



Posts from



From the COMMANDER:

Happy New Year Legion Family!

I am so excited to start a new year with all of you. We should feel proud for the wonderful way we reached out to the community and served our fellow Veterans in 2023. We have some exciting things in store as we begin planning for a special Member Orientation, our first ever Peddler's Fair (see below), and our 2nd Annual Craft Fair and Annual Pancake Breakfast and Car Show. All of these events are being designed to enhance our presence in the community and provide a deeper understanding of the fabulous ways we can support our community and especially our fellow veterans and their families.

Please read all the info in this newsletter and share with family and friends to help us extend our reach and spread the word.

Nora O'Donnell, Commander

From the 1st VICE COMMANDER:

We want to thank all the supporters of our highly successful programs in December 2023:

1. Wreaths Across America

Between the DAR (Daughters of the American Revolution), the DAV and Post 66 we raised enough to purchase 1,088 wreaths to place on the graves of our service men and women this year. We look forward to an even more prosperous 2024. A big thank you to our guest speaker, Susan Funk, Acting Mayor Pro-Tem of Atascadero, who spoke eloquently at SLO Cemetery of our veterans who served; and thanks to Bart Topham, Deacon Chuck Roder and Commander O'Donnell who did the presentation at Old Mission Cemetery; Leland Smith, owner of San Luis Cemetery and Ben Martins, caretaker of Old Mission Cemetery. Last, but not least; all the wonderful volunteers who showed up to help place the wreaths on all the Veteran graves. THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU.

2. Toy Drive

All the toys collected were given to the children of Post 66 and the Salvation Army. A lot of children were thrilled to receive the gift cards and toys donated. You made their Christmas a happy one. A big thank you to Post 66.

3. Clothing Drive

CCPA (Central Coast Paralegal Association), Canon corporation, and Post 66 came through with new clothing (sweat shirts and pants, socks, underwear, toiletries and a lot more) that was taken to Camp San Luis (Capt. Nathems accepted it on behalf of the active duty troops about to be deployed). I saw him a few days later and he said everything was a big hit and the troops send a great big thank you to everyone. They were thrilled to receive the items).

Items were also delivered to our veterans at SLO Post Acute Care Facility, Mountain View Convalescent Hospital and Arroyo Grande Care Center. I can't say enough about the gratitude and happiness expressed just to be remembered.

4. BBQ

Mario Perez's team provided the delicious BBQ sandwiches available to members of the community who provided their volunteer services for wreaths Across America, toy drive and clothing Drive. Members of law enforcement and fire personnel were also invited in appreciation of their service.

What more can I say but THANK YOU for an Amazing December of giving!

**Yvonne Hampton,
1st Vice Commander**



ADJUTANT’S NEWS

Happy New Year Legion family members! Let’s kick off the new year by keeping our membership numbers up and renewing your membership. Your 2024 membership is good until December 2024. However, the 2025 membership drive will begin in July of 2024. In April the Post will be gearing up for a new slate of officers for the year 2024/25. The new officers will be installed in July 2024. With that in mind I’d like to encourage our membership to accept a leadership role in the Post. I have been the Post 66 Adjutant for 16 months now. I will however be stepping down from my position in July. I hope one of you would like to consider being nominated for the position of Adjutant. Between now and then it would be my pleasure to train someone with the passion and go to attitude required of this position. The Adjutants position is 2nd in line after the Commander. Please email me at ramorrobay@gmail.com for more information about what I do at the Post. There is also information at the link below to research everything an Adjutant does for a Post. One of the most important duties of the Adjutant is keeping up with membership renewals, and transfers. Instructions for each leadership position are clearly outlined in the link below at Legion.org. The learning curve can be as broad or narrow as you wish to make it. So, I encourage you to become familiar with the Legion.org website using this link:

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

As always, I appreciate your renewals and new memberships and look forward to seeing you at our General Membership meetings, Social nights and monthly BBQs.

As of the 12/31/23 CalLegion.Org website San Luis Obispo Post 66 has 2 new members, with a total of 174 members paid and 251 total members.

Sick Call: Chuck Emery, Randy Arseneau, John Archuleta, George Galvan, and John Buckley.

Post Everlasting: Betty Cook, USMC

*Please email me at Ramorrobay@gmail.com or tell me at our meetings/dinners of any members who should be put on “sick call” or have gone to the “Post Everlasting”.

May God bless you and your families in 2024.

Sincerely, **Ramona Hedges, Post 66 Adjutant**

POST 66 - OFFICERS & COMMITTEES

- Commander - Nora O’Donnell
- Adjutant - Ramona Hedges
- Finance Officer - Jim Irwin
- 1st Vice Commander - Yvonne Hampton
- 2nd Vice Commander - Mario Perez
- Junior Past Commander - Yvonne Hampton
- Executive Committee
 - Greg Somers Bill Fieldhouse
 - Barbara Fisher

APPOINTED POSITIONS

- Bar Manager - Jim Miller
- Bar Manager, Assistant - Thom Dimmitt
- Booking Manager - Yvonne Hampton
- Chaplain - Stephanie Paige
- Chaplain Assistant - Vacant
- Facilities Committee Chair - Mario Perez
- Finance Committee Chair - Jim Irwin
- Food Service Committee Chair - Betty Bristol
- Investment Committee Chair - David Glidden
- Judge Advocate - Robert Bettencourt
- Sons Advisor - Greg Somers
- Media & Communications Committee Chair - Rick Pushies
- Membership Committee Chair - Mario Perez
- Post Service Officer - David Glidden
- Sergeant at Arms - Jeffrey Pillars
- Sergeant at Arms Assistant - Vacant

AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY

- Auxilliary Unit 66, President - Laurie Richards
- Auxilliary Unit 66, Secretary - Janice Somers
- Sons, Squadron 66, Commander - Bob Evenson
- Sons, Vice Commander - Ken San Filipino
- Sons, Squadron 66, Adjutant - Aaron Rodriguez

From the Auxilliary:

Happy New Year to the Legion Family!

What a wonderful Christmas dinner we had at the December Member Dinner. I hope all enjoyed Mr. and Mrs. Claus.

The ALA will begin interviewing girls in January and February to select delegates for the Girl's State Program. The proposed session dates and location of the Program are: Tuesday, June 25, 2024 thru Sunday, June 30, 2024 at Sacramento State University.

Poppy Month is May and ALA members will start handing out poppies in February. Poppies are handed out, people can take them with or without a donation. We will have a spot at the pancake breakfast to connect with people. Our biggest poppy day will be Memorial Day. Have a safe and healthy year ahead.

Laurie Richards
President

FROM THE SONS:

Thanks to all those who helped to place Holiday Wreaths at the cemeteries for the December holidays. Please plan on attending the monthly Sons meeting on Monday, January 8th at 6pm. Happy New Year to All!

Commander Bob Evenson

POST 66 RENTALS

Do you have a special occasion or event being planned in the next few months? If so, consider using the American Legion as a venue . Contact Booking Manager, Yvonne Hampton for more information:
(805) 459-4015

January Schedule of Events:

1/3 - Auxiliary Mtg. 5:00pm

Membership Mtg. 6:30pm

1/4 - Private Rental - Osos Club

1/5 - Friday Night Social - 4:30pm. Games & pool table available.

1/8 - Monday Night Social - 4:30pm. Spaghetti, rolls, salad and dessert.
Son's Meeting - 6:00pm.

1/9 - Private Rental - Native Sons

1/10 - Membership BBQ - 4:30pm/Dinner served at 6:30pm

1/12 - Friday Night Social - 4:30pm. Games & pool table available.

1/15 - Monday Night Social - 4:30pm. Beef Shepherds Pie, salad, rolls, dessert

1/19 - Executive Committee Meeting - 1pm

Friday Night Social - 4:30pm. Games & pool table available.

1/22 - Monday Night Social - 4:30pm. Baked Potatoes with all the fixin's.

1/26 - Friday Night Social - 4:30pm. Games & pool table available.

1/29 - Monday Night Social - 4:30pm. Lasagna, salad, rolls & dessert

Volunteers are needed to help with the Monday Social dinners and Monthly Barbecues.

If interested, please contact Betty Bristol (559) 362-2455 for more information.

Upcoming events being planned:

MEMBER ORIENTATION: Date to be determined. This is an opportunity for all members; new and seasoned, to learn more about the programs of the American Legion and more about Post 66.

Saturday, April 6th: Peddler's Fair - 10' x 10' spaces will be offered for the public to sell items - yard sale style. Hamburger & Hot Dog barbecue and booth space sales to benefit the programs of American Legion Post 66.

Saturday, May 18th and Sunday, May 19th: Different sized booth spaces will be offered for handmade crafters to sell their wares. Booth space sales to benefit the programs of American Legion Post 66.

Anyone interested in helping with the Peddler's Fair and Craft Fair, please call Nora O'Donnell at (805) 441-1405.

Sunday, May 19th: Annual Pancake Breakfast & Car Show. Anyone interested in showing their vehicle or helping with the Pancake Breakfast; **contact Yvonne Hampton at (805) 459-4015.**



Many Hands Make Light Work!
Be a Post 66 Volunteer!



The Veteran's Creed explained in an article by General George Casey published July 11, 2019

“Last June, eleven VSO's came together and developed a Veteran's Creed, each of whose elements reflects the foundations of Veterans' culture, military creeds and related VSO missions. The Veterans Creed is supported by AMVETS, DAV (Disabled American Veterans), HillVets, Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America, Military Order of the Purple Heart, Paralyzed Veterans of America, Reserve Officers Association, Student Veterans of America, Team Rubicon Global, Veterans of Foreign Wars and Wounded Warrior Project. Today with the addition of the American Legion, the Veteran's Creed is endorsed by 12 of the largest VSO's in our country.

Mission:

We believe that a creed developed by, and specifically for, Veterans is a powerful tool to both codify the principles by which Veterans live and to enhance their sense of mission in society. It can also enhance the public's understanding of Veterans and highlight the positive capabilities that Veterans bring home from military service.

Veteran's Creed:

1. I am an American Veteran
2. I proudly served my country
3. I live the values I learned in the military
4. I continue to serve my community, my country and my fellow veterans
5. I maintain my physical and mental discipline
6. I continue to lead and improve
7. I make a difference
8. I honor and remember my fallen comrades

Why a Veterans' Creed?

REMIND Veterans: Of the significance and value of their military service

INSPIRE Veterans: To continue to serve and excel

UNITE Veterans: To make a difference for our country

There are more than 20 million veterans in our country today, and more than 200,000 men and women leave the military every year, creating a steady and significant flow of Veterans back into civilian life. Veterans learned a lot during their military experience—values, teamwork, leadership, selfless service. These positive traits were instilled in them throughout their service, and these traits remain part of who they are. Veterans have a lot to offer this country.

We believe there is something missing that keeps millions of Veterans from realizing their full potential and having a more positive impact on our society.

What's missing is a vehicle that causes Veterans to recall the value of their service and the reasons that they served, and to remind them that many opportunities remain to make a difference in our world. What's missing is a vehicle that gives Veterans a continuing sense of purpose and that inspires them to lead and to excel. What's missing is a vehicle that recreates the sense of community that Veterans so sorely miss.

We believe that The Veteran's Creed can serve as that unifying construct to remind Veterans of the significance and value of their military service, to inspire Veterans to continue to serve and lead at the local, state and national levels and to excel at whatever they undertake. I can also unite Veterans in a community to make a difference for our country.

About GEN George Casey:

General Casey retired as the 36th Chief of Staff of the US Army. He is the Chairman of the Board of the USO, on the board of advisors at RallyPoint, a board member of Student Veterans of America and several other organizations that support veterans and their families. He remains committed to seeing that the men and women who have served this country so well continue to have the opportunities to contribute to the society that they served.

AMERICAN LEGION POST 66 - CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2023/2024

NOTE: Monthly Legion membership meetings are held the first Wednesday of each month at 6:30pm, and are open to all Legion members in good standing. Auxiliary membership meetings are held the first Wednesday of each month at 5:00pm and are open to all Auxiliary members in good standing. Sons membership meetings are held the first Monday of each month at 6:00pm and are open to all Sons members in good standing.

| January 2024 | |
|--------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1/1 | New Years Day - Post closed |
| 1/5 | Friday Social |
| 1/8 | Monday Social |
| 1/12 | Friday Social |
| 1/15 | Martin Luther King Day - Post Closed |
| 1/19 | Friday Social |
| 1/22 | Monday Social |
| 1/26 | Friday Social |
| 1/29 | Monday Social |

| February 2024 | |
|---------------|---|
| 2/2 | Friday Social |
| 2/5 | Monday Social |
| 2/9 | Friday Social |
| 2/12 | Monday Social |
| 2/16 | Friday Social |
| 2/19 | Presidents Day - Post Closed |
| 2/23 | Friday Social |
| 2/25 | District 16 Legion Meeting (Post 66, SLO) |
| 2/26 | Monday Social |

| March 2024 | |
|------------|---------------|
| 3/1 | Friday Social |
| 3/4 | Monday Social |
| 3/8 | Friday Social |
| 3/11 | Monday Social |
| 3/15 | Friday Social |
| 3/18 | Monday Social |
| 3/22 | Friday Social |
| 3/25 | Monday Social |
| 3/29 | Friday Social |

| April 2024 | |
|------------|-----------------------------|
| 4/1 | Monday Social |
| 4/5 | Friday Social |
| 4/6 | Fundraiser - Peddler's Fair |
| 4/8 | Monday Social |
| 4/12 | Friday Social |
| 4/15 | Monday Social |
| 4/19 | Friday Social |
| 4/22 | Monday Social |
| 4/26 | Friday Social |
| 4/29 | Monday Social |

| May 2024 | |
|----------|---|
| 5/3 | Friday Social |
| 5/6 | Monday Social |
| 5/8 | Member BBQ |
| 5/10 | Friday Social |
| 5/13 | Monday Social |
| 5/17 | Friday Social / Set up for Craft Fair |
| 5/18 | Craft Fair |
| 5/19 | Craft Fair/Car Show/Pancake Breakfast |
| 5/20 | Monday Social |
| 5/24 | Friday Social |
| 5/25 | Place flags at cemeteries |
| 5/27 | Memorial Day Ceremony / Pick up flags at cemeteries |
| 5/31 | Friday Social |

| June 2024 | |
|-----------|---------------------------------------|
| 6/2 | District 16 Meeting |
| 6/3 | Monday Social |
| 6/7 | Friday Social |
| 6/10 | Monday Social |
| 6/12 | Member BBQ - New Officer Installation |
| 6/14 | Friday Social |
| 6/17 | Monday Social |
| 6/21 | Friday Social |
| 6/24 | Monday Social |
| 6/28 | Friday Social |

| July 2024 | |
|-----------|--------------------------------|
| 7/1 | Monday Social |
| 7/4 | Independence Day - Post Closed |
| 7/5 | Friday Social |
| 7/8 | Monday Social |
| 7/10 | Member BBQ |
| 7/12 | Friday Social |
| 7/15 | Monday Social |
| 7/19 | Friday Social |
| 7/21 | District 16 Meeting |
| 7/22 | Monday Social |
| 7/26 | Friday Social |
| 7/29 | Monday Social |

| August 2024 | |
|-------------|---------------|
| 8/2 | Friday Social |
| 8/5 | Monday Social |
| 8/9 | Friday Social |
| 8/12 | Monday Social |
| 8/14 | Member BBQ |
| 8/16 | Friday Social |
| 8/19 | Monday Social |
| 8/23 | Friday Social |
| 8/26 | Monday Social |
| 8/30 | Friday Social |

| September 2024 | |
|----------------|-------------------------|
| 9/2 | Labor Day - Post Closed |
| 9/6 | Friday Social |
| 9/8 | District 16 Meeting |
| 9/9 | Monday Social |
| 9/11 | Member BBQ |
| 9/13 | Friday Social |
| 9/16 | Monday Social |
| 9/20 | Friday Social |
| 9/23 | Monday Social |
| 9/27 | Friday Social |
| 9/30 | Monday Social |

| October 2024 | |
|--------------|----------------------------|
| 10/4 | Friday Social |
| 10/7 | Monday Social |
| 10/9 | Member BBQ |
| 10/11 | Friday Social |
| 10/14 | Columbus Day - Post Closed |
| 10/16 | Project Hero |
| 10/17 | Monday Social |
| 10/18 | Friday Social |
| 10/21 | Monday Social |
| 10/25 | Friday Social |
| 10/28 | Monday Social |

| November 2024 | |
|---------------|---|
| 11/1 | Friday Social |
| 11/4 | Monday Social |
| 11/9 | Place Flags at Cemeteries |
| 11/11 | Veterans Day Community Event /Remove flags from cemeteries |
| 11/13 | Member BBQ and Auxilliary Fundraiser |
| 11/15 | Friday Social |
| 11/18 | Monday Social |
| 11/22 | Friday Social |
| 11/25 | Monday Social |
| 11/28 | - Thanksgiving - Post Closed |
| 11/29 | Rental - SLO High School All Class Reunion - Post Members invited |

| December 2024 | |
|-------------------|--------------------------|
| 12/2 | Monday Social |
| 12/6 | Friday Social |
| 12/9 | Monday Social |
| 12/11 | Member BBQ |
| 12/13 | Friday Social |
| 12/16 thru 1/6/25 | - Post Dark for Holidays |