



**Commander's Message
District 18**



District Commander's Message

Hello American Legion Family,

July 1 marks the beginning of the 2026–2027 American Legion membership year. Congratulations to all of our newly elected officers of the appointed American Legion, and a special welcome to our newly elected and appointed 18 District officers. This year's membership cards feature a fresh new look, so I encourage everyone to renew early and carry your card with pride. To everyone who attended the Department Convention, welcome home! Whether it was your first convention or one of many, I hope you returned with new ideas, friendships, and renewed enthusiasm for serving our veterans and communities.

As we begin this new membership year, I want to remind our Posts that Post Commanders and Post Adjutants automatically receive access to mylegion.org, and each Post may now grant access to two additional members to assist with membership activities, such as the Post First Vice Commander or another member with a mylegion.org account. Throughout the year, I will continue visiting Posts and attending meetings because your District officers are here to support you. Whether you need assistance with membership, meetings, or other Post operations, we are here to help. I also encourage everyone to become familiar with the Post Bylaws, available in the Resources section at Calegion.org, and to visit our District website at Cadistrict18.org for District news, event flyers, newsletters, and upcoming events.

Please join us this month for our **District Executive Board Meeting on Monday, July 13, at 7:00 p.m.** at American Legion Post 180 in Azusa, a few days later at our **District General Meeting and District 18 Installation of Officers on Friday, July 17,** at American Legion Post 790 in West Covina. Dinner will be available at 6pm, and the meeting and installation will begin about **7:00 p.m.** I look forward to seeing you there and to working with all of you as we begin another successful year of service to our veterans, our communities, and The American Legion.

For God and Country,

The American Legion: Department of California

Samuel Cafiero

Commander 18 District

“A candle loses nothing by lighting another candle.”

– Erin Majors





**18th District 1st Vice,
Domingo H. Almanzar Jr.**

District 18th 1st Vice Commander's Membership Report.

July us upon us now. Happy 4th of July.
Convention has come and gone and here's an EARLY REMINDER let's make membership a priority for this coming year..

Remember there's still time for your Post to get 100%, but your Post won't receive awards. Nevertheless members that haven't renewed their membership to please get your membership paid now.

District 18th has recorded the following:

- 70new members
- 296 PUFL members—
- 1,041 paid members
- 30 transfer
- The total number of paid members is 1447 out of 1570, which places District 18th at 92.17% of its goal and ranks 16th in the Department of California.

Post Highlights:

- 1) Post 10 with 100%
- 2) Post 78 with 139.66%
- 3) Post 247 with 103.13%
- 4) Post 261 with 100%
- 5) Post 279 with 102.27%
- 6) Post 397 with 103.85%
- 7) Post 755 with 100% Charter Cove known as the biggest little post in the 18th district

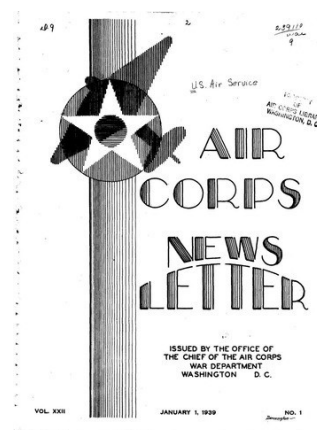
Post 748 in San Gabriel has a percentage of 88.89%, almost there!!!! 2 more to go.. PUSH
Post 790 in West Covina has the largest membership base with 289 paid members, accounting for 89.75% of its total.

- Post needing attention:
- - Post 241 in Abraham Lincoln Baldwin Park has a percentage of 60.94%
- Post 431 has a percentage of 70.00%
- District Totals: 92.17%

- Membership growth is steadily increasing, but we must focus on new renewals and outreach to close the gap.
 - Every contact, renewal, and transfer helps us towards our goal 100%
- So let's continue to call and reach out to are Veterans.

Thanks

District 1ST VICE
DOMINGO H ALMANZAR JR





18 District 2nd Vice Commander Report

Hello Commander and Comrades of the Elegant 18th District,

My name is Francisco (Frank) MoraPaez, and I am honored to serve as your District 2nd Vice Commander for the 2026–2027 membership year.

I want to sincerely thank you for the confidence you have placed in me. It is both a privilege and a responsibility that I do not take lightly. I am excited for the opportunity to work alongside our District leadership and each of our Posts as we continue to strengthen the American Legion and serve our veterans, their families, and our communities.

I look forward to learning, growing, and working hard throughout the year so that I can better serve you at both the Post and District levels. Together, I know we can accomplish great things while upholding the principles and values of our organization.

May God bless each of you, our District, and the American Legion.

Semper Fi!

For God and Country,

Francisco (Frank) Morapaez
District 18 2nd Vice Commander
2026–2027



District Chaplain,
Charles Weiskercher



From the Chaplains Corner

Scripture: “I am with you and I will help you because I am your God.” *Isaiah 41:10*

God knows you better than you know yourself. God is with you today and he will remain with you every day of your life. God will help you because he is our God and he loves us unconditionally. Sometimes He will use you to help others and sometimes He will use others to help you.

Prayer:

Dear Lord, we need your help every day. We ask that you will continue to help us, even when we don't know what kind of help we need. Lead us and direct our steps according to your will for our lives. Amen.

People may destroy your image, stain your personality but they can't take away your good deeds because no matter how they describe you, you will still be admired by those who really know you better.



DINNER AND SOCCER AT THE LEGION ARE OPEN TO THE COMMUNITY!

- World Cup Soccer Special, 7/1!

Ham and cheese sandwich with chips- \$7

Wednesday, July 1, 2026

Doors open at 4:30pm, food and soccer at 5pm

Cheer on Team USA as they battle Bosnia Herzegovina!

-Dinner at the Legion, 7/2!

Steak, baked potato, corn & dessert \$15

Doors open at 4pm, meal 5pm-7pm

Join us for dinner as the Legion family installs their 2026-2027 officers!

-Independence Day 250 Potluck Luncheon (see flyer)

Saturday, July 4, 2026, 1pm-4pm

Share a potluck item, bring the family, join in the camaraderie and be home in plenty of time to view the firework displays!

-Legion Breakfast, 7/12! (see flyer)

A delicious buffet meal- \$15

Sunday, July, 12, 2026, 9am-11am

A San Gabriel Valley tradition for over 50 years!

-Hall Rental... please consider a Post 280 hall rental for your graduation, birthday, memorial event, etc. (see flyer)

Be sure to visit our website and read the Post 280 monthly bulletin at: <https://www.americanlegionpost280.com/>

Join the fun and camaraderie! Seven TVs, dart boards, pool table and great canteen service! Please support our veterans!!

Neil T. La Sala

American Legion

Department of California

Commander- American Legion Los Angeles County Council

Adjutant/Finance Officer- Post 280

626 833 8493

ntlalasa@att.net

BE THE ONE – Join the District leadership team

Did you know our local post Auxiliaries work in our communities, Legion programs & Veterans at large..



Posts Installations in June by the 18th District Installation Team





Around the District

Elegant 18th



District



AMERICAN LEGION

One more Time - Leadership * District 18 Posts have voted for the Candidates of your choice.

It's that time of year again. All end of the year reports needs to be submitted by June 1st. All posts should have their elections completed and need to request installation with Scott. Please make sure you are electing the right people for the right positions who will abide by department reporting mandates and membership representation.



Scott Sinclair - Installation Team – assembled by past District Commanders

CELEBRATE THE 4TH OF JULY & A SPECIAL DOUBLE BIRTHDAY!

KOKO & MARIE'S BIRTHDAY BASH!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY KOKO & MARIE!

BBQ POTLUCK!
BRING YOUR FAVORITE DISH

SATURDAY, JUNE 27TH | PARTY STARTS AT 3:00 PM
AMERICAN LEGION POST 397
338 S RAMONA AVE MONTEREY PARK 91754
JOIN US FOR FOOD, FUN, & FIREWORKS!
BBQ | DRINKS | GAMES | LIVE MUSIC

STREET CLOSED FROM 4PM-11PM
MP Fireworks show at 9pm

Hours: Tuesdays closed, all other days opened 3pm-9pm, unless otherwise noted on an event flyer

JULY 2026
American Legion Post 755

20516 E. Arrow Hwy, Covina, CA 91724 (626) 966-7786

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
28	29	30	1	2	3	4 CLOSED
5 Hot Dogs	6 Darts & Drink Specials	7 Aux. Mtg. 6pm	8 Wednesday Dinner 5-7pm	9	10	11
12 Legion Breakfast 9am-1pm	13 Darts & Drink Specials	14 Legion Mtg. 6pm	15	16 SAL Mtg. 6pm	17 Riders Karaoke Potluck	18 Monthly bday Potluck with live band
19 Gratitude Band Tickets \$15 (2pm-6pm)	20 Darts & Drink Specials	21	22 Wednesday Dinner 5-7pm	23	24	25
26 Hot Dogs Loteria	27 Darts & Drink Specials	28	29	30	31	1

AMERICAN LEGION POST 755
Every Monday!

Darts & Drink Specials

\$2 Guinness Bottles
\$4 Draft Beers

20516 E. Arrow Hwy., Covina CA 91724



The Elegant 18th District



13 July 2026 District Executive Board meeting @ Post 180 Azusa, CA 7 p.m.

Friday – 17 JULY 2026 District General Membership Meeting @ Post 790 West Covina, CA 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 Dept. Members you can view and/or Email the District 18 Webmaster at cadistrict18@gmail.com

Commander	Sam Cafiero
JR Past Commander	Neil La Sala
1st Vice Commander	Domingo Almanzar
2nd Vice Commander	Frank Mora Paez
Adjutant	Scott Sinclair
Finance Officer	Ted Fife
Judge Advocate	Neil La Sala
Chaplain	Gilbert Ramos
Service Officer	Irvin Flores
Historian	Dago Perez
Sgt at Arms	Dave Hernandez
Webmaster	Dave Mushinkie
Scribe	Auggie Galaviz
Executive Committee	

- JR Duarte**
- Gil Cardoza**
- Al Mora**
- Joe Mercier**
- Robert Rios**
- Dave Mushinkie**
- Richie Santos**





Elegant 18th District



American Legion Post 280
Invites Families and Friends

July 4th Potluck

Saturday, July 4th
1:00 - 4:00 PM

Bring a favorite dish and celebrate Independence Day with community, fellowship, and family fun.

50/50 Raffle **Independence Day Prayer**
from Our Chaplain

Hosted by American Legion Families
East Pasadena Unit 280
179 N. Vinedo Avenue
Pasadena, CA 91107

Families & Friends Welcome

Auxiliary Unit 139

4th of July FIREWORKS

June 28th ~ July 3rd
9 AM ~ 11 PM
July 4th 9 AM until supplies last

VA U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

HONORING OUR VETERANS 5TH ANNUAL

EAST·LA

VET FEST & CAR SHOW

EVERYTHING COMPLIMENTARY FOR VETERANS & LOVED ONES

FREE ENTRY

SATURDAY
JULY 11, 2026
10 A.M. TO 2 P.M.

EAST LA VA CLINIC
5426 E OLYMPIC BLVD CITY OF COMMERCE CA, 90022

- RESOURCE FAIR
- BEST IN SHOW
- MOTORCYCLE TROPHY
- DENTAL/VISION CLINIC
- RSVP NOT REQUIRED

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: MICKIELA.MONTOYA@VA.GOV OR LALVIZ@TELACU.COM

Los Angeles County Supervisor
HILDA L. SOLIS
First District - Chair

Los Angeles County Supervisor Hilda L. Solis presents

THE 5TH ANNUAL LA VETERANS RESOURCE EXPO

Veterans, Reservists, Guards, Active Duty, Military Families, Caregivers & Community

BUILDING 4 - FAIRPLEX
1101 W. MCKINLEY AVE., POMONA, CA 91768

FAIRPLEX in POMONA

FRIDAY, JULY 24, 2026
9:00 AM - 2:00 PM
ADMISSION IS FREE FOR ALL!

Employment, Health, and Education Resources, and more...

Military Veterans Affairs COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

ISD INTERNAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES





FAIRPLEX

Scan for more information





July 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3 <i>LACC Mtg. @ P139 Alhambra</i>	4 P-280 Potluck P139 Fireworks P397 Fireworks
5	6 <i>Post 755 Every Monday Darts & Beverages</i>	7	8	9	10	11 VA-Clinic ELA Vet-Fest
12 P280 Brkfst. & BakeSale	13 D18 E-Board Mtg. @ P180	14	15	16	17 D-18 Mtg. @ 790 West Covina	18 CA Legion College <i>Fri.-Sat & Sun</i>
19	20	21	22 <i>G.I. Bill Approved</i>	23	24 <i>L.A. Vets Expo @ Pomona Fairplex</i>	25
26	27 <i>Korean War 1953.</i>	28	29	30	31	

The Voice of Elegance

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



Department American Legion Collage



CALC is coming to Sanger

Department Headquarters
1601 7th Street, Sanger, California 93657

17-19 July 2026

- The course starts at 8:00 am on Friday, 17 July, and will conclude with graduation at 1:00 pm on Sunday, 19 July
- Registration closes at midnight on 29 June 2026
- Applicants have until 29 June to submit a completion certificate from The American Legion's online Basic Training Course and a resolution on a topic of their choice
- Applicants will receive mileage reimbursement for travel to and from their home Post @ .40 per mile, along with a \$50.00 per diem per day to cover expenses during the event
- Please send questions to CALC@callegion.org

Topics include - Legion Charities, Be The One/Buddy Checks, Community Engagement, Corporate Responsibility, Legislative Advocacy, Tax Exempt status, Post Charters, Marketing/Public Relations, Parliamentary Procedures, Post Operations, Post VSO, Flag Code, Resolutions, Strategic Planning, & Trademarks



Wish to receive the District newsletter by Email, please notify Scribe/Editor Auggie G. at age69vet@verizon.net
Website Cadistrict18.org

DISTRICT MEETING Friday 17 July 2026
Post-790 W. Covina, @ 1900 hrs.

E- Bd. Mtg. Post 180
Monday 07/13/2026



DEPARTMENT OF CALIFORNIA
THE AMERICAN LEGION



NEWLY ELECTED OFFICERS

Congratulations to the newly elected officers for 2026-2027! Officers will assume their roles on July 1, 2026.

Elected Officers:

- Department Commander, Janice Somers
- National Executive Committeeman, Chris Yates
- Alternate National Executive Committeeman, Larry Maggio
- Sergeant-at-Arms, Michael Smith
- Area 1 Vice Commander, Robert Tyndall
- Area 2 Vice Commander, Phil Cazella
- Area 3 Vice Commander, Roy Santiago
- Area 4 Vice Commander, David Fuller
- Area 5 Vice Commander, Victor Martin
- Area 6 Vice Commander, Jeff Daly



*Janice Somers, Department
Commander (2026-2027)*

Additional officer information will follow once appointments are made by the Department Commander.

The American Legion | Department of California

ALTERNATE NEC



NEC



SERGEANT-AT-ARMS



Department Executive Committee Meeting – July 30 – August 2, 2026

LOCATION:

Merced Post 83
939 W Main St, Merced, CA 95340-4518

HOTEL INFORMATION:

Location:
El Capital Hotel
609 W Main St, Merced, CA 95340
(209) 383-1234

Department Executive Committee Meeting -March 12-14, 2027

LOCATION:

Santa Maria Post 56
501 N Pine St, Santa Maria, CA 93458