



THE MESSENGER

*Newsletter of The American Legion Post 318 and
The American Legion Auxiliary Unit 318
Volume CXXX, Issue 4 October-December 2011
1504 Minnesota Avenue, San Jose, CA 95125-4445
(408) 926-9946*

From the Commander:

By: Walt Carbaugh

No report submitted.

From the 1st Vice Commander:

By: Randy Richmond

We have had a good response to the renewal notices sent out by National Headquarters the first week of July, and hope that the continuing submission of membership continues. Remember, you are not a number to our Legion family, you are one voice joining with several million other veterans to support our spokesmen in Washington DC, State capitals, and local municipalities, on behalf of protecting and promoting the rights and entitlements of those who have served our country in its armed forces, and the widows and children of those who served. Politicians know the voice of the American Legion "choir". Our membership ensures they will continue to hear our voice for all veterans of yesterday, today, and tomorrow. Our membership will also enable the continuance of programs that educate our youth.

From the 2nd Vice Commander:

By: William Staehle

Our web site, alcapost318.org now has a FORMS page with two new forms you can use to report information to the Post.

The first form is used to provide the Americanism Committee information that is required by our District so we get proper credit for all of our Post activities. It is incumbent on all members to report the time spent on Legion activities. Any time you participate in an activity please be sure to use this form to report the hours, miles traveled, and any expense incurred so we can provide accurate information to the District. The web form makes it easy to supply this information and features a SUBMIT function which automatically sends your data to us without having to print or mail a paper

form. Complete instructions for using the form can be found on the FORMS page. It only takes a short time to fill out and submit the form. Please use the form to submit your information on your next and all future events.

The second form is used to update your contact information. If you move, change your phone, or change your email address the form provides a simple way to provide the latest information to your Post. If you currently are not getting email messages from the post it may be because we do not have your email address. Now would be a good time to submit that information so we can keep our records up to date. As we transition toward electronic distribution of The Messenger newsletter to as many members as possible, it will be important that we have your correct email address so we can announce the release of new issues. Please be assured that information submitted is confidential to the Post and will never be disclosed to other parties.

From the Adjutant:

By: Gene Funucchi

We want to extend a special thanks to former members of San Jose Post 89 who have submitted their 2012 membership renewals to us so as to continue their participation in the American Legion. By sending renewals to our address at 1504 Minnesota Ave., San Jose, 95125, we will be able to process your membership more readily. Please remember you are all welcome to join us at our Post meetings and other special events, which you will be informed of. Our general membership meetings are held on the fourth Wednesday of each month at 7:00 PM, Dinner at 6:00 PM.

We look forward to all former members of Post 89 to getting their 2012 renewals submitted and having

everyone joining with us as part of the American Legion family.

From the Chaplain:

By: Norman Tevis

I have received notice of the passing of two of our Brothers. Comrades Richard Murphy (A twenty-one year member of both Post 89 and 318, US Air Force, WW2) and Richard Ritzheimer (an eleven year member of Post 318, US Army, Korean War). We held a service in their honor at the September meeting. As always, should you hear of one of our brothers or sisters sick, injured, or worse, please contact me at (408) 266-5080.

From the House Committee:

By: Eddie Siarot

No report submitted.

From the Editor:

As we have explained the cost of the printed newsletter is going up with every issue. We are going to distribute the newsletter online. If you do not have access to the web, **YOU** must contact the post at (408) 926-9946 by March 15, 2012 and request to continue to receive the Dispatch by US Mail. We will continue mailing the Newsletter to those who have made this request. After April 1st 2012 the Dispatch will be located (as it is now) at our web site at "www.alcapost318.org"

From the Webmaster:

By: William Staehle

Please look at our new web site at "http://www.alcapost318.org/". We have entered the calendar of events and will be adding more information in the future. If you have anything to contribute please feel free to contact me through the web site. We have been posting the newsletter as a PDF on line at the website. As of April 1st 2012 this will be the main access point for information. You can read it on line, print or download to read later.

Auxiliary Unit 318 By: Patricia McLeod

Dear Sisters,

The Build Your Own Hot Dog Bar fundraiser was a success! Even D13 President Joyce McLeod brought out her flame-on apron and pitched in at the stove! Everyone worked hard and had a good time. 9/11 Freedom Walk, Care Packing and Military Appreciation Bar B Q was well attended. Yellow Ribbon Bows were made by members and tied to trees along the route by even more members and volunteers. Kudos go out to Penny, Roberta, and Amanda for a job well done.

2011-2012 Membership Dues are the same great \$15.00 yr. Lets do Early Bird :D

Oct. 01 Starts our Annual Food Drive for Second Harvest Runs thru the Holidays.

Nov 12, The 3rd Annual Coat and Blanket Drive,

Saturday, 10am to 2pm Volunteers needed

Nov. 12 Annual Toy Drive Last year was wonderful with so many toys and bikes. Call me for volunteer opportunities.

Thanksgiving Turkey Trot-Before the big games, the big meal, the parades and the pies, why not work up an appetite by participating in a run/walk? There are several course options available for runners of all ages and skill levels. about 80% of the participates walk. Our members register military personnel and their families at this event. Booth @ 6 am. We have a few of our own members running this year!

Christmas Craft Night @ VA Hosp Dec 7, 5:30pm. Remember the ongoing grocery coupons and Sunday comics collection- just drop in the mail box. Take a look at the articles from the webmaster and the editor in this issue of the newsletter, please let us know if you need to continue to receive your newsletter through the mail.

For those of you who cannot make it to our meetings, you are in our prayers.

Operation Care and Comfort:

By: Garry McLeod



The Freedom walk on September 11th Besides the well attended packaging activity, Care and Comfort sponsored Military and their families from Camp Parks, Moffett Field, Pleasanton as well as the Navy/Marine Barracks in San Jose. The ribbon lined route led from Post 318 for just under a mile and returned for the afternoon BBQ. Several hundred were in attendance for this activities. Post and Auxiliary members who attended had a great time.

Discounts

By: William Staehle

City Diner, 2951 Monterey Road, is offering all American Legion members a free dessert to share with the purchase of two meals. Just show your ID card to take advantage of this offer. There are no date or time restrictions. City Diner is located at 2951 Monterey Road, San Jose CA 95111. They are open from 7:00 AM until 9:00 PM Tuesday through Saturday and 7:00 AM until 8:30 PM Sunday and Monday. For their menu, photos, and more

information visit their web site at www.citydiner-sanjose.com. For additional discounts go to the Military Veterans Discount Center. <http://www.militaryandveteransdiscounts.com> This site lists stores, restaurants and other shops that offer discounts to veterans in our area.

Remember "45"

By: Garry McLeod



This year's Remember "45" event at History Park San Jose has come and gone. Those who attended will tell you what a great time was had by all. The entertainment was top notch and lasted all day. The other booths included military vehicles, WW2 reenactors, local museums and other associations

Blue Star Flags

Democratic Sens. Jim Webb of Virginia and Claire McCaskill of Missouri have reintroduced legislation that would protect families rights to display Blue Star or Gold Star flags to honor the military service of their loved ones. These flags, also called service flags, are approved by the Defense Department. By law, immediate family members of those serving in the military in a time of war or hostilities can display the flag in their windows. Each blue star represents a family member serving; each gold star represents a family member who died in service. The bill was inspired in part by Marlene Gano of Canton, Ohio, who was asked by her condominium association to remove the service flag she placed in her window in honor of her son, who served in Iraq and suffered injuries twice from roadside bombs. The bill would prohibit condo, co-op and residential real estate management associations from adopting or enforcing any policy that would restrict or prevent a resident from displaying the flag on personal residential property. The bill was referred the Senate Committee on Banking, Housing and urban Affairs. The House passed similar legislation in May, but the Senate version, also introduced by Webb, McCaskill and others, was not passed last year.

Don't Be Too Distant From Your Elected Officials

By Gene Fanucchi

Just as the American Legion knows the value of keeping in contact with our elected officials at every

level of government, you too should realize the value and benefit of keeping in contact with your elected officials; the ones who directly represent you. Contact them in support, and challenge them when their actions oppose yours. They work for you. Let them know that. Contact can be made by telephone, computer messages, by a written note sent by the Post Office, or by a personal visit to their office. You do not need to be an oratorical star to call; an award winning writer, of eloquent speaker when meeting in person. They actually prefer short comments. The point is, let them know you are watching what they are doing, and you either approve or disagree with positions they take on issues; especially those that affect you directly. Give it a try. Look in the front part of your telephone book for contact information. Let them know if they are representing you, otherwise they will only sit there on your time forget your needs, for half their term and plan their re-election.

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Deadline for submissions for the next issue of the Messenger is December 15, 2011. Please submit in Word format.

Newsletter Editor: Garry D. McLeod
Always open to contributions
email: Post318@aol.com

October 2011:

Oct. 9th, Care and Comfort Packing, 10 am @ the Post.

Oct. 11th, District 13 Meeting. 7 pm @ Post 419, 958 Homestead Road, Santa Clara

Oct. 14th, House meeting @ 6pm. Executive meetings, 7:30pm @ the Post.

Oct. 15th, Youth Application Dinner @Post Home, Doors open at 5 pm-Dinner at 6 pm.

Oct. 20th, Family Assistance Network Meeting @ Moffett Field (Recreation Center) 7pm

Oct. 23rd, Aux. 13 Meeting @ post home 1:30pm.

Oct. 26th, Post 318 Gen. Meeting, 7:00 pm @ the Post. Dinner at 6 pm.

November 2011:

Nov 11, Flag set up @ Oak Hill, 7 am Breakfast to follow

Nov. 11, Veterans Day Parade @ Downtown San Jose Starts at 11 am.

Nov. 12, Aux. Coat and Blanket Drive 10 - 2



American Legion Post 318
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Nov. 13, Care and Comfort Packing, 10 am @ the Post.

Nov. 17, Family Assistance Network Meeting @ Moffett Field (Recreation Center) 7pm

Nov. 18th, House Meeting @ 6pm. Executive Meeting, 7:30pm @ the Post.

Nov. 23rd, Post 318 Gen. Meeting, 7:00 pm @ the Post. Pre-dinner at 6 pm

Nov. 24, Happy Thanksgiving - Turkey Trot 5am.

Nov. 27th, Aux. 13 Gen. Meeting @ post home 1:30pm

December 2011:

Dec. 9th, House meeting @ 6pm. Executive meetings, 7:30pm @ the Post.

Dec. 15th, Family Assistance Network Meeting @ Moffett Field (Recreation Center) 7pm

Dec. 18th, Post & Aux. Annual Holiday Social @ the Post, Doors open a 11am. POT LUCK

Dec. 25/28th No Gen meeting of Post. Due to the Holidays.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year