



OCTOBER



Irvin Flores
Commander 2022 - 2023
The Elegant 18th District



Dear 18th District:

In the last few months, July, August and September I have taken the time to visit different Posts, especially those who invited me to their activities and events! We have had Great conversations during our visits and Great conversations during our 18th District meetings! We at the 18th Dist. Appreciate all the post for making your presence known in your respective communities by conducting our different American Legion Programs like Boy's Scouts, Girl Scouts, and youth scholarship Programs and also for appreciating first responders during Sept. 11, 2022!

To my understanding, establishing Good Rapport with City Officials is the upmost Important! As we recover from this pandemic, it's about time for us to continue to take action and participate in as many city events as possible to preach the gospel of the American Legion to all the communities and especially to all the Veterans! I have total faith and confidence that every Post in our District will continue to find Outstanding, Highly Qualified Veterans to join our Beloved American Legion and fill our rank on the Veteran's side, Auxiliary, Sons of the American Legion and Legion riders! That's right, I believe in teamwork when it comes to recruiting and everything else, Because We Are a Legion Family! Now, in the words of Ricky Ricardo when his wife Lucy was going to give birth during an I Love Lucy episode: "The time has come!" And I must say, the time has come for all of us to take action and work together as the Legion Family that We Are!!!

A famous hockey player Wayne Gretzky once said:
"You miss 100% of the shots you don't take!"

What this means to me is that we have to make that determination! The time has come to step to the plate and take action and work together to accomplish all our goals and be Victorious!!!

We Deserve it!!!

WE ARE WINNERS!

Irvin Flores
Commander
18th District
irvin201010@gmail.com
(626) 235-4138



"First determine what you will do,
then be determined to succeed without fail.
The outcome depends on your commitment.
This is the philosophy of success."
By Josei Toda



Membership is Everybody's
RESPONSIBILITY



Hello Legion Family,

Membership renewals and new joins are our life blood! Our organization is over 100 years old and the reasons why people joined back in the day are similar, but also different from why folks join now. We are going to address this as a Legion Family later this month. Our membership numbers compared to other Districts in the Department of California are very low. We will be putting our heads together to tackle this issue and bring the Elegant 18th back to first-rate membership numbers. For this upcoming meeting, Commander Flores is asking that each component send their Commander, 1st Vice Commander and Adjutant from their Auxiliary unit, SAL squadron and Legion Post. Lunch, dessert and drinks will be provided to all in attendance and Canteen service will be available. Here are the details and please calendar now:

American Legion District 18-Auxiliary Units, SAL Squadrons and Legion Posts

"Best Techniques for Recruiting and Membership Renewal Roundtable Discussion"

Saturday, 29 OCT 22, 1100-1400 / American Legion Post 280 / 179 N. Vinedo Avenue / Pasadena, CA 91107

RSVP with the name, position, Unit, Squadron and Post of each person attending: ntlasala@att.net

Also, please use this link and forward to your Post contacts for renewal or to join our Legion:

<https://cadistrict18.org/join-or-renew-membership>

Semper Fidelis,.

Neil T. La Sala-18th District 1st Vice Commander
American Legion-Department of California
Post 280 Commander
626 833 8493 / ntlasala@att.net



From the desk of 2nd Vice,
Sam Cafiero

Hello Legion Family,



The American Legion has several events to be aware of. This month is Disability/Employment awareness month. Those veterans and other individuals who have a disability should be aware there are companies that are able to hire you no matter if you have disability. There are even opportunities you can create to become an entrepreneur and become business owner. Through the Veteran Affairs other programs there are programs that can help you. Just have to look and ask.

Also October 7th 2011 was the Start of Operation Enduring Freedom. Some of us were on active duty during that campaign. Others have already served or preparing to serve in our Armed Services. October 31st is Halloween stay safe when going out with friends and family.

October 13, 2022 is **Navy** birthday - **Semper Fortis - Always Courageous**

Semper Fidelis - Always Faithful

Samuel Cafiero
Elegant 18 District
2nd Vice Commander



Elegant 18th District

Department of California

P. O. Box 5256

El Monte, CA 91734



2022 - 2023 Meeting Schedule

All District Meetings start at 7:30 p.m. / Dinner starts @ 6:00 p.m.

"The Elegant"

EIGHTEENTH DISTRICT

P. O. BOX 5256

El Monte, CA 91734



For God and Country

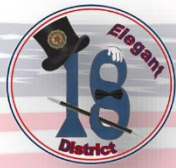
THE AMERICAN LEGION

DEPARTMENT OF CALIFORNIA

11 July 2022	Monday	7:30pm	Executive board meeting @ Post 397
16 July 2022	Saturday	3pm	District Installation/Meeting @ Post 397
08 Aug. 2022	Monday	7:30pm	Executive Board meeting @ Post 279
19 Aug. 2022	Friday	7:30pm	District meeting @ Temple City Post 279
12 Sept. 2022	Monday	7:30pm	Executive Board meeting @ Post 755
16 Sept. 2022	Friday	7:30pm	District meeting @ Charter Cove Post 755
★ 10 Oct. 2022	Monday	7:30pm	Executive Board meeting @ Post 241
21 Oct. 2022	Friday	7:30pm	District meeting @ Abraham Lincoln Post 241
14 Nov. 2022	Monday	7:30pm	Executive Board meeting @ Post 261
18 Nov. 2022	Friday	7:30pm	District meeting @ El Monte Post 261
12 Dec. 2022	Monday	7:30pm	Executive Board meeting @ Post 280
16 Dec. 2022	Friday	7:30pm	District meeting @ S. Pasadena Post 280

Area 6 Caucus - 20 May 2023 @ Post 280 East Pasadena 8:00 am – 5pm.

eting schedule subject to change pending Post accessibility / January to June 2023 schedule TBA)



Scott Sinclair
Dist. Adjutant



Ted Fife
Dist. Finance



Gil Ramos
Chaplain



Medellin Garcia
Sgt.-At-Arms



Wayne Lunde
Historian



Manny Vital
Judge Advocate



JR Duarte
Service Officer

District 18 Executive Board



Allen Rodriguez P-78



Al Mora P-280



Ed Barlow P-247



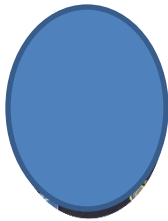
Ritchie Santos P-508



JR Duarte P-10



Joe Mercier P-475



Joe Paczkowski P-30



Dave Mushinski P-78



Jr. past Dist. Cmdr.
Auggie Galaviz P-790

Post 755 1st Responders month program



LACC meeting @
Patriotic hall



ELA Hispanic
Heritage Parade



18th District Meeting @ Post 755 Charter Cove – September 16



Auxiliary District 18 President & Officers attend meeting 16 September 2022



Elegant 18th District Executive Board Meeting 12 September 2022





U.S. Navy 10-1776

Around the District

18th District Post Activity Schedules

Verify with the listed Posts for times and costs.



United Nations

Brothers, Sisters, SAL, Auxiliary, Riders

Have you visited any of your neighbor Posts in your District?

Out of the 20 Posts in the Elegant 18th District, have opened and are having various Fundraisers- Breakfast, Luncheons, Dinners, Turn-arounds and reinstating Bingo!

ALA Post 280 Auxiliary Unit is sponsoring a fundraiser Legion Breakfast, Sunday, Call Post to verify day & time. Show you support their endeavors and aspirations to help our Veteran community.

West Covina Post 790 have been working their "BINGO" program every Sunday, join in the fun and walk out with pleasurable treasures of joy & values...

Azusa Post 180 Canyon City, weekend entertainment festivities; food, fun & music

Alhambra Post 139 Legion, Auxiliary and SAL, special breakfast fundraisers & Resource Fairs and host the 2nd annual LACC Tamale Festival.

Post 755 Charter Cove, Mondays and Sunday Night Football Food and Drinks, Start September 18th and Monday Night Football Food and Drinks. start September 19, come join the fun & camaraderie.



American Legion
East Pasadena Post 280
179 N. Vinado Avenue
Pasadena, CA 91107



Buffet Breakfast

Hosted by the American Legion Auxiliary Unit 280 for the benefit of our Veterans

Sunday – October 2nd - 9am to 11:30am



Sausage, Fluffy Scrambled Eggs, Chorizo & Eggs, Fried Potatoes and Chorizo, Biscuits & Gravy, Links, Buttery Pancakes, Blueberry Pancakes, Fresh Fruit, & Desserts

Coffee, Orange Juice, Apple Juice & Milk Included

All you can eat pancakes

Note: Cantina will be closed.

Mimosas for \$3.00 or
Bloody Mary \$5.99



\$12 Donation

The Elegant 18th District

Members, Veterans, Auxiliary, SAL's & Riders
Keep up the great work you all do; we also ask to help us help your District
With your support purchase our Legion product and Fundraisers...



Please support American Legion Programs such as Boys State, the Oratorical Contest, homeless veteran support and perpetuating patriotism!

With your \$40 donation you will receive:

A beautiful Legion nylon pullover jacket and the Official Elegant 18th District lapel pin

Sizes adult 3XL-Small

Payment methods:

PayPal: gijoeqwd@pacbell.net

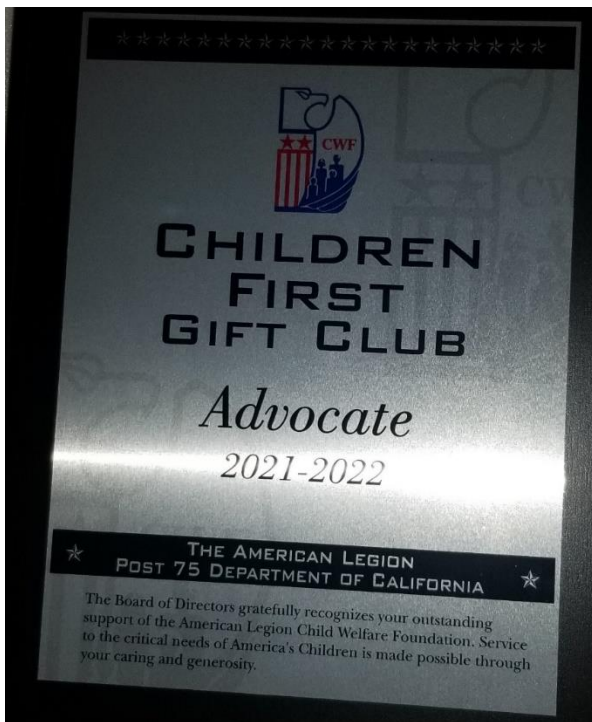
Venmo or Zelle: 626 833 8493

Checks payable to American Legion District 18 and of course, U.S. currency!

Neil La Sala, 2nd Vice Commander
District 18, ntlasala@att.net

MIA Update: The Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency announced five burial updates and seventeen new identifications for service members who have been missing and unaccounted-for from World War II and Korea. Returning home for burial with full military honors

Army Pfc. Melvin J. Little Bear, 21,
Army Pfc. John L. Ferguson, 20,
Navy Seaman 2nd Class Pete Turk, 20,
Army Air Forces Staff Sgt. Moses F. Tate, 23,
Army Air Force Staff Sgt. Roy Carney, 20,
Army Air Forces 2nd Lt. Wayne L. Dyer, 22,
Army Air Forces 1st Lt. Melvin B. Meyer, 25,
Army Air Forces 1st Lt. Carl D. Nesbitt, 23,
Army Pvt. Robert R. Gruwell, 20,
Army Air Forces 2nd Lt. Francis V. Montemurro, 25,
Army Air Forces Tech Sgt. James M. Howie, 24,
Army Cpl. Franklin H. Bennett, 20,
Army Cpl. Joe A. Vinyard, 23,
Army Cpl. Clark E. Worline, 20,
Army Air Forces 2nd Lt. Theodore F. Scarborough,
Army Air Forces Tech Sgt. Ralph E. Richardson,
Army Air Forces Staff Sgt. Ralph D. Kolb, 19,
Army Pfc. Clinton P. Koloski, 21,
Army Sgt. Thaddeus S. Matuszak, 31,
Army Pfc. Mark P. Wilson, 20,
Army Cpl. Joseph H. Gunnoe, 21,
Army Pfc. Ithiel E. Whatley, 19,



The Elegant 18th District Post Honor & Color Guards
Parades – Ceremonials – Funerals
Please contact the Team Members listed below:



Bob Radcliff
Captain
Post 30

District 18
Honor and Color Guard

1974 Marigold St.
Pomona, CA 91767
(909) 629-0670
radcliff.Dist18@gmail.com



Contact: Ralph Larriva - (909) 720-9523
E-Mail: ralphlarriva@yahoo.com



American Legion
Borinquen Post 508

Honor Guard

Team Member
Richard Santos
(951) 206-9526

P.O. Box 1198
Covina, CA 91722
borinquenpost508@earthlink.net

Under the new 2022 PACT Act



you may be eligible for enhanced
or new health care benefits



ARE YOU A COMBAT VETERAN?

Learn more at VA.gov
1-800-MyVA411 (800-698-2411)

VA



U.S. Department
of Veterans Affairs



VA SURVIVOR BENEFITS & THE PACT ACT

You may be eligible for VA benefits and services after your loved one has passed.



**The PACT Act makes it easier for many survivors to receive
Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (DIC).**

VA will be contacting survivors who were previously denied DIC benefits and may be newly eligible under the PACT Act. You do not need to wait for VA to contact you to submit a claim.

How to Apply for DIC and/or Accrued Benefits

Surviving family members may apply for these benefits using the appropriate VA form on va.gov/family-member/benefits.



Dependency and Indemnity Compensation

Monthly payment for the eligible surviving spouse, dependent children or parent(s) of the Veteran or service member if Veteran or service member died in the line of duty or due to a service-related injury or illness.



Accrued Benefits

A one-time payment to a surviving spouse, dependent child(ren) or dependent parent(s) of a deceased Veteran based on relationship when the record shows additional benefits (such as VA compensation or pension) due to the Veteran prior to passing.

Additional Survivor Benefits Available:



Burials and Burial Allowance

Burial benefits available include a gravesite in any of our National cemeteries with available space, opening and closing of the grave, perpetual care, a government headstone, marker, or medallion, a burial flag, and a Presidential Memorial Certificate, at no cost. Some survivors may also be eligible for a plot allowance, transportation allowance, and burial allowances based on the service connected disability status of the deceased Veteran.



Education and Training

Chapter 35 benefits and Fry Scholarship are the two main GI Bill programs offering educational assistance to survivors and dependents of Veterans who died in the line of duty or as a result of service-related disabilities.



Final Monthly Payment

If a Veteran who is receiving VA compensation or pension benefits passes away, their last month of benefits can be paid to their surviving spouse.



Home Loan Guaranty

Certificate of Eligibility is available for surviving spouses receiving DIC.



Health Care

Survivors and dependents of Veterans may qualify for health care benefits, such as CHAMPVA.

VA



U.S. Department
of Veterans Affairs

Learn more and sign up at VA.gov/PACT
Download the [VA Health and Benefits App](https://VA.gov/HealthandBenefitsApp)
Call us at 1-800-MyVA411 (1-800-698-2411)
Find a VA at VA.gov/find-locations/

OCTOBER
BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

25TH ANNIVERSARY
CELEBRATION WEEKEND



OCTOBER 14-16, 2022

LEARN MORE AT WOMENSMEMORIAL.ORG

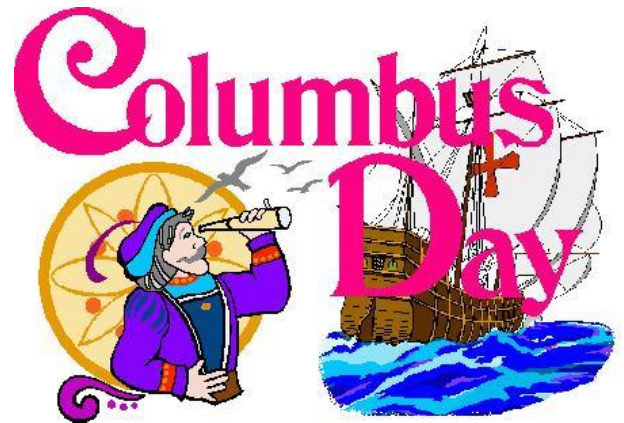
10/04 Yom Kippur begins

10/07 LACC Meeting
@ P-252/D2310/09 Invasion of N. Korea
195010/10 Columbus Day
Dist.18 E-Board Mtg.10/12 Bombing of USS Cole
200010/13 Navy Birthday
177510/21 Dist.18 Mtg.
@ Post 241 Baldwin Park10/23 Bombing of U.S. Marine
Barracks Beirut 1983

10/24 United Nations Day

10/27 Navy Day

10/31 Halloween

*The Voice of Elegance*District 18 THE AMERICAN LEGION
P.O. Box 5256
El Monte, CA 91734

10/16

11/15



Wish to receive the District
newsletter by Email, please notify
Editor Auggie G. at
age69vet@verizon.net

DISTRICT MEETING Friday 21 October, 2022
Post-241 Baldwin Park, @ 7:30 p.m.





VA – Veterans Affairs
Los Angeles County Long Beach & LA



3 Ways to Treat Your Pain

Find the right option for you

Almost 70% of Veterans live with pain. If you're one of them, VA has in-person, video, and at-home options for you.

Many Veterans use [acupuncture](#) and [acupressure](#) to support their relief.

Yoga and/or medical attention.



VA Clinics Offer Convenient, Self-Service Appointment Check-in Options

Checking in for your next VA appointment may be different next time you come in. Learn more about how VA is modernizing the check-in process to make it fast, easy and convenient.

**Don't Cost
California Our
Bragging Rights!!**



DEPARTMENT OF
CALIFORNIA



**Deposit your Post Financial Audit by
October 31 to The Department of CA
to **increase California's balance to 100%!!****

Help us get to 100% in Post Financial Audit submissions!
You can do your part in helping us reach our goal and submit them to department before Nov. 15, 2022.

All posts who submit their Post Financial Audit by October 31, 2022

will be awarded a special certificate of recognition in appreciation for their efforts in helping The Department of California reach 100% in Post Financial Audit submissions.



*There is always
something for which to be*

T H A N K F U L

health home family friends food

American Legion Post 790's
Sons of the Legion Represent a
HALLOWEEN PARTY FUNDRAISER
CALLING ALL GHOULS AND GOBLINS!
It is that time of the year to put on your best Halloween costume and come celebrate this chilling holiday. Grab your mummy, werewolf, and vampire for a night you won't forget.

**PRE-SALE TICKETS ARE READY TO BE PURCHASED FOR \$10
21 AND OVER ONLY**

When: Saturday, October 29th
Time: 6pm – 12am
Where: 330 N. Azusa Ave. W. Covina 91791