

FIRST VICE COMMANDER

I appreciate your vote of confidence as your 18th District Commander. My responsibilities will be the American Legion programs. With our District posts working together we will have the key to our success. Membership must be a top priority of our organization. We must contact our unpaid members to remind them to send in their dues. Process your paid DMS members into your post. Let us not forget our active military personnel and ask them to join the American Legion. At last count we needed only 186 members to reach our goal of 100%.

I wish all Posts the best during the coming year.

Herb Garcia, 1st Vice

THIRD VICE COMMANDER

District 18 really went above and beyond expectation with our Veteran Women and Children's programs. As I look back, I can see the smiles on our Homeless Veteran Women at the Downtown Los Angeles VA as they received all those generous gifts and ate to their hearts content at their annual Christmas party. Their children slept warm in their new blankets, and doubtedly played all day long with the new toys, in their new outfits, all of which your Post and Auxiliary members donated, as well as generous contributions. I also can feel the hugs and hard high fives our Legionnaire children gave me as they retreated from our Annual Easter Picnic. As a New Yorker would say, "We've done real good!"

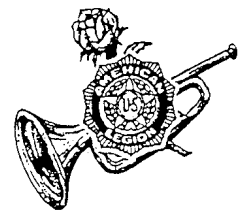
For 2006 let's continue to do the outstanding job we have accomplished throughout the years in making life so much better for our Homeless Veteran Women and their children everywhere. I just hope that this coming year we can do more for our Legionnaires' children, like co-ed sports, Halloween parties, etc. They need it and we need to show our children and society that the American Legion is not all about hanging out at the bar or just placing poppies on grave sites. We are all about Veterans helping Veterans to the utmost, as well as our communities and the country that we love and served so honorably for.

Yours in comradeship,

Magda Torrellas, Third Vice-Commander

TRANSFERS TO POST EVERLASTING

Post 78	Orville Manley, George Belding, Keith Powell
Post 139	Pedro Leyva
Post 261	Refugio Avalos, Martin Garcia, Joe Hermes, Theodore La Curren, Albert Nichols, Lion I Queen
Post 280	Don Davis, Werner Wack
Post 748	Ernie Alvitre
Post 790	Charles Adams, Alfred Gardner, David Nieto



Please get the names of your departed comrades to the District Chaplain at meetings or by "snail mail" - in a timely manner. Thank you.

Anita Salazar



From the Adjutant's desk . . .

A special THANKS to all the Posts getting their Certification of Post Officers into Department before Convention. The goal is to get the California Roster out in a timely manner. We still need this form from Posts 30, 75, 78, 139, 239, 241, 280, 397, 431, 475, 508, 536, 748, 755, 790, 827, 888. Please do your part in getting this form into Department. It was due as soon as possible after election/appointment of officers. If all appointments have not been made, send as much information as is available and follow up later with changes and additions. PLEASE - THIS IS THE #1 PRIORITY.

It is also time for the designation of "Delegates to the District Council", required in order for a Post to be represented at meetings and eligible to vote. Each Post is asked to name five delegates and five alternates, and these should be members willing to attend Council meetings. This list also forms the mailing list for the District bulletin, and it is important that the bulletin reach every Post. Please include names, addresses and zip codes - this will be much appreciated. The form is enclosed. Please send one copy to the Adjutant and keep one for Post records.

Many awards were handed out at Convention - did your Post receive an award? If so, please notify the Adjutant so that we can give proper acknowledgment in the bulletin and at a District meeting. All the Posts work hard during the year, and hopefully make reports to Department so that the hard work can be acknowledged!

Once again, please watch your local newspapers for articles involving any District 18 news items and other items regarding veterans' issues. Save the whole page, including name of paper and date.

6th Area Vice Commander

Dear members, the 18th District is one of the largest Districts in the state. We should act like it, and do what we are supposed to do. All Posts should have their Certification of Officers in to Department, LA County Council and any place else it should be. All Posts should strive to be 100% in membership. I will be involved as much as possible. I am the Vice Commander for the 18th, 20th, 24th, and the 16th Districts. We should be working on our Consolidated Reports. Let's make the "Elegant" 18th the best in Department. The first 6th Area Caucus will be held at West Covina Post 790 September 24-25, so mark your calendars

If you need to get in touch with me - (626) 839-7724 - Cell (626) 824-9420

Email: henryj1@earthlink.net

Henry J Hicks, 6th Area Vice Commander



LEGION BASEBALL .

We have three active American Legion Baseball teams in the 18th District - Post 888, Post 30 and Post 180. Area playoffs are coming up so keep Legion Baseball in your Post budgets as the program does have expenses (and it does go on your C&Y report). Donations to the District Baseball account are always welcome. We are in need of a District American Legion Baseball Chairman - if you love the sport, give it some thought and talk to the Commander .



Pause For The Pledge Of Allegiance

Picture in your mind, a mother holding a tri-folded American Flag, given to her after a military funeral service for the Supreme Sacrifice of her Son for all of us.

Let us pause, here and now, and honestly reflect with genuine sincerity in our thoughts, and of our hearts, before we pledge allegiance to the greatest flag of the greatest nation on Earth or in the universe.

Yes, our flag is special, and universal, because there is no other like it anywhere. It flies on the Moon, so it covers all cities in this world where the Moon follows and shines every night. Yes, our flag is special, because it belongs to all of us, you and me, wherever we may be, or travel, and the Moon follows.

Our flag is also very special for the colors it portrays; Red, for the blood shed by so many brave heroes who gave up their lives, that we might be here now, enjoying life and freedom. White, for the purity of our dedication to GOD and Country. The rich blue field with white stars therein, like crosses in a National Cemetery, represents their sacrifice, united in life and death, from all our fifty states.

Our Flag flies over these heroes forever, as it had once covered their casket and then was given from our grateful Nation to their next of kin.

For those who can speak no more, in their memory, Thank You! No one ever draped a copy of the Constitution on a military casket, nor was the Constitution raised on a flagpole on Iwo Jima. Desecrating their flag is like spitting on their Honor, Sacrifice and Memory.

One Flag, for One Life, for Freedom, for all of us, forever. May GOD always bless America!

Joe Cvetko
Mayor, City of Bellflower, CA

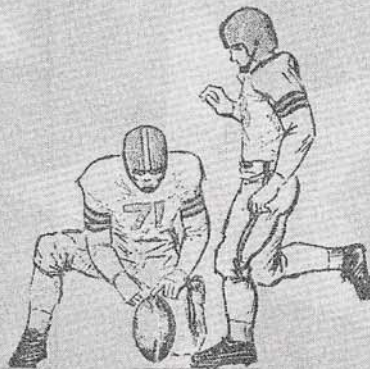
NOTE!!! Please direct all your articles, changes of address, flyers, questions on the District Bulletin to Peggy MacIntosh starting with the August 2005 issue. She will be your new editor and the District is in good hands.

It has been a fun few years but it is time to pack up the clip art.

Julie Potter, outgoing District Scribe

MEMBERSHIP KICKOFF !!

Learn what'S NEW for 2005-2006
Attend the MEMBERSHIP KICKOFF



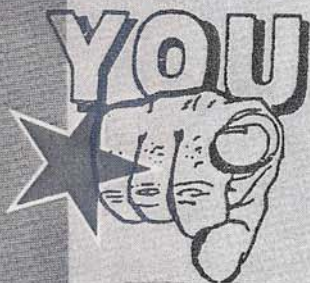
SUNDAY, JULY 31st
EAST PASADENA POST 280

179 N Vinedo, Pasadena - 626-792-9938

Breakfast 8:00 a.m. (\$4 donation) - Kickoff 10:00 a.m.

Delicious food - Comradeship - Guest Speakers

GET A MOVE ON, BE THERE!



Don't belong to the Legion,
the LEGION belongs to YOU

Membership is our **#1 PRIORITY** - AND REMEMBER
MEMBERSHIP IS EVERYONE'S JOB