



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



Hello Legion Family,

Post operations continue to be my theme for December as we enter the holidays and close out 2024. It is important that we look out for the best interests of our organization at all times. Being honest and forthright with each other as a Legion Family should always be a prime concern. Recently, there was an incident with a Legionnaire who was trying to push forward a fundraising proposal and misrepresented a net profit on a prior fundraiser for the intent of garnering support for his proposal. It was unfortunate that this member tried to do this, but when a member pushed back on his calculations, he came clean on his inaccuracy of the net profit. I bring this up to reinforce the necessity to keep the best interests of the Post in mind at all times. Sadly, many are afraid to speak up and engage members who are presenting inaccurate information or ideas that are not entirely thought out. With that said, being courageous, constructive and well-mannered goes a long way when it comes to effective Post operations. You can never go wrong when countering someone else's point of view that you know to be incorrect as long as you are keeping the best interests of the Legion at heart.

Teamwork is another key tenet that an operating body needs in order to achieve success. I am enormously proud of the work our District 18 team has done in 2024 and will continue to do into 2025. I would like to thank two Legionnaires who have stepped up in a big way, as two critical vacancies unexpectedly emerged at the District level. Joaquin Paredes of Post 755 has assumed the role as our Service Officer and Jerry Ipsen of Post 280 is now our new Judge Advocate. I welcome them both and deeply appreciate their commitment to the American Legion District 18 team!

Additionally, we have two major events coming up and I am personally inviting everyone who is reading this message to attend! Please mark your calendar and make every effort to come by. Our annual Holiday Bash will take place on Friday, December 20, 2024, 1800-2200 at Post 280. A tamale dinner will be served for \$12 and opportunity drawings will be conducted. Please bring an unwrapped toy, as we will be collecting for the Marine Corps Toys for Tots Campaign. Also, there will be a gift exchange taking place and those wishing to take part are asked to bring a gift valued at \$15. Full Canteen service will be provided by Post 280. The other major event will take place on Wednesday, December 25, 2024, 1000 at the West Los Angeles VA Campus. For the third consecutive year, we will be delivering 150 backpacks to our homeless veterans. We will muster at Post 280 at 0845, load the backpacks onto vehicles and leave for West Los Angeles. Typically, we are finished by 1130. Please join us for this extremely rewarding and worthwhile event.

Furthermore, 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. Nothing is more important to an operating Post than membership. 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/>

Lastly, with the Holiday Season upon us, so is our annual District 18 See's Candies Fundraiser which ends on 12/6! Support the Legion's Four Pillars... we need everyone to get on board with this. Please place an order and share this link with family and friends:

https://www.vumraising.com/secure/americanld_holiday_fundraiser8/NeiLa%208735/candy

My wife Carol and I wish all of you a blessed and safe Holiday Season!

Semper Fidelis,

Neil La Sala
American Legion Department of California
Commander- District 18
Adjutant- Post 280



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

Greetings, American Legion Family,
We have an exciting action-packed December ahead! As we approach the halfway point of the membership year, I'm proud to report that our District is currently ranked **4th out of 30 districts** in the Department of California as of November 29th, with a membership rate just shy of 70%. We're well on track to achieve our **December 11th goal of 75%!**

Looking ahead, we'll be conducting **District-wide Membership Revitalizations** in January. Our focus will be reaching out to members who haven't yet renewed their **2025 American Legion dues**. Often, a simple reminder call is all it takes, as many members may not realize their dues are due.

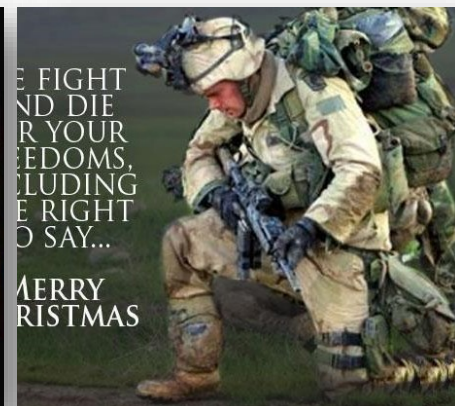
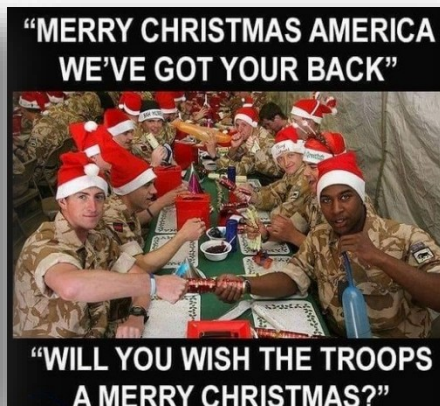
We will also host a **membership recruitment table** at the **Azusa Armory on Saturday, December 14th**, from **11:00 AM to 2:00 PM**. This is a great opportunity to welcome new members, and we encourage everyone to spread the word and support this event.

During recent District meetings, we highlighted the upcoming **LACC Tamale Festival at American Legion Post 241 in Baldwin Park**. The festival is scheduled for **Saturday, December 14th**, from **11:00 AM to 4:00 PM**, with setup beginning at **8:00 AM**. This promises to be a fun and festive event, so don't miss it!
For the **Sons of the American Legion, District 18**, our **General Membership Meeting** is scheduled for **Tuesday, December 10th**, at **Azusa Post 180**, starting at **7:00 PM**. All Sons and Legionnaires are encouraged to attend what promises to be a productive and engaging meeting.

On the membership front, our **Area 6 Sons** are leading the way, ranked **1st out of 6 areas**, while our District ranks **18th out of 30 districts** in California. Although we've made significant progress, we still have some ground to cover, with about one-third of our goal of **356 members** achieved so far. Let's keep the momentum going!

On Christmas Day, our District will continue the tradition of distributing backpacks to displaced veterans at the West LA VA campus. We'll leave Post 280 at 9:00 AM and arrive at the Tiny Homes at the campus by 10:00 AM. Your participation and support in this meaningful effort are greatly appreciated.

Reminder: You can renew your membership online quickly and conveniently by visiting [Renew Membership](#). Thank you for your dedication and support. Together, let's make this month a resounding success!





Elegant 18th District

Department of California
P. O. Box 5256
El Monte, CA 91734



From the desk of 2nd Vice Jack Evanilla



From 18th District 2nd Vice
Jack Evanilla

Hello and blessed month of December, Legion Family.

Well, here we all are the finally month of 2024, and what a great-extraordinary year it was!!!

First, fund raising is going. See's Candy, 50-50 drawings, private and personal donations. Plan to have close too \$3000.00 in personal and private donations by end of 2024. Last month a \$200.00 from Juliet M. Smith and \$500.00 from Athens Disposal.

Working on getting a date in January to speak at DAR, Glendora. Explain the Legion and what great the 18th does.

Recruiting event set for 14 December, Nat. Guard Armory Azuza. Have a together, JR, Andre, David B, Sam David Hernandez, Juaquin Parades-Me. This event, toys from the post 180 and post 755—too guard family's, recruiting table. Not set is Santa Clause and food.

Plan another recruiting at Azuza Armory in April. Working with Major Moore. More to follow when date comes due.

H4HS is getting off to a slow start. I will be trying to get to as many posts as I can to get product out to members and their posts.

Commander Nick Rosa working on getting legion recruitment product and table cloth.

West LA VET homeless event—have a lot of stuff to hand out. Thanks to 99 cent store, CSM Larry Keen, Glendora Rotary and DAR. Plan to meet with Neil LaSala, David Hernandez (has a pick-up truck) at our storage facility 6-7 December. Have close to 150 Backpacks to put things in. Protein Bars too.

Working on a more expensive polo shirt to fundraise. \$25.00 plus \$5.00, excellent quality. Wiil need to put to vote.

I called Auggie to apologize for getting this out so late, its 28 November 2024, shoot.

Please, as we go about our daily lives, don't hesitate to walk up to a Vet and ask to join The Legion. Also please try to join Sam on his recruiting events.

Many thanks to Manny, Neil, Rivers on Saturday, November 9 at Eugene Obregon Park in East LA. Great day. Veterans Helping Veterans...I grew a lot that day.

Finally, as I sign off...A very, blessed and great Holiday Season too All Legion Family, here and all over the world!! A Prayer:

Dear Lord...

Help me to remember someone out there, a man died for me today. As long as there be war, I must ask and answer, Am I worth dying for?



Comments from the Scribe



BE THE ONE



THE HOLIDAYS NOW UPON US. THINK OF THOSE LESS FORTUNATE AND WAYS WE CAN ALL MAKE IT A HAPPY HOLIDAY SEASON FOR ALL!

LEST WE FORGET THOSE IN NEED, HOMELESS, DISABLED & ALONE, FAMILIES TOO FAR TO VISIT.

CALL OR VISIT A FELLOW VETERAN. SEND THEM A CHRISTMAS CARD OF GOOD CHEER

DISTRICT 18

Lupe and I wish you all a very Merry Christmas & beautiful New Year

[Meeting Schedule PDF](#)

**American Legion District 18 and
East Pasadena Post 280
Invite you to a**

Holiday Celebration!

**Friday – December 20th 6-10pm
179 N. Vinedo Avenue
Pasadena, CA 91107**


**Tamales,
Rice & Beans
Dessert - \$12**

**50/50
Door Prizes
Music
Canteen Service
& Lots of Fun**

**Bring Gift
For Gift Exchange
Up to \$15 Value**



**Bring unwrapped toy for
Marine Corps Campaign**

**Donation Drawing –
50" Philips Roku 4K
UHD Smart TV**



- 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



HELMETS FOR HEROES
PROTECTING VETERANS YESTERDAY, TODAY & TOMORROW

18th District Meeting, @ Post 241 Baldwin Park 15 November



DISTRICT 18 Commander NEIL LA SALA (AREA 6)

Department of California - 2025 MEMBERSHIP REPORT

11/22/2024

[illegible]



Around the District

Elegant 18th



District



AMERICAN LEGION



ack Evanilla speaking at West Covina Veterans Day Event 11-12-2024



The Elegant 18th District

16 December 2024 District Executive Board meeting @ Post 280 E. Pasadena

Friday – 20 December 2024 District General Membership Meeting @ Post 280 E. Pasadena
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 18 (AREA 6)							
Detachment of CA - 2025 MEMBERSHIP REPORT						11/22/2024	
Squadron	Name	City	New	Renewed	Total Members	Goal	%
13	Pasadena	Pasadena	0	0	0	0	0.00%
30	Pomana Charles P Rowe	Pomona	0	0	0	30	0.00%
139	Alhambra	Alhambra	0	0	0	47	0.00%
180	Canyon City	Azuza	7	36	43	94	45.74%
241	Abraham Lincoln	Baldwin Park	0	1	1	33	3.03%
280	East Pasadena	Pasadena	2	15	17	47	36.17%
755	Charter Cove	Covina	5	30	35	62	56.45%
790	West Covina	West Covina	3	19	22	43	51.16%
Total			17	101	118	356	33.15%
8							

The Holiday's Season is upon us, so is our annual District 18 See's Candies Fundraiser! Please support the American Legion's Four Pillars (Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation, National Security, Americanism, and Children & Youth)... we need everyone to get on board with this:

https://www.yumraising.com/secure/americanld_holiday_fundraiser8/NeiLa%208735/candy





Events around your neighborhood Posts



Do you remember?

American Legion Post 755 Tree Trimming Sunday 12/1/24 at 3 pm

Bring an ornament or any holiday decor help bring holiday cheer to our Post
Bring a dish or dessert to share

20516 E. Arrow Hwy., Covina, CA 91724

December 7, 2024 from 11am to 4pm
at post 241 Baldwin park

PLEASE JOIN US FOR
LACC 4th Annual

TAMALE FESTIVAL

Saturday December 7th
11:00AM - 4:00PM
American Legion Post 241
4725 Maine Ave. Baldwin park, Ca. 91706

Tamale Contest, Food & Music

WRISTBAND \$5
TO SAMPLE
TAMALES

For more information Contact Sam Cafiero
1-909-993-7644

AMERICAN LEGION POST 755

MENU \$7: FISH AND
CHIPS, MACARONI
SALAD, ROLL,
AGUACHILE AND
DESSERT

POST
OPENS AT
4PM
OPEN TO
ALL

\$18 BEER BUCKETS
W/6 DOMESTIC
BEERS

**MONDAY NIGHT
FOOTBALL**

**GAME:
RAVENS VS. CHARGERS**

GET IN A
DRAWING FOR A
DRINK CHIP
AFTER EVERY
QUARTER AND
FINAL

OPPORTUNITY
DRAWING

\$25 BEER
BUCKETS W/6
IMPORTED BEERS

20516 E. ARROW HWY, COVINA, CA 91724



December 2024



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 <i>Civil Air Patrol founded</i>	2	3	4	5	6 <i>LACC Mtg.</i>	7 <i>Pearl Harbor Remembrance 1941</i>
8	9 <i>Op. Restore Hope Somalia 1992</i>	10 <i>Human Rights Day</i>	11	12	13 <i>USNG Est. 1936</i>	14
15 <i>Bill of Rights day</i>	16 <i>Dist. 18 E-Bd. Mtg. @P-280 Battle of Bulge 1944</i>	17	18	19	20 <i>Dist. 18 Mtg. @P-280 E. Pas. Op. Just Cause 1989</i>	21
22	23	24	25 <i>Merry Christmas Hanukkah begins</i>	26 <i>Kwanzaa begins</i>	27	28
29	30	31 <i>New Years Eve.</i>				

The Voice of Elegance

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



*New District Coin
To be released early 2025*



Side A



Side B

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

DISTRICT MEETING Friday December 20, 2024
Post-280 E. Pasadena, @ 1930 hrs.

E- Bd. Mtg. Post 241
Monday 12/16/2024

Please support the American Legion and share this link with family and friends!

https://www.yumraising.com/secure/americanld_holiday_fundraiser8/NeiLa%208735/candy

Your purchase supports the Legion's Four Pillars: Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation, Americanism, National Security and Children and Youth.

Deadline to order is 12/6/24





AMERICAN LEGION POST 280
Welcomes Families & Friends
to Sunday Breakfast & Bake Sale
December 1st - 9am to 11:00am





Scrambled Eggs, Chorizo and Eggs,
Sausage, Potatoes, Bacon,
Pancakes, Fresh Fruit, and more

Donation \$12.00
Kids Under 12 Eat Free



Hosted by the American Legion Families Unit 280
179 N. Vinado Avenue
Pasadena, CA 91107



Department of California - DISTRICT 18 (AREA 6)												11/27/2024
2024-2025 ADMINISTRATIVE COMPLIANCE REPORT												
Post Information			Required by National		Mandated by California Department By Laws					Administrative		Account
POST	POST NAME	POST CITY	POST DATA REPORT	CONSOLIDATED POST REPORT	CERTIFICATION POST DELEGATES	DELEGATE FEES PAID	POST OFFICER CERTIFICATION	PREVIOUS AUDITS NOT SUBMITTED	FINANCIAL AUDIT CERTIFICATION	PROCESSES MEMBERSHIP ONLINE	APPROVAL DATE OF BYLAWS	BALANCE
			Due 4/15	Due 6/1	Due 6/1	Due 6/1	Due 6/1	Past Due	Due 11/15/24	2021	Req Every 7 Yrs	(Credit)/Owed
10	South El Monte	South El Monte	4/24/2024	✓	6/19/2024	✓	6/19/2024	✓	11/17/2024	✓	2020	\$ -
13	Pasadena	Pasadena	6/4/2024	✓	6/25/2024	✓	6/26/2024	✓	11/8/2024	✓	2021	\$ -
44	Monrovia	Monrovia	4/29/2024			✓		2022-2023		✓	1991	\$ -
78	Keith Powell	Claremont	4/20/2024	✓	5/16/2024	✓	6/7/2024	✓	10/3/2024		2021	\$ -
139	Alhambra	Alhambra	1/31/2024	✓	5/14/2024	✓	5/20/2024	✓		never used	2020	\$ -
180	Canyon City	Azusa	4/10/2024	✓	5/29/2024	✓	5/14/2024	✓	11/15/2024	✓	2024	\$ -
241	Abraham Lincoln	Baldwin Park	4/8/2024	✓	7/27/2024	✓	7/27/2024	✓		never used	2022	\$ -
247	Arcadia	Arcadia	4/16/2024	✓	6/21/2024	✓	5/22/2024	✓	9/25/2024	✓	2019	\$ -
261	El Monte	El Monte	7/9/2024	✓	7/22/2024	✓	9/10/2024	✓	9/10/2024	✓	2022	\$ -
279	Temple City	Temple City	8/13/2024	✓	5/6/2024	✓	5/6/2024	✓	8/13/2024	✓	2022	\$ -
280	East Pasadena	Pasadena	4/8/2024	✓	5/29/2024	✓	5/22/2024	✓	10/23/2024	✓	2022	\$ -
397	Monterey Park	Monterey Park	3/10/2024	✓	6/9/2024	✓	6/9/2024	✓		✓	2024	\$ -
431	Edison	Alhambra	4/15/2024	✓	5/30/2024	✓	5/30/2024	✓	11/11/2024	✓	2020	\$ -
475	San Dimas - Glendora	Glendora	4/9/2024	✓	5/10/2024	✓	6/4/2024	✓	10/17/2024	✓	2022	\$ -
508	Borinquen	Baldwin Park	5/26/2024	✓	5/26/2024	✓	5/26/2024	✓	10/14/2024	✓	2021	\$ -
748	Reyner Aguirre	San Gabriel	7/19/2024	✓	7/22/2024	✓	7/22/2024	✓		never used	2024	\$ -
755	Charter Cove	Covina	4/11/2024	✓	8/3/2024	✓	6/25/2024	✓	10/2/2024	✓	2020	\$ -
790	West Covina	West Covina	7/22/2024	✓	6/28/2024	✓	6/28/2024	✓		✓	2022	\$ -

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Note: An empty box indicates no submission recorded by Department - Please submit as soon as possible (even if you believe you already have)

Note: Dates indicate last submission received by Department - Please update if any changes of officers occur

Account Balances: Amounts in () are credits and can be used with written notification - Credits over \$100 will be refunded to post by mail

✓ Indicates a new user

✓ Indicates entire column completed in District

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pre-Visit Checklist - Let's Talk About Stress

VA



U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
VA Desert Pacific Healthcare Network (VSN 22)



Pre-Visit Checklist

Date: _____

Providers Initials: _____

Let's Talk About Stress!

How are you feeling today? Please circle your stress level below.

1	2	3	4	5
Things are great	Things are pretty good	I've got a problem	I'm really upset	I need help

What things in my life worry me or cause the most stress?

What conditions am I being seen for today?
(What is most concerning to you?)

What questions would I like to ask during today's visit?

Your Experience Matters! Please select any additional healthcare topics you'd like to discuss during your visit:

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Medication Review | <input type="checkbox"/> Specialty Care Follow-up |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Medical History, Changes, or Updates | <input type="checkbox"/> Consults Needed |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Alternative/Whole Health Options | <input type="checkbox"/> Other Issues of Concern |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Improving Health with Changes to in Diet or Activity | <input type="checkbox"/> Enrollment in MyHealtheVet (Upgrade to Premium Account) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Results of Labs, Imaging, or Procedures | |



VA NEWS

VA and DOD Announce Updates to Improve Veteran and Caregiver Access to Installations

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs and Department of Defense (DOD) announced an improved installation access process for Veterans and eligible caregivers for medical appointments, shopping, and certain morale, welfare, and recreation (MWR) services. Veteran and caregiver eligibility will now be electronically verified during the installation access process.



Jack Evanilla
District Chaplain

Hello everyone Legion Family...Happy and Blessed Holidays.

Important . Historical Military dates in December...

12-1-1941....the Civil Air Patrol (CAP) founded.

12-7-1941...PEARL HARBOR DAY.

12-13-1636..The birthday or the US NATIONAL GUARD, established.

12-16-1944..Christmas Eve.

12-25-.....Christmas Day, a day when major military events have taken place, including in the Revolutionary War

.and World War 1.

12-28-.....Anniversary of the Army Chaplain Assistant.

12-31.....News Year Eve.

Other Military Events that took place in December include:

7 Dec 1941, First Bombardment of Midway.

5 Dec 1992, The Somalia Campaign began.

20 Dec 1989, The Panama Campaign began.

00 Dec 1972, Operation Linebacker 11 took place in Vietnam.

04 Dec 1950, 1st Battalion, 7th Marines arrived in Hagaru-Ri in North Korea.

Now a powerfully-important prayer for December, 2024.

Lord, We-Legionaries, Legion Family yes; 2024 are in the final month of this year. Heavenly Father, thank you for the grace you have given and blessed all Legion Family. Thank you for the for Blessing all of us (Legion Family) by e

Energizing and yes blessing us-legion this month of December, please Lord fill The Legion Family with Love, Joy and Forgiveness. We hope that your spirit, Lord God will emanate us and be a blessing to al Legion Family and all people outside the Legion Family.

Amen, Amen, Amen!!

In the bonds
2nd Vice and Chaplain
18th District