



2024



Table of Contents

Welcome and Congratulations	3
Post Activities	4
Café 66—Monday Night Socials.....	5
Annual Membership Dues	
Legion Uniform = Legion Exposure	
Post 66 Mission Statement	
Name Badges	
Legion Language and Protocols	6
Post 66 Website	7
Post 66 Short History	
Post Leadership	8
Who can serve as on officer in Post 66?	
Summary Post Leadership Duties.....	9
Post Committees.....	10
Constitution an Bylaws	11
Veteran Holidays	
Programs	12
Buddy Check	
Veterans Treatment Court	
Honor Flight Central Coast	
American Legion Family	13
MyLegion.org	14
Preamble to Constitution	15



WELCOME and Congratulations!

You are now part of the Post 66 American Legion Family!

We hope your involvement will be a rewarding experience.

Since The American Legion's first meeting in Paris, France, in 1919, Legionnaires, just like you, have been devoted to supporting our four pillars of service:

- **Veteran Affairs & Rehabilitation**
- **National Security,**
- **Americanism, and**
- **Children & Youth**



Our devotion to the Legion's pillars of service guides us in our service to veterans, their families, our local communities, state, and our great nation. Post 66's future will be healthier and more rewarding as you join us in our devotion to service.

As you become more involved in our Post, bring any questions you may have to any Post officer; we will do our best to help you. We are devoted to "Mutual Helpfulness."

Post 66 Mission Statement:

"American Legion Post 66 exists to support fellow veterans, their families, and our community."

Post 66—Location: 1661 Mill Street, San Luis Obispo, 93401

Post Phone: 805-543-6445 **Web Site:** post66slo.org/

Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/post66slo>

**POST 66 STRIVES TO BE AN AMERICAN LEGION
FRIENDLY TO EACH OTHER AND OUR GUESTS.**



Post 66 Member Handbook

POST 66 ACTIVITIES

MEETINGS

- ◆ First Wednesday @ 5:00 p.m. Auxiliary Unit 66 Membership
- ◆ First Wednesday @ 6:30 p.m. Legion Post 66 Membership
- ◆ Second Monday @ 6:00 p.m. Squadron 66 Membership
- ◆ Third Friday @ 1:00 p.m. Executive Committee

SOCIAL EVENTS

- ◆ Second Wednesday @ 6:30 p.m. Legion Family Dinner
- ◆ Monday Nights Social @ 4:30 p.m. Dinner served 5-6 p.m.
(Except 3 Day Weekends)
- ◆ Friday Nights Social @ 4:30 p.m.

VETERAN HOLIDAYS

- ◆ The American Legion Birthday – March 15, 1919
- ◆ Armed Forces Day – Third Saturday of May – honors those serving.
Pancake Breakfast Weekend
- ◆ Memorial Day – The last Monday of May – honors those who died.
Flags Placed on Veteran Graves
- ◆ Patriot's Day – September 11
Joint Services with SLO Fire Department
- ◆ Post 66 Birthday – September 29, 1919.
- ◆ Veterans Day – November 11 – honors all who served.
Flags Placed on Veteran Graves

LEGION LANGUAGE AND PROTOCOLS

New Legionnaires often find the following information helpful:

Meeting Conduct: Robert's Rules of Order shall govern all meetings except as may be otherwise provided by our bylaws.

Ceremony Dignity. The ceremonial services of The American Legion must be conducted with the solemnity befitting the dignity of this organization.



Gavel.

A chair's gavel is a symbol of authority & ensures orderly meeting.

1. **One Tap**—is a message to the members to be seated following the opening ceremony, a finished business item, or announcement of adjournment.
2. **Two Taps**— calls the meeting to order.
3. **Three Taps**— is the signal for all members to stand in unison on the third tap.
4. **Series of Sharp Taps**— is used to restore order in a meeting.

Legionnaires Standing in Silent Tribute of departed comrades during meetings or ceremonies will face the U.S. with Legion cap or hand held over their heart.

PUFL stands for **Paid-Up-For-Life** membership dues.
legion.org/join/pufl



Transferred to Post Everlasting— Is a euphemism for a one who has died and transferred to the Post Everlasting.

No Partisan Politics:

The American Legion is a not-for-profit (501 C19) corporation and is non-partisan and non-sectarian. The Legion can neither engage in partisan politics nor promote the candidacy of any person for public office. Policies Not Partisan Politics has been a guiding principle of The American Legion since our beginning in 1919.



Post 66 Member Handbook

SOCIAL EVENTS

- **Second Wednesday @ 6:30 p.m.** Legion Family Dinner
- **Monday Night @ 4:30 p.m.** Dinner served 5-6 p.m. *(Except 3 Day Weekends)*
- **Friday Night @ 4:30 p.m.**

Post 66 has free Wi-Fi for members and guests.

MONDAY & FRIDAY NIGHT SOCIALS

Our social nights have become the heartbeat of our American Legion Family and their guests! They are special nights when we gather at Post 66 to socialize with friends.



Foodservice cost is a modest \$8.00, and the menu varies each week. The bar is open too. Monthly menus are published in our newsletter.

Annual Membership Dues are \$45.00 Please set up an automatic payment plan (see adjutant).

Legion Uniform = Legion Exposure

What is the official uniform of The American Legion?
"A Legionnaire is in uniform if wearing an official American Legion Cap."



Please wear your Legion uniform in public when doing the good work of Post 66. Wearing the Legion uniform keeps us in the public eyes (literally). Being seen in The American Legion uniform cap is a very important element in our public relations and marketing efforts.

There is no benefit to Legionnaires being **invisible** to the public as we do the good work of the Legion, so please expose yourself as proud members of The American Legion and Post 66, wear your uniform cap. Please.

NAME BADGES

Every member of the post receives a name badge. We strongly encourage post members wear their name badge (Especially Post leaders.), at all Post meetings and functions. See the post Adjutant to get your name badge.



Post 66 Member Handbook

POST 66 ACTIVITIES

MEETINGS

- ◆ First Wednesday @ 5:00 p.m. Auxiliary Unit 66 Membership
- ◆ First Wednesday @ 6:30 p.m. Legion Post 66 Membership
- ◆ Second Monday @ 6:00 p.m. Squadron 66 Membership
- ◆ Third Friday @ 1:00 p.m. Executive Committee

SOCIAL EVENTS

- ◆ Second Wednesday @ 6:30 p.m. Legion Family Dinner
- ◆ Monday Nights Social @ 4:30 p.m. Dinner served 5-6 p.m.
(Except 3 Day Weekends)
- ◆ Friday Nights Social @ 4:30 p.m.

VETERAN HOLIDAYS

- ◆ The American Legion Birthday – March 15, 1919
- ◆ Armed Forces Day – Third Saturday of May – honors those serving.
Pancake Breakfast Weekend
- ◆ Memorial Day – The last Monday of May – honors those who died.
Flags Placed on Veteran Graves
- ◆ Patriot's Day – September 11
Joint Services with SLO Fire Department
- ◆ Post 66 Birthday – September 29, 1919.
- ◆ Veterans Day – November 11 – honors all who served.
Flags Placed on Veteran Graves

POST 66 WEBSITE post66slo.org

Our Post 66 web site is a good and easily available resource for you to find information about our Post and The American Legion.

You can also find links to our Post Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/post66slo>

On our Post 66 web site, you can also find:

- Legion News, Post Activities & Newsletters
- Post 66 History, Photos & Hall Rental
- Information on how we honor our veterans
- Veterans Services and VA Benefits
- Information Resources for Post leaders & members, and
- Post Leader Contact information

Vision:

“The American Legion strengthens America by improving the lives of our veterans, the military and their families.”



Mission Statement:

“The American Legion strengthens our communities, states and nation with programs and services for our veterans, the military and their families.”

Motto:

“Veterans Strengthening America.”

Post 66 — A Short History

The American Legion, Post 66 San Luis Obispo, CA was chartered September 26, 1919, with 43 members. The first meeting was held on Thursday October 2, 1919 at the Old Mission San Luis Obispo Hall. The original 1919 charter of Post 66 is framed and hangs on the wall in our Post. The charter lists the names of our 43 charter members and the names are also listed on the ‘About Us’ page of the Post 66 web site. We have members locally from Orcutt to Paso Robles, with about 50



out-of-state members who still value their connection with veterans in San

SUMMARY POST LEADER DUTIES

Duties of the Post Commander (Elected)

It shall be the duty of the Post Commander to preside at all meetings of the Post, and to have general supervision over the business affairs of the Post, and such office shall be Chief Executive Officer of the Post. They shall perform such other duties as directed by the Post.



Duties of the First Vice-Commander. (Elected)

The First Vice-Commander shall assume and discharge the duties of the office of Commander in the absence of, disability of, or when called upon by the Post Commander, and shall perform such other duties as directed by the Post.

Duties of the Second Vice-Commander. (Elected)

The Second Vice-Commander shall assume and discharge the duties of the office of First Vice-Commander in the absence of, disability of, or when called upon by the Post Commander, and shall perform such other duties as directed by the Post.

Duties of the Adjutant. (Elected)

The Adjutant shall have charge of and keep full and correct record of all proceedings of all meetings, and under the direction of the Post Commander handle all correspondence of the Post.

Executive Committeemen (3 Elected)

The Executive Committee shall consider all matters affecting the Post and shall make recommendations to the Post, which thereafter shall be approved by the Post by a simple majority vote before becoming effective. The Executive Committee shall manage the business of the Post.

Duties of the Finance Officer (Elected)

The Finance Officer shall be charged with the custody of the funds of the Post. He shall keep its accounts and report thereon at regular meeting of the Post. They shall receive all funds of the Post and pay all bills approved by the Post. The office of Finance Officer and any other officers and/or positions charged by the Post Constitution and/or Bylaws, with the responsibility of handling Post funds should be bonded.

Duties of the Sergeant-at-Arms. (Appointed)

The Sergeant-at-Arms shall preserve order at all meetings and shall perform such other duties as may be from time-to-time assigned to them by the Post.

POST LEADERSHIP

Leadership and governance in The American Legion and Post 66 is provided by volunteer members, like you. They serve in leadership roles as committee members, chairmen and Post officers. Our Post leaders provide honorable and noteworthy service to our veterans, their families and the communities we serve. Leadership is not something you are born with and it cannot be awarded or appointed. True leadership is learned and earned through the hard work of service to others. Legion leaders must have stellar character and transparent integrity. The men and women who accept leadership roles in The American Legion are often self-motivated by a desire to serve others and seek out leadership training. Good leader provide sufficient time and energy to their leadership roles and are often good communicators



A stated in the Post 66 Bylaws ARTICLE V - OFFICERS

“Section 1 (a) The officers of this Post shall be the Commander, the First Vice-Commander, the Second Vice-Commander, the Adjutant, the Assistant Adjutant, the Finance Officer, the Assistant Finance Officer, the Historian, the Sergeant-at-arms, the Chaplain, the Assistant Chaplain, the Judge Advocate, the Facilities Manager, the Food Service Manager, the Bar Manager, the Booking Manager, the Service Officer, the Junior Past Commander, and the three Executive Committee Members-At-Large.”

Who can serve as an officer in Post 66?

“Every member of this Post in good standing shall be eligible to hold office in this Post unless otherwise provided for herein.”

The growth or decline in the membership of Post 66 is a reliable barometer of how the Post leadership is doing. An active post where members enjoy themselves creates a “word of mouth” membership campaign. Members are proud to belong. It’s natural for them to talk “Legion” and Legion programs to their friends neighbors, relatives, relatives, coworkers and business associates.



POST OPERATIONAL COMMITTEES



Our Operational Committees are critical to increasing active membership, new leader development and a key to the long-term success of Post 66. Through their work on committees, members of our Legion Family provide the hard work needed for our success as they plan, organize, communicate, and implement the programs of our Post and The American Legion. Operational committees may be added or removed as the post commander desires.

Work in committees provides opportunities for the member growth and encourages active participation by limiting time commitments. Committee work also functions as a very important training grounds for future Post leaders.

“MANY HANDS MAKE LIGHT WORK!”

Operational Committee Descriptions

Americanism— Inspires love of country and good citizenship through patriotic observances, flag etiquette, civic instruction in schools, community service, and youth activities such as Boys State, Boy Scouts, Oratorical Contest and School Award Medals.

Facilities Committee – Responsible for the operation and maintenance of our facility.

Finance — The Finance Committee shall be charged with the administration of the financial policy, preparation of an annual budget with recommendations, and supervisions of receiving, disbursing, and accounting of all Post funds.

Investment Committee — Directs, monitors and controls the Post 66 Endowment Funds, insuring continuing financial stability. The Investment Committee reports to the Executive Committee, with recommendations for handling investment services for the Post.

Median & Communications Committee –Promotes Post programs and social activities to members and local community. Also responsible for post newsletter, fliers, and all Post online communication tools.

Membership — The Membership Committee shall have charge of all matters pertaining to the membership of the Post, including the procuring of new members, reinstatement and eligibility of members, subject to the approval of the Post.

Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation (VA&R) — Responsible for bringing to the attention of members and their dependents the rights and benefits granted them by law. They shall visit comrades who are sick or disabled; to visit and comfort members of the families who are sick or bereaved.

CONSTITUTION & BYLAWS

The Constitution & Bylaws define the complete responsibilities of all Post officers. More duties are described in the Post 66 By-Laws, which can be found on the Resources page of the Post 66 website.

[Post 66 Constitution & By-Laws](#)

VETERAN HOLIDAYS

We Remember and Honor America's Holidays!

Every year we honor the great American holidays. Our holidays help us remember our national heritage and the legacy of hope we offer to all.

We remember, those who served before us, just as we honor those served with us and those who served after us.

- **The American Legion Birthday** – March 15, 1919
- **Armed Forces**— Third Saturday of May – honors those who serve.
- **Memorial Day**— Last Monday of May – honors those who died.
- **4th of July**— Declaration of Independence , on July 4, 1776
- **POW/MIA Day**— The third Friday of September.
- **Post 66 Birthday**— September 29, 1919
- **Veterans Day**— November 11 – honors all who served.



PROGRAMS

The American Legion programs provide the opportunity for our Legion Family to serve our nation's veterans, their families, and SLO community in many important ways. Post 66 currently supports these Legion programs: Buddy Checks, Sons of the American Legion, Legion Riders', Boys State, and Boy Scouts.



Buddy Checks

The Buddy Check program is rapidly becoming one of The American Legion's most important programs. Originally this was a "comradeship campaign" for members and former members of the organization. It has proven effective to keep veterans up to date on important issues facing them. As these Buddy Checks continue, our callers are asked to be alert to signs of depression and suicide so veterans can learn about the critical resources available to improve their mental well-being. It's quite possible the information provided could ease burdens face by veterans or maybe even save a life.



The American Legion
BUDDY CHECK
Program

SLO County Food Bank

Post 66 has made a commitment to support our SLO Food Bank. Every time you visit the Post for an event, please bring food to donate. We have a food box at the post for your donations.



They need: canned goods, tomato & spaghetti sauces, pasta, cereal, oatmeal, granola bars & trail mix, salt, pepper & other essential spices.

Veterans Treatment Court

Post 66 is a strong supporter of the SLO County, Veterans Treatment Court (VTC) which assists veterans who have entered the criminal justice system and receive treatment and rehabilitation from the (VA).



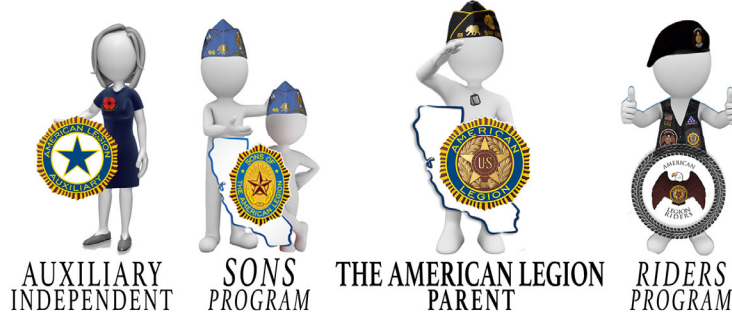
Honor Flight Central Coast

Honor Flight Network is an organization created solely to honor America's veterans for their sacrifices. We transport our heroes to Washington D.C. to visit and reflect at their memorials. Top priority is given to the senior veterans - World War II survivors along with those other veterans who may be suffering from a terminal illness.



Post 66 Member Handbook

THE AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY



THE AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY

Post 66, as the parent organization, has three other important units in our local Legion Family. This is our Legion Family and they provide much of the support for our Legion programs. They are:

American Legion Auxiliary (ALA) Unit 66

Founded in 1919, the American Legion Auxiliary (ALA) is the world's largest women's patriotic organization.

Every Spring the Auxiliary promotes the red poppy as a symbol of the sacrifices our military have made, a symbol to open people's hearts and inspire them to donate to this important fundraising program.



Meeting: First Monday @ 5:30 p.m.

Sons of the American Legion (SAL) Squadron 66

Founded in 1932, Sons of The American Legion (SAL) squadron consists of boys and men of all ages whose grandparents or parents served in the United States Armed Forces.



Meetings: First Monday @ 6 p.m.

American Legion Riders (ALR)

The American Legion Riders (ALR) are Legionnaires, who are also motorcycle enthusiasts. They all belong to the Legion, the Legion Auxiliary or the Sons of the American Legion. American Legion Riders are well known for their charitable work, including the significant funds they have raised for the Legacy Scholarship Fund.



Meeting: Our Post 66 Legion Riders chapter is currently not active.

MyLegion.org

(<https://mylegion.org/PersonifyEbusiness/Home>)



Accurate and up-to-date member information is important for any organization. We are very fortunate in The American Legion that **every member** can take an active role in keeping their information accurate and up-to-date, using the myLegion.org a *members-only* web portal.

This requires a Member Account in MyLegion.org. To create your member account, visit the home page of The American Legion website (legion.org) and click on the MYLEGION.ORG link at the very top of the home page.



Once your personal MyLegion.org Member Account is established, select the "MY PROFILE" option to update your information or print a copy of your membership card.

**Exclusive benefits from America's largest veterans organization.
Join now for access to servicesony available to Members**



Information and networking through you post



Discounts on insurabce, car rentals, and more



Exclusive content available only to members

In the dues Renewal Options, we highly recommend the automatic payment option for annual dues. It is an easy and smart way to keep your dues current.

The Preamble of The American Legion Constitution

For God and Country, we associate ourselves together for the following purposes: To uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States of America;

To maintain law and order;

To foster and perpetuate a one hundred percent Americanism;

To preserve the memories and incidents of our associations in the Great Wars; To inculcate a sense of individual obligation to the community, state and nation; To combat the autocracy of both the classes and the masses;

To make right the master of might;

To promote peace and goodwill on earth;

To safeguard and transmit to posterity the principles of justice, freedom and democracy;

To consecrate and sanctify our comradeship by our devotion to mutual helpfulness.

POST 66 ADDRESS

1661 Mill Street, San Luis Obispo, 93401

Post Phone: 805-543-6445 , E-Mail: mail@slolegion.org,

Web: <http://post66slo.org/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/post66slo/>

