

American Legion Post 261
4542 Peck Road
El Monte CA 91732



AMERICAN LEGION

EL MONTE POST 261 NEWSLETTER

INFORMATION FOR LEGIONNAIRES

POST 261 MEETS AT THE POST HALL, LOCATED AT 4542 PECK ROAD, EL MONTE,
THE FIRST WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH AT 1900 HOURS.
A COMPLIMENTARY DINNER WILL BE SERVED AT 1830 HOURS.
POST 261'S WEBSITE. WWW.AMERICANLEGIONPOST261.COM

Happy New Year!

POST 261 STILL PROUD! STILL SERVING! STILL SALUTING!

Points of Interest

Before you make it to Post everlasting, there several things that are requested of you if you choose to be buried at a VA cemetery: Full name and military rank; Branch of service; Social security number; Service number; VA claim number, if applicable; Date and place of birth; Date and place of death; Date of retirement or last separation from active duty and a copy of any military separation document, such as the Department of Defense Form 214 (DD-214). The discharge documents must specify active military duty and show that release from active duty was under other than dishonorable conditions. No special forms are required when requesting burial in a VA national cemetery. The person making burial arrangements should have their funeral home contact the national cemetery in which burial is desired at the time of need. Scheduling can be done seven days a week for interments on Mondays through Fridays. From Department of Veterans Affairs, Burial Arrangements

At the "VA National Summit Ending Homelessness among Veterans," Secretary of Veterans Affairs Eric K. Shinseki unveiled the department's comprehensive plan to end homelessness among Veterans by marshalling the resources of government, business and the private sector. Shinseki's comprehensive plan to end homelessness includes preventive measures like discharge planning for incarcerated Veterans re-entering society, supportive services for low-income Veterans and their families and a national referral center to link Veterans to local service providers. Additionally, the plan calls for expanded efforts for education, jobs, health care and housing. For more information go to <http://www1.va.gov/opa/pressrel/pressrelease.cfm?id=1807> From Department of Veterans Affairs

From The Other Side



American Legion Auxiliary Celebrates Its 90th Anniversary

Left to right in photo: Linda Smith, Monette Clarke, District 18 President DeNyse Laugeson and Unit 261 President Sally Farinella

Auxiliary members believe that a solid educational foundation is the cornerstone of American freedom. The Auxiliary's Education program promotes quality education for every child and supports students in their desire to continue their education beyond high school. Auxiliary members work actively with educators and local schools to develop and maintain an educational system that serves the needs of all children at every level. Auxiliary volunteers sponsor and support state and national education legislation; establish new scholarship opportunities for students; alert eligible students to existing scholarship resources; help students identify career opportunities and professional job requirements; and encourage students to plan early for college and apply for scholarship opportunities. From Sally Farinella, President, Unit 261

After her first husband was killed, "Mad" Anne Hennis Trotter Bailey became a skilled frontier scout, horsewoman, hunter, messenger and storyteller. During a frontier war with Indians, she rode alone through 100 miles of near wilderness to Fort Savannah at Lewisburg and returned with the needed powder to save the fort at Clendenin's Settlement which today is Charleston, West Virginia. This feat was commemorated in a lengthy 1861 poem, "Anne Bailey's Ride" by Charles Robb. From "Women In History."

Veterans Helping Veterans

Tinnitus is a subjective condition that is described as either a ringing or buzzing in the ears, or head noise with no external source. It may be heard in one ear, both ears, in between the ears, or with no exact location pinpointed. It is usually associated with high frequency hearing loss. The *Merck Manual* defines tinnitus as the “perception of sound in the absence of an acoustic stimulus.” Filing a claim: To make a claim for tinnitus, write a letter to the VA and tell them you want to establish service connection for this disability. With your claim you should submit current medical evidence showing you have tinnitus. If you do not have a current medical report, the VA will send you a release form (VA Form 21-4142) for you to list your doctor’s name and address and date(s) of treatment. Return the form to the VA, and they will obtain the necessary medical report. Failure to do this relieves the VA of any obligation to secure your private medical records. If you were treated at a VA Medical Center, or other U.S. government facility, the VA must obtain these records. From VietNow National Magazine

Military History

The evacuation from Dunkirk, that began May 26, 1940, was a success because of Hitler. He halted the attack on Dunkirk for the following reasons: His fear that his panzers (tanks) would have more mechanical problems if pushed any further; Luftwaffe commander Goering wanted to annihilate the French and British troops on Dunkirk-Hitler agreed; Hitler’s determination to show his generals “who is boss,” by halting the attack within sight of Dunkirk (against his military advisors) and finally it may have been astrologically a bad time for land operation by his tanks (Hitler had much faith in astrology). From “Dunkirk: The Complete Story Of The First Step In The Defeat Of Hitler” by Norman Gelb

Military Trivia

During the Civil War, both the Rebels and the Yankees, not only fought each other, but they actually fought newspaper reporters, who gave biased reports of their successes and failures. From “This Mighty Scourge” by James M. McPherson.

Analyze This!

What counts is not necessarily the size of the dog in the fight - it's the size of the fight in the dog.
Dwight D. Eisenhower

Post News

In today’s life style, when time is a commodity and giving of one’s time requires a personal sacrifice, it nice to see that there are some people who are still willing to help. I say many thanks go to the Ladies of the Auxiliary and the Parents of Boy Scouts and the Boy Scouts of Troop 551 for their part in making Post 261’s Christmas party, a success. The Christmas party was a success because of their efforts. Tony Farinella, Post Adjutant

The Post Christmas Party December 2, 2009



The Color Guard
From Boy Scout Troop 551



The Cooks
Provided by the Auxiliary Unit 261



The Guests
A happy Legionnaire

Congratulations go to the newly elected Post 261 Corporation members David Siegrist and Domingo Delgado. The Post wishes them success.

And thanks to all legionnaires who answered the call for their email addresses. Your email address will help save the Post at least \$12.00 on the Newsletter costs per member annually. Send your email address to arf41@earthlink.net . Tony Farinella, Information Letter editor.

Reminder: the third Wednesday of the month, the Post has a social gathering at the Post for members, spouses and friends of the Post, to enjoy cards, pool, ping pong and food and friends-free to all. The social starts at 6:30 p.m.

Thanks go to the members of Post 261 and Auxiliary Unit 261 for their attendance at the POW\MIA candle light service, honoring those who have not returned home from the wars.

To the Ladies of the Auxiliary Unit 261 who help make the homeless Lady Veterans Christmas party a success, I say thank you.

Your membership fees are payable when you received your American Legion's Department of California membership fee notice. If you have not paid your membership fees, what are you waiting for?

Take Part. Get set for Life

Support Your Post - Be Active and Stay Active

Disclaimer: Neither The American Legion, The American Legion Post 261, nor the editor of this newsletter are not responsible for the contents or the accuracy of the contents of this newsletter. The contents of this newsletter should be construed only as entertainment.

You have received this newsletter in the premier mode: better type cast, color photos and more information, because it is being sent via email. There are not any printing or mailing costs involved. You are saving Post 261, \$12.00 per year, per Legionnaire receiving this, that would otherwise have to be spent to produce your copy of the info letter.

Thank you for your cooperation

Tony Farinella

Editor