



# March 2010

## BULLETIN

PALISADES POST 283 - THE AMERICAN LEGION

15247 La Cruz Drive, Pacific Palisades, Ca 90272-3610  
Phone: (310) 454 – 0527 Fax:(310) 230 – 3980 Email: [office@post283.org](mailto:office@post283.org)  
The Post WEB site [Post283.org](http://Post283.org) – The Department WEB site [CA.Legion.org](http://CA.Legion.org)  
Post meets the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday each month

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### **POST 283 OFFICERS**

**Commander: John Johansen**    **1<sup>st</sup> Vice-Commander: Paul Walquist**    **2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander: Kevin Niles**  
**Jr. Past Commander: Lee Barksdale**    **Finance Officer: Hal Vieau**    **Historian: Don Segel**  
**Adjutant: Bob Ryan**    **Judge Advocate: Everett Maguire**    **Chaplain: Dr. Mike Martini**  
**Service Officer: Jerry Jones**    **Sgt-at-Arms: Steve Bro**    **Assist. Sgt-at-Arms: Joshua Drake/James Donnell**

#### **Executive Committee Members**

Eric Measles -1                      Lou Cozolino – 2                      Emil Wroblicky – 3  
Bob Ryan – 1                      Steve Dobrenchuk - 2                      Everett Maguire – 3

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We're off and running into the new year.

On a sad note, Past Post Commander Richard Ver Steeg passed away in Late January. His wife and family are in our prayers. There will be a memorial Service at the post Sunday, February 20 at 2:00pm. Please plan to attend to honor our departed comrade.

We had a good sign-up for our Valentine's Dance with good music and a good time had by all.

Many thanks to Dr. Mike Martini for handling our recent blood drive. 56 pints were collected by the Red Cross! Way to go, Mike!

Our Oratorical contestant has advanced to Area completion to be held at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 21433 Strathern Street, Canoga Park, 91304 (818-347-9304) on Sunday, February 21<sup>st</sup>, at 1:00pm. Please plan to attend to support all of the candidates, especially **OUR Candidate Micheal Shayman.**

The 4 Chaplains remembrance program will be observed at our regular Post meeting on Wednesday, February 17, 7:00pm.

Thanks to our Bingo Crew, the Auxiliary, the SALs' and all others in our Legion Family for their on-going dedication and hard work!

See you at the Post!  
John Johansen, Post Commander

**CALENDAR of EVENTS**  
**PALISADES POST 283 THE AMERICAN LEGION**  
**CALENDAR of EVENTS**

**MARCH**

March 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Tuesday	Executive Committee Meeting	7:00 PM
March 9 <sup>th</sup>	Tuesday	Bingo @ the VA Post Van leaves @ 1:30 PM <b>Come join us, Volunteers welcome</b>	
March 13 <sup>th</sup> – 14 <sup>th</sup>	Saturday	Department Executive Committee meeting @ Post 56 - 501 N. Pine St., Santa Maria Friday, March 12 <sup>th</sup> , Ways & Means & Financial meeting.	
March 15 <sup>th</sup> – 17 <sup>th</sup>	Monday	VA - Representative Training workshop at Las Vegas See attached flyer	
March 17 <sup>th</sup>	Wednesday	Regular Post Meeting Social Hour Dinner Meeting (Past Commanders Meeting)	5:30 PM 6:00 PM 7:00 PM
March 20 <sup>th</sup>	Saturday	St. Patrick's Dinner & Dance Social Hour Dinner Dancing	5:30 PM 6:30 PM 7:30 – 11:00 PM
March 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Monday	District Meeting @ Post 283 Social Hour Dinner Executive Committee meeting (if needed) Law & Order (In place of regular meeting)	5:30 PM 6:00 PM 7:00 PM 7:30 PM
March 27 <sup>th</sup>	Saturday	National President Visitation @ Palisades Post 283 Social Dinner Meeting	5:00 PM 6:00 PM 7:00 PM
March 27 <sup>th</sup> – 28 <sup>th</sup>	Saturday	Area 6 <sup>th</sup> Caucus @ Lompoc Post 125 100 E. Locust Ave., Lompoc	

***“Dinner Reservations required by 4:00 PM one day in advance of all events”***

*(Refunds only if cancellation received 24 hours in advance)*

## 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Commander – Paul Walquist

There are only four months remaining to reach the Post goal of 725 members.

The Adjutant has only processed 579 renewals along with new members to the Department. That leaves us 146 members short of the Post goal.

That's roughly 36.5 retention of existing members per month who have not paid their dues. If only five members every month would stop by the office and write down six members names and phone numbers and call them and assure them that we need their continued support and participation, I am sure they would be more than glad to support Veterans.

The life- blood of the Legion is membership, why is it so important, membership is a big insensitive that drives our representatives in Congress in supporting and enhancing

**THE GI BILL** for all Veterans.

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander – Kevin Niles

**Computer Class** – Fourth Tuesday of each Month – Bring your questions and have fun.

We are now into the second session of building our own computer.

**Field Trip** – the Griffith Observatory field trip Thursday, February 11th was enjoyed by all with transportation provided by the Post Van.

The Valentine Dinner and Dance Saturday, February 13<sup>th</sup> not only had great music by Mike Henebry and his Orchestra, outstanding food provided by Master Chef Johnny Walquist again did a fantastic job of serving 165 dinners.

The next Dinner and Dance is schedule for Saint Patrick's Saturday, March 20, 2010. Music will be provided by Johnny Vana and his Big Band Alumni.

## Chaplain – Mike Martini

The Annual Post Blood Drive conducted by the Red Cross Sunday, January 31, 2010 resulted in 56 pints of blood donated.

The District Chaplain Tim Leisen traveled to the bay area to take part in the Annual Four Chaplain Ceremony held in San Francisco this past week with the Department Commander and his staff.

The Annual Four Chaplain Ceremony for the Post is scheduled for the regular meeting February 17, 2010

There will be a memorial service Saturday, February 20, 2010 at 2:00 PM at the Post for Past Commander Richard Ver Steeg and his Family who joined Post Everlasting January 25, 2010.

## Adjutant – Bob Ryan

Monday, February 22, 2010 the District will be meeting at the Baltic Post anyone wishing to attend be at the Post at 4:30 PM and we all can travel together in the Post Van.

Monday, March 22, 2010 the District will be meeting at our Post to once again hold the annual Law & Order night. Tim Carr Past District Commander will be bringing together Firemen/Women, Police, and FBI agents, to honor them for their continuous high standards and performance.

The Boys State program has bygone, I'll be interviewing High School Juniors from Palisades, Malibu, Santa Monica, University, Loyola, Brentwood, Cross Roads, Light House, Harvard Westlake, and Beverly Hills if you are interested and like to travel along I guarantee you'll meet some very interesting young men.

## Adjutant Bob Ryan - Continued

The elections of new Officers for the Post starts with the Past Commanders meeting in March, open floor nominations in April and the voting in May per our By-Laws Article V Section 5.1-5.8.

Section 5.1. The administrative affairs of this Post shall, except as may be otherwise provided by these By-Laws, be under the supervision of an Executive Committee which shall consist of six (6) members in addition to the elected officers of this Post and the Junior Past Commander.

Section 5.2. The elected officers of this Post shall be: the Commander, First Vice Commander, Second Vice Commander, Finance Officer and members of the Executive Committee.

Section 5.3. The following officers shall be appointed by the Commander and ratified by the Executive Committee: Adjutant, Chaplain, Historian, Judge Advocate, Sergeant-at-Arms, Service Officer, and such other officers and/or assistant officers as may be deemed necessary by the Executive Committee of this Post. The Commander and Vice-Commanders may not hold any of the other above offices in this Post, but any other officers may hold two (2) or more of the above offices in this Post.

Section 5.4. Nomination of elective officers and members of the Executive Committee shall be held during the, regular meeting in April of each year, and announcement thereof shall be made by the Adjutant at the previous' March regular meeting and published in the Post bulletin at least 5 days prior to the April meeting.

Section 5.5. A Nominating Committee consisting of all Past Commanders of this Post shall study and evaluate all prospective officer candidates in order to present their recommendations at the regular meeting in April. Chairman of the Nominating Committee will be the Junior Past Commander. In addition to the nominations recommended by above Committee, any Post member in good standing may nominate candidates for elective offices from the floor at the April regular meeting until such tune as the presiding officer at such meeting declares such nominations are "closed."

Section 5.6. The elective Post officers shall be elected for a term of one year at the regular meeting in May. Members of the Executive Committee shall be elected for a term of three years, except for the initial year of operation under the original By-Laws whereunder two (2) Executive Committeemen were elected for a one year term of office, two (2) Executive Committeemen were elected for a two year term of office, and two (2) Executive Committeemen shall be elected for a three year term of office. Thereafter two (2) Executive Committeemen shall be elected for a three-year term at the regular meeting in May each year. All elected and appointive officers and members of the Executive Committee shall be duly installed prior to the first day of September of that year, preferably by a ritual team in accordance with the prevailing National Manual of Ceremonies.

Section 5.7. All elections shall be by written secret ballot, and a majority of all votes cast shall be necessary to elect die Commander and Vice Commanders. The other elective officers and members of the Executive Committee may be elected by a plurality vote, as this Post may determine.

Section 5.8. Every member of this Post in good standing shall be eligible to hold office.

**SONS of AMERICAN LEGION  
SQUADRON 283**

**15247 La Cruz Drive Pacific Palisades Ca. 90272 (310) 454-0527 FAX(310) 230-3980  
E-mail [office@post283.org](mailto:office@post283.org)**

**SQUADRON OFFICERS**

**Commander: Carl Stromberg                      1<sup>st</sup> Vice-Commander: Brian Connors  
2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Commander: Grant Ivey              Finance Officer: Tom Yaeger**

**Adjutant: Greg Frost    Historian: Hank Elder  
Sgt-at-Arms: Alex Frost/Joey Elder                      Jr. Past Commander: Frank Wiley  
Chaplain: Kelly Hornbaker                                      Sal Advisers: Lee Barksdale/Bob Ryan**

**Executive Committee Members**

**Hank Elder - 1                      Andy Mazarella - 1                      Scott Erickson - 2  
Kelly Hornbaker - 2              Sal Foti - 3                                      Lou Cozolino - 3**

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The Sons of the American Legion have received many thank yous' from our veterans for our Toy Drive and Adult Gift Card Program. Below is a letter we received from the Department of Veterans Affairs:

*Dear Son's of the American Legion,*

*I would like to thank the Son's of the American Legion for the generous toy and gift card donations we received on behalf of the VASH program, Veteran's and their families. This substantial donation offered Veteran's and their families a remarkable holiday season full of hope and new possibilities. I sincerely appreciate your desire to work with our program and our Veterans.*

On behalf of the VASH team we would like to wish you a wonderful, inspiring year.  
Thank you for your time and support.

Jennifer Hark Dietz/VASH Coordinator

We received our new platoon in our Adopt-A-Platoon Program. They are stationed in Afghanistan. Our teen Sons have already packed up and sent out our first encouragement packages to them. Please keep this platoon in your prayers.

We have also received notice that we have been accepted into the Pacific Palisades Baseball Association. The Sons of the American Legion will be sponsoring one of the baseball teams. The team will be proudly wearing their new Sons of the American Legion baseball jersey soon. Let's make sure we root them on during the season. A special thank you to *Brian Connors* /" Vice-Commander for making this happen.

The Sons of the American Legion is looking forward to our DEC meeting in March, where we are to receive the National Community Service Award for serving and honoring our Veterans.

In January the Sons of the American Legion toured the USS Los Angeles Nuclear Submarine that was being decommissioned. We had a great turnout of Sons, friends and family. The sailors were especially friendly, informative and appreciative of our support. Another special thank you to *Grant Ivey* 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-Commander for inviting us and setting up the tour.

We want to thank the Post 283 members and the Auxiliary Unit 283 for all their help and support of our Programs and Events.

Commander Carl R. Stromberg

**PALISADES AUXILIARY UNIT 283**  
**15247 LA CRUZ DRIVE, PACIFIC PALISADES, CA 90272**  
**310-454-0527 OFFICE, 310-230-3980 FAX,**  
**[BUSINESS@POST283.ORG](mailto:BUSINESS@POST283.ORG)**

**UNIT 283 OFFICERS**

**President: Susie Johansen      1<sup>st</sup> Vice President: Vi Walquist**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President: Betty Tattan Jr. Past President: Alice Karl**  
**Secretary/Treasurer: Ruth Hackney Historian: Nancy Branch**  
**Sgt-at-Arms: Maria Kidd      Marshall: Donna True**  
**Parliamentarian: Nora Mastropieri**  
**Assistant: Roberta Johnson**

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HAPPY "HEART" MONTH!

Our Unit truly has a big heart.

We participated in the National Salute to Hospitalized Veterans by serving lunch at the WLA VA. Most of the food was provided by our very own generous Legionnaires. Thanks to all who helped.

Items were purchased for the "Give 10 to Education Program" presented to Edison Elementary School in Santa Monica, the most ethnically diversified school in Santa Monica. A teacher from the school helped us select items that are needed in the classroom.

Several of our Unit members and Legionnaires attended an evaluation meeting for the 2009 Ride 2 Recovery. Plans are being made for the California Ride to finish in Los Angeles October 9, 2010. More information in later Bulletins

The National Auxiliary President will be visiting the Palisades on March 27 and one of her major projects is The Ride 2 Recovery. John Wordin, Executive Director of the ride, will be present with a wounded veteran who rode from San Francisco to Los Angeles this past year.

Girls State interviews are in full swing at each school where we sponsor a girl. The selection process is very challenging but our selection committee does an outstanding job. A big thanks to Maxine Johnson/Vi Walquist and there committee.

There is a need at the WLA VA for volunteers who could be at the Concierge's desk on the 5<sup>th</sup> floor at the hospital. The 5<sup>th</sup> floor houses the OR, ICU, Procedure Clinic, and the Progressive Care Unit.

Bingo volunteers are also needed. If you can give any amount of time, please call Ruth at the Legion Office 1-310-454-0527. Your help would be greatly appreciated by the Veterans and you would be doing a heartfelt service

Susie Johansen, President

American Legion Palisades Post 283  
CELEBRATES  
"SAINT PATRICK'S DAY"

**Dinner Dance**  
Saturday - March 20, 2010

**THE BIG BAND ALUMNI**

JOHNNY VANA - LEADER- DRUM

SAL VESCOYO- Stan Kenton  
JACK SPURLOCK-Lawrence Welk  
BOB GALEOTTI- Harry James  
JOHN FRICK-Benny Goodman  
JACK FEIERMAN-Count Basic  
JACK REDMOND-Charlie Barnett  
GORDON BASH- Tex Beneke  
JOHN SETAR-Bob Crosby  
FRED KOYEN-Si Zentner

LARRY DOUGHERTY -Glen Miller  
BILL CASAILLI-Sammy Kaye  
RICK BLANC-Dizzy Gillespi  
IRA SCHULMAN-Woody Herman  
LARRY COVELLI-Billy May  
ETHMER ROTEN-Henry Mancini  
JACK REDMOND -Charlie Barnett  
GORDON BASH- Tex Beneke  
HOWARD "HOTSY KATZ-Buddy Rich

Bonnie Bowden and Bill Jones – Vocalist

Social Hour 5:30 PM    Dinner 6:30 PM    Dancing 7:30 PM to 11:00 PM

Dinner & Dance \$ 35.00 per person - \$ 70.00 per couple NO

RESERVATION SHALL BE ACCEPTED WITHOUT PAYMENT

R.S.V.P. BY MARCH 15, 2010

NO OUTSIDE BEVERAGES PERMITTED

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ CITY \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Guests \_\_\_\_\_ Amount \_\_\_\_\_

PAYABLE AND MAIL CHECKS TO:

American Legion, Palisades Post 283, 15247 La Cruz Drive, Pacific Palisades, Ca 90272  
(310-454-0527) REFUNDS ONLY WITH 24 HOURS ADVANCE NOTICE



Rita Navarrete,  
National President  
American Legion Auxiliary

Theme: "Reconnect & Energize"

**Southern California Official  
Visit March 27, 2010**

Palisades Post 283  
15247 La Cruz Avenue  
Pacific Palisades, CA 90272

Social Hour: 5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

Dinner: 6:00 p.m. \$20.00 **per person**

RSVP: No Later Than March 19, 2010  
Ruth Hackney (310) 454-0527



**RESERVATIONS:**

Name (Please Print) \_\_\_\_\_

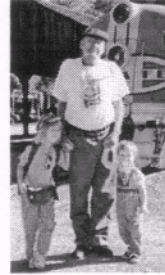
District No. \_\_\_\_\_ Post/Unit No. \_\_\_\_\_ How Many in Party \_\_\_\_\_

Please check for choice of menu [  ] Steak [  ] Chicken: All entrees include salad and dessert.

Make checks payable to: **Palisades Unit 283**  
**15247 La Cruz Drive, Pacific Palisades, Ca. – 310-454-0527**

PAST COMMANDER POST 283

Richard William Ver Steeg  
*loving husband, father, grandfather, brother, friend*  
*passed peacefully on*  
*January 25, 2010*



Richard William VerSteeg July 30, 1924 — January 25, 2010

*A celebration of his life will be held*

*Saturday, February 20, 2010*

*at 2:00 PM*

*American Legion Post 283*

*45247 La Cruz Dr. Pacific*

*Palisades, CA*

R.S.V.P. to [annelanderson@gmail.com](mailto:annelanderson@gmail.com)

or (916) 482-8492

*In lieu of flowers please consider a gift to:*

FISHERHOUSE FOUNDATION, INC

[www.fisherhouse.org](http://www.fisherhouse.org) 111 Rockville Pike, Ste 420, Rockville, MD  
20850

ALZHEIMER'S ASSOCIATION

[www.alz.org](http://www.alz.org) or (800) 272-3900,  
225 N. Michigan Ave., Fl. 17, Chicago, IL 60601

# LOS ANGELES MARATHON

**BE A PART OF HISTROY**

**THE LA MARATHON MARKS ITS 25<sup>TH</sup> YEAR**

**SUNDAY  
MARCH 21, 2010**

The new Stadium to the Sea Course brings the West LA  
VA Campus into the thick of the race.

Even if you are not a runner you can enjoy the thrill of  
Victory without having to break a sweat.

You'll have fun meeting great people, including the 26,000  
Runners participating in the event!

**Over 450 Volunteers are needed to man Water Stations  
At Mile 20 & 21 on the VA Grounds.**

Water Station Mile 20  
The American Red Cross  
Dowlen  
250 Volunteer Needed

Water Station Mile 21  
Wadsworth Theater  
Eisenhower Drive  
200 Volunteers Needed

**34 Volunteers needed**

To join an existing volunteer group go online  
<http://www.lamarathon.com/event/volunteer>