



Neil La Sala
Commander 2024 - 2025
The Elegant 18th District



Hello Legion Family,

I spent 39 years of my life as an educator with the Los Angeles Unified School District and recently retired on 01 JUL 24. During that time along with 31 years of service as a Marine Corps reservist, I learned firsthand that everyone can bring something valuable to the table. Investing in others can be hard and sometimes it does not payoff, but giving everyone the benefit of the doubt is something worth a try. As we close out the summer and enter the fall of 2024, let us all take the time to seek out Post members who have not been involved and tap into the skill sets they have. Methods we can use to facilitate more involvement include; running announcements in Post and District bulletins, posting help request flyers at the Post, posting support needs on Legion social media platforms and of course, word of mouth. Please use these suggestions to strengthen our organization, as too they will also foster camaraderie. When all is said and done, our Legion will only survive and thrive with member participation and new members joining our ranks!

In late August, I had the opportunity to attend the 105th American Legion National Convention in New Orleans, La. Increasing Post participation and building Legion Family membership were two key tenets emphasized. We all have a responsibility to do our part in whatever way we can to make our organization the best it can be. Whether you are simply a loyal dues paying member or serving as an officer or committee member, each of these are vital to helping others. Devotion to our Legion's Four Pillars (Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation, National Security, Americanism, and Children & Youth) yields great dividends if each of us can devote a bit of time, money or both to our organization. Without a doubt, the future of our great nation depends on it!

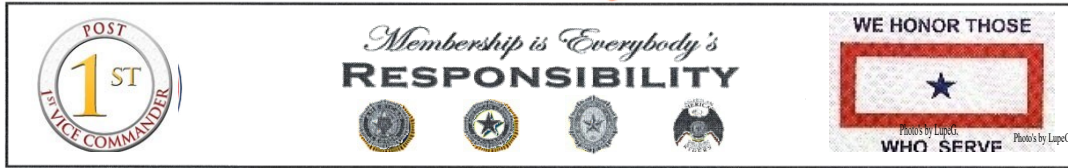
As always, membership renewals and seeking new joins are essential to the existence of our Legion. If you have not renewed your 2024-2025 membership, please do so as soon as possible. Additionally, please share this membership renewal/new join link with everyone for the specific purpose of keeping the American Legion alive:

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

Semper Fidelis,

**Neil La Sala
American Legion Department of California
Commander- District 18
Adjutant- Post 280
626-833-8493/ntlalasa@att.net**





Semper Fidelis,
Samuel Cafiero
1st Vice Commander
Elegant 18 District

18 District 1st Vice Commander Report.

Greetings American Legion family. Welcoming you to September, have a few things to share. Visit the American Legion calendar for what the American Legion does each month. Should note that each month has several events for programs and events so try to circle back to see what's going on each month at [Calendar | The American Legion](#)

[Calendar | The American Legion](#)

Goal for this year to ensure that every Post in our District is actively using mylegion.org to transmit membership.

Also this year we are continuing up from last with our National campaign called Be The One Information can be found with this link. [Visit legion.org/betheone](https://legion.org/betheone)

On the first day of every month, Legion Family members are encouraged to wear a Be the One item to show their commitment to reducing the stigma around mental health issues among veterans and servicemembers. And to start a conversation about what Be the One is and how to save the life of a veteran. Legion posts should also promote Be the One on the first day of every month.

Lastly as our 1st Vice District Commander and Membership South we have a campaign this year that every member that signs up for by November 11th 2024 (Early Bird) will be eligible for a Paid Up For Life membership.

Veterans that would like to join or members like to renew follow this link <https://cadistrict18.org/join-or-renew-membership/>





Elegant 18th District

Department of California

P. O. Box 5256
El Monte, CA 91734



From the desk of 2nd Vice Jack Evanilla



From the 2ed Vice
District 18, Elegant District 18th
Jack Evanilla

Gooood September All Legion Family.

So here we are in finally months of 2024...four Chaplains, DEC's, post meetings, e-board meetings, District meets...LACC meets, Area meets, Training, Department California Convention, Convention, and National Convention! Probably left something out. Yes we now enter the final four months of 2024. Next month I'll be writing about fourth quarter.

Remember, as I wrote in my Chaplain report-September 15 is POW/MIA DAY.

November 5 at LaFatre Center in Glendora.. a salute to Veterans, 11.30 to 1.30 pm, Vets eat for free. I'm currently trying to set up a VSO and small recruiting effort...passing out " why you should belong"keep everyone informed.

November, in touch with Sargent Biaze of Azuza National Guard Armory, to set up a November date to bring in a team to talk about the American Legion.

Bonding ...sports event.. UCLA football game.. safe place to park.. see game. feel safe!!!!. Possible no charge for tickets. Aweee yes the Historical Rosebowl. I'm currently working with UCLA ticket office, Sales Representative Spencer. Looks like November 30th, Vs Fresno State. And what do the Bulldogs say "anywhere-anyplace-anywhere-anyplace!!! So here is what I have...Free Tickets from Vet-tex endzone middle up, again free. Yes free. Parking shuttle from Parsons, Walnut Street...goggle street maps it, estimate \$15 to \$20 \$\$. Or Corner endzone.. visitor side \$28.50...scoreboard 5-10 yard line.

Or \$37.50 Home team side. Corner side endzone 37.50.

Best PARKING..Parsons..\$15 to \$20.00..shutte buss.. drops off in front of Stadium.. in case I forgot to mention this!!

Any questions on UCLA or trying to look at single game or season tickets, call me directly..626-617-5213 or gmail—jackevanilla@g.mail.com.

Be blessed, be safe out there in your community and I will continue to pray for all of you,

Finally, forgot to say in my Champlain report..

....regret to mention that, all the Kohas and shit Auggie is going through, he and his dear wife and Family loss their daughter ..25 or 26 August. We the legion Family Love you Auggie..

Dear Auggie.. be blessed and be blessed, we are here for you.

That's it I'm out for now.. please pray, recruit, help out at your posts, do not complain. just be like Nike.. and just DO IT...and if need be reach out to a fellow Legionnaire Brother.. call .. don't be shy or afraid..

See you in the October Newsletter....

Again...blessed and keep yourselves safe—six - six

JUDGE
ADVOCATE*Comments from the J.A./Scribe***BE THE
ONE****Bv-Laws. Regulations. Policies and Administrative Compliance-Read them. understand them**

DISTRICT 18

Meeting Schedule PDF

Annual District Meeting: May 16, 2025 at 7:30 PM

Location: Post 241, Baldwin Park

Point of Contact: Scott Sinclair, (747) 275-7778

- Meeting 1: July 19, 2024 at 7:30 PM
Location: Post 279, Temple City
Point of Contact: Scott Sinclair, (747) 275-7778
- Meeting 2: August 16, 2024 at 7:30 PM
Location: Post 475, Glendora
Point of Contact: Scott Sinclair, (747) 275-7778
- Meeting 3: September 20, 2024 at 7:30 PM
Location: Post ~~397, Monterey Park~~ Charter Cove Post 755, Covina CA
Point of Contact: Scott Sinclair, (747) 275-7778
- Meeting 4: October 18, 2024 at 7:30 PM
Location: Post 755, Covina
Point of Contact: Scott Sinclair, (747) 275-7778
- Meeting 5: November 15, 2024 at 7:30 PM
Location: Post 241, Baldwin Park
Point of Contact: Scott Sinclair, (747) 275-7778
- Meeting 6: December 20, 2024 at 7:30 PM
Location: Post 280, Pasadena
Point of Contact: Scott Sinclair, (747) 275-7778
- Meeting 7: January 17, 2025 at 7:30 PM
Location: Post 13, Pasadena
Point of Contact: Scott Sinclair, (747) 275-7778
- Meeting 8: February 21, 2025 at 7:30 PM
Location: Post 139, Alhambra
Point of Contact: Scott Sinclair, (747) 275-7778
- Meeting 9: March 21, 2025 at 7:30 PM
Location: Post 279, Temple City
Point of Contact: Scott Sinclair, (747) 275-7778
- Meeting 10: April 18, 2025 at 7:30 PM
Location: Post 180, Azusa
Point of Contact: Scott Sinclair, (747) 275-7778

18th District Meeting, @ Post 475 Glendora



District 18 General Meeting at Post 475 8-16-2024



District 18 at Post 475
8-16-2024



Ted Fife showing his budget proposal

CA DEPARTMENT POST PROBATION & **SUSPENSION** REPORT

7/19/2024

POSTS IN RED ARE ON SUSPENSION PER DEPARTMENT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE | POSTS IN BLUE ARE CLOSED

☒ REPRESENTS AN ITEM THAT HAS NOT BEEN SUBMITTED[illegible]



Around the District



Elegant 18th



District



AMERICAN LEGION

Hello, Legionnaires!

American Legion members appreciate community, camaraderie, and a good deal, too. That's why we're excited to announce our new partnership with Grouper that checks all three boxes: **FREE American Legion Memberships.**

Here's how it works:

- If you have a Medicare Advantage or Medicare Supplement plan that includes the RenewActive or OnePass program, you qualify;
- You get a \$50 check annually to cover American Legion dues;
- Then you get another \$20 wellness payment every 3 months just for staying active.

Do you participate in group activities that keep you socially connected in your communities, such as American Legion Riders, post events, volunteering, or socializing with friends? Or maybe you're looking to be more active.

Why is this so important to the American Legion, to Grouper and to their Medicare Advantage plan partners? For the answer, we want you to meet Grouper executive Steve Burke, a U.S. Army veteran who served in Iraq. As a proud American Legion member, **Steve recorded a brief video message** explaining how the partnership between the American Legion and Grouper is deeply rooted in fostering social connections among veterans. As Steve will tell you, the Surgeon General states that the lack of social connections is the number one killer in the world and worse than smoking 15 cigarettes a day. It really hits home for us, because veterans are at a higher risk of losing social connections over time.

Easily Check the Status of Your VA Claim

VA's Claim Status Tool allows Veterans to view the status of their VA claims online using their VA.gov login. This tool displays which claims are in process and identifies any actions Veterans need to take. It also [gives Veterans the ability to review recent claim activity](#)

The Claim Status Tool contains three main tabs:

- **Status:** The Status tab tells you what actions you can take to support your claim and lists requests for third parties.
- **Files:** The Files tab displays information requests to you, a button for uploading files and a list of supporting documents you have submitted to VA.
- **Overview:** The Overview tab provides you with a description of the claims process, spotlights each step, and explains the process may return to a previous step if more information is needed.

You no longer have to contact a call center or regional office for claims information. The claim status tool allows you to access important claim information when you need it. This tool is another step forward in VBA's ongoing mission to support Veterans and their families. To learn more about using the claim status tool, please visit [the Claims Status page](#).



The Elegant 18th District



09 September 2024 District Executive Board meeting @ Post 397 Monterey Park

Friday – 20 September 2024 District General Membership Meeting @ Post 397 Monterey Park,

District & Post program All Post Officers should attend.

Post Commanders, Vice Commanders, Adjutants are required to attend these meetings by either one or all of these elected officers who are duly elected and appointed officers of their respective post to represent their Membership...

Reports are required from each post representative on the development and compliance mandates per Department American Legion.



**District Chaplain,
Jack Evanila**



From the Chaplains Corner

Important historical dates in September.

- September 15, POW/MIA DAY—please fly your POW/MIA flag.
- S.2-1945-V-Day, victory over Japan, marks the end of WW11.
- S.17.1787-The US Constitution is approved.
- S.18,1941-The US Airforce is founded.
- S.20.1950-Marines of 1st Marine Division cross the Han river in South Korea, eight miles Northwest of Soul.
- S.29.1789-US Congress passes an act to legalize the US Army Which had been created under article of confederation.
- S.24-Gold Star Mother's Day.
- S.29.1899-VFW Day founded, 9-29-1899.



REMEMBER TO FLY YOUR POW/MIA FLAG, SEPTEMBER 15TH.

A prayer-quote "We can do everything thru God, who will-can strengthen all us. Amen!!!

Chaplains' prayer for September:

Lord, as we enter Fall month of September, this year 2024,
Let us our souls find rest in your presence; give us peace of mind and help us all to stay calm and help all relaxed!
All through the month of September. Amen!!!!

Prayer.....

"Seek the Lord and his strength. Seek his face continually".

May you all rest in the palm of His loving hands and find comfort in His care for you all. You're are all in my hourly-daily Prayers. Amen, Amen, Amen.

Events around your neighborhood Posts



Do you remember this great lady Proud Veteran
Served in the U. S. Navy, dual member-Legion &
Auxiliary Long time District Adjutant, always at meetings
Post, District LACC, Area & Department...

Taco Wednesday

Tacos



\$5 for 2 chicken or
beef tacos
\$6 Taco Tostada Bowl

5pm to 7 pm
or until until
food runs out



Cheers!

American Legion Post 755
2015 E. Arrow Hwy., Covina CA 91724

SEPTEMBER

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 Hot Dogs 3pm	2 Event??	3	4 Tacos 5pm	5	6 Wine Night 6pm-10	7
8 Hot Dogs 3pm	9 Mon.Night Football 5pm Distrt. Eboard Mtg 7:30 pm	10 Legion Mtg 6pm	11 Tacos 5pm	12 Aux. Mtg 6pm	13	14
15 Breakfast 9am- 12pm Hot Dogs 3pm	16 Mon. Night Football 5pm	17	18 Tacos 5pm	19 SAL Mtg 6pm	20 Dinner 6pm District Mtg 7:30 pm	21 Hall Rental w/ live band Havana Theme Bday/ All welcome
22 Hot Dogs 3pm	23 Mon. Night Football 5pm	24	25 Tacos 5pm	26 Riders Mtg 6pm	27 Karaoke 5 pm-7	28 Spaghetti Dinner time??
29 Hot Dogs 3pm	30 Mon. Night Football 5pm	1 AMERICAN LEGION POST 755 -CHARTER COVE (626) 966-7786 20516 E. ARROW HWY., COVINA, CA 91724	2	3	4	5

Look out for event flyers for details!

I HAVE DONE THINGS
THAT HAUNT ME AT NIGHT
SO YOU CAN SLEEP IN PEACE

I HAVE BEEN AWAY
FROM MY FAMILY A LONG TIME
SO THAT YOURS CAN BE SAFE

I HAVE SACRIFICED
A LOT IN MY LIFE
SO THAT YOU MAY LIVE FREE

I HAVE DONE THESE THINGS
BECAUSE I HAVE SWORN AN OATH
TO MY COUNTRY

AND I WILL LIVE BY THIS OATH
UNTIL THE DAY I DIE
BECAUSE I AM AND ALWAYS WILL BE A
U.S. VETERAN





September 2024





Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2 Labor Day VJ Day WWII 1945	3	4	5	6 LACC Mtg.	7
8 National Suicide Prevention week Grandparents Day	9 Dist. 18 E-Bd. Mtg. @ P-755 Covina	10	11 Patriots Day	12	13	14
15	16	17 U.S. Constitution Approved	18 U.S. Air Force Birthday.	19	20 Dist. 18 Mtg. @P-755 Covina	21
22 First Day of Autumn.	23	24	25 P755 Taco Wed.	26	27	28
29 Gold Star Mothers and Family Day	30					

The Voice of Elegance

District 18 THE AMERICAN LEGION
P.O. Box 5256
El Monte, CA 91734



Follow the penguin


18TH DISTRICT COMRADERY BONDING
 BBQ & Potluck BYOB
 Bring swimsuit Attire and towel for Pool fun!
 Door Prizes/ Raffle (Bring Cash)
 Bring a chair to Lounge in!
 AUGUST 31, 2024 1300
 Follow the Elegant Penguin
 to the
 Exanilla's
 728 Sycamore Ave
 Glendora Calif 91741
 Jack: 626-617-5213


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

DISTRICT MEETING Friday SEPTEMBER 20, 2024
Post-755 Covina, @ 1930 hrs.

E- Bd. Mtg. Post 755
Monday 09/09/2024



American Legion Auxiliary Northern California Department Workshop

**Saturday, September 14, 2024
10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.**

**Haggin Grant Post 521
6700 8th Street, Rio Linda, CA 95673**

*Note: Date has
changed!*

Haggin Grant Post 521 is located 20 minutes from the Sacramento International Airport.

Hotels conveniently located off I-5 and Del Paso Blvd.

Co-Chairman:
Jennifer Turner (916) 517-8486
Suzanne Winters (916) 768-6679



Donuts and coffee will be served at 9:00am

Join us for Lunch!
Sub Sandwiches, Pasta Salad, and Chips

RSVP No later than Sept 7th

Lunch \$10 at door or mail payment to:
Kathy Shermer, 1019 E Street, Rio Linda, CA 95673

VA GREATER LOS ANGELES HEALTHCARE SYSTEM

OPEN HOUSE

- VETERANS BENEFITS INFORMATION
- GIVEAWAYS
- VBA & VET CENTER REPRESENTATIVES

OPEN HOUSE EVENTS ARE FROM 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM

**JULY
12**

VA Lancaster
Lancaster Elks Lodge 1625
240 East Ave K
Lancaster, CA 93535
(661) 729-8655

**OCT
16**

VA Sepulveda
16111 Plummer St
Sepulveda, CA 91343
(818) 891-7711

**AUG
14**

VA Bakersfield
1801 Westwind Dr
Bakersfield, CA 93301
(661) 632-1800

**NOV
9**

VA East Los Angeles
5426 E Olympic Blvd
Commerce, CA 90022
(323) 725-7372

**SEPT
4**

VA Santa Barbara
SB Elks Lodge 613
150 N. Kellogg Ave.
Santa Barbara, CA 93111
(805) 683-1491

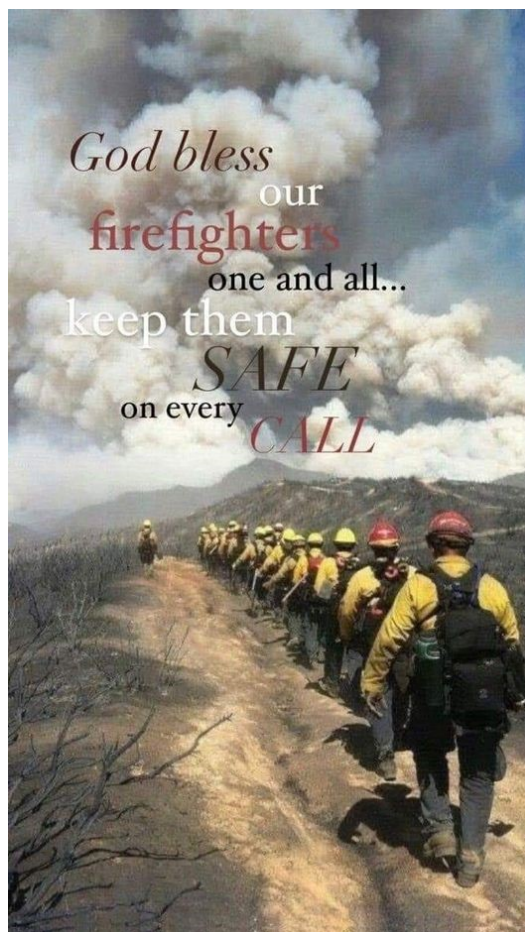
**DEC
11**

VA Santa Maria
1550 East Main St
Santa Maria, CA 93434
(805) 354-6000



WWW.LOSANGELES.VA.GOV

For more information, please contact:
calvin.payne@va.gov
424-214-8341



Being a military veteran is a special way of life. You get out of the service, go to work in civilian life. Not letting your co-workers know you are a combat veteran. What you have seen, smelled, tasted, heard, felt, remember. Things you will never forget, but wish you could.



Elegant 18th District past Commanders			Year	Auxiliary past District Presidents		
Niel LaSala		(P-280)	2023-2025			
Irvin Flores		(P-508)	2022-2023	(U-139)		Yolanda Zuniga
Auggie Galaviz		(P-790)	2021-2022	U-755		Judy Tabacchi
Dave Whalen		(P-475)	2019-2021	(U-13)		Maureen Sacco
Scott Sinclair		(P-279)	2018-2019	(U-830)		Pat Martinez
Ralph Larriva		(P-75)	2017-2018	(U-261)		Betty Ramos
J. R. Duarte		(P-508)	2016-2017	(U-241)		Gail Pouliot
Manny Vital		(P-508)	2015-2016	(U-247)		Mindy Sinclair
Peter Douglas III	★	(P-280)	2014-2015	(U-755)		Laura Bradshaw
Augustine "Auggie" Galaviz		(P-790)	2013-2014	(U-830)		Judy Forrest
Scott Sinclair		(P-247)	2012-2013	(U-280)	★	Rhodana Enright
Lou Dominguez		(P-508)	2011-2012	(U-755)	★	Kathy Pipkin
Gil Cardoza		(P-139)	2010-2011	(U-261)		Denyse Laugeson
George Curtis		(P-755)	2009-2010	(U-261)		Denyse Laugeson
Steve Turley		(P-888)	2008-2009	(U-790)	★	Julie Potter
John Garcia		(P-508)	2007-2008			Liz Broughton
Larry Johnson	★	(P-280)	2006-2007	(U-790)		Norma Cooper
Herbert Garcia	★	(P-280)	2005-2006	(U-790)		Pamela Hicks
James Courson		(P-431)	2004-2005	(U-280)	★	Donna Enright
Henry Hicks	★	(P-790)	2003-2004	(U-755)		Judy Tabacchi
Michael Delgado		(P-790)	2002-2003	(U-422)	★	Peggy McIntosh
Vincent Seriana		(P-75)	2001-2002	(U-280)	★	Norma Duval
William Reed	★	(P-790)	2000-2001	(U-241)	★	Margaret Quinones
Robert Moxham		(P-755)	1999-2000	(U-247)		Rosemary MacArthur
Alex Rivney		(P-431)	1998-99		★	Doris Busch
Frank Wolfskill	★	(P-261)	1997-98	(U-261)		Betty Wolfskill
Margaret "Peggy" McIntosh	★	(P-422)	1996-97	(U-790)	★	Ann Martinez
William Krizansky	★	(P-790)	1995-96	(U-139)		Elizabeth Brown
Joseph Drogichen	★	(P-139)	1994-95	(U-241)		Nellie Staykovich
Donna Natali		(P-44)	1993-94	(U-755)		Judy Tabacchi
James "Apple" McIntosh	★	(P-442)	1992-93	(U-397)		Emma Romero
Eileen Krizansky	★	(P-790)	1991-92			Charlotte Ballard
Charles Bourbon	★	(P-180)	1990-91	(U-241)	★	Margaret Quinones
Maurice Ramirez			1989-90		★	Anita Rattan
William Stemmerman	★		1988-89	(U-790)		Carol Chilelli
Gene O. Brick	★		1987-88	(U-261)		Betty Wolfskill
Felix Nieves	★	(P-508)	1986-87	(U-422)	★	Peggy McIntosh
W.R. "Sonny" Quinn	★		1985-86		★	Wanda Gallegos
Thurston McDougal	★	(P-279)	1984-85		★	Sharon Burkhart
Frank C. Larson	★		1983-84		★	Elvera North
Lloyd M. Stanper	★		1982-83			Ruth Gray
Virgil Ryan	★		1981-82		★	Lola Bodzsaar
Joseph Chilelli	★	(P-888)	1980-81		★	Joanne Thompson
Walter J. Gastrel	★		1979-80		★	Ehring Seeto
W. R. "Bud" Haskins			1978-79		★	Evelyn Peters
Arthur T. Rubino	★		1977-78		★	Corinne Martin
Roger Kar			1976-77		★	Viola Graham
William N. Marzov II	★		1975-76		★	Beryl Vandebur
William K. Rattan	★	(P-436)	1974-75		★	Eloise Gryatva
Allen W. Mokel	★		1973-74		★	Vivian Ingle