



Post 283 Helps Fund the Parade



Victor McLaglen Motorcycle Stunt team led off the 69th Annual Pacific Palisades Parade. Formed by Academy Award-winning actor Victor McLaglen in 1935, the group was sponsored by American Legion Post 283.

Photo: Shelby Pascoe

American Legion Post 283 once again donated money towards the Pacific Palisades Fourth of July Parade. This year a contribution of \$35,000 was made towards the parade's overall budget of \$150,000 (raised from scratch each year).

One of the four American Legion pillars is Americanism. In the Spring 2016 American Legion Americanism Resolutions paper, Americanism was defined as "the recognition of the truth that the inherent and fundamental rights of man are derived from God, and not from governments, societies, dictators, kings or majorities. This basic principle of Americanism is of Independence, where our immortal forefathers said that all men are created equal and that they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights, chief among which are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness."

Promotion of the Fourth of July firmly supports Americanism. In 1948, Post 283 started a loosely organized parade to celebrate Independence Day. In 1961 the event was turned into a larger community celebration by Legion commander Russell
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Local Members Recognized by Department

By SUE PASCOE
Editor

At the Department Convention, held in Riverside June 21-25, outstanding achievement was presented to American Legion Post 283, the Auxiliary and the Sons of the American Legion in various categories.

In order to be considered for awards, members must write reports in specific categories and submit them. In the case of the *Post 283 Newsletter*, which for the fourth year in a row received first and the Willard A. Hope Award, papers from three different months had to be submitted.

Post 283 Legion Awards

In addition to the newsletter, the Post 283 Facebook page won first place in social media with the James T. Higuera Award.

Auxiliary member Ruth Hackney wrote and submitted the Legion membership report and Americanism report. Hackney, in describing how the Post supported the Palisades parade, the ROTC scholarships and the grants to local schools, helped the Legion garner the James Fisk award for first place in Americanism, not only at the Post



District 24 President Deloris Artis was selected as Department Historian and her granddaughter Le'la S. Dooley is the honorary Junior Department President. Photo: Luis Velasquez

level, but also statewide.

Additionally, Hackney compiled and submitted a Legion membership report, which resulted in gold awards for Commander Jere Romano and Miguel Gonzalez; silver awards for Noe Aguirre, Jim

Cragg and Kurt Hiete; and bronze awards for Sean Jones and Michael Melechin.

For the second year in a row, Kevin Niles received a first-place award for Best History Book, Pack 223, Scouting Commissions, Department of California. Niles was recog-

nized in 2016 as the Edward Barton Legion Scouter of the Year. (An individual can only be recognized once in his/her lifetime.)

The Post was also recognized for most money donated by a Post to the American Legion pillars—another report written by Hackney.

Department Auxiliary Awards

Post 283 Auxiliary was recognized on several fronts. Auxiliary President Martha Romano, received first place for her supplemental report for Americanism for District 24 and recognized for community service participation.

A certificate for 300 hours of volunteer service in VA & R (Veteran Affairs and Rehabilitation) and received the Josie Melgard Award for the membership goal of 100 percent plus two was given to Auxiliary First Vice President Deloris Artis, who is also the District 24 President.

Second Vice-president Marisa Naylor Jones received first place for her Junior Activities report and a certificate of appreciation as a new regularly scheduled volunteer at the CalVets home. Sue Pascoe received first place for the public relations report.

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ONE LEGION, ONE FAMILY

Legion Commander—Jere Romano

Before I speak about our July events, I must report out about my recent attendance to the Department of California State Convention in Riverside. I attended the following meetings; Disaster and Emergency Preparedness, Leadership and Membership training which consisted of a four-hour training block.

Emergency Preparedness was by far the most enlightening as members of the Grass Valley Post spoke of the Oroville Dam emergency evacuation and described the nine-hour ordeal to reach safety.

The key point was every Post should review their own emergency preparedness plans, update the information and prepare their Post members to react to any emergency they may be faced with. You may recall we hosted the Los Angeles Fire Department at Post 283 for fire extinguisher training last year during the month of September, which is Emergency Preparedness Month.

This meeting also stressed the need for an operational ham radio within each Post. We recently discovered that our own radio is not functioning appropriately. That being said, it would most certainly fall on our

Amateur Radio committee or other Legion volunteers who have offered to return our radio to full operational status. It is also noteworthy to mention that our Post received numerous awards for activities under the American Legion programs.

The most notable event at convention, however, was candidate for Department of California, Art Castro, successfully repelled a last-minute challenge from Area 5 Vice Commander, Clay Baxter. With Commander Castro's installation, I was appointed as the Area 6 Membership Chair.

Moving onward to other events, July starts a new Legion year where we start all over again with our push to reach 100 percent membership across the entire Legion Family; Legionnaires, Auxiliary and Sons.

Additionally, the new year brings countless opportunities to continue to grow our Legion programs and work on attainable goals and objectives. Hence, I hope each one of you will consider joining me by being a part of any one of our standing or special committees in order to fulfill the American Legion mission: "mentoring youth and sponsorship of wholesome programs in



Commander Jere Romano and Auxiliary President Martha Romano. Photo: Shelby Pascoe

our communities, advocating patriotism and honor, promoting strong national security and continued devotion to our fellow servicemembers and veterans."

On July 4, around noon, I urge you to join the Army band, Reviewing Officer Brig. Gen. Kelly Fisher and a group of youth from the Optimist home for a quick lunch-

eon at Post 283.

I look forward to your attendance at the Palisades Parade and our post open house immediately following the parade. This provides just one more opportunity for our Legion Family to gather and create our own Esprit de corps, for only together we will be successful. One Legion ~ One Family!

1st Vice Commander—Noe Aguirre



1st Vice Commander Noe and wife Dr. Cynthia Gonzales.

Photo: Shelby Pascoe

First and foremost, thank you for supporting me in this year's campaign for 1st Vice Commander. It was a hard-fought race and my opponent Jim Cragg is to be congratulated for his work last year. I hope that I can learn from him, and from the entire Legion body as we work together to carry out the four pillars of the American Legion: Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation; National Security; Americanism; and Child and Youth.

I just returned from attending the Department Convention in Riverside and this upcoming year will be interesting, to say the least. While tending to my primary duty as 1st Vice Chair, which is membership, I hope that we can continue to plan Post events that our Legionnaires have grown to love and enjoy over the years.

In addition to those usual events, we are open to any ideas our community would

like us to host or attend. Shoot us your ideas after we return from the National Convention in Reno in August.

We are already dedicated to improving our Post, in as many ways as possible. Some upcoming projects include the bar cash-register system, microphone and sound systems and infusing technology into the Post.

At the Department Convention Membership, Chris Yates, from San Diego District 22, and his uber-successful Department/District team, had several progressive resolutions for proposed best practices. I hope members of our Post will be receptive to technology and the new online Legion systems.

The systems will allow membership, transfers, PUFL and corrections as well as the New American Legion apps available on smart phones. This will make the American Legion more efficient on several fronts, including at the Post level and nationally.

Adjutant—Kevin Niles

Greetings. I am pleased to be serving as Post 283 Adjutant and look forward to meeting the needs of our officers and members in the upcoming Legion Year.

Our Post delegation has just returned from an inspirational Department Convention in Riverside. It was a wonderful opportunity to reunite with many old friends while also meeting some of the newly minted leaders of the American Legion Department of California.

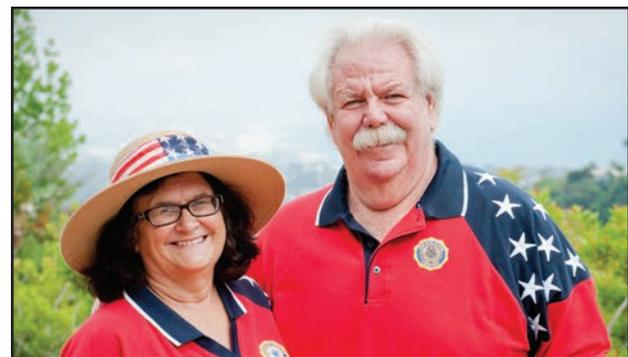
The newly elected Department Commander, Art Castro, has visited our Post many times in the past and we

welcome future visits during his busy year as commander.

As the legion year progresses I hope our members will take advantage of the many activities and events that will be held at the Post. The participation of members is the most important component of any organization.

Please review the Post calendar and plan to attend any or all of the events that you find appealing. Volunteer opportunities are also plentiful, so please speak up on what activities you would like to get involved with.

Looking forward to a great Legion Year.



Nancy and Kevin Niles rode as parade marshals in this year's Fourth of July parade. Photo: Lesly Hall Photography



A member of the 26th U.S. Cavalry Support Regiment (above) gives a wave.

Three WWII Army Jeeps (the one below driven by past Post 283 and District 24 Commander Scott Wagenseller) and a WWII Army Staff Car provided historical perspective.

All photos on this page by Shelby Pascoe



The 300th Army Band, Southern California's only Army Reserve Band, played their official song "The Army Goes Rolling Along."

Parade

(Continued from Page 1)

Olsen, who garnered marching bands, floats and dignitaries.

In 1965, the Chamber of Commerce took over the parade, and in 1967, the nonprofit PAPA (Palisades Americanism Parade Association) was formed to organize the event.

Post 283 members Scott Wagenseller, Kevin Niles and the late Emil Wroblecky have all been active in the PAPA committee

to make sure the Legion and Americanism are represented. Niles and wife Nancy were selected as 2017 Parade Marshals for their volunteer efforts.

This year the Legion sponsored cars, which carried Reviewing Officer Brigadier General Kelly Fisher, Department Commander Art Castro, Post 283 Commander Jere Romano and Auxiliary President Martha Romano, 1st and 2nd Vice Commanders Noe Aguirre and Sean Jones and

SAL Commander Tom Doran.

The Legion also sponsored the 300th Army Band and the Victor McLaglen Motor Corps, and three jeeps, one carrying a General Douglas MacArthur impersonator.

At noon, the band and kids from the Optimist Foundation enjoyed Ruth Hackney's chili, as well as hot dogs and hamburgers at the legion hall. After the parade, an open house was held at Post 283, attended by about 200 people.



Brigadier General Kelly Fisher



Department Commander Art Castro

2nd Vice Commander— Sean Jones

As I write my first message to the Legionnaires of Post 283, I would like to say thank you to those that came out to vote, and also for your support for me as 2nd Vice. I'd also like to say thank you to the Cal Vets for making the trip to our post to support the new officers for this upcoming Legion year.

I would like to take the time to congratulate our new Adjutant Kevin Niles. He was appointed by Commander Jere Romano, who has also been elected for his second term. Congratulations, Commander!

The duties of the 2nd Vice are to plan events, and we're already on our way. We had the biggest turnout we've had for our third Sunday champagne brunch, which was held



2nd Vice Commander Sean Jones and wife Marissa invited Carey Peck Sky Diver Mary Tortomasi to ride with them.

Photo: Shelby Pascoe

on Father's Day. We also had our first Wine and Art evening, with amazing food and wine pairings, along with a silent auction on artwork from Santa Monica College students.

I want to extend a special thank you to our 1st Vice Noe Aguirre, and his wife Cindy, because without them, the wine and cheese event would never have happened. This year

we plan to host many new (and old) events. Currently, I'm working on the calendar for the year and hope to include new socials that keep the post open more often.

At the Department Convention, Post 283 officers attended meetings about membership, Scouting, Sons of the American Legion, and just about everything in between. At the convention, we saw the installation of a new Department Commander Art Castro. We wish him a great year and will support him in his new endeavors.

I hope to see all of you at the 4th of July Parade, as well as the open house afterwards (and before the concert and fireworks at the Palisades High School baseball field).

I encourage everyone to come out for Legion events this year, and I hope to make it fun and exciting by bringing back the comradery between Post members. Remember, we are all fellow Veteran brothers and sisters, and we should be there for each other. We are a Legion family and we hope this will be a great year.

Food, Wine Provide Delicious Evening

By SUE PASCOE
Editor

Cheese, a gourmet dinner and wine from the Line 39 Vineyard launched the first-ever wine-tasting and art sales at Post 283 on June 10.

Organized by Auxiliary President Martha Romano and members Adrienne Hurley and Dr. Cynthia Aguirre, about 31 people came to try the wines and listen to the jazz band Big George and the Blue Tones.

The first 15 people who paid the \$20 admission price, also had the option of a gourmet dinner, prepared by Gayle Stafsky-Fernandez that was paired with different wines. Stafsky-Fernandez is the program director for dietetics at L.A. City College and also teaches nutrition at SMC.

A sauvignon blanc accompanied the arugula avocado salad with shaved parmesan and the asparagus and Welsh Cheddar Tart.

Next came a chardonnay with salmon cakes with a light panko crust and Thai chili Sauce and skewered shrimp scampi.

The pinot noir was paired with the mushroom and caramelized onion tart and a serving of roasted eggplant, tomato buffalo mozzarella penne.



First Vice Commander Noe Aguirre provided his services as sous chef to Gayle Stafsky-Fernandez as they prepared the lamb "lollipops."

A merlot was served with roasted Portobello mushroom and Manchego (cheese made in the La Mancha region of Spain); while the cabernet was served with the main course, roasted New Zealand rack of lamb "lollipop" and roasted red potatoes,

sweet potatoes and heirloom carrots.

Of course, no meal is complete without Moscato wine (slight fizz and flavors of nectarine, peach and orange) that accompanied the burrata, apricots, raspberries, blueberries, honey and balsamic glaze—

and a separate serving of Danish Blue cheese and pears.

In between courses, the lucky 15 joined others in looking and bidding at the art in silent auction fashion. All of the framed painting and photography came from Santa Monica College students who had either donated their pieces to the college or neglected to pick them up. With SMC running out of storage space, the school's donation to Post 283 was a perfect way of ensuring the art had found a home.

For those who were more inclined to nibble, veteran and Post 283 legionnaire Mike Mulligan, supplied a wide variety of cheese. He goes to different Farmer's Markets to sell, but "I like selling cheese as a hobby," he said.

Those attending were able to sample Welsh cheddar, chipotle cheddar, smoked gouda, smoked mozzarella, garlic and herb goat cheese, honey goat cheese, burrata, Danish blue cheese and a Manchego.

Information was available about pairing cheeses and wines. For example, "Hard cheeses, which are often sharp or salty love full-bodied whites and tannic reds" or "Rich, creamy, decadent cheeses, with a soft rind blend seamlessly with buttery, oak white wines."



Palisades Auxiliary Unit 283

President: Martha Romano • **1st Vice President:** Deloris Artis • **2nd Vice President:** Marisa Naylor-Jones • **Jr. Past President:** Vi Walquist
Secretary: Marie-Ann Helgeson • **Treasurer:** Ruth Hackney • **Chaplain:** Milly Murcia • **Parliamentarian:** Sue Pascoe • **Sgt.-at-Arms:** Benteigh Borgeson
Marshall: Katie Melechin • **Executive Board:** Nancy Niles, Sue Pascoe

Auxiliary President's Report

By MARTHA ROMANO

It was a great year for Palisades Unit 283 Auxiliary! For me personally, a rewarding and also exciting year as we not only received a visit from the American Legion National Commander in December but also the Auxiliary National President in May.

We enjoyed lots of growth and promise as we reached over 100 percent membership, leadership training and participation. I know our members are looking forward to a new year with our Legion Family.

As elections have come to a close, we can continue to work collaboratively with former and new officers within the American Legion Family. Great opportunities are on the horizon for all of us to explore and carry on increased participation.

I am truly honored, humbled and privileged to serve once again as the incoming President of the America Legion Auxiliary, Palisades Unit 283 for a third term in the 2017-18 year.

We have undertaken many former and new activities each year since my first term in July 2015. My promise is to carry out the



mission of the American Legion Auxiliary to the best of my ability by promoting the programs and activities in the upcoming year. Please look for ways to stay in touch with us for upcoming Auxiliary and Legion Family events.

The 2016-17 year included a host of the Post and Auxiliary's traditional activities with several new additions, such as Champagne Brunch and Wine Tasting and silent

auction events. All have been enthusiastically embraced by our Legion Family.

We hope to continue to provide all the new activities and expand on them. We look forward to continuing and enhancing our multi-faceted Auxiliary programs; Girls State & Girls Nation, Americanism, Children and Youth, Community Service, Education, Junior Member Activities, Legislative, National Security, Poppy and Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation.

Most recently, we participated in the California State Convention in Riverside on June 21-25. I am very proud to report that our District/Unit received numerous first place awards at the unit and the district level along with other participation awards in other categories for our work on the American Legion Auxiliary programs.

I was installed as the Junior Finance Officer for the Department of California for a three-year commitment. I hope to honor my Auxiliary Palisades Unit 283 as I attempt to work hard and be a good representative at the state level.

At the convention, we met new people, reacquainted with past friends and learned

new ideas to assist our members, veterans, active duty military and their families.

We continue to be motivated after our convention to grow our activities and programs at the Post, in order to engage our members, families, guest and future members.

As reminder, our box tops for education is still full force throughout the year. This is only one of the many activities in the Auxiliary Education Program, which we plan to expand as the new school year nears in August and September.

Box tops can be donated all year long. Please drop off donations at Post 283, 15247 La Cruz Drive. Questions? Please, call (310) 454-0527.

In closing, I leave you with a challenge... participation. I challenge everyone to get involved at any level in a program and an activity in the spirit of volunteerism and the Auxiliary's mission of "Service, Not Self."

Not only are veterans deserving of our consideration but we can show our appreciation and gratitude in this simple expression as we pay tribute to their sacrifices and show respect for the fallen.

"One Legion, One Family"

Committees Fulfill Legion's Pillars

Commander Jere Romano had a successful 2016-17 term and was recommended by past commanders for a second term, in which he ran uncontested.

In his June newsletter message, he wrote "On election night, I spoke about my mistake this past year. As Post Commander, I did not insure my Post Committees met to fulfill their Post Programs, which are essential to an active and vibrant post. I will strive to remedy that in this my second term as Post Commander by having active committees."

One of Romano's stated goals this year is to "reinvigorate our American Legion programs."

Romano is asking every member to select a committee and make it his or her main focus. Being an American Legion member requires helping the organization support its four pillars: Americanism, National Security, Veterans and Children and Youth.

The following committees are listed in the Amended By-Laws of Palisades Post No. 283, adopted July 18, 2012, when Kurt Hiete was commander.

1. **Amateur radio:** the committee shall assist in the development of amateur radio, and to that end, to establish an amateur radio chain among volunteer radio enthusiasts.

2. **Americanism:** the committee shall be charged with inspiration of patriotism and good citizenship by arrangements for proper observations of patriotic occasions; conducting the Legion High School Oratorical Contest; fostering such programs as Boys State and Youth Environmental Program; encouragement of patriotic and civic phases of instruction in schools; and activities for community and civic betterment.

3. **Boys State:** the committee shall assist with the operation of Boys State for the development of good citizenship in the community. The Boys State Committee shall prepare an annual budget of its operations and shall include all funds received and expended to be presented to the Finance Committee which, in turn, will be presented with the Post's budget.

4. **Ceremonials and Ritual:** the commit-



District 17th Commander Hugh Crooks



Officers installed at the June meeting were (left to right) Concepcion Ortega, Mike Melechin, David Borgeson, Kevin Niles, Ted Howells, Joe Ramirez, Mike Pleitz, Sean Jones, Noe Aguirre and Jere Romano. The row behind them are the SAL officers. Photo: Sue Pascoe

tee's principal duty is to insure that all members are properly initiated. The committee must concern itself with proper presentation of rituals outlined in the Manual of Ceremonies-burial detail and the wearing of Legion regalia.

5. **Children and Youth:** the committee will aid and serve the children of veterans, cooperating with other established agencies; laboring for the betterment of child conditions and coordinating services and agencies in the community for such services; and fulfilling the Legion's pledge that "no child of a war veteran shall be in need of the necessities of life," and "a square deal for every child."

6. **Community Service:** this committee shall promote traffic safety among the residents of the Pacific Palisades through education and other means to reduce the toll of deaths and injuries on the highways and promote safe driving and shall promote fire prevention among the residents of the community through education and cooperation with organized fire departments. To reduce the toll of death, injuries and property damage due to fire. To carry on the Community Betterment Program of The American Legion.

7. **Constitution and By-Laws:** the committee shall be charged to ascertain that the Post Constitution, Articles of Incorporation and By-Laws conform to the Constitution and By-Laws of the National and Departmental Organizations.

8. **Law and Order:** this committee shall foster an affirmative program of respect for and support of law and order in general

and law enforcement agencies in the legitimate function and performance of their offices and duties.

9. **Baseball:** the committee is charged with carrying out the Legion baseball program according to the rules set forth by the National and Departmental organizations.

10. **Finance:** the committee shall be charged with administration of the financial policy, preparation of budget with recommendations, and supervision of receiving, disbursing and account of all Post funds. The Finance Officer shall chair this committee.

11. **Membership:** this committee shall consist of five members including the first vice commander, who will be the chairman, and they will have charge of all matters pertaining to the membership of this Post, including the procuring of new members, reinstatement and eligibility of members.

12. **Oratorical Contest:** the committee will promote the oratorical contest at Post, District and Department levels.

13. **Scouting:** this committee shall promote the Scouting Program through the Pacific Palisades community, including such activities as the Boy Scouts, Sea Scouts, Explorer Scouts, Cub Packs and Girl Scouts.

14. **SAL:** the Sons of American Legion committee shall promote the program of the American Legion with the Sons of the Legionnaires, Squadron No. 283.

15. **Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation (VA&R):** the committee shall supervise all matters pertaining to service to comrades in the prosecution of all just claims against the United States or state government, em-

ployment relief, etc.

16. **Valley Forge:** the committee shall assist in the program designed to send qualified California educators to Valley Forge for one week intensive workshop, which enable them to develop a prospectus to ensure the American way so that our youth of today may have a better understanding of both historic origins of their liberty and the responsibilities of good citizenship.

17. **Visiting or VAVS:** this committee visits veterans at the Veterans Administration facilities at West Los Angeles and elsewhere as directed by the Executive Committee, and providing such help and assistance to veterans as directed by the membership of this Post.

18. **Public Relations:** the committee will be charged with the promotion of public support of the Legion's programs by establishment of proper contact with *The American Legion Magazine*, Departmental and National Legion news services, and by local publicity of programs and activities of this Post.

19. **Ways and Means:** the committee promotes and coordinates social activities, programs of entertainment, for fund raising activities as well as general membership enjoyment. The 2nd Vice Commander shall chair this committee.

20. **Bar:** this committee shall oversee the overall operations of the Post bar facility.

Per the bylaws, Post Commander Jere Romano will appoint legionnaires to different committees, and present his slate to the executive committee (July) if you have a preference, please contact Romano or Adjutant Kevin Niles, (310) 454-0527.



(Front and clockwise) Palisades High School junior Pierre Thibodeaux, sister Claire, mom Christine, PaliHi graduate John Carr, Tiffany Hu Epstein, Brentwood School's Evan Epstein, Scott Epstein and Andre Thibodeaux enjoy the dinner for the Boy's State dinner.



Area Boys State Committee chairman Scott Erickson with Boys State delegates (left) Palisades High School juniors Jonathon Berrios and Henry Vicente.

Boys State Representatives Honored at Dinner

By SUE PASCOE
Editor

One of the oldest American Legion youth programs is Boys State, which began in 1935. This year Post 283 sent 24 juniors to California State University in Sacramento from June 17 to 24 to participate.

A dinner to celebrate their selection and to give them a sendoff was held on June 11 at Post 283. More than 124 Boy State Representatives and families attended.

Last year's Boys State Palisades High School representative, John Carr, spoke to the rising high school seniors. "Make sure you bring \$100 for Panda," he joked, explaining the food for many left them seeking alternatives.

On a more serious note, he told the young men, "Make as many friends as possible."

When a delegate goes to Boys State, he tries to win elections to various city, county

and state offices, which means that an individual has to become "popular." But Carr had a different take, "Making friends is not necessarily for votes, but because it is one of the best things about Boys State."

He said he became a tax collector after he failed in a bid for District Attorney, but that his experience at Boy's State was good. He told the *Post 283 News*, "I loved it so much, I'm jealous that these guys are going. I want to be a counselor as soon as possible, because they have as much fun as the kids."

Carr, who will attend Lewis and Clark this year, majoring in cellular biology said that even though he studied government this year as a senior, what he learned at Boy's State was surprising. "I learned so much I wasn't expecting to learn, particularly about state government," he said.

Boys State was founded in 1935 by two Illinois Legionnaires, Hayes Kennedy and Harold Card, to counter the socialism-in-

spired Young Pioneer Camps and promote constitutional literacy.

At the week-long program, participants learn the rights, privileges and responsibilities of franchised citizens. Their education centers on learning by doing, and boys learn how City, County and State governments are run.

Once in elected offices, the boys hold legislative sessions, court proceedings, law enforcement presentations and assemblies; form bands and choruses.

Boys State programs currently exist in all Legion departments in the United States except Hawaii. At the end of the week, two delegates are chosen to attend a national convention in Washington, D.C., attended by juniors from every state, except Hawaii.

Famous alumni of the Boys State programs include Neil Armstrong, Tom Brokaw, Garth Brooks, Bill Clinton, Mike Huckabee, Phil Jackson, Mark Wahlberg, Michael Jordan, Jerry West, George Pataki, Harry Reid,

Dick Cheney, Jon Bon Jovi, Chris Christie, Tom Daschle and Trent Lott.

Youth are chosen to attend based on leadership, character, scholarship, loyalty and service in their schools and community. Merit and ability are the basis for evaluation during the actual citizens selection process.

This year's Boy State representatives were: Jeffrey Allen and Asher Fikre (Windward High School); Benjamin Baang, Jonathan Berrios, Eric Halperin, Juan Maggi, William Perez, Henry Purdum, Pierre Thibodeaux, Darin Torres and Henry Vincente (Palisades High School); Max Melika, Ian Nickles, Sang Dae Park (Venice High School); Austin Barrow, Reid Whitney and George Molloy (Loyola High School); Steven Pineda and Robert Sandoval (University High); Evan Epstein (Brentwood School); Andrew Hong (Harvard-Westlake); Bret Potter (Granada Hills High School); and Austin Geller and Jackson Smith (St. Monica's High School).



Sons of the American Legion

Commander: Tom Doran • 1st Vice-Commander: Larry McNamee • 2nd Vice-Commander: William Walker • Jr. Past Commander: Jim Yocum • Adjutant: Greg Frost
Finance Officer: Richard Klein • Sgt.-at-Arms: Collin Jones • Chaplain: Hank Elder • Historian: Rich Wilken • PAO: Grant Ivey • IT Officer: David Byrne
Quartermaster: Gerald Wells • Service Officer: Ed Pellegrini • Executive Committee • Charles Curtis, Tom Yaeger, Frank Wiley, Kevin Niles, Brian Whitney, Andy Mazzarella

Squadron 283 Commander's Notes

By TOM DORAN

It is a great privilege and honor to serve as this coming year's Squadron Commander. With help from Jim Yocum, our Past Commander, and also aided by the Executive Committee, I hope to make this a productive and memorable year.

During the state convention, delegates to the Sons' national convention were also selected, and we will be sending a contingent to Reno in August. Attending will be Area

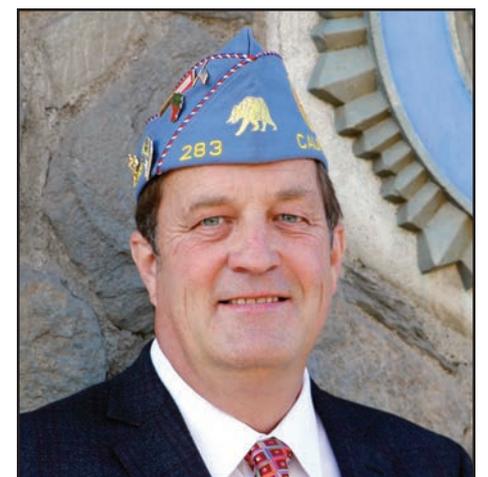
6 Commander Charles Curtis, Past 283 SAL Commander Jim Yocum, SAL Commander Tom Doran, 2nd Vice Commander Bill Walker, Adjutant Greg Frost, Finance Officer Richard Klein, Chaplain Hank Elder, Historian Rich Wilken and Executive Committee member Tom Yaeger.

A goal for the coming year is to continue to strengthen the bonds between the Sons, the Post and Auxiliary of the 283 Legion Family. An exciting year of joint activities will be planned.

We are moving forward with some great projects including a WWI memorial at Los Angeles National Cemetery.

We will have one more meeting this summer at 5:30 p.m. at the Post on July 20 where we will serve dinner and listen to another of our veterans tell his service story.

As always, we will be recording the talk so we can present the veteran and his or her family with the recording. All are welcome to attend and hear how your friends and neighbors have served their country.



Write a Letter to Support Commemorative Coin

Eric Measles, Vice Chairman of the National Legislative Council has asked for help from Post 283 Legion, Auxiliary and SAL Members. Your letters are needed to help convince California Senator Kamala Harris to support Senate Bill 1182 to create a coin that celebrates the American Legion's 100th Anniversary.

There is an urgency because only two coins are authorized each year and one has already been awarded for 2019.

A sample letter is below, but feel free to customize it:

The Honorable Kamala D. Harris
United State Senate
112 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Harris:

The legislation addressing Senate Bill 1182 is of paramount interest to me because I am a (*U.S. veteran, daughter/son/wife of a veteran*) who is involved with the American Legion. This legislation will direct the U.S. Mint to create and mint a coin to commemorate our upcoming 100th Anniversary.

The first American Legion National Convention was held in August 1918, and in March 2019 the organization will celebrate its 100th birthday in

Paris. September 16, 2019, will mark the 100th anniversary of the organization's congressional charter.

The American Legion supports four pillars: services for veterans, national security, youth and children and Americanism. These coins would not only commemorate the anniversary of the founding of the organization, it would support the Legion's programs. I belong to Post 283 in Pacific Palisades and our organization has supported numerous causes, including (*feel free to insert something the Post has supported such as*) scholarships for children, veteran support and even helped sponsor the Pacific Palisades Fourth of July Parade.

The legislation is being sponsored on a bipartisan, bicameral basis by Senators Todd Young (R-Indiana), and Joe Donnelly (D-Indiana), and Representatives Phil Roe (R-Tennessee) and Tim Walz (D-Minnesota).

California Senator Diane Feinstein

has signed on and is supporting S.B. 1182. I hope that you will join her in supporting one of the nation's oldest veterans' organization.

Thank you for your consideration of my viewpoint on this matter.

Sincerely,
Your name,
Address
Phone Number
Email Address

Post 283 Member Measles said a letter is more effective than an email, because a letter is harder to ignore and must be answered. An email could accidentally go into spam, and since so many people use email, messages don't stand out like a letter would.

In writing a Senator or Representative, feel free to tell a personal story that might relate to the coin. For example, if you have a relative that was in WWI, why not mention that? Or if you served in Iraq or Afghanistan, please mention that.

Politicians love to be able to call out their



constituents by name and put a face on the cause. This also helps to develop a more personal connection between you and your representative.

If you do not think you can write a letter, call Harris' office or email. But please, take some action to support a coin for the Legion. (Visit: harris.senate.gov. (202) 224-3553 Washington D.C. L.A. (213) 894-5000.) Always remember to be respectful. Senators and representatives have power and influence and you are looking to them to do you a favor.

— SUE PASCOE

'Jim Hackney's Night Out'

Ruth Hackney, whom everyone knows and loves, was married to the late Jim Hackney. Not only was he a National Executive Board committee member, a former Department Commander, but he is also in the American Legion Hall of Fame. About eight years ago, he planned a party at the National Convention that people still talk about. Even though he's only with us in spirit, his parties live on.

This year on August 21 from 5 to 9 p.m., once again, a "blow-out" party, a Western dinner and dance will be held at the Silver Legacy Resort and Casino in Reno during the National Convention.

The cost is \$45 per person and includes a dinner buffet that will have grilled chicken, salmon, prime rib and all the fixings. Don't miss the Jack Daniel's pecan pie, the banana cream pie and the chocolate fudge cake. Then, just dance those calories away!

Pick up a form at Post 283, or call Marilyn Rideauz, (310) 293-1246 or (310) 819-8815 or email aide_deptcmdr@att.net. Payment must be made by August 1.

Awards

(Continued from Page 1)

Le'la S. Dooley was honored as the honorary Junior Department President.

Junior member Zoe T. Dooley received first place for her supplemental report—Junior Prayer book, and a certificate of appreciation for selling the most raffle tickets for junior conference.

Other junior members receiving certificates of appreciation were Camilla Jones for volunteering at the CalVets home and for participating in the Poppy Poster Contest and Jennifer Pitcher for volunteering at the CalVets home.

The Department auxiliary also honored Post 283 Legionnaire Sean Jones for his volunteer work at the CalVets home.

Sons of American Legion Awards

Squadron 283 was awarded the 2017 Americanism Award for its commitment to help-

ing Veterans tell their stories as part of its long-running "Living History Night" program.

Membership Acknowledged

This year, the Legion, the Auxiliary and SAL made membership goals reaching 100 percent. Each will receive a 100 percent American Legion Family Ribbon, which is only given out if each group in a Post reaches the goal.

District 24 Commander and past Post 283 Commander Scott Wagenseller also saw 100 percent participation at the district level. District 24 was ranked third for membership out of 30 districts with 101.40 percent.

Department Appointments

Post 283 Commander Jere Romano was appointed as the Area 6 Membership Chair. Auxiliary President Martha Roman, was named Department Junior Member of Finance. Post 283 Auxiliary First Vice President and District 24 President Deloris Artis was selected to be the Department Historian for the coming year.



Palisades Post 283 The American Legion

15247 La Cruz Drive
Pacific Palisades, CA 90272-3610
(310) 454-0527 • Fax: (310) 230-3980
Local website: www.post283.org
Department website: www.calegion.org
Email: palisadespost283@gmail.com
Post meets the 3rd Wednesday each month

POST 283 OFFICERS

Commander: Jere Romano
1st Vice Commander: Noe Aguirre
2nd Vice Commander: Sean Jones
Jr. Past Commander: Fred Votto
Finance Officer: Ted Howells
Historian: Michael Pleitz
Adjutant: Kevin Niles
Judge Advocate: Jay McCann
Chaplain: Joe Ramirez
Service Officer: Raymond Navarro
Sgt.-at-Arms: Concepcion Ortega
Asst. Sgt.-at-Arms: Michael Melechin
Executive Committee Members
Joseph McCann -3 David Borgeson -3
Everett Maguire -2 Kurt Hiete -2
Bob Ryan -1

STAFF

Editor: Sue Pascoe
Graphics Director: Manfred Hofer

Michael Hjelmstad District Commander Elect
Deloris Artis District President Elect



THE INCREDIBLE 24TH DISTRICT INSTALLATION

Sunday, July 23

Santa Monica Elks Lodge
1040 Pico Blvd., Santa Monica

Social Hour: 4 p.m. • Dinner: 5 p.m.

Cost: \$10 per person

Menu: Baked chicken, potato au gratin,
steamed vegetables, salad, rolls & dessert

RSVP: (310) 454-0527
no later than July 19, 2017

PUZZLE SOLUTION

S	L	A	L	S	S	V	S	E	M	D	E	M
I	V	A	L	E	I	E	A	R	T	E	M	M
T	E	N	O	M	S	D	V	E	H	F	M	B
W	L	A	W	S	U	N	E	L	V	U	M	S
T	S	I	N	O	R	I	E	L	D	E	O	S
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A	N	A	V	A	S	T	E	S	H	R	V	G
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S	L	S	A	E	M	S	V	S	N	V	A	K
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S	E	O	O	G	Y	E	R	E	G	O	C	P
L	O	O	O	B	V	N	H	E	R	N	N	I
I	B	M	I	A	F	A	C	T	A	F	A	R

JULY 2017

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1 Canada Day <i>Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike</i> 8 p.m. (Theatre Palisades)
2 <i>Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike</i> 2 p.m. (Theatre Palisades)	3	4 Independence Day 5/10K Race (Rec Center) Lunch Noon Parade 2 p.m. Open House 4 p.m. Palisades Rocks the 4th Concert 4 p.m. (PaliHi) Fireworks 9 p.m. (PaliHi)	5 Legion Bingo 2 p.m. (Cal/Vets Home) BID Meeting 8:30 (Methodist Church)	6 Senior Exercise Class 10-10:45 a.m.	7 <i>Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike</i> 8 p.m. (Theatre Palisades)	8 <i>Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike</i> 8 p.m. (Theatre Palisades)
9 <i>Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike</i> 2 p.m. (Theatre Palisades)	10 Palisades Alliance for Seniors "New Law re: Accessory Dwelling Units" 10:30 a.m. (Palisades Library)	11 Senior Exercise Class 10-10:45 a.m. Legion Bingo 2 p.m. (VA) Executive Board Legion/Auxiliary 7 p.m. Tuesday Evening Hike 6 p.m. (Tem Gateway pkg lot)	12	13 Senior Exercise Class 10-10:45 a.m.	14 Bastille Day	15
16 Juniors Bingo 2 p.m. (Cal/Vets Home)	17	18 Senior Exercise Class 10-10:45 a.m. Tuesday Evening Hike 6 p.m. (Tem Gateway pkg lot)	19 Legion/Auxiliary General Meeting 7 p.m. Park Advisory Board Meeting 7 p.m. (small gym)	20 Senior Exercise Class 10-10:45 a.m. Chamber Mixer 5:30 p.m. (Il Piccolo Ritrovo) SAL Meeting 7 p.m.	21 Legion News Deadline	22
23 24th District Installation 4 p.m. (S.M. Elks Lodge)	24 Palisades Alliance for Seniors "Music and the Brain" 10:30 a.m. (Palisades Library)	25 Senior Exercise Class 10-10:45 a.m. Tuesday Evening Hike 6 p.m. (Tem Gateway pkg lot)	26	27 Senior Exercise Class 10-10:45 a.m. Community Council Meeting 7 p.m. (Palisades Library)	28 <i>Beauty and the Beast Jr.</i> 7 p.m. (Theatre Palisades)	29 <i>Beauty and the Beast Jr.</i> 2 & 5 p.m. (Theatre Palisades)
30 <i>Beauty and the Beast Jr.</i> 2 p.m. (Theatre Palisades)	31					

LOS ANGELES TIMES DAILY CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

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- ACROSS**
- 1 Crowd noises
 - 6 "Is that ___?": "No kidding?"
 - 11 Fat meas.
 - 14 ___ sanctum
 - 15 Jar Jar Binks' planet
 - 16 Olive product
 - 17 ___ Park: San Diego Padres' home
 - 18 Vodka brand with flying birds on the bottle
 - 20 "___-haw!"
 - 21 Link with
 - 22 Dol. parts
 - 23 Racing bike
 - 25 Muse of comedy
 - 28 Dodge City's state
 - 29 "Pop goes" critters
 - 30 Man-mouse connector
 - 31 "Melrose ___"
 - 34 Jason of *How I Met Your Mother*
 - 35 One "there on the sand," in a 1974 hit by The First Class
 - 37 Groucho's smoke
 - 40 Waste maker, per a proverb
 - 41 Santa ___, Calif.
 - 44 Art exhibition site
 - 46 Learn about
 - 48 Tristan's beloved
 - 49 Symbol of absolute rule
 - 51 Dallas home of the NCAA's Mustangs
 - 52 Second rock from the sun
 - 54 Barrister's practice
 - 55 Disagree . . . or, literally, what the last words of 18-, 23-, 35-, and 49-Across can be
 - 57 *Water Lilies* painter Claude
 - 59 Mrs., to Claude
 - 60 Jazz great Shaw
 - 61 Hawaiian veranda
 - 62 Take the plunge, in a way
 - 63 Small plateaus
 - 64 Sports data
 - 19 Irish playwright Sean
 - 21 Maker of the first electric sports car
 - 23 Fight ender, briefly
 - 24 Covered decoratively, as walls
 - 26 One whose star has faded
 - 27 Comm. for the hearing-impaired
 - 29 Complex patterns
 - 32 "___ Breaky Heart"
 - 33 Half a dance
 - 35 Shape, as dough
 - 36 A Musketeer
 - 37 Movie SFX
 - 38 "It seems to me . . ."
 - 39 Latched (onto)
 - 41 Journalist Huffington
 - 42 "Piece of cake"
 - 43 Rearward, on board
 - 45 Midnight rider Paul
 - 47 On the water
 - 49 Nepal neighbor
 - 50 Ploys
 - 53 Has a bite
 - 55 7 Series automaker
 - 56 Hawaiian-style pizza topping
 - 57 L.A. Galaxy's org.
 - 58 Apt "it's" anagram
- DOWN**
- 1 "Let 'er ___!": "Fire away!"
 - 2 Subscription period
 - 3 Cell reception aid
 - 4 Schoolyard playtime
 - 5 "No more seats" Broadway sign
 - 6 Actress Dickinson
 - 7 Managed
 - 8 Aid in crime
 - 9 Road Runner's pursuer
 - 10 Dress fancily, with "up"
 - 11 Illegal, like movies on file-sharing sites
 - 12 Rocket, for one
 - 13 Suffix with percent or project