

September 2020
Post 117, San Leandro, Newsletter



September 11 = Patriots Day

September 18 (1947) = U.S. Air Force Birthday

September 18 (3rd Friday) = POW/MIA Recognition Day

September 25 = Regular Zoom Meeting via Zoom

Dues are now due. Send \$45.00 your check to
1105 Bancroft Ave San Leandro, CA Zip 94577

The Auxillary was on recess for the months of June and July. We hope everyone is healthy and safe.

Prior to our recess the Auxillary voted to donate funds to a local food pantry to help our San Leandro Community. At our meeting this month we voted to make an additional donation to the Auxillary Emergency Fund to help Auxillary Members who are facing financial challenges during these unprecedented times, including members impacted by the recent California fires.

As you may know we are maintaining our current officers for another year. In subsequent newsletters we will reintroduce every one! If you are an Auxillary member and have not been attending meetings recently, expect to receive a call from an Auxillary member to see how you are doing. At that time, we will verify your contact information.

If you know of someone who is interested in joining the great work of the Auxillary, please send a note to the Auxillary email at alasanleandro@gmail.com with their name and contact information. We will make a follow up call to answer any questions. Remember spouses of all service members may join the Auxillary.

We hope you are all doing well.

Yours in Service, Madeleine Reed.

Sons of the American Legion:

Due to an increase in our Per Capita Tax . Our dues will be raised to \$25.00 to cover the increase.

Dual I members and members under 21 years of age will remain at \$15.00

The board has approved a grace period of September 25th of the old dues \$20.00.

After the 25th the \$25.00 will take effect.

Meetings will be changed to a Saturdays at 10:00AM. We may try a breakfast before or during a meeting at a cost of \$5-\$7.00. (To be discussed)

The meeting should be short, 30-45 minutes.

Maybe some activity.

Would like to receive some feedback from you. Call any officer or either call or email....

Ron Galvan, Adjutant

Home 1-510-432-9021

Email ragalvan@att.net

Couple's leadership helps American Legion thrive.

As more younger people join its ranks, Post 21 never overlooks its older veterans who have been members for up to 75 years.

Eight World War II vets are still active with the organization,

including former Winchester Mayor, Charles Zuckerman. “Sometimes you get an older veteran who can’t afford to pay his dues,” Lockhart said. “If you can’t afford to pay them but want to be a member here, we’ll find a way to get them paid.” “Anybody that’s been a member here for 50 years, we’ll pay their membership for the rest of their life,” Ritter added. “That’s what we’re all about, helping our fellow veterans.” While Lockhart and Ritter have no intention of cutting back their activities at Post 21, both said they are ready for some younger members to step up and take command. “We’ve got a couple of young guys we’re working on,” Ritter said. “I don’t know how it’s going to work out yet. It’s like that at every post. You’ve got 10% of the people doing 90% of the work.” Lockhart vowed this will be her final two-year term as post commander, a comment that set her up for some good-natured teasing from her significant other. “That’s because you’re getting O-L-D,” Ritter said. That little jab ignited a spark in Lockhart. Minutes later, she admitted she would most likely continue her service as a club officer as long as the situation warrants. To learn more about American Legion Post 21, [American Legion Post 021 "Conrad-Hoover", Winchester](#)



Since the Covid Virus has closed down the San Leandro Veterans Memorial Building, the inside of the building has been painted by the Alameda County. The Main halls now have all fresh paint.



But the Main Stage is looking for new Drapes.



The American Legion is in charge of booking the theater, as well as the whole building, thanks to Ron Galvan.

(The Alameda County owns the building.)

The Date the Drapes were installed was June 1974.

They are 46 years old.

Wilma Chan is an important person to contact to make the drapes replacement happen.

Supervisor Wilma Chan
1221 Oak Street, Suite 536
Oakland, CA 94612 [Map](#)
Phone: 510.272.6693
Fax: 510.268.8004

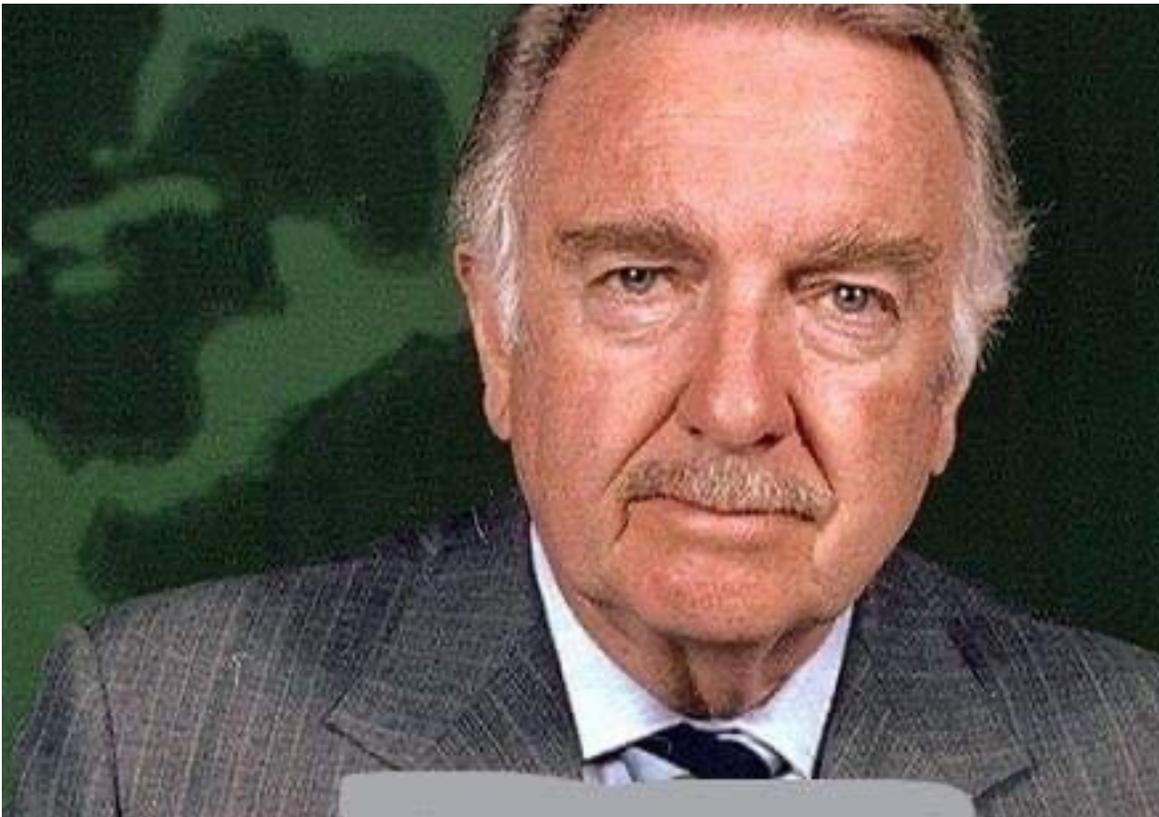
District Office
15903 Hesperian Blvd
San Lorenzo, CA 94580 [Map](#)
Phone: 510.278.0367
Fax: 510.278.0467
Email: [District 3](#)

District 3 - Wilma Chan



“Freedom is never more than one generation away from extinction. We didn't pass it to our children in the bloodstream. It must be fought for, protected, and handed on for them to do the same.”

~Ronald Reagan 12 October 1969 🇺🇸



Younger Americans will have trouble believing this, but there was once this guy named Walter Cronkite, who would read the news on television every week night. He didn't seem to have an agenda, or try to make anybody look bad, or good. He would just read the news, and then, get this..WE WOULD ALL JUST MAKE UP OUR OWN MINDS ABOUT WHAT WE THOUGHT. He didn't interview talking heads, he read the news, matter of factly, and then he would just sign off. I'm not making this up.

SGT GRIT NEWSLETTER



Bound and Determined

It was in the late summer or early fall of 1963, when at the age of 17, I got my parents to sign the consent form needed to enlist in the Marine Corps. With the consent form and pocket full of promises from the local recruiter I went down to Whitehall Street in lower Manhattan, NY to join up.

During my physical exam the Army doctor, who looked like he was about 80 years old, mixed up my paper work with the poor guy standing next to me. This guy had rheumatic fever as a child and should have been classified 4-F.

Unfortunately he got my 1-A classification and I got the 4-F classification.

I was not a happy camper! To let everyone know they made a big mistake I shouted, cursed and threatened everyone around me until I was given the “bum’s rush” and escorted out the door.

Not willing to give up my quest to join the Marine Corps, I waited about two months and went to a different recruiter and started the process all over again. Remember this was the pre-computer days and you could get away with it. On the day of my physical exam I had a different doctor. I passed the exam without a problem. As I was mentally congratulating myself I felt a tap on my shoulder. I turned around and was staring at a chest full of ribbons. I'm 6'1" but I had to look up about six inches to see a face that belonged to a very large MP. Behind him was an even larger MP. I was informed that I was about to be arrested for fraudulent enlistment. Of course I denied I was ever there before and tried to convince them they were mistaking me for someone else. One of the MP's laughed and said that I made such a big stink he actually put a photo of me on his wall in the MP office.

After some desperate negotiations on my part the OIC at Whitehall Street told me to come back at 7:30 AM the next morning with an overnight bag. He told me I was going to be shipped over to Governor's Island for a series of exams to see if I would pass a more stringent physical exam.

The next morning I boarded a ferry boat to Governor's Island. There were twelve passengers going for physicals. Eleven of them were trying to get out of the Army and I was trying to get into the Marine Corps. I never regretted getting on that ferry boat.

Fast forward from that point on....I went to Parris Island in the first week of January 1964....made PFC out of Boot Camp.....and was attached to the one of the first combat units into Vietnam- 1st Battalion 3rd Marines in 1965.

<https://blog.grunt.com/blog/bound-and-determined-2/>



Do You Need Fresh Air?
Pomponio State Beach, A California State Park



Great place to walk.

Alameda Naval Air Station: "The U.S. Naval Air Station, **Alameda** was opened by the **Navy** in 1936, and closed April 25, 1997. Since its closing, it has become the home to many Bay Area businesses, as well as a place for recreation and even housing for Bay Area residents. Once on the **base**, you can find the USS Hornet Museum, the **Alameda** Naval Air Museum."

Post 117 Officers 2020/2021

Post Commander: Don Reed

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1st Vice Commander: Donald Ogradnik

retired65.do@gmail.com

2nd. Vice Commander: Russ Parrington

rparrington@att.net

Adjutant: Jennifer L. Diaz

JenniferDiaz@comcast.net

Finance Officer: Ron A. Galvan

ragalvan@att.net

Sergeant-at-Arms: Lee Irwin

Riders President: David Leavitt

davidjleavitt116@gmail.com

Auxiliary President: Madeleine Reed

salubrity2@gmail.com

Sons Commander: Dennis Zwieker

wickedz@sbcglobal.net