



**Commander's Message
District 18**



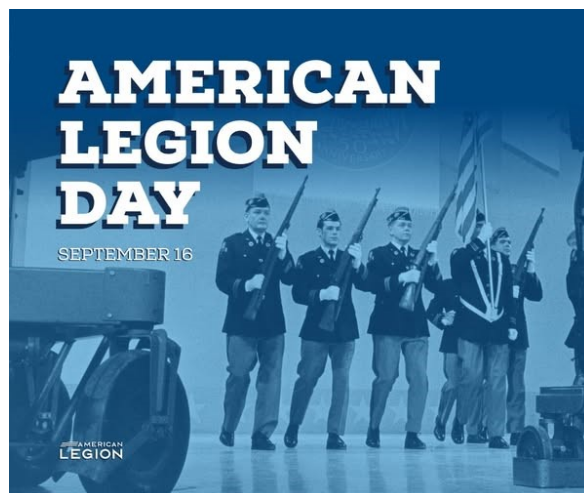
Hello, everyone,

During the first week of this month, several of our California Legionnaires will be returning from The American Legion National Convention in Louisville, Kentucky. Much like our Department Convention, the National Convention includes resolutions being passed, rejected, or returned for further review, along with training classes, informational sessions, dinners, and hospitality rooms. To everyone who attended, welcome back. I look forward to hearing about your experiences and the information you brought home.

I also want to remind everyone to be cautious when receiving emails that appear to come from me or anyone else within The American Legion. Please remember: trust, but verify. If an email asks you to purchase something, send money, or provide personal information, call the sender using a telephone number you already know—not necessarily a number listed in the email.

I will never ask anyone by email or text message to purchase gift cards or make purchases on behalf of District 18 or The American Legion. Any legitimate request involving District business or expenditures will be presented and discussed at a District 18 General Meeting. Please remain alert and help protect our members, Posts, and organization from scams. Thank you for your continued service and dedication to our veterans, their families, and our communities.

For God and Country,
Samuel Cafiero
Commander, District 18





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



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

September US is upon us now.

Labor Day weekend is around the corner. **EARLY REMINDER** let's make membership a priority for this coming year.. **EVERY** Post 1st Vice it's time to start **PUSHING** membership and I mean push your Post adjutant and yourself to get this job and make this year and let's make The Elegant 18th District number 1 again. If you need help just reach out to me and JR Duarte cause we are ready to make a statement this year...

- All I can put out as 1ST VICE for District at this time is all Post Vice Commander **PUSH MEMBERSHIP HARD!!!!** So let's continue to call and reach out to are Veterans.

Thanks

District 1ST VICE
DOMINGO H ALMANZAR JR
For God and Country



THE POW/MIA TABLE



The table set for 1 is small...it symbolizes the frailty of one prisoner against his oppressors.

The table is round...to show our everlasting concern for our missing men.

The tablecloth is white...symbolizing the purity of their motives.

The single red rose, displayed in a vase, reminds us of the life of each of the missing, and the(ir) loved ones and friends of these Americans who keep the faith, awaiting answers.

The vase is tied with a red ribbon, symbol of our continued determination to account for our missing.

A slice of lemon on the bread plate is to remind us of the bitter fate of those captured and missing in a foreign land.

A pinch of salt symbolizes the tears endured by those missing and their families who seek answers.

The Bible represents the strength gained through faith to sustain those lost from our country, founded as one nation under God.

The glass is inverted...to symbolize their inability to share this evening's (morning's/day's) toast.

The flag symbolizes the commitment to which we pledge, as did those we honor today.

The chairs are empty...they are missing.



Remember...all of you who served with them and called them comrades, who depended on their might and aid, relied on them...for surely...they have not yet forsaken you.





18th District

As District 2nd Vice Commander, I encourage every member to become involved in Post activities, support our programs, and welcome fellow veterans into the American Legion Family. Your participation helps strengthen our Posts and ensures that we continue serving veterans, their families, and our communities.

Frank Morapeaz
18 District 2nd Vice Commander,
The American Legion, Department of California



🇺🇸 The American Legion: So Much More Than You Think 🇺🇸

Many see the American Legion as just a place for Veterans to grab a drink. The reality? We're one of America's most powerful VETERANS SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS! 🗣️

Our mission isn't social—it's SERVICE:

- Advocating for veterans' healthcare and benefits 🏥
- Supporting military families in need ❤️
- Providing college scholarships for our youth 🎓
- Honoring fallen heroes with dignity and respect 🇺🇸
- Fighting for legislation that protects those who served ⚖️

Yes, our posts have social quarters where Veterans find camaraderie, but that's just a small part of our century-long commitment to Veterans, families, and communities.

The next time you pass by your local post, remember: We're not a bar—we're veterans continuing our mission to serve America. 🇺🇸



District 18
Gilbert Ramos

Chaplains Message:



May your day
be filled with good
thoughts, kind people,
and happy moments.



Host Your Next Event at the American Legion, East Pasadena Post 280



With ample space to accommodate a wide range of event needs, our post offers a hall with a standing capacity of 300, seating capacity of 250 with chairs, and 100 with tables and chairs. Additionally, you'll have access to a fully-equipped kitchen and our shared outdoor patio space. Feel free to reach out, and we'd be delighted to host your next event.

Here are some examples of events that we've hosted in the past:

Birthdays
Wedding Receptions
Anniversaries
Quinceañeras
Memorial Services
Fitness Classes
Potlucks
Club Events
Live Music Events

Inquire About Our Hall Rentals:

(626) 644-1917
info@legionpost280.org
179 N. Vinado Ave., Pasadena 91107



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)

DINNER AT THE LEGION IS OPEN TO THE COMMUNITY, 9/3/26! ALSO, SPECIAL CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

-Dinner at the Legion, 9/3!
Hot Pastrami Sandwich with chips, pickle and dessert- \$12
Thursday, September 3, 2026, doors open at 4pm, meal 5pm-7pm

A Post 280 Legion Dinner favorite that always sells out, please arrive early! Takeout is available.

-Legion Breakfast, 9/13! (see flyer)
A delicious buffet- \$15
Sunday, September 13, 2026, 9am-11am

The tradition continues... please support the Legion!

-Quartermania, 10/24! (see flyer)
Saturday, October 24, 2026, 12:30pm-4pm

This is Auxiliary Unit 280's annual fundraiser in support of Girls State and female veterans... please attend!

-TRUNK OR TREAT, 10/25! (see flyer)
Sunday, October 25, 2026, 12pm-4pm

Our biggest and greatest community event of the year! Adults have as much fun as the kids during this tradition sponsored by the Squadron 280 Sons of the American Legion!

-Early Bird Steak Luncheon, 11/15! (see flyer)
Steak, potato, corn and dessert- \$15 (free for members with dues paid by 11/15)
Sunday, November 15, 2026, 1pm-4pm

Always open to our community. Members, be sure to pay your dues ASAP!

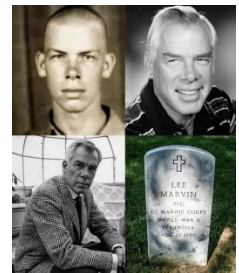
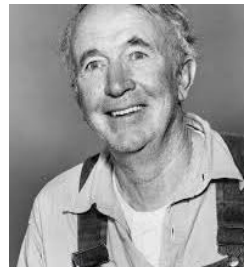
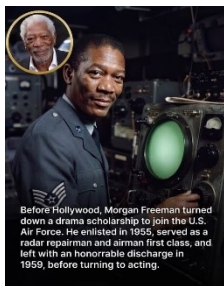
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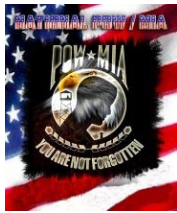
-AMERICAN LEGION POST 280 CENTENNIAL T-SHIRTS: 4XL-2XL, \$25. XL-M, \$20 (large and medium are back in stock). Also, our Centennial Challenge Coins are selling fast at \$10. Contact Adjutant Neil La Sala while supplies last! Cell: 626.833.8493, nlalasala@att.net (see flyer)

All events hosted by:

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

History – did you know these great artist Are Americas heroes – Proudly served in our Armed Forces





Around the District



AMERICAN LEGION

Your Posts in your District, have dinners, gatherings & Fundraisers – support your local Legion family.

American Legion Post 280
Welcomes Families & Friends To
Sunday Breakfast & Bake Sale
Sunday, September 13th
9 am to 11 am

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

Donation \$15
Kids under 12 Eat Free

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



EST 2026

G's Tacos
GET SOME
★ VETERAN OWNED ★

TACOS TUESDAY
IT'S GOING DOWN

FOR ALL YOU
TACO JUNKIES

SEPT 1ST TUESDAY

AMERICAN LEGION

★ AMERICAN LEGION ★
AZUSA POST 180
COME GET YOUR GRUB ON!

★ VETERAN OWNED ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ COMPETITIVE PRICES OR BETTER ★

American Legion Post 755

ANY BEER OR SELTZER
WITH A SHOT OF
FIREBALL OR JACK FIRE

\$8

ICE COLD BEER. HOT SHOT. GREAT TIME!

MONDAYS & THURSDAYS
★ ALL DAY! ★

AMERICAN LEGION POST 755

CASINO BUS TRIP
Fantasy Springs Resort Casino • Indio, CA

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2026

ROUND-TRIP BUS RIDE
PLUS:
Breakfast • Drinks & Snacks
Bingo • Casino Play & More!

ONLY \$55 PER PERSON

WE ARE COLLECTING MONEY NOW!
SPACES ARE ALMOST FILLED!

RESERVE YOUR SPOT TODAY!
Contact: Monica Paredes (626) 384-7635
Joaquin Paredes (626) 506-0547

PCC VETERANS
EVERY THURSDAY NIGHT

THURSDAY NIGHT DINNER
BE OUR GUEST!

AT THE
AMERICAN LEGION HALL
POST 280

179 N Vinado Avenue • Pasadena, CA 91107

DINNER SERVED 5 - 7 P.M.

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

AMERICAN LEGION POST 755
Every Monday!

Darts & Drink Specials

\$2 Guinness Bottles
\$4 Draft Beers

20510 E. Arrow Hwy., Covina CA 91724



The Elegant 18th District



10 September 2026 District Executive Board meeting @ Post 139 Alhambra, CA 7 p.m.

Friday – 21 September 2026 District General Membership Meeting @ Post 139 Alhambra, 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

**SQUADRON 280
4TH ANNUAL
TRUNK OR TREAT**
A Safe & Spooktacular Community Event!
**SUNDAY
OCTOBER 25
12 PM TO 4 PM**

FREE TREATS

Jumper **Petting Zoo** **Face Painting**

**AMERICAN LEGION POST 280
179 N VINEDO, PASADENA, CA**

**FREE ADMISSION & OPEN TO THE PUBLIC!
MUSIC, & FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY!**

**AMERICAN LEGION
POST 280**

QUARTERMANIA
SATURDAY, OCT 24
DOORS OPEN 12:30 PM

\$20 Pre-Sale Both Incl Lunch **\$25 At the door**

Reserve a table for 8! Decorate your table for a chance to win 100 free raffle tickets for the best decorated table!

**American Legion Post 280
179 N Vinedo Ave
Pasadena 91107**

**Shopping, FUNdraising and Fun all in one day!!
You dont want to miss the bids! But you got to be in it to Win It!**

TICKETS:
Zelle - lonialaunit280@gmail.com

8 REASONS TO
Join The American Legion Family

- ♥ Serve Your Community
- 👉 Build Friendships
- 👉 Support Veterans
- 👉 Give Back
- 👉 Protect Veteran Benefits
- 👉 Fun Events
- 👉 Family Activities
- 👉 Continue Your Legacy

We are not 'just a bar' we are a veteran service organization.

**HOW TO KILL
AN ORGANIZATION**

1. Don't attend the meetings.
2. If you do, arrive late.
3. Find fault in the officers and members.
4. Never accept an office, it's easier to criticize than do this.
5. Never the less get annoyed if you are never appointed to a committee.
6. If appointed to a committee, don't attend the meetings.
7. If asked by the chairman to give your opinion, say nothing, but then afterwards tell everyone how things should have been done.
8. Do no more than necessary when others are rolling up their sleeves.
9. Hold back your dues for as long as possible or don't pay them at all.
10. Don't bother getting new members, but if you do, make sure they are gripers like yourself.



Elegant 18th District Department CA



FOR ALL WHO SERVED

PROUDLY CREATED FOR OUR SONS AND DAUGHTERS OF AMERICA

7TH ANNUAL

HEROES IN THE SHADOWS STAND DOWN

A DAY OF RESPECT, RESOURCES & RECOGNITION FOR VETERANS, ACTIVE DUTY, NATIONAL GUARD, RESERVE & MILITARY FAMILIES

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2026

8:00 AM - 3:00 PM

EVENT HOSTED BY
EL MONTE VFW POST 10218
11226 RAMONA BLVD, EL MONTE, CA 91731

PROUDLY PROVIDED BY THE
155TH CSSB
U.S. ARMY RESERVE

SHOWERS

STARTING AT 8:00 AM

OTHER SERVICES & RESOURCES

- VA CLAIMS ASSISTANCE: Get help with filing claims and understanding benefits
- HOUSING & HOMELESS SUPPORT: Access resources for housing, shelter & transitional programs
- HEALTH & WELLNESS: Health screenings, mental health support & wellness resources
- EMPLOYMENT & EDUCATION: Job placement, career resources & educational opportunities

AND MUCH MORE!

DENTAL & VISION

FREE SERVICES START AT 8:00 AM PROVIDED BY

"The Flying Doctors"

QUESTIONS REGARDING DENTAL OR VISION SERVICES CAN BE DIRECTED TO

MARC TAVERA
(626) 862-1863
mjtavera@aol.com

FREE LUNCH PROVIDED

EVENT INFORMATION OR SPONSORSHIP, CONTACT

JOE LEAL
(909) 200-8960
joe@vethunters.org

TO BECOME A COMMUNITY PARTNER, CONTACT

LEO CHIRINOS
(626) 429-7957
Leo.Chirinos@jvs-socal.org

OPEN TO ALL VETERANS, ACTIVE DUTY, NATIONAL GUARD, RESERVE & MILITARY FAMILIES

AMERICAN LEGION POST 180

CHILI COOK-OFF

OCTOBER 3, 2026

819 N. LOREN AVE. AZUSA, CA

11AM - 5PM

RAFFLES, 50/50, MUSIC, TEE SHIRTS

FIRST 14 COOKS

SPONSORSHIPS AVAILABLE

FOR MORE INFO:
CONTACT TEE SHIRT PAUL 626-905-2207

ALL PROCEEDS GO TO POST 180 VETERANS

Thank You for Your Support

CALC is coming to SoCal

Redlands American Legion Post 106
814 West Colton Avenue, Redlands, California 92374

16-18 October 2026

- The course starts at 8:00 am on Friday, 16 October, and will conclude with graduation at 1:00 pm on Sunday, 18 October
- Registration closes at midnight on 30 September 2026
- Applicants have until 30 September 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

3-2026

Registration Period
Between 8/1/2026 and 9/30/2026

REMINDER

UPDATED HOURS

MONDAY - FRIDAY
9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Wednesday office hours now adhere to the regular weekday schedule at Bob Hope Patriotic Hall.

PATRIOTIC HALL

Veterans/Members

Do you know what this hall is?

The "Bob Hope" LA County building is a Veterans Service organization building. Various Veterans organizations and Service Officers ready to be of service.

Here's a great cheat sheet for veterans. Keep it handy.

HELP IS JUST A CALL AWAY.

VA PHONE NUMBERS

★ EVERY VETERAN SHOULD KNOW ★

✓ SAVE THIS. SHARE THIS. YOU NEVER KNOW WHEN YOU'LL NEED IT.

1-800-698-2411 VA BENEFITS LINE General questions about VA benefits and services. Mon-Fri, 8:00 AM - 9:00 PM ET	1-800-827-1000 VA HEALTH CARE Make appointments, ask about health care, prescriptions, and more. 24/7
1-800-827-0648 VA DISABILITY CLAIMS Check claim status, file a claim, or get help with existing claims. Mon-Fri, 8:00 AM - 9:00 PM ET	1-800-423-8387 VA PENSION LINE Questions about VA pension benefits for Veterans and survivors. Mon-Fri, 8:00 AM - 9:00 PM ET
1-888-442-4551 VA EDUCATION BENEFITS GI Bill questions, education benefits, and school enrollment. Mon-Fri, 8:00 AM - 7:00 PM ET	1-855-948-2311 VETERANS CRISIS LINE Confidential crisis support for Veterans and their loved ones. Press 1 24/7
1-877-424-3838 VA HOME LOANS Questions about VA home loan benefits and eligibility. Mon-Fri, 7:00 AM - 7:00 PM CT	1-833-643-5238 COMMUNITY CARE For questions about VA Community Care and referrals. Mon-Fri, 8:00 AM - 8:00 PM ET
1-800-535-1117 NATIONAL CEMETERY ADMIN. Information on burials, memorials, and cemetery benefits. Mon-Fri, 8:00 AM - 7:30 PM ET	1-866-272-8387 VA ID CARD (VIC) Questions about VA ID cards for Veterans, dependents, and caregivers. Mon-Fri, 8:00 AM - 9:00 PM ET
1-888-407-0144 VETERANS APPEALS For questions about appeals, hearings, and Board of Veterans' Appeals. Mon-Fri, 8:00 AM - 8:00 PM ET	1-800-749-8387 VA LIFE INSURANCE Questions about VGLI, S-DVI, and other VA life insurance options. Mon-Fri, 8:00 AM - 7:00 PM ET

NEED HELP OUTSIDE NORMAL BUSINESS HOURS?
Visit va.gov or use the VA Chatbot 24/7 for answers to common questions.

va.gov



September 2026



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 P-180 Taco Tuesday	2	3	4 LACC Mtg. @	5
6 National Suicide Prevention Day	7 P-755 Selzer or Beer Labor Day	8	9	10 P-280 Dinner Night	11 9/11 Patriot Day	12
13 P-280 Brkfst. & Bake Sale	14 D18 E-Board Mtg. @ P139	15	16 American Legion Day	17	18 D-18 Mtg. @ 139 Alhambra Air Force Birthday	19
20	21 P-755 Darts & More	22 First Day of Autumn	23	24	25 Gold Star Mothers Day	26
27	28	29	30 			

The Voice of Elegance

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



**ARE YOU THE MALE DESCENDANT
OF A VETERAN?**



**DO YOU BELIEVE IN THE PRINCIPLES OF JUSTICE,
FREEDOM, AND DEMOCRACY?**

COME JOIN US!

The Service Flag Tradition

A historic military family tradition —
from Blue Star to Gold Star, and why Green Star matters.

1917

Blue Star Service Banner
Families displayed a blue star in the window for a loved one serving.

1918

Gold Star Service Banner
A gold star replaced or covered the blue star when a service member died.

TODAY

Today — Green Star
Continuing a tradition of recognition for families of Veterans who died by suicide.

Green Star continues a tradition of recognition for families left behind.

School Donation Drive!

Hosted by Auxiliary

Benefiting the Charter Oak Unified School District Student & Family Resource Center

SUPPORTING CHARTER OAK STUDENTS IN NEED!

ITEMS NEEDED

NEW ITEMS, PLEASE!

- BACKPACKS
- SCHOOL SUPPLIES
- LUNCH BAGS & SNACKS
- HYGIENE ITEMS
- CLOTHING (SIZES 4T - 14/16)
- SPORTS BOTTLES
- SHOES (SIZES 4T - 14/16)

DUE BY SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

ALL ITEMS GO DIRECTLY TO LOCAL STUDENTS!

American Legion Post 755
20516 E. Arrow Hwy.
Covina, CA 91724

IF ANY QUESTIONS, CONTACT:
MONICA PAREDES
(626) 384-7635

THANK YOU FOR MAKING A DIFFERENCE!

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

DISTRICT MEETING Friday 21 September 2026
Post-139 Alhambra, @ 1900 hrs.

E- Bd. Mtg. Post 139
Monday 09/10/2026