American Legion BSA Camporee 2014
Scott C. Fuqua, Camporee Chairman

The 33rd Annual camporee was held August 8th thru August 10th at Mataquay Scout Ranch in San Diego County. Scott Fuqua Area 5 Chairman was the chairman for the event and Lee Wise, Area 6 Chairman, was the Vice Chairman. Other Department members in attendance were Ashley White, Area 6 along with his son, Jeffrey White and Don McIntosh from 29 District. The Mataquay Range Master staff was composed of Scott Brown and John Lepper of Post 416, Ron Underwood, Mike Szilard and Jerry Shiller. Also assisting and scoring the event was Don McIntosh.

This is winning patrol - L to R: Lee Wise, Sean Cooper, Dylan Blackman, Alan Rennie, Max Wright, Scott Fuqua

The Range staff did an awesome job. The balance of the event staff instructors was composed of the adult leaders from the troops in attendance.

Troops in attendance were Troop 551 from Post 261 El Monte, District 18; Troop 41 from Post 476 California City, District 27; Troop 314 from Post 555 Midway City, District 29 and Troop 6006 from Post 53 Hemet District 21. A total of 21 scouts, 15 adult leaders and 5 Department staff were in attendance.

The troops registered Friday evening. The Senior Patrol leader meeting was held Saturday morning and patrol score cards were handed out and other adult scout leaders volunteered to run the various scout skill events. Saturday at 9 a.m. all Patrols reported to the range for the 22 rifle shooting. After that, the Patrols took on various skills events - Baden Powell’s Lost Treasure - Compass courses, At the end of your rope - Knot relay, You did WHAT - First Aid, River of Woe – Fish Snapper game, Step on It – Crossing the Creek, and Give a Drink to a Dying Man- Leaky Bucket. There were 2 scavenger hunt events also. The Campsites were inspected after breakfast and scored by Jeff White.

Saturday evening the troops at the Camporee met on the outside deck at the Silva Lodge. This was due to no open flame fires. The Patrols presented skits and songs for everyone’s entertainment. Event leaders were given a Certificate of Appreciation for their work and valuable assistance at the Camporee, followed by a cracker barrel put on by the Department Staff. Taps sounded for the day’s events. The tired and aged leaders were just waiting for this, as most of us missed our afternoon naps. Sunday morning Don McIntosh conducted the Scouts own church service at 9 a.m. This was followed by the awards ceremony.

Taking the Department Trophy this year were the Rattlesnakes from Troop 41, 2nd place went to the newcomers Troop 6006. I thank all the troop leaders and Department staff for their valuable time from their busy life to share this positive experience with our youth. Results are below:

1st Place Troop 41
2nd Place Troop 6006
3rd Place Troop 551
4th Place Troop 314

Post 476 Post 53 Post 261 Post 555
California City Hemet El Monte Midway City

District 27 District 21 District 18 District 29 Area 3 Area 6 Area 5

Wyoming Veteran Elected American Legion National Vice Commander

CHARLOTTE (Aug. 28, 2014) – Michael D. Helm was elected national commander of the 2.4-million-member American Legion on Aug. 28, 2014 in Charlotte, N.C., during the 96th national convention of the nation’s largest veterans organization.

A U.S. Army veteran during the Vietnam War, he served with the 82nd Airborne Division in Fort Bragg, N.C., and earned his Ranger tab in 1972. He has been a member of Jack Helt American Legion Post 113 in Lebanon, Neb., since 1972. Born in McCook, Neb., he grew up in Norcatur, Kansas, where he currently resides.

American Legion Post 852 Serving Temecula and Murrieta Valley

By David Poplin, Post Adjutant

Legion Pest Management honors local hero, US Army Sergeant Clinton K. Ruiz, for his ultimate sacrifice for our Country.

Legion Pest Management dedicated one of their vehicles to Sgt. Ruiz, who was killed in action on October 25, 2012 while assigned to 9th Military Information Support Battalion (Airborne), Fort Bragg, NC and deployed—continued on page 5

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Dear Legion Family Members and Friends,

The mission to help veterans and their families was at the heart of our organization’s birth nearly 100 years ago. Service above self still guides The American Legion today.

Consider that during the recent American Legion Legacy Run, a record $1 million was raised. These funds provide scholarship money for children of servicemembers who lost their lives on active duty since 9/11. This is one example of how The American Legion demonstrates its commitment to the families of our heroes.

Donations to American Legion Charities also help fund Operation Comfort Warriors (OCW), Child Welfare Foundation (CWFF), Temporary Financial Assistance (TFA), National Emergency Fund (NEF) and other important programs.

When I became national commander a couple of weeks ago, I announced my 4 x 4 program. One “4” stands for raising $4 million among The American Legion Family – the Legion, Auxiliary, Sons of The American Legion and Legion Riders. The other “4” also represents 4 million – that’s 4 million members of the Legion Family.

The goals are well within our reach. The rewards will represent significant progress for our organization. I devised the 4 x 4 program so that all of our charitable outreach initiatives would benefit. You may have a passion to help our wounded servicemen and women, so a donation to OCW would be appropriate. Or you may want to send a contribution to a program that assists children, such as CWF, TFA or the Legacy Scholarship Fund. In any case, I am asking for your kind donations to whichever program or programs you wish to support.

These programs are effective because of our volunteers. These are men and women who deliver checks to victims in disaster zones, hold fundraising events and purchase comfort items for recovering troops in warrior transition units. Without these volunteers in the Legion, Auxiliary and SAL on the front lines, our organizations would all cease to exist.

To keep these programs viable, we must keep our membership strong. I am asking you to recruit all eligible veterans you meet. Invite their sons and grandsons to join the SAL. Encourage wives and daughters to join the Auxiliary.

On behalf of the nation’s largest and most influential veterans service organization, thank you for what you do every day on behalf of veterans, their families and young people.

Michael D. Helm
National Commander

Boys Nation
By Tim Aboudara, Sr.
Chief Counselor
The American Legion California Boys State

The 67th Session of The American Legion Boys Nation took place from July 18-26 at Marymount University in Arlington, VA. The American Legion California Boys State was represented by Senator Owen Chang (Democrat Party Secretary from our program) and Olulani Osagie (2014 California Boys State Governor.)

Owen ran for Boys Nation Vice-President from his party and, unfortunately, was defeated in the sixth round of voting at his party Convention. He was running again more than 15 candidates from his party to be his party’s candidate in the General Election. Olulani ran for President Pro Tem of the Senate and lost in a very close vote. Undaunted, he then ran for Secretary of the Senate and was elected by a large margin. As Secretary of the Senate, Olulani was awarded a $1000 scholarship from the Sons of the American Legion.

During 8 days at Boys nation, the Boys Nation Senators visited the Memorials on Capitol Hill, Arlington National Cemetery where two Senators laid a wreath at The Tomb of the Unknowns, visited the Legion’s Washington, D.C. headquarters and the Pentagon. They attended the Army Twilight Tattoo Show at Joint Base Myers-Henderson Hall, spent a full day on Capitol Hill and got to visit The White House and meet President Obama.

Senators Osagie and Chang both introduced bills in the Boys Nation Senate. The Senators spent time nearly every day debating and voting on bills they introduced that dealt with many of our nation’s current major issues. Both California Senators represented The American Legion California Boys State program with honor and distinction.

California Boys State Chief Counselor Tim Aboudara, Sr. served on this year’s Boys Nation Staff as the Legislative Administration Assistant. This year was Tim’s fifth on the Boys Nation Staff.

The American Legion Membership Application

Sign-up-on-line TODAY at: www.calegion.org – OR –
Mail application below and $35 to: TAL DoC Post 1000
205 13th Street, Suite 3300, San Francisco, CA 94103-2461
Please make your check payable to TAL DoC Post 1000

Ruiz, from page 1

in Afghanistan. His wife Kira, son Caleb, mother Carla Trease, father John Ruiz and brother Parker Ruiz survive Sgt. Ruiz. Sgt. Ruiz was raised and lived in Murrieta, CA. Sgt. Ruiz’s father, John “Tony” Ruiz, is a U.S. Veteran and member of American Legion Post 852 and current Commander for American Legion Riders Chapter 852 and Murrieta resident. Has organized an annual golf tournament and bike ride events that benefit Sgt. Ruiz Memorial Foundation and The American Legion Post 852.

Legion Pest Management is based in Murrieta, CA and a certified Veteran-owned business. Mr. David Poplin is a U.S. Marine Veteran and member of American Legion Post 852.

Mr. Poplin stated “It is my honor to dedicate our vehicle to Sgt. Ruiz and his family as his 2nd anniversary approaches. It is important to always remember Sgt. Ruiz and all other Americans that gave their lives to our Great Nation. It would challenge all other businesses to honor a fallen soldier and support a veteran organization.”

For more information about Sgt. Ruiz Foundation, go to their Facebook page https://m.facebook.com/comstlntnruzzz/ref=bookmark or phone 951-970-8886, email Tony Ruiz at jonryruz@gmail.com.

For more information about American Legion Post 852 Murrieta/Temecula go to www.ala852tmnv.org.

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To submit articles and/or photos: Please e-mail article and any photos attached at a minimum of 200 DPI (1600 x 1200) to editor@pacific.net

All submissions become the property of The American Legion Department of California. All submitted material is subject to edit, rework and omission. We are not responsible for lost items or misplaced material.

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Do not direct them to the Editor

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PAGE 2 • OCTOBER 2014 • CALIFORNIA LEGIONNAIRE
ON THE WEB AT WWW.CALEGION.ORG
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Our first DEC (Department Executive Committee) meeting was held in Bakersfield on August 9 & 10. Finance Commission, Ways and Means Commission and Membership held meetings. The DEC was very productive.

Thanks again, Bakersfield Post 26, for hosting the Fall DEC. We are in very good shape and our goals for membership will remain the same as 2014. So if your Post’s goal was 100% last year and you made only 90%, you will need to work a little harder this year to reach that 100% goal. If you made goal, you are in great shape, and can only improve.

You may recall that the Trial Manual had been revitalized last year and after review. The DEC voted to go back to the previous 2006 version which may be found on the ca legion.org website. An appointed ad-hoc committee will review and make recommendations at the Spring DEC in March 2015.

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— continued on page 5

When we first discussed the goal of 1,800,000 Volunteers, most of us assumed that it would take years to achieve. The American Legion has already exceeded that goal by approximately 1.8 million veterans.

What is interesting about this report is the amount of volunteer hours our Legionnaires and Auxiliary Units, American Legion Riders, Sons of the American Legion contribute. This is a phenomenal amount of time spent to care for our veterans using the VA Healthcare. Here is a summary of the hours reported. As of the end of the 3rd quarter, 7,461 American Legion volunteers contributed 625,273 hours. Following is a breakdown by 3rd, 2nd and 1st quarter report:

The goal National established for the end of this fiscal year is 9,000 Volunteers and 1,000,000 hours. To reach this goal, there is an average of 1,539 volunteers reporting 374,725 hours by September 30, 2014. Please ensure everything is being done at the Department and Post levels to achieve this goal, and please let them know what assistance is needed from National to achieve this goal. I thank you for all of your efforts.

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To continue bringing information regarding our National Commander, John Kruk, I hope to bring some understanding and information to our membership. As the National Commander, he maintains the hope that we as American Legionnaires have a greater appreciation for our traditions and rituals and in turn our members will pass this information on to new members.

The flag of our country is the one unifying item that not only identifies the United States of America; it also identifies our citizens. As a nation, we started our military roadway by saluting the flag, we ended our day saluting our flag and for those sailors, who served on the high seas, women, we started our military roadway by saluting the flag, we ended our day saluting our flag and for those sailors, who served on the high seas, we saluted the flag. The flag is our focal point of honor, identity and reverence. In the days when our soldiers fought wars on large battlegrounds, in ranks, and charged the enemy, the color bearers were right up front with our flag, and in a sense this is an analogy for us as veterans to make sure that we “salute the flag” and ensure that it remains a symbol of Freedom, Democracy, Liberty and Justice. Many articles have been written about our flag, we have a Flag Code to guide us on how we should display and honor the flag, so I won’t get into this area. At all meetings of the American Legion, our National Flags are displayed with honor and respect. As we approach the podium, we salute the flag before stepping up to the podium, again, a sign of honor to those that came before us, to honor those that served under those colors and to honor those that died under the Red, White and Blue symbol of America, defending the ideals of Freedom that we cherish. Many of our flags have accoutrements, such as the gold fringe, tassel and the finial (the top of our flags). The eagle with outstretched wings, but tradition have dictated the use of the gold fringe, tassel and the finial (the top of our flags). The eagle with outstretched wings, but tradition have dictated the use of the gold fringe, tassel and the finial (the top of our flags). 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This past Department Executive Caucus in Bakersfield, I had the pleasure to attend the VAVS Fresno Representative Mildred Wright-Pearson report on the Fresno VA Medical Center. Please thoroughly read her report, and if you live in that, or use the Fresno VA MC see what you can do to address the issues of concern, and help advocate for our veterans. Periodically, all VAVS Representatives and Deputies I would love to have you report on your VA Facility and see what we can do to address, applaud concerns and issues of concern to bring you even be able to head off future VA problems such as the Phoenix VA MC experienced.

To our hard working and appreciate all of the assistance you are providing to our nation’s veterans.

I must applaud all of The American Legion Family for this concerted effort and the fact that you do make a difference in the lives of our veterans and their families. We personally participated in this when I have treatment at the Long Beach VA Medical Center. I see it when some of the stakeholders meetings in this area. The hope that we can and please continue to support this vital program.

---Dept. Service Officer, from page 3

DEPARTMENT SERGEANT-AT-ARMS

Larry Leonardo, Sr.
Department Sergeant-At-Arms

Quarter: 3rd
Volunteers: 7,461
Diff: 409

Hours: 625,275
Diff: 222,382

DEPARTMENT VICE COMMANDER REPRESENTING AREA 1

Michael Hughes
Vice Commander
Representing Area 1

I want to thank everyone in Area One for the support you have given me on being your Department One Commander for 2014-2015. For all the District Commissioners, I know that membership is not important, then you don’t realize the benefits for the top. I was the District Commander for District Six (6) for 2013-2014. We ended up in first place for the state for membership, and first place for category II (2) in the nation, for The Race-to-the-Top. For coming in first place, we won an all expense paid trip for my wife and I to the National Convention in Charlotte North Carolina as Distinguished Guests of the National Commander, Daniel Dellinger.

This included round trip airfare, hotel accommodations, dinner for membership, and banquet dinner with the National Commander, setting at the review stand during the parade, front row seats to the convention and also received, an award on stage, and was presented with a new post cap which has imprinted on it; Race to the Top Category II 2013-2014. Thanks to all my District Six (6) members for the exceptional push for membership. Let’s make this another great year for membership.

DEPARTMENT VICE COMMANDER REPRESENTING AREA 3

Eric Kurtz
Vice Commander
Representing Area 3

With the year up and running and membership high I know that the Post’s 1st Vices and Adjutants are busy with the work involved with membership, which in turn turns up the workload at Department Headquarters. With a few posts within the Department already at or above 100%, there is still a lot of work to do. For the posts that hit or exceeded their 100%, don’t stop now because you can make yourselves look even better by helping with the membership in your Districts, Areas and Department. Keep in mind the 3 Rs, Recruit new members, Renew existing members and Reconstitute post members. By keeping current members it maintains our base, recruiting new members strengthen our base and getting past/former members reinstated also strengthens our base. Membership does take creativity when reaching out to the young Veterans to be able to get them interested, and as for the older Veterans, creativity is also useful, because being able to have functions and activities that catch the interest of both young and old, along with those in between.

With this article being written just before my first Area meeting and the start of my District Visitations, two in September (Districts 11 and 15), one in October (District 12) and two in November (District 14 and 27), I am hoping to have as many Area 3 Commissioners at my Area Meetings to get out as much information for the various Commissions so that the District Commissioners can provide the information to their Posts. Remember, communication is very important and down the ladder from the Posts up and National down with Department, Area and District in between.

DEPARTMENT VICE COMMANDER REPRESENTING AREA 6

Robert Heintz
Vice Commander
Representing Area 6

It was great to see everyone who attended the DEC in Bakersfield. We will be unstoppable if we can maintain the enthusiasm that was generated during the meeting. This promises to be a great year for Area Six. I am blessed with four dedicated and active District Commanders and a slate of Area Six Officers second to none. While our challenges are great, we intend to provide our Posts with the tools to meet these challenges. Starting this month, National will be working with our team on an Area Six Membership Revitalization September 18th to September 20th.

Frank Campos, our Area Six Membership Chairman, working with Art Castro (Membership Chairman South), and Mike Hooper (Department Membership Director), have done a great job and are coordinating our efforts. Due to the size and population of our Area, we will be working out of two Posts in different Districts at the same time. The Posts scheduled are Vandenburg Post 125 in Lompac covering Ventura, Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo Counties, and East Pasadena Post 280 in Pasadena covering over 60% of Los Angeles County.

Our first Caucus will be held on Saturday, October 25th at East Pasadena Post 280. The promise to provide our Posts with information and tools will continue at that Caucus with a program directed towards marketing and educational opportunities. Stay tuned.
Aeronautics & Aerospace Commission

Robert E. Cozad, Chairman

Team Target hits QF-16 mark
By Ashley M. Wright
325th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

9/11/2014—TYNDALL AIR FORCE BASE, Fla.—The Air Force’s newest aerial target took a major step toward preparing warfighters downrange with a new capability. The QF-16’s first generation replica of what they may face on the battlefield.

The first unmanned QF-16 Viper struck down over the Gulf of Mexico Sept. 5. Air Force officials said the key test and Training Division at Eglin Air Force Base, Fla., and the 82nd Aerial Target Squadron here at Tyndall.

“This test was the culmination of years of planning and arcree training specifically tailored to stand up to the next generation of full-scale aerial targets,” said Lt. Col. Ryan Walker, 325th ATRS commander. “The teamwork between members of Boeing, the Systems Program Office at Eglin, the 53rd Weapons Evaluation Group and the 82nd ATRS enabled a nearly flawless test.”

Currently, QF-4 Phantoms are used as targets to test pilots, aircraft and weapons before they reach the battlefield.

The unmanned QF-16 performed an auto-takeoff from Tyndall and was targeted by air-to-air missiles launched over the gulf test range. This successful final operational test validated the QF-16’s capability to assess the end game performance of weapons employed against it, and closes out the development phase of the program, according to an official at Eglin’s testing division.

“The aging fleet of the QF-4s and their limited capabilities against modern fighter jets renders the aerial target workhorse, Phantom II, at its technological limit,” Inman said.

“The QF-16 initiates the next chapter in advanced aerial targets, test and evaluation in support of more technologically superior air-to-air weapons test and evaluation programs. The QF-16 will enable our warfighters an efficient, effective and continuous operation at maximum mission effectiveness while maintaining air superiority and global reach for decades to come.”

This test was an important step in the right direction for the program and market, driven by the needs of the national and range qualification testing at both the Eglin Test Range and White Sands Missile Range.

“The successful mission is a direct result of the hard work, committee and synergy between Air Combat Command, the Test and Training Division, the Aerospace Maintenance and Regeneration Group, the Boeing Company and numerous other stakeholders. This test and training asset was born to fly and has flown its final mission. These two teams can maintain air dominance across the globe,” said Michele Hafers, Test & Training Division director.

The 82nd ATRS is part of the 53rd Weapons Evaluation Group, which falls under the 53rd Wing at Eglin. The group provides the personnel and infrastructure to test and evaluate weapons utilized by the Air Force’s combat and support forces.

Under United States law (Title 10, Section 2366 of the U.S. Code), a test and evaluation system must undergo lethality testing before it can enter full-scale production. The 82 ATRS maintains Department of Defense’s sole capability to execute that Title 10 requirement. There are sub-scale target capabilities in other services, but the Air Force is the only service that has a full-scale Aerial Target program.

“Inman explained.

“Team Target executes that capability flawlessly every day at Tyndall and Holloman Air Force bases,” Inman said. “This test could not have been accomplished without the unparalleled support of the operations and mission support groups. From the fire and explosive ordnance disposal support, to the airfield management and tower and radar approach control support, to the logistical support, there are countless unsung heroes and stakeholders in our mission. We are merely the execution agency that gets to sit at the end of the droneway and bask in the achievement.”

—National Commander, from page 1

Military Academy at West Point, N.Y.; Rebecca and her husband Jaxon Cox, both graduates of Kansas State University; Jacob, a senior cadet at the U.S. Air Force Academy; Matthew, an Army ROTC cadet at Kansas State University and Timothy, a student at Decatur Community High School in Oberlin, Kansas.

Helm took the oath of office along with five other air force personnel of the United States, including as national vice commanders are Doug Haggan, Department of Defense; Paul O. Sanford, Department of Kansas; Richard Draper, Department of North Carolina; William R. Bryant, Department of Virginia; and Gerald L. Jacobs, of Wyoming. They each represent regions that cover the 50 states, District of Columbia and overseas departments of The American Legion.

National Historian Sue Mason, Sorrento, Fla.; National Sergeant-at-Arms Leon Hagan, of Beavercreek, Neb.; and National Chaplain Randy Cash, Columbia, S.C., were appointed to their positions by Cmdr. Helm following the close of the national convention.
First Military Book Fair Comes to San Diego Supporting California American Legion VA & R Foundation

Saturday, November 8, 2014
By San Diego American Legion District 22

SAN DIEGO, CA—The Us for Warriors Foundation, a California 501 (c) 3 non-profit organization, in cooperation with San Diego American Legion and the California American Legion Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation Foundation, proudly present San Diego’s first Military Book Fair scheduled aboard the USS Midway Museum on Saturday November 8, 2014.

All proceeds from the event will be donated to organizations that support veterans and their families including the California American Legion Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation Foundation, REBOOT Military-to-Civilian workshops, the USO Rehabilitation Foundation, REBOOT Military-to-Civilian workshops, the USO Rehabilitation Foundation, and the Mysterious Galaxy bookstore. However, additional corporate sponsorships are still available.

The Military Book Fair will start at 9am and end at 5pm, and will be located within the hanger deck of the USS Midway Naval Aviation Museum in downtown San Diego, California that once held many of our Nation’s top air defense leaders. The Fair is free to the public with a standard admission ticket to the museum. The Us for Warriors website (www.us4warriors.org) and newspaper advertisements will feature a $5 discount coupon for Midway Museum tickets, and there is no cost to veterans and retired military. For our American Legion families, a copy of the advertisement is provided in this publication as well.

“Attendees can tour the aircraft carrier, hear top authors and celebrities reveal their secrets during panels throughout the day, and purchase books to be signed by over 40 authors,” said William Craig Reed, New York Times bestselling author, former U.S. Navy Diver, Us for Warriors Foundation Board Chair, and Chula Vista Post 434 member. “Photo opportunities with authors and celebrities will also be available, and all proceeds from book sales will benefit veterans and their families. This will be an exciting event for the entire family.”

That evening, from 6:30pm to 9:30pm, the Us for Warriors Foundation will host a special VIP Charity Gala Event on the flight deck of the USS Midway for 500 attendees. Over 30 top authors will attend, along with TV and movie celebrities like Hank Steinberg and Rorke Denver. Live entertainment will also include recording artist Doug Trask singing his original hit song Welcome Home—a tribute to veterans. Headlining the event will be Jessica Sanchez, one of two final contestants on Season 11 of American Idol. Her spring 2013 album debuted at #8 and she joined the cast of Glee for the season finale. Due to all that comes with it (entertainment, food, prizes, meet and greet, celebrities, authors, and more) and the limited seating, tickets to the VIP Charity Gala Event are available for $199 per person at http://www.us4warriors.org/mbf-tickets.html.

All proceeds will benefit veterans and their families. Multiple ticket discounts are available automatically in case a post, a team or a couple wants to come together or if you purchase individual Legionsnaires use Promo Code “LEGIONS” for an exclusive discount. Promo codes are for individual purchases only. Remember, ticket costs are tax deductible based on standard IRS guidelines.

Current corporate sponsors for the event include the San Diego Union Tribune, Amazon Create Space, the California American Legion, Alaska Airlines, Marriott, Aventi Group Consulting Services, Sundt Corporation, Strategies Public Relations, and the Mysterious Galaxy bookstores. However, additional corporate sponsorships are still available. Information on the Military Book Fair and VIP Charity Gala Event can be found at www.militarybookfair.org.

Got questions? We’ve got answers to help support:
Public Relations: Antoinette Kuritz, Strategize PR, akuritz@strategize.com
American Legion District 22 & Us for Warriors Foundation: Tony Stewart, Commander@LegionSD.org
Military Book Fair Event Coordinator: William Craig Reed, Events@US4Warriors.org

On behalf of San Diego American Legion Family and the Board of Directors of the Us for Warriors Foundation, Thank You to All Legionsnaires for your service, Veteran Families for your sacrifices and to the Us for Warriors Foundation for leading the charge in support of veterans and their families!
Opportunity to raise funds for our VA&R Foundation
Through CFC donations to Patriot Outreach
Rees Lloyd, Attorney; and Terry Tracy, Past CA DSO
Co-directors of Patriot Outreach Pilot Project of the Department of California

The 2014 Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) for charitable giving donations by federal employees has commenced. All federal employees have the opportunity to designate a charity of their choice to receive that employee’s deduction by payroll deduction.

If you are a federal employee, please consider designating Patriot Outreach, which was approved starting in 2013 for inclusion in the CFC as a national and international charity after an independent audit by the CDC. Information on Patriot Outreach and CFC is attached below; and go to www.PatriotOutreach.org for more information on Patriot Outreach and its creative many programs to aid veterans — including our Patriot Outreach Pilot Project of The American Legion Dept. (State) of California.

If you are not a federal employee entitled to donate through the CFC, then please urge any family members, friends, associates, or acquaintances, who are federal employees to designate Patriot Outreach as their charity of choice — and forward out this notification to them and others.

This is particularly important for California legionnaires, because Col. Tony Monaco, founder and CEO of Patriot Outreach has confirmed that Patriot Outreach has aided our efforts from California. Now it is up to us to help ourselves by working to generate donations from California to Patriot Outreach, CFC #33784.

Please consider acting on this offer by Patriot Outreach to help us serve veterans, and feel free to direct any questions you have to or to Patriot Outreach. Phone 951-867-1551 or ReesLloyd@aol.com

District 23 Scribe
Marilyn E. Rideaux
Adjutant/Scribe, “Teamin’ 23rd”District

The “Teamin’ 23rd” District kicked off the 2014/2015 year with a Sunday afternoon Installation on July 13, 2014 at Community Post 46 in Culver City. The surprising thing is that we got some strong rain for about ten minutes. We were honored to have Department Commander, Janet Wilson in attendance as well as Alternate NEC, Robert C. Brown, Past Department President, Anita Biggs, NEC (elect), Hugh Crooks, candidate for Department Commander, Larry Van Kuren, and candidate for Department Sgt-at-Arms, John “Wayne” Yee along with a host of other distinguished guests. Alternate NEC Brown served as installing officer assisted by Charles Lourand of Amador Post 108 who served as installing Sgt-at-Arms.

It is our tradition each year to honor a District Legionnaire who has proven worthiness of being recognized by his/her long time dedication and service to the 23rd District by bestowing upon them the Robert L. Schwartz Memorial Award. This year’s recipient was Marvin Levy of Community Post 46. Comrade Levy represents the American Legion in a professional and exemplary manner at all times.

This year, through a recommendation by District Commander, Keith Morris, we initiated a new tradition. The first ever 23rd District Legionnaire of the Year award was presented to Patricia Jackson Kelley. Selecting Comrade Jackson Kelley as the first recipient of this award was a “no-brainer.” Those of you who

Pictured (L-R): Keith Morris, District Commander; Patricia Jackson Kelley; Robert C. Brown, Alternate NEC; Janet Wilson, Department Commander. Know her would agree.

The first-ever 23rd District Legionnaire of the Year award was presented to Patricia Jackson Kelley.
Thank you everyone for the honor of being your Department President this year. It has been a fun year so far.

Along with our Vice President Susie Tozier and V&A&R Chairman Wendy O’Brien, we have visited the Northern VAMC’s. Each one is unique and the Veteran’s we spoke to along the way were happy with the care they were getting. Our tour began with Yountville and the Legion Picnic. Poppy Chairman Kathy Martinez met us up there for the fun filled weekend doing what we do best. Having fun and entertaining the residents. We served them lunch, gave them goodie bags, and listened to great music. Then off to Palo Alto. San Francisco, Livermore, Mather, and Martinez. We have added a couple of Deputies, I am proud to say, and especially in Martinez where we have had no representation.

The Representatives and the facility staff that escorted us around, Thank you. Also, Thank you to Henry, Tim and Mary Adame who were joining us on the tours and were very gracious. I feel like it was a learning experience for us all.

In light of the pressure the VAMC’s (and scrutiny) the past months, there have been audits done in every facility we visited. They have admitted to minor problems, the biggest being the 30 year old scheduling system in place. Everyone is looking forward to a more modern system in place, sometime in the future. As of present, this is a Federal task so dates are unknown.

Off to National Convention the end of August to see our own Nancy Brown-Park lead the world’s largest women’s patriotic organization. Her selfies are legendary. In the break out we had a fun discussion about the 2019 100 Year Anniversary of the Auxiliary and its 1,000,000 member goal. There has been set up a strategic plan and California is in the process of fine tuning ours. Look forward to more information about that in bulletins and emails in the future.

As We create Relationships, Assist Families, through Service to Veterans in our communities, be creative, have fun and be nice to everyone.

The Constitution of the United States, Article II, section 1 states “Before he enters on the Execution of his Office, he shall take the following Oath or Affirmation: —I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will faithfully execute the Office of President of the United States, and will to the best of my Ability, preserve, protect and defend the Constitution of the United States”. This vow made by the person entering the highest office in our land reaffirms the value and importance placed on this document that is the foundation of all our great country stands for.

Let’s be aware of the National Children and Youth Chairman, Diane Duschek, has placed emphasis on educating the children and youth in our communities about the history of the United States by promoting patriotism, Americanism and knowledge of the U.S. Constitution through the “Star Spangled Skits” and “Ideas and Nationals” for implementing this program can be obtained by contacting me at marshal@att.net or through the Children and Youth program page at www.ALAnoVeterans.org. I am excited to hear how our units and districts create their own “Star Spangled Kids” when the mid-year and year end reports are submitted.

There are so many opportunities for a successful and productive Children and Youth program in your unit they cannot be all listed in one article. Among them are “Kids of Deployed are Heroes 2”, “G.I. Josh, Youth Hero Award,” “Good Deed Award,” “Operation Military Kids,” “Operation Give a Hug,” as well as your own activities and parties. Some additional resources for information are: The American Legion Children and Youth programs (www.legion.org), the American Legion Child Welfare Foundation (www.legion.org/cwf), Operation Military Kids (www.operationmilitarykids.org), and the Department website (www.calegionaux.org) for regular bulletins.

Remember to give our children all the love they deserve and fill their hearts with patriotism and pride to be an American. Your efforts will bring immeasurable rewards.

Thank you for working with our wonderful organization, culminating with our Million Member March in 2019.

We learned many things at National Convention this last August in Charlotte. First being our American Legion Auxiliary 2014-2015 Strategic Plan. There are 5 goals: - Attain a Million Members - Create an Internal Culture of Goodwill - Develop Leadership at all Levels - Strengthen Departments and Units - With the American Legion- Build Brand Loyalty

With these 5 goals are strategies to help us attain the goals, and thus keep our organization alive.

As your Historian, I would like for you all to look at the National website: http://www.alaloveterans.org, find the Strategic Plan. It will contain the Goals, together with strategies to accomplish your/our Goals. There are also tools to reach our goal-communications and press release templates, Branding guide, television/radio commercial cd’s, downloadable posters for use in your unit’s programs, and tools to create positive publicity of your Unit and Districts. We need to Brand ourselves and spread the news on our good works!

Your challenge in writing our History for 2014-2015 is simple! Pick 2 goals! Work with your Unit to pick 2 goals, and following the strategies outlined-pick an attainable strategy.

For example: President Harriet has picked Goal 2 as one of her projects for her term: Create an Internal Culture of Goodwill.

Strategies: Lead by example, Empower members, Build Trust within the American Legion and the American Legion Auxiliary.

Write how your Units/Districts are going to achieve this Goal. Send those to me to caauxhistory@gmail.com. Then, at the end of the year, I will look forward to reading how you attained your goals.

Our organization’s very survival depends on everyone jumping on board. Join the Million Member March. To quote PNP Nancy, “If not us, who? If not now, when?”
It’s ALL-good, no matter what you do for National Security. But what do you know Department Presidents theme, “Creating Relationships, Encouraging Families Through Service.” Well I had to pick a craft pertaining to quilting so I choose Blockwork. As Masters of “Blockwork,” we bring together resources to create a basic unit. Sewing together smaller pieces of fabric into a larger patchwork “block” of fabric which makes up a big unit.

NATIONAL SECURITY is a topic that should be of concern to every American Citizen. As National Security Chair you have an opportunity to choose from many fields of service. Each and every Unit should have no trouble finding at least one project that would be of interest to your members to actively participate in.

The next generation of Veterans needs us. We must ensure the American Legion Auxiliary’s future is strong, because of who we are, and what we do. We will need more than ever after more than a decade at war. Because we are the American Legion Auxiliary, we are able to use our talents, skills, resources and time to serve others, I thought this would be a fitting title for us. As our Juniors work with us, they too will be Blockworkers. In the Auxiliary, we will participate in projects that improve the quality of life for our Veterans and those projects will make a difference in their lives. The joy of giving by providing anything in return is an instilled practice of every Volunteer.

Central to National Security is a programs that encourage our members to respond to natural and man-made disasters. In the news lately there have been devastating natural disasters that have affected not only individuals immediately in the disaster zone, but entire communities that must rely on others to give them emergency assistance where possible. This Chairman asks you “What Would You Do? Would you know what to do if an emergency happened in your Post? Would you know how to help someone who collapsed next to you? Does your Post have a first aid kit? If so, do you know where it is? Is your Post registered with the Red Cross as an Emergency Shelter? Do you know Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR)? Do you know how an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) Unit works? Each of these questions have been a great concern for one of our Auxiliary Sister who has experienced all the above. Through her diligent appeal to the National President and Department Commander Janet Wilson, we have been given thumbs up to try and make this a Department of California Legion Family project. We are asking all Legos to arrange meetings and Sons of the American Legion to work together to fulfill the following four requests.

1) Get your Post registered with the American Red Cross as an Emergency Shelter. 2) Agree to get several first aid kits in your Post and make sure their locations are tagged and highlighted so you know where they are. 3) Make sure the first aid kits are kept. 3) Collaborate together to have several CPR Training sessions held in your Post, and; 4) Have funding opportunities to raise money to purchase an AED Unit for your Post.

We want this project to be interesting, informative, and challenging. Interesting, because we should see more Unity amongst the Legion family in working together “to get the job done.” Informative, because you should be reaching into your communities to find individuals who can assist you with planning, advertising, and outreach in preparing for your CPR classes and helping to setup your Post as an Emergency Shelter. Challenging, because each Post has a different size. How do you approach the State of California can get the four ideas completed before next June 2015. We have created a spreadsheet listing those who have agreed to sign up with their skills. As your Post, District, or Unit completes each of the four ideas, I am asking you to send me an email indicating when the idea was completed so we can chart the progress of this State project. At Mid-Year we will produce the Chart and share the information with all present.

Each provided a Grant Form so those individuals who are serious in their efforts, can apply for an AED machine, cutting the purchase price down by 50%. Write to the AALF at Callegosaux.org bulletin/September, click on National Security emergency preparedness website.

We need to be visible in our communities by helping not only military, Veterans, and their families, but we also need to be involved with other organizations and community partners supporting their endeavors so that people will recognize the American Legion Auxiliary’s local efforts.

This year begins the member approved merge of “Field Service and Home Service”. All hours donated other then in a VA supported facility will be combined under the heading “Service to Veterans”. This will make reporting our service a little easier.

The Department will again be collecting Diabetic socks, underwear, panties (for females) and T-shirts; there is still a great need for these items as well.

Dear Members,

As your Department Public Relations Chairman I encourage you to get to know the activities of events your District/Unit is doing. Contact your local media with Photos and articles. Also use social media to spread your message and advertise your events. Just 10 minutes pet week and advertising your events can make a huge difference. Please send me copies of all media print/ video and photos you create, copies of these documents will be included in the press book I am preparing this year. I also encourage you to post your unit photos and a description of your events on the Department Facebook page. Using social media not only lets the public know what you are doing, but provides that are still active, fellow units ideas on how to enhance their unit programs. We discussed some of the Facebook do’s and don’ts at the Clovis Department workshop. I hope that those of you who attended learned a little something.

Should you have any questions please feel free to email me at JenniferBieg1@gmail.com or call me at (909) 731-0789. I wish you all well and look forward to seeing you at Mid-Year.

Jennifer Bieg1
Public Relations Chair

Welcome Home Past National President Nancy Brown-Park

By Tami Bell

All done and convention welcomes new National President Janet Jefford, of Manchester, Conn.

VETERANS AFFAIRS & REHAB

Wendy O’Brien

I would like to congratulate all the District and Unit V&AR Chairmen, as well as the Hospital Representatives and Deputies on your assignments. Our responsibility this year is to guide members and the community of ways we can enhance the lives of veterans, military and their families.

There are many ways we can achieve our goal; Volunteering at VA healthcare facility, State Veterans Home or Community Nursing Home, help with the local Stand-downs, participate with a “Quilts of Valor Project” through the Quilts of Valor Foundation, Knit, crochet quilts for a Veteran, assist them with learning the internet, babysitting for Doctors appointments and the list goes on.

This year begins the member approved merge of “Field Service and Home Service”. All hours donated other then in a VA supported facility will be combined under the heading “Service to Veterans”. This will make reporting our service a little easier.

The Department will again be collecting Diabetic socks, underwear, panties (for females) and T-shirts; there is still a great need for these items as well.

Renew, Rejoin, and Retain

November 12th is drawing near; early bird gets the worm. I am hearing what legion families are serving up is an amazing meal for our members that renew and rejoin. Some Legion families are working together by adding raffle baskets during dinner hours a buck of drinks. Great thinking, members can save money in some areas then spend more in other areas such as another, winning a basket, etc…

Members from ALA unit #1000 are transferring to District twenty-two.

Our Flagpack breakfast was successful and we had a blast. I received seventeen applications; eight for the legion, five for the auxiliary, and four for the SONs. I am looking forward to the Mira Mar Air Show on Friday through Sunday, October 3rd, 4th, and 5th. Please sign up to volunteer on either day.

Thank you to Legos who have signed up their granddaughters and great-grand daughters! Remember, renew, rejoin, and retain.
Sons of The American Legion
Donate to LLCH

By Kayla Sheldon, Community Writer
Loma Linda City News

Last Wednesday, Aug. 27, Sons of the American Legion Squadron 155 delivered a hand-earned donation check to Loma Linda University Children’s Hospital for our Josh dog program - John Mejia, Commander, Squadron 155, Colton, CA.

Dog stuffed animals serve as therapeutic tools for young patients during the treatment and healing process. According to Dr. Riesen, a Josh Dog is presented to the patient in a formal way, giving their new fluffy friend special meaning as they travel with them through treatments, procedures, and the healing process.

Bradley Rottner, a young patient at LLCH, was presented with his Josh Dog and quickly put a mask over the dog so they would match. “The dog goes through everything that the patients go through,” Dr. Riesen mentioned.

Dr. Sharon Riesen shared how grateful she was of everyone in Sons of The American Legion for their donation. She mentioned that throughout the many years that they have donated, “this is the most we’ve ever received.” Mejia estimated that over the years they have donated about $80,000, including toys. “When there are no more sick children in the world, then my job will be done,” he shared.

Governor Brown appointed Thomas Bucco of Solano as administrator at our California Department of Veterans Affairs (CalVet) Veterans Home of California, West Los Angeles.

“Our West Los Angeles Veterans Home is one of CalVet’s top priorities, and we are excited to bring such a skilled leader into our community,” stated Undersecretary for Veterans Homes Diane Vanderpoot. “Mr. Bucco brings years of experience in private-sector long-term care. He has also worked in the public sector as deputy district attorney and is a former Air Force pilot. The skills he brings to this position should serve our residents and staff well.”

Bucco has been chief executive officer at Villa Maria Health Centers since 2001. He served as deputy district attorney at the Yolo County District Attorney’s Office from 2000 to 2011. Bucco was executive director of the Quality Care Health Foundation from 1999 to 2000 and regional director of quality assurance at Hillhaven Corporation from 1990 to 1997. He served in the U.S. Air Force as a standards evaluation instructor navigator from 1984 to 1990. Bucco earned a Juris Doctor degree from the University of Northern California School of Law and a Master of Public Administration degree from the University of Oklahoma. Bucco is also a licensed Nursing Home and Residential Care Facility for the Elderly (RCFE) Administrator.

The West Los Angeles Home is a long-term care facility, which admitted its first resident in October of 2010. The Home provides RCFE (assisted living), Skilled Nursing, Memory Care, and, through a partnership with the US Dept. of Veterans Affairs West LA Health Care Center, a Transitional Housing Program for homeless veterans trying to reestablish themselves in the community.

Veterans desiring to be considered for membership must be residents of California, age 55 or older (or younger if disabled), and have served honorably. CalVet operates eight residential care facilities for Veterans. For more information, including home locations, levels of care available, application processes, photo galleries and more, go to http://www.calvet.ca.gov/calvet-programs-veteran-homes

Past Commanders’ Club of California

Marilyn E. Rideaux, State Secretary

By now all Outposts (OP) should have the 2015 membership cards except OP 201, which we have not been able to make contact with. The good news is that the per capita is still $5.

Since my appointment as State Secretary not only Past Commanders’ Club of California, I’ve received a couple of Member For Life (MFL) and Honorary Life Member (HLM) applications. What has concerned me about the MFL rate schedule was that the first column heading in the first row of the schedule says, “Per Capita Dues.” What does that do? The idea is that a OP is remitted to the State for each member of your OP. Dues, well whatever amount you voted to assess each member per year I would count as each member of your OP. My point is that the rate for a MFL applicant is based upon whatever your OP dues are and the age of the applicant. An updated rate schedule can be downloaded from the Department website under PCC.

Some of you have asked for the 2014/2015 roster and I am sorry that it is late. When you read this article it will be the month of September, but I want you to know that today is August 14, and I have made a commitment to get the roster out before leaving for the National American Legion Convention next week, although there will be some blank spaces. I am awaiting a Certification of OfficersMS form, then print and sign it for mailing.

On-line Enrollment is Now Available for LIT No-Cost AD&D

The Legionnaire Insurance Trust is pleased to announce that online enrollment is now available for the LegionCare No Cost Accidental Death benefit. Please be sure to let your Department know about this one-of-a-kind benefit offered exclusively to Legionnaires.

LegionCare provides all Legionnaires with:

1. $5,000 in Accidental Death Coverage for accidents that occur if you are traveling on official Legion business.
2. $1,000 for all other covered accidents.
3. 24/7 protection that covers Legionnaires at home, at work and while they are travelling away from home available for all Legionnaires in your Department.

To learn more or to sign up, please visit http://www.theilit.com/no-cost-legioncare

Re: Recruiting, Revitalization, Renewals and Reconnecting: “We will always be about service first, but folks, we can’t continue to provide the programs or the service without the membership,” Helm said. “Practice those four Rs. Recruit every eligible veteran that you come in contact with. Recruit their sons, grandsons, who are veterans and granddaughters into the American Legion family. You don’t need to be near a military base to reconnect with servicemembers. Reserve and guard units have deployed in record numbers since 9/11, and most are eligible for American Legion membership.

“Renewal efforts shouldn’t just include those who left your post in the past year, but check back on those who might have left five or even 10 years ago. They might have had a change of heart or simply forgot to renew because nobody was pro-active enough to take an interest in them.”

And remember it is not the price you pay to be a member it’s the price you paid to become eligible. Join today!
Greetings fellow Voyager, by now you should all have received notice of the Fall Grande Cheminot’s meeting, to be held at Riverside Post 79, October 18 & 19, 2014. Make reservations ASAP if you haven’t already done so.

Since last writing in July, I have stayed busy doing installations and visitations. If you would like to schedule a visitation, my contact info is on Page 1 of the Grande Roster. This coming weekend, I will be attending an active Wreck in Santa Clara, put on by the very capable Northern California Wrecking Crew, led by Past Grande Chef de Gare Ron Galvan. Six new Voyager are scheduled to be welcomed into the 40 & 8 at that time. Remember, membership is our lifeblood, and I hope to be able to report good news soon on Voiture Locale revitalizations in both Humboldt and Lassen Counties.

In the meantime, keep looking out for prospective new Voyager. Our Grande Voiture is beneficial to our local communities and we need members to keep those programs successful. Recruit and renew! Later this month, I will be attending Promenade Nationale in Virginia Beach. It promises to be a fun and enlightening experience. Hope to see you all there, or else, in Riverside!

**Attention 40 & 8 Legionnaires**

La Societe des Quarante Hommes et Huit Chevaux
Grande Voiture du California, Inc.
Joseph R. Donovan, Grand Correspondent

Note: Please visit the Grande Web Site www.cafortyandeight.org

Grand Chef Gary B. Leach has called for the Grande Roster. This coming weekend, Grande Voiture du California, Inc. (Grand Officers and Directeurs) will meet Saturday at Post 79 - 9:00am to 3:00pm. 

FRIDAY, October 17
Steak Dinner $10.00 or Chicken $8.00 at Post 79. Pay at the door, but reservations are REQUIRED by October 10 to Bernie Foley.

SATURDAY, October 18, 2014
Tentative Agenda ALL MEETINGS will be at Post 79
0900 Grand Officers & Directeurs meet with Grand Chef Gary Leach
0945 Grand Membership Director Frank Campo Membership Meeting
1015 Grand Conducteur Steve Villegas Ways & Means Meeting
1045 Grand Committee Meetings chaired by Grand Directeurs in the following order (Not in order):

NOT TO WORRY! We will break for lunch around 1130. $6.00 ea. We will have a presentation from the Finance Committee.

1600 Or perhaps sooner, conclude Committee Meetings (if they’re done) and get to the Candidates Hospitality. Location to be announced.

SATURDAY Evening
1900 (that’s 7:00PM for civilians.) Banquet will be at Post 79. PAID Reservations $25.00 to Voiture 394 and sent to Bernie Foley, 311 West 6th St., Perris, CA 92570-2056. Call 951-377-2718 or e-mail bernieandconnie@verizon.net • DEADLINE is October 10

SUNDAY, October 19, 2014
0730 Past Grand Chef’s meet: Post 79.
0900 GRANDES CHEMINOTS Meeting: (Jackets, Ties and Red Socks for Grand Officers and Directeurs)
Grand Officers
Grand Cheminots
Grand Directors
1100 Memorial Service by Grand Amouniers
1300 or before - Conclude Grandes Cheminots Meeting. Have a safe trip home!
LaFemmes will meet Saturday at Post 79 - 9:00am to 3:00pm
Yountville Annual Picnic
By Micheal J Patty, NALPA

It is a full house at the picnic grounds

In 1884, the Veterans Home of California at Yountville opened, with the first clients coming from the Civil War and later the great wars and other recent conflicts. It has a truly homelike atmosphere, such as spacious living quarters, a golf course, baseball fields, picnic grounds, facilities, holiday celebrations, and so forth. The home is a focal point for all service organizations, especially the American Legion, who represent over ninety-thousand of veterans throughout the state of California. They show their thankfulness every year at an annual picnic honoring the residents at the home. For a few hours in the Veterans home picnic grounds the American Legion serve the residents a heaping helping of hospitality and food, then tour throughout the grounds visiting with their comrades.

At a time when Veterans issues are in the news. Veterans assisting Veterans at the Yountville Veterans Home of California is not rare but plentiful, a tradition that began 83 years ago to remember our fellow veterans. American Legion Post’s 447 and 832, of District 6, Department of California is no exception. The idea is simple; Veterans should honor their fellow comrades in arms from past and present wartimes and enjoy a day of service, fellowship and fun with a picnic in the Yountville picnic grounds.

The residents are brought to the picnic grounds by buses or golf carts and assisted by the Legion Family to a full plate of comradeship, food, music, and fun. The outing includes a band and fundraiser for the veterans’ home populace. A Spaghetti Dinner and Raffle raised $712 for gift cards that were presented on Monday to the veterans in residence. American Legion Posts 832 and 447 coordinated their efforts and tackled the complicated logistical task of arranging for the veterans to get as much food as they could eat: Grilled burgers, hot dogs and all the trimmings. Several of the volunteers brought side dishes and fresh fruit to share with our fellow comrades in arms. The Last Call Band entertained the Veterans. The American Legion Riders and District 6 representatives presented donations. Year after year, this traditional get-together, that honors our warriors that stay here, grows.

The Veterans Home of California in Yountville, the largest Veterans Home in the United States, is a hallowed place for the heroes of our nation to relax in their twilight years. The annual American Legion Yountville Veterans Home Picnic is a particularly happy event. This free event was a great time for the veterans the whole day. This day of memories and thankfulness for service is the best way to preserve the memory of our comrades and to their accretions of sacrifices.

The Last Bugle Call

O Lord, You have showed us that death is but the gateway to a more glorious life and that we must not fear its coming; and we know, also, that neither life nor death can separate us from Your love. Assure us, yet again, that our departed comrades are not lost to us, but sharing new life with You in the kingdom of our Father, where we shall in your good time be reunited. We know them to be with You forever … Amen.

During the Reporting Period there have been 284 transfers to Post Everlasting. The names of all our departed comrades may be seen on the department Web site. Just click on the highlighted Post Everlasting button on our homepage www.calegion-news.org/html/post-everlasting.html.