

LEGION Post **22** NEWS

May - June

2020



POST22★



★ HONORING ALL WHO SERVED ★



Adjutant Report

The American Legion 101ST Birthday 2020

Principles over politics. Patriotism over Partisanship. Policies over personalities. This has been the manner in which The American Legion has advocated for meaningful veterans' legislation over the last 101 years. It is why we are the most respected and successful veterans' organization in the country. While many Democrats, Republicans and independents have been active in The American Legion during its 101-year history, the organization was beholden only to "God and Country."

Since the American Legion is beholden to no political party, it is widely respected by members of both major political parties. Most importantly, it is respected for what it does every day in communities across America.

The American Legion serves the youth of America with outstanding programs such as Boys State and Boys Nation. We have not forgotten the young people whose parents have made the ultimate sacrifice or have suffered from serious disabilities during the war on terrorism. We also support a strong veterans health care system, support that has undoubtedly saved countless lives. The American Legion does these things not because it can, but because it's who we are.

The author of America's greatest legislation, Past National Commander Harry Colmery, knew that it was right for America to remember returning war veterans by making it possible for them to obtain formal educations and purchase homes.

While others scoffed that such a benefit would 'break the treasury,' The American Legion held firm and ensured the passage of the Servicemen's Readjustment Act of 1944, also known as the GI Bill of Rights.

Today we are still serving and still fighting. We are fighting to improve post-9/11 GI Bill benefits so the current generation of veterans can pursue the educational opportunities needed to succeed in the 21st century. We are fighting to ensure veterans have access to quality health care and that the VA System is responsive to the unique medical needs of people who have served this country.

While some groups criticize the high cost of veteran benefits, The American Legion reminds the public that the true debt is one that can never be truly repaid – it is a cost that is on display in every U.S. military and veteran cemetery around the globe. Benefits are not given, they are earned.

Thousands of American Legion service officers nationwide help veterans' access high-quality VA health care and disability compensation. We are the nation's leading advocates for enhanced treatment of traumatic brain injuries, Post Traumatic Stress Disorder and other medical conditions associated with military service. Another way The American Legion supports the troops is by assisting their families while they are deployed.

The American Legion's influence extends far beyond Washington. It is found in statehouses, city councils and campuses throughout the country.

It's displayed on an American Legion baseball field, in a recently renovated VA hospital wing or at a veterans memorial that was built with American Legion financial support.

We are not in this for ourselves; we are in this for our brothers and sisters-in-arms. We are in this for the husbands, wives and parents of those who served.

And like President Lincoln once promised, we do this to "care for him who shall have borne the battle, and for his widow and his orphan."

As it has been since our founding, citizens of this great nation know that when America calls, American Legionnaires will continue to say, "At your service!"

The American Legion will always be an organization of principles, not politics.

God Bless you and God Bless America!

Bob Gross, Adjutant

Lodi American Legion Post 22





Commander's Message

Comrades

This has been quite an interesting month with the virus closing or limiting most businesses and organizations throughout the nation and we are no different. The Post is still in operation but with some changes. All meetings and events have been cancelled until further notice. The Legion Office is only open Wednesday and Friday from 1:00 – 4:00pm. You can leave a message on the phone and we will get back to you.

This is probably the last hard copy Legion News you will be getting. The Board has decided to stop paper Legion News. This means the Legions News will be available electronically only. Please make sure the office has your email address.

Martin has been busy cleaning and painting the kitchen and storage areas. Mike Bennett and I, along with Rick Tellyer have been helping.

These are tough times with a lot of unknowns. If you know of any veterans who need assistance, please let the office know so we can try to help.

It's that time of the year again for nominations for officers. If you are interested, please let us know. If you want to make changes or are unhappy with the way things have been done, now is your chance to get involved.

This will probably be the last newsletter from me, so let me say it has been a privilege to have served you. I feel in the last few years a lot of good changes have happened and hopefully will continue.

That is all for now. Thank you.

Randy Bender
Commander



Thank You
DANZ
 JEWELERS
 MASTER JEWELER
 ANTWERP DIAMOND SPECIALISTS

American Legion Lodi Post 22 -	(209) 368-1420
Commander - Randy Bender	(209) 712-4429
1st Vice - Rick Tellyer	(209) 601-0864
2nd Vice - vacant	
Adjutant - Bob Gross	(209) 334-0505
Asst. Adjutant - Martin Jones	(209) 625-7982
Finance Officer - John Bates	(209) 663-8028
Chaplain - Chad Donley	(209) 256-9881
Sgt. at Arms - Glen Duspiva	(209) 334-4346
Service Officer - Ken Kramlich	(209) 368-5863

Executive Board

Scott Fiene	(209) 712-2868
Stephen Howard	(209) 747-5944
Muriah Kendell	(209) 861-1544
Mike Ratto	(209) 727-6064
Karl Neilson	(209) 369-8497

Business Office Hours W and F 1-4 pm

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Americanlegionpost22.com

Auxiliary Attie

I hope everyone is well and staying healthy, and now staying at home!

By the time you read this, we will be back to semi-normal, and this once every 100-year pandemic will be over. With everyone staying at home, not being able to visit, we've really have not been able to go out and do much. Our breakfast on March 15th was the last time we were all together. We had to cancel our March 19th dinner and meeting. Also cancelled was the District 11 meeting the following Saturday March 21st. District President Grace is talking about doing an online Zoom meeting and trying to coordinate with everyone to get that going. We also could conduct a Unit meeting thru Zoom, FaceTime, or email. Please give me a call and let me know what your thoughts are. During this time of isolation some of us may be feeling a little anxious and bewildered. We are all keeping you, and your loved ones, in our thoughts and daily prayers. To help out and keep in contact with our members and community, I have been making phone calls, Carol is sewing face masks for the local assisted living homes, and we all should be reminded to check on the neighbors and members by visits and/or dropping off needed supplies. However, remember to keep that "social distance."

We are still on track for Girl State to held June 22 – 27th 2020. The Department is "continually monitoring for information from the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention and the World Health Organization so we can learn the best way to prevent the virus from affecting participants in our program. We have a critical incident plan in place that addresses infectious disease prevention and control. As Centers for Disease Control & Prevention and the World Health Organization update their recommendations for prevention, we will update our critical incident policy to ensure that it follows the best practices as determined by experts." I will keep everyone posted of any and all new information I receive.

Junior Conference was cancelled this year and Department is thinking of rescheduling it sometime in late July.

Commander Jeff Freeman will let us know if our next planned District 11 meeting on May 9th in Tracy will be cancelled. It is still on calendar for now.

May is Poppy Month! So, enclosed in this newsletter are two Poppies. Make sure you wear them on May 22nd which is National Poppy day. Don't forget Memorial Day is May 25th. Celebrate and enjoy that day even if you can't go outside! I hope and pray this Pandemic will be over soon.

Keep well and stay safe.

Remember service not self.

Ann Scholl – ALA Unit 22, President



Thank You!



for deliciously donating their locally crafted beer for another successful fundraiser. Your participation in this tradition is greatly appreciated.

A valuable local partner of the American Legion





CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Happy Easter

Chaplain Chad

ATTENTION - ATTENTION

This publication will move into the digital age. This will be the last printed and mailed out newsletter for Lodi Post 22. The printing and postage is costly and as a nonprofit, we are always looking to stay financially fit.

We also know that we do not have an email addresses for some members. We want you all to get our newsletter. If you do not have an email, send the email address of family member or friend. They can print it for you. It is important to keep in touch. We want you to be involved and up on everything that is going on.

Please, Please, Please

Send us your name and email address to:

lodipost22@gmail.com



- May 7, 2020 Executive Board meeting 1pm
- May 17, 2020 Omelet Breakfast 8 -11am
- May 21, 2020 General Meeting 6pm
- May 23, 2020 Set small flags for Memorial Day 8am
- May 23, 2020 Memorial Concert 5-9pm at POST
- May 25, 2020 Ave of Flags for Memorial Day
- June 4, 2020 Executive Board Meeting 1pm
- June 18, 2020 General Meeting 6pm
- June 21, 2020 Omelet Breakfast 8am—11am

Post 22 events are planned, however we remain flexible and may change depending on the public health recommendations by our officials. Our first priority is the wellbeing of our members and community. Emails will be sent out as things change.



GRIZZLY MECHANICAL

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Thank You!



Your generous support of our Post 22 is greatly appreciated

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