV



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On **12/10 noon**, come early to join fellow Veterans downstairs in the main hall of the Veterans Memorial Building of San Ramon Valley for hot dogs, chili, nachos, Camaraderie, and The Game Bring a side dish and refreshment.

BLACKHAWK CHORUS HOLIDAY CONCERT

A popular holiday concert December 10-11 a.m. at various locations and times. Details and ticket Info [here](#).

CHRISTMAS CONCERT AT ST. PETER’S CHAPEL, 12/18, 2 P.M.

Christmas music medley and sing-alongs performed in the oldest Naval chapel in the United States. It is a key contributing element of the Mare Island Historic District. Tickets are limited, \$25. To secure tickets: visit tinyurl.com/ybfb3c5

PACT ACT APPROVES NEW VA BENEFITS

Learn more about the PACT Act in this Veterans Voices episode about the Promise to Address Comprehensive Toxins. with Jim Radogna and Nathan Johnson.

- Burn Pit Exposure
- Agent Orange Exposure
- Camp Lejune Issues

<https://youtu.be/Zvg0vvcD8c4>

VA DISABILITY PAYMENTS TO INCREASE IN 2023

More info through the link below

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kZq0SRBRHE8>

TROOP 60 COURT OF HONOR

The Boys Scout Troop 60, sponsored by our post, will hold a Court of Honor on 11/7 at 7 p.m. Diablo Vista Middle School, 4100 Camino Tassajara, Danville, in the Multipurpose Room. Post members are welcome to attend

POST OPERATIONS

VETERANS DAY EXHIBIT, 11/11-13

Don't miss this! 9-3 p.m. at the VMBSRV.



Veterans Memorial Building of San Ramon Valley
corner of Hartz and Prospect, Danville





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Our Post will be presenting the "Women in Space Exhibit"

POST MEETING SURVEY

Polling all members as to their preferences for meeting times. Make your preferences known [here](#).

ORATORICAL CONTEST

The Oratorical contest marketing is in full swing. This year's contest will be as exciting as ever. We're proud to sponsor this contest where young people can gain knowledge, appreciation, and understanding of the duties, responsibilities, rights, and privileges of American citizenship and the U.S. Constitution. Students who attend high schools in the San Ramon Valley can notify the Post of their intent to participate by 12/31/2022 to commanderpost246@gmail.com Post Level Speeches will take place in early January.
<https://calegion.org/oratorical-contests-commission/>
<https://www.legion.org/oratorical>

WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA

Post 246 will again support Wreaths Across America at the Alamo cemetery on 17 Dec. We need several volunteers to help unload the delivery truck when it arrives (est. 15-16 Dec), prep the wreaths Sat morning 9 to 10 am on Sat, and one or two for the color guard. Please contact Eric Ardell to volunteer. This is a great way to honor those veterans who are interned at the Alamo cemetery.

MEMBERSHIP

In 2022 we achieved 100%. 158/158 and we are on track to do the same in our 2023 year. It takes less than 5 minutes to renew. 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, and we'll process it for you.

VMB LIBRARY AND HISTORICAL COLLECTIONS COMMITTEE (LHCC)

Interested in expanding your horizons? Please advise Eric Ardell if you are interested in joining the Library & Historical Collections Committee (LHCC).

POST 246 NEEDS YOUR HELP!

We are looking for a post photographer to take pictures at our post activities (sample below). No experience needed--just a willingness to help.



Veterans volunteer at SRVHS Homecoming 30 September 2022



Our post has an upcoming opening for a Chaplain in December.



Training and orientation come with this opportunity. Scheduling is flexible. This is an important position with much impact.



Event Coordinator for our Crab Feed is needed. *"Make new friends and keep the old...one is silver and the other is gold."* Make new friends as the Event Coordinator for our Crab Feed. Training and helpers included.

Contact Mark Heinemann if interested in any of the positions above.

KEEP YOUR VA MEDICAL RECORDS UPDATED

If you received vaccines or treatments outside of V.A., please help keep your medical records updated. How can you do that? Three ways: 1) Bring your COVID-19 vaccination card to any V.A. NorCal location and present it to one of the V.A. clerks. Or 2) Take a picture of your COVID-19 vaccination card. Send a copy of the card to your care team in a Secure Message on the [My HealtheVet website](#).

FLAG & EMBLEM STORE

Alan Scharlach is serving as our Supply Officer and will order items for Post members. See what's available at <https://emblem.legion.org/>, then contact Alan, at email cab1ho@sbcglobal.net, or Tel: 925-858-4199, leave a detailed message including the item number, quantity, color, and size; and your call back

number. Some uniform items are available from Post 246 inventory (no shipping or taxes required).

POST OFFICERS & COMMITTEE CHAIRS

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: Jon Heinson
Historian: Gerald Lindahl
Judge Advocate: Mary O'Donnell
Service Officer: Leroy Vares
Past Commander: Mark Heinemann

Executive Committee:

Neil Giles Gary Soto
Michelle Haines Mike Yura

Appointed Officers & Committee Chairpersons

Asst. Adjutant: Michelle Haines
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



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VMB Ops Committee: Bob Landy
Museum Committee: OPEN/TBA
Protocol Officer: Floyd Cox
Board of Trustees: Ron Lowe / 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