

THE AMERICAN LEGION

POST 117 SAN LEANDRO, CALIFORNIA

EMAIL NEWS BRIEF

APRIL 2021 VOL 2021 ISSUE 2



Commander's Message

Welcome to the Monthly Newsletter brief. So that we stay in touch, there will be a monthly brief newsletter and a quarterly full newsletter. The brief will include a welcome to new members for the month and an acknowledgement of members who have transferred to Post Everlasting.

Alameda County is continuing to see improvement in regard to COVID. The County will begin to allow Veterans Memorial Building open for **Veterans groups only at 50% capacity**. We, of course, will need to ensure all COVID safety protocols such as maintaining social distancing, wearing masks, washing hands, limiting capacity in rooms, etc. are followed. We want to continue to be able to use the Building. The building is not open for public use or rentals at this time. Once we begin meeting in-person, Post meetings will be a hybrid. That means members will be able to join the meeting in-person or via Zoom.

I hope we all continue to stay healthy!

Respectfully,

Don Reed
Commander

Welcome New Members

We extend a warm welcome to

Post

Tito Avila
Thomas Butler
Edmundo Davil
Butch Kille
Lester Logue
Hery Ramirez
Deborah Schafer
Steven Seagren
Charley Sims Jr.
Edward Sowell
Lavel Standard
Joe Stewart
Elmer Turner
Joseph Varnadore
Steve Vonstade
Norman Woody

Post and Riders

Shawn Anderson*
Michael Gonzales*
Willie McKissick

Make sure when we are back together, that we introduce ourselves.

*applied to Riders

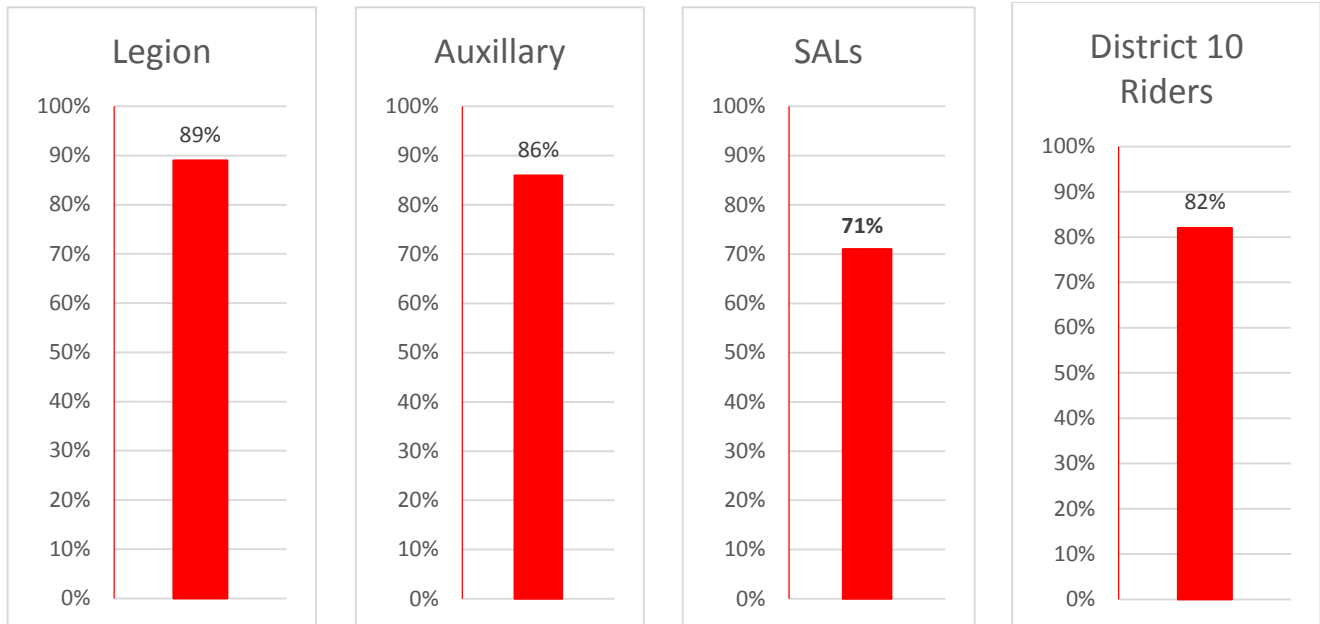
MyLegion.org

The American Legion launched the new version of MyLegion.org on April 1st. Look inside for more information.

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Membership as of April



There are several benefits to being a part of the Legion family either through Legion, Auxiliary, SAL, Riders or all four of the organizations! Benefits include benefits assistance; assistance to better apply military experience toward professional and vocational licenses and certification credits; family and community support; homeless veteran outreach; honor and remembrance to name a few.

Advocacy in Washington

The American Legion is the nation's most influential, effective and dependable advocate of veteran affairs.

With the voice of the American Legion the following veterans and military legislative action became law:

HR 7105: The Johnny Isakson and David P Roe, M.D. Veterans' health Care and Benefits Improvement Act.

To read more about the bill click on the following link or to the American Legion Legislative page. <https://www.legion.org/legislative/>

The Legislative Agenda for the 117th Congress, 1st Session includes several resolutions. To mention a few:

Address Toxic Exposure & Burn Pits

Resolution No. 118, 2016

Improve Health Care of Women Veterans

Resolution No. 37, 2016

Protect the American Flag

Resolution No. 19, 2016

To read more regarding these agenda items, see the attached American Legion Legislative Agenda document or go to The American Legion website at:

<https://www.legion.org/legislative/agenda>

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New - My Legion.Org

As you probably read in the last issue of The American Legion Dispatch the [MyLegion.Org](https://www.mylegion.org) website has been updated. Below are the highlights of that article:

The MyLegion.Org is a website for The American Legion and Sons of The American Legion. They are changing the access to this site from Officers of the post only, to all members of the post. Once you have registered for the site go to the "My Account" tab. This will give you access to your membership profile. Additionally, you will have the ability to print your membership card, make edits to your name, home address, phone number, email, war era, branch of service and communication preferences. You can also add a picture of yourself if you want. And, if you so desire, renew your membership online.

If you want to find out more about your veterans' benefits contact a [Veteran Service Officer – California American Legion](https://www.legion.org).
<https://calegion.org/resources-2/veteran-service-officer/>

Department of **California** VSO's.

Service Officer. Sam Flores: (559) 875-8387.

Oakland RO. LeAnne Watts: (510) 637-6046.

Los Angeles RO. Cynthia Mann: (310) 235-6476.

Long Beach VHA. Sandy Schneeberger: (562) 826-8000

Loma Linda VHA. Josie Thomas: (909) 372-2534

San Diego RO. La Jolla VHA.

ALRDOC Service Officer. George Smith:
sfmd72@gmail.com

What could possibly be happening at the VMB?

The Canteen has a new look, thanks to The Englander Pub. When the Englander Pub lost their lease in February 2020, they donated their wooden tables and chairs to the San Leandro Veteran's Memorial Building, American Legion Post 117.



Look at the Canteen now.



What happened to our green tables and red chairs? Text or call Mike Nettles (510) 695-8643 if interested. Two sets left.

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Post Everlasting

2020 - April 2021

We honor the memory of those who offered their "life in the service of our country and who has now enrolled in the great spirit army, whose footfalls cause no sound, but in the memory of mankind, their souls go marching on, sustained by the pride of service in time of war. Because of them our lives are free'; because of them our nation lives; because of them the world is blessed." -American Legion Book of Ceremonies

Alfred Frates

Gary Gates

William Gunkel

Steve Martin

David Middleton

Don Muto

Detlev Steklis

Darrell Vix

Peter Walker

James Walton

John White

"We are blessed to have had these comrades in our lives and thankful for their service. Please keep their Families in your prayers."

~ Don Reed

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Noteworthy Dates

April

- 15 – [Purple Up Day](https://tinyurl.com/sp57fbjs) - <https://tinyurl.com/sp57fbjs>
- 16 – Executive Board Meeting
- 16 – Steve Martin Memorial Service – 10:00 a.m Santos Robinson Mortuary
160 Estudillo Ave. San Leandro
- 17 – USS Oakland Commissioning
- 20 – Don Muto Memorial Service – 10:00 a.m. Holy Sepulchre, 1051 Harder
Road, Hayward
- 23 - Army Reserve Birthday
- 23 - American Legion Post & Auxiliary Monthly Meeting
- 24 – John White – In honor of Memorial Service 1:00 p.m.
Hayward Veteran’s Memorial Building, 22737 Main Street
- 27 - American Legion District 10 Riders’ Monthly Meeting
- 30 – National Military Brat’s Day

May

- 1 – Silver Star Banner Day
- 5 – Cinco de Mayo
- 7 - Military Spouse Appreciation Day
- 9 – Mother’s Day
- 13 – Children of Fallen Patriots Day
- 15 – Armed Forces Day
- 17 – Tax Day
- 21 - Executive Board Meeting
- 25 - American Legion District 10 Riders’ Monthly Meeting
- 28 - American Legion Post & Auxiliary Monthly Meeting
- 31 - Memorial Day

Remember every Friday is **Red Friday** in honor of those who are deployed.

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