



## Auxiliary Lasagna Dinner

Saturday, Oct. 20, 2007 \$10 donation.

RSVP Barbara Fields, (650) 359-1259

Social hour: 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. Dinner at 6:30 p.m.



# the Pacifican

October 2007

*By Our Devotion To Mutual Helpfulness*

Volume 18 – No. 10

*For God and Country*

**Chaplain's Corner** Don Nelson,  
650-588-8267

*(Editor's note: More than a few songs have been written by the troops on the front lines of Iraq and Afghanistan describing their experiences since the war began. Here's one I heard recently and wanted to share with you.*

“Back home now I know you're probably sleepin'  
Over here it's the middle of the day  
I finally found the time to write a letter  
Sittin' here a half a world away.

I heard about all them folks protestin'  
As if I really want this war  
But that don't stop me from believin'  
There's just some things worth fightin' for  
And if I die before you wake,  
I pray the world will take  
A good look at what God's given us  
That we could only understand,  
everything is in His hands

All we need is a little faith and trust  
I want you to know it ain't too high a price to pay

If I die before you wake  
Tell everybody that I miss them  
And I can't wait to get back home  
But until then I'll serve my country  
And be proud to wear this uniform.”

### **October Events**

- Oct. 18 – Post Meeting @ 7:30 p.m.
- Oct. 20 – Lasagna Dinner Barbara Fields  
RSVP (650) 359-1259. \$10.
- Oct. 25 – Pot Luck / Bingo @ 6:30 p.m.

### **2008 Calif. Legion Department Calendar**

The American Legion Department of California has mailed its 2008 calendar to the membership in recent weeks. A donation card is also enclosed with a letter from Howard L. Darter, Jr., Department Commander. Your much needed donation and caring generosity will help to continue many of the Legion's most worthwhile programs. Mail your reply card to: The American Legion, Department of California, P.O. Box 421820, San Francisco, CA 94142-1820.

### **Your Membership Makes a Difference**

Your 2008 American Legion Membership renewal helps The American Legion provide for our veterans and their families in a wide variety of ways, from assistance in obtaining VA benefits and representing your interests in Washington, D.C., to numerous money-saving discounts on products and services from many of America's leading brands. These discounts can easily save you many times the cost of your annual membership.



# Pacifica Legion – Post #238 -- Get Involved --



**Pete Lulis, Commander**  
650-726-7980

I hope this October newsletter finds you and your loved ones in good health and spirits. Marion and I would like to thank everyone who attended the recent ham dinner on Sept. 15 to honor Mrs. Decker and present to her a shadow box. A shadow box is as much an important piece of personal military history as your DD-214 discharge. The display box typically contains all awards and devices earned by the member while in the service.

I received quite a few questions concerning awards (medals) and the order of precedence that they are worn.

Awards are divided into five categories:

1. Military Decorations: Medal of Honor, Purple Heart, Commendation Medals, Achievement Medals, etc.

2. Unit Awards: PUC, Unit Commendation Ribbon.

3. Non-Military Decorations: Presidential Medal of Freedom, Medal of Merit.

4. Campaign and Service Awards: Good Conduct Medal, Expeditionary Medal, Armed Forces Reserve Medal, etc.

5. Foreign Decorations and Non-U.S. Service Awards: National Order of Vietnam, Military Merit Medal, Army Distinguished Service, Air Force Distinguished Service, etc.

These are just some examples of awards received. If you have any questions, don't hesitate to ask me.

Until next time, may God bless our troops, our veterans and all of you.

### ***It's Time to pay Your Annual Membership Dues***

A gentle reminder folks, that annual dues, which went up to \$35 this year are now due. For \$3 a month, enjoy comradeship, chicken jokes, Chef Dennis Burke's outstanding monthly dinners, great fellowship and so much more.

### ***Dennis Burke, Membership, 510-304-9031***

For the American Legion members, I have good news: We gained an additional 6 members through transfers. The bad news is that two of our members passed away. We have 190, "Early Bird" members paid up, out of a roster of 273 (237 Regular, 36 PUFL), for a 70% paid up status at the close of September.

For you "Early Birds", the Hall is putting on a free dinner, Saturday November 17, 2007. Please come and enjoy the company of your fellow veterans. You are our best recruiter. Pass the word to your friends about what a great organization you belong to.

### ***Don Nelson, Legislative Report*** **Presidential Primary in February 2008**

Governor Schwarzenegger signed legislation that will move the California Presidential Primary to February 5, 2008 in hopes of giving California voters more influence over the selection of party nominees for President. The signing of SB 113 into law means that California will have two primary elections in 2008, not just one.

The June Primary will be held on June 3, 2008 with the previously scheduled contests for Congress, State Assembly and Senate, statewide propositions, Board of Supervisors, Judges and local offices. There is no change in the date of the Presidential General election; it will be held on November 4, 2008.

### **Election Information Resources**

- [www.SOS.ca.gov](http://www.SOS.ca.gov)

Official site of California Secretary of State. Focuses on Statewide election information, campaign contribution database and propositions.

- [www.smartvoter.org](http://www.smartvoter.org)

Website produced by California League of Women Voters. Features expanded non-partisan information on candidates and measures.

- [www.easyvoter.org](http://www.easyvoter.org)

Targets first time and busy voters who want quick information on elections, candidates and issues; published in many languages.

- [www.calvoter.org](http://www.calvoter.org)

Quality information and research on a variety of election issues in California.

On Election Day, Poll Workers welcome all voters, facilitate voting, conduct precinct operations in accordance with election law and follow defined procedures.

Many people find it a rewarding experience and return year after year to serve. Visit [www.shapethefuture.org](http://www.shapethefuture.org) for more info.

**Post Hall Manager, Allan D. Hale**  
650-359-3277

Our intrepid hall manager continues his great success this year in renting the hall, and making sure its users keep our facility in great condition! Thanks to all who have participated in the Post's monthly working parties and enjoy a great lunch on the Commander!

### **Legislative Report, Don Nelson**

**Constitution** – They keep talking about drafting a Constitution for Iraq. Why don't they just give them ours? It was written by a lot of really smart guys. It's worked for over 200 years and we're not using it anymore.

**Cows** – Is it just me, or does anyone else find it amazing that our government can track a cow born in Canada almost three years ago, right to the stall where she sleeps in the state of Washington, and they tracked her calves to their stalls. But they are unable to locate 11 million illegal aliens wandering around our country. Maybe we should give them all a cow?

### **Monthly Trivia Questions**

See if you can answer this month's trivia questions.

1. The German "88" was what type of weapon?
2. The Ploesti oil fields, vital to the German war effort, were located in which country?
3. Which was the only other country besides Germany, to field jet aircraft in the European theater before the end of the war?

### **Bonus question**

The name of the German expeditionary air force in Spain during its Civil War was known as?

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### **New Post Members**

Dennis Burke reports excellent progress towards full paid membership participation this year. We continue to add new membership and invite long time members of the Post to encourage others to join the Post.

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### **Local Pacifica Soldier injured in Iraq**

Matt Sheedy of Pacifica suffered injuries in Iraq recently after he was involved in a firefight, reports the *Pacifica Tribune*. Sheedy broke the glass that separated him from his enemies to get a better shot, but he was consequently injured when broken glass rained down on him. Sheedy cut his wrist and underwent surgery in Baghdad. He is in good spirits and was flown to Germany for recovery, Deb Smyser of the Pacifica Military Moms reported. Get well soon Matt! Our thoughts and prayers are with you.

### **New Yahoo Email Address, Web Site**

I've set up a separate email account exclusively for the Post and Auxiliary to send photos and news articles for upcoming issues. Please direct email to: [pacificalegionpost238@yahoo.com](mailto:pacificalegionpost238@yahoo.com). If you have email access and want to update your mailing address, send letters to the editor, offer comments or suggestions, I welcome them. You can preview our website at: [www.americanlegionpost238pacificabravehost.com](http://www.americanlegionpost238pacificabravehost.com)

### **Did you know?**

- 40,815 Legionnaires donated a total of 90,273 pints of blood in 2003-04.
- 2,500 Boy Scout units and 70,000 young people in Scouting are sponsored by Legion Posts.
- Your dues have also helped the Legion provide scholarships to the children of U.S. military personnel who have died in action since the terrorist attacks of 9/11.
- 25,000 young men annually develop a hands-on understanding of government through The American Legion's Boys State and Boys Nation Programs.

Please continue to stand with us in supporting your fellow veterans, troops, their families, communities and our nation.

### **Celebrating Birthdays - October 2007**

*(Note: If I've missed your birthday, give me a call. I'm working to update my Post and Auxiliary roster lists. Your help is greatly appreciated.)*

A hearty Happy Birthday to Post members celebrating a birthday this month including:

<b>Oct 1</b>	Dody	Payne
<b>Oct. 24</b>	Rich	Zantis
<b>Oct. 27</b>	Tom	Sullivan
<b>Oct. 29</b>	Richard	Goebel
<b>Oct 29</b>	Charles	Hawkins
<b>Nov. 2</b>	John F.	Attenisia
<b>Nov. 4</b>	Bruce A.	Thompson

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James A. Groth, Pacifica  
Mark Schreiner, Pacifica  
John Lorrett Oakland  
Gerardo C. Estera, Daly City  
Terry Daniels, Pacifica

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## **REMINDER YOUR 2007-08 DUES ARE NOW PAYABLE**



### **Pacifica Auxiliary – Unit #238** *for the Veterans – their family and all children*



#### **Barbara Fields, President, (650) 359-1259**

Please note that volunteer hours from May 2007 to February 2008 will be due on March 1, 2008. Keep an accurate record of these hours, what community group or veteran's program you volunteered with and any monies or obligations to that program. Please return this information to me by March 15, 2008 or bring to the Auxiliary meeting in March.

Dues are now due. Please send to Thelma Joyner or bring to the next meeting, October 4. The October dinner will be an Auxiliary dinner, on October 20<sup>th</sup> with lasagna, salad and garlic bread and dessert. Cost is \$10. I would like to see more of you at our meetings. It's nice to see old and new members.

Until we meet again, blessings and prayers to all our servicemen and women. Keep them safe and out of harm's way.

#### **Pacifica Military Moms Sept. packing day sends 140 care packages to our troops**

We had a really CRAZY day. Thanks to everyone who donated and helped us pack. Overall, we packed about 133 packages and some mothers took some home so that they can bring them to the post office themselves when they get their kids' address. So I guess we can safely say that we sent about 140 packages altogether.

– *Debbie Smyser, Pacifica Military Moms*



#### **Seaside Singers entertain at Sept. meeting**

For those of you who missed our September general meeting, we were treated to a special performance by a very talented group of local singers, Pacifica's own Seaside Singers who performed a variety of lovely songs.

Special thanks to the Seaside Singers for entertaining us, editor Tom Sullivan for inviting the group, and singer Julie Jones, (second from left) for helping Tom to provide great refreshments.

#### **Nov. Calendar Notes**

The Post and Auxiliary Planning Committee is working on the upcoming 2007-2008 calendar.

Upcoming events include:

11 Nov. – S.O.S. Breakfast

17 Nov. – Early Bird Thanksgiving Dinner

15 Dec. – ALA Resource Center Dinner

#### Letter of Thanks

#### **To ALA President Barbara Fields and Unit 238**

Thank you so much for sending me to Girls' State. I really appreciate your hard work and generosity which enabled me to experience such a fabulous event. I feel I have a step ahead of all my classmates in government class. I really enjoyed controversial issues. I'm happy to say that I am still in contact with several of my Girl State friends. Thank you for the opportunity

- *Collette Matysiak, 2006 Girls State*



## Auxiliary weaves colorful red poppies into garland for a special decorative display



Unit members have hand woven and placed two very beautiful 12-foot strands of red poppy garland which now frame the photos of all past and present Pacifica Legion Post 238 commanders at the hall.

These little red crepe paper flowers which are made by and for veterans are distributed on days surrounding Memorial Day in May and during Veteran's Day in November — are an important symbol of remembrance.

**Elizabeth Marshment**

### **God Bless America – A New Verse by Cozie Diaz and Irving Berlin**

*Thelma Joyner received a lovely note from Cozie to include in our newsletter. Cozie writes, "I haven't sent anything for a while, but then, haven't written anything general enough to be useful. I have always loved "God Bless America" – everyone does, but in my opinion, thought it was too short.*

*Someone needed to add a second verse – so I did. I hope you can use it. Love, Coz."*

*"God Bless America  
Home of the Free  
Where her noble sons and daughters  
Fought and died for the love of liberty.*

*With the Army, Navy, and Air Force  
The Marines and the Coast Guard too...*

*God Bless America  
Red, white and blue*

*God Bless America  
Red, white and blue!"*

### **Celebrating Birthdays in October**

*(Note: If I've missed your birthday, give me a call. I'm working to update my Post and Auxiliary roster lists, and your help is greatly appreciated.) We've got a record number of beautiful flowers celebrating birthdays during the month of October. They include:*

Oct. 1	Dody Payne	Oct. 19	Marge Charleton
Oct. 1	Megan Klein	Oct. 23	Anita Demidovich
Oct. 4	Ann Bauden	Oct 31	Margi Klein
Oct. 9	Ami Cowan	Nov. 3	Monica Carl

## Reserve your bottle of Jarhead Red, wine made by Marines, for Marines

Commander Pete Lulis is pleased to report that the first bottles of Jarhead Red have made their way to the Post with more to follow. If you're interested in reserving yourself a bottle or a case, contact Pete for the necessary details.

He auctioned a bottle at his September ham dinner. A bottle of Jarhead Red fetched an auction price of over \$30 during last December's Christmas Post ham dinner. All proceeds from the sale of Jarhead Red are being donated to the Marine Corps Scholarship Foundation.

Wine may be ordered by the bottle or case, through Firestone Vineyard with the net proceeds from the sale to benefit the Marine Corps Scholarship Foundation, which provides educational assistance to children of U.S. Marines, with special attention given to children of fallen Marines. Donations may be made to the foundation by contacting [www.mcsf.org](http://www.mcsf.org).

Jarhead Red is available in 750ml (the Rifleman) and 1.5L (the Sergeant). Jarhead Red was conceived in 1999 as a celebratory bottling for the annual Marine Corps Scholarship Foundation Birthday Ball in Los Angeles. Contact Al Hale or Pete Lulis if you're interested in placing an order.



### PBS StoryShare now collecting stories in response to Ken Burns' THE WAR until May 31, 2008

PBS StoryShare is an online story collection tool created by PBS and the [National Center for Outreach](http://www.nationalcenterforoutreach.org) to allow public television viewers to share personal experiences in response to its programming. The Ken Burns PBS series which aired the last week of September and continues on local stations throughout October is in my opinion, well worth watching.

Viewers are invited to respond to Ken Burns' THE WAR by sharing stories about WWII through their local PBS affiliate station's web site.

I grew up hearing my Dad's war stories and have helped preserve a collection of his personal photographs to pass on.

Two of these include my late Dad, Army Tech Sgt. Thomas J. Sullivan, 7<sup>th</sup> Armored Division, with his mom, my grandmother, Peggy Sullivan while home on leave. The second shows him at a relaxed moment standing behind a field trailer in 1944 while in Europe. Members are encouraged to participate in this outreach program and also in the national Veteran's History Project.

## Pacifica Fog Fest Parade – 2007



The official City of Pacifica Color Guard from local Veterans of Foreign Wars Pacifica Post 10245 and the American Legion Post 238 led Pacifica's annual Fog Fest parade.



Joe Dye drove Mon's restored Korean War Jeep which has led the parade since its inception. Joe purchased the jeep from Mon's wife, Sally Jew, to honor Mon and keep his tradition of driving the jeep in major civic events alive. Passengers from the American Legion Post 238 included: Dennis Burke, First Commander, Tom Sullivan, Second Vice Commander, and Bob Biby, Past Commander.

*- Photos by Julie W. Jones, Pacifica*

**All advertisements are a courtesy to those who have donated to the publishing of this newsletter**

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Win a Trip to Las Vegas!  
 Tickets still available! Drawing at the Nov. Early Bird Dinner!

	<p align="center"><b>Buy Legion Baseball Tickets</b>  <b>Only \$5 each - or \$20 for 5 tickets</b>  <b>Don't delay, Buy Today!</b></p>	
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Fill out the coupon below and make your check out to **American Legion Pacifica Post #238** and we will mail you your tickets.

Mail to:  
**American Legion Pacifica Post 238**, 555 Buel Avenue, Pacifica, CA 94044-3204

<p>Name _____                  Address _____                  City _____                  Phone _____</p>	<p align="center">PACIFICA AMERICAN LEGION                  BASEBALL POST #238</p> <p align="center"><b>A LAS VEGAS HOLIDAY VACATION PACKAGE FOR 2!</b>                  Roundtrip Air, Airport Transfers and 2 to 3 nights at a  <b>LAS VEGAS STRIP HOTEL</b>                  or equivalent</p> <p>Tickets to be drawn on November 17<sup>th</sup>, 2007 at the American Legion Hall.                  Need not be present to win. Some restrictions may apply.</p> <p align="center">Sponsored by Vicki Lenci Cruise &amp; Travel Pacifica                  CST No. 206151140</p> <p><b>\$5.<sup>00</sup> EA</b> <span style="float: right;"><b>\$5.<sup>00</sup> EA</b></span></p>
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October 2007

**ALA Auxiliary Meeting** – 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday – 7:30 p.m.  
**Legion Executive Board** – 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday – 7:30 p.m.  
**Legion General Meeting** – 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday – 7:30 p.m.  
Post Hall telephone – 650-355-4346



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### **October Events**

**October 18** – Post Meeting @ 7:30 p.m.  
**October 20** – Lasagna Dinner Barbara Fields, RSVP (650) 359-1259. \$10.  
**October 25** – Pot Luck / Bingo @ 6:30 p.m.  
**October 31** – Happy Halloween!



**Auxiliary Lasagna Dinner**  
Saturday, October 20, 2007  
\$10 donation.

RSVP to Barbara Fields,  
(650) 359-1259  
Social hour: 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.  
Dinner at 6:30 p.m.

