



THE BUGLE



American Legion Post 132, Orange, California NEWSLETTER APRIL 2020



POST 132 COMMANDER, JOHN MINNELLA

Dear Members and Friends of the Post 132 Legion Family:

When I took office as Post Commander last Summer, I, like you, never imagined the challenges we and our Nation would face this Spring. But here we are and we must and will make the best of it.

We have closed virtually all operations. The bar is closed, Friday and Tuesday social functions are on indefinite hold, hall and other rentals on hold, and all purchases, repairs and payments also on hold indefinitely. Financially, the Post is in relatively good condition. We are paying down all invoices, buying nothing, holding all repairs except anything emergency related. Fortunately, we have no mortgage or lease and accomplished and paid for many necessary repairs and improvements before the present national emergency.

Reopening date? Unknown at this time but, being the optimist I am, likely soon. Rest assured, we will immediately advise you of our return from this national hibernation. Meanwhile, I encourage you and your Post friends to monitor our interactive Facebook page (www.facebook.com/groups/AmLegionPost132) for nearly instant and almost daily news and distribution of information about the Post. Unlike mail, it is free, and unlike the Bugle and our website it is instant and enables us and you to communicate directly despite the temporary closure of the Post.

Most importantly, please check on our friends and relatives who are unable to care for themselves: the older, those already suffering from sickness, unemployment, disability, and those who are alone. Please keep our Legion Family members and friends who are not physically well in your thoughts and prayers. Special mention is made for our American Legion Riders President, John BLOECHER who is in grave condition in Las Vegas. If you know of any Legionnaires, Veterans, or members of the Post 132 family in some special need, please let us know so we can get in touch with them.

Our Post is made up of many tough characters who have already experienced and survived hell. Flanders, Pearl Harbor, Imo Jima, Bataan, Okinawa, Midway, The Battle of the Bulge, Porkchop Hill, Tet, Falluja, and all the others were faced by many of our comrades who overcame terror, fear and certain death. The Legion itself at its inception survived World War I and the Spanish flu. These will be trying times for us but we will get past this challenge as well if we remain positive, civil, and protective of each other and our people.

Stay positive, home, safe and healthy, and please contact any of our Post officers if we may be able to or can be of any help. Please feel free to contact me (714/538-6311 Post 132 office; 714/543-9005 direct; drjminnella@yahoo.com) anytime if you have any ideas, comments, concerns, complaints, or I can otherwise help you, our Post, and/or the Legion.

IN SPITE OF OUR SET BACKS, HAVE A VERY BLESSED EASTER!

John Minnella, Post 132 Commander



Darlene Phillips, Unit 132 President Auxiliary

Attention all Auxiliary, here we are going into April and we need to think about ELECTIONS!

Our April meeting will be NOMINATIONS for the upcoming 2020-2021 year which will be held on Thursday April 9th at 7:00 PM upstairs on the 3rd floor. It is with great appreciation to all of you for the Volunteerism that you have all given to our Auxiliary, our Veterans, Community and Children.

I say that with great pride knowing that the Girls' State Participants have all been interviewed and chosen. We are sending 6 girls to Girls State this year; Marilyn Harris, with the assistance of Carolynn McMahon, Madeline Macias and Fina Cruz interviewed these 6 girls. If I missed any others that participated, I thank you as well. I know that these four ladies were traveling to interviews as they were scheduled.

With the COVID – 19 Virus going around, there have been Auxiliary cancellations because of the numbers attending and both events were either Youths or Seniors. Both the; Welcome Home Vietnam Dinner that was to be held on the 29th of March; and the Children's Easter Party that would have been hosted on April 4th had to be cancelled. But in lieu of the party at the Post, the ladies are going forth with making baskets for Easter and donating to H.O.P.E. a foundation that helps families get on their feet. Unfortunately, the Auxiliary Bus Trip to Pala Casino on 4/14/20 is cancelled as well. However, the May Bus Trip on 5/12/20 will tentatively resume on schedule. Thank you to all those that served during the Vietnam ERA; but to all Veterans that have served our country in all conflicts. Welcome home to all and to keep those in our Hearts and Prayers that did not return home.

It's very tedious to write to all of you knowing that you all support our Post. So please let's be courteous to each other as this is a vulnerable time for everyone. We appreciate all the efforts that the Leadership at Post 132 has been. Thank you Commander, John and to all your officers for the patience that you show to all Family at the Post.

Welcome to all our new members in the Auxiliary. We look forward to your membership. Our Dinner on April 24th (Friday), will tentatively take place and the menu will be: chicken or beef tostadas. Please remember that all ladies are Volunteers. We cook and serve from the heart. Thank you!

“Volunteers are the only human beings on the face of the earth who reflect this nation’s compassion, unselfish caring, patience, and just plain loving one another.” ~Erma Bombeck

Let's keep an open heart filled with love for all those that keep the Fight of Life going, have had recent surgeries and just maybe don't feel well.....Know that you have a whole Legion Family who cares!

God Bless You and God Bless America!

HAVE A BLESSED EASTER!

Darlene “Just-Dar” Phillips
Auxiliary President, Unit 132
2016-2020
Dar: justdardar@gmail.com





Ray Alvarado, Commander Sons

Hello Post 132,

I want to start out first by saying that we ask everyone to be safe at a very difficult time we are experiencing. Please follow the instructions being handed down by our political leadership. Stay home and only go out if it is a must. We wanted to take a minute to applaud our current Post Commander, John Minnella, for the outstanding job and effort he has dedicated over the past several months. His leadership has been flawless. Commander, it does not go unnoticed.

If the Post does open back up on April 1, 2020 please join us for dinner on Friday April 3rd. See the Sons' Finance Officer Michael Holmes's article for the menu that evening. Also, the Sons meeting is tentatively scheduled for Tuesday April 7th at 6pm. Once again, please be safe in these uncharted times. That's all I have for this month. May God Bless the United States of America,

Ray Alvarado, Sons Commander,
alvarador@scfuels.com

MAY YOU ALL HAVE A VERY HAPPY, SAFE AND BLESSED EASTER!



Mike Holmes, Sons' Adjutant/Finance Officer

The SONS of the American Legion supports the military, our Veterans, and their families. In addition to the numerous programs we sponsor, we also work with and support the American Legion, The American Legion Auxiliary, and The Riders of the American Legion. That is why our membership is so important for us to be able to continue all that we do.

We just voted to help a Handicapped Navy Veteran with \$200 in gift certificates for food and gasoline. We also voted on donating \$100 to help put some needed items in the closet at the VA Hospital. If you didn't know, any qualified Veteran can get help at the VA Hospital in Long Beach, from that closet. It is supplied with food and clothes.

Thanks to all of you who have paid your dues. We have 162 paid members for a percentage of 87.5%. We need 23 more Members to pay their dues to make 100%. If you are one of those 23 members – please send your dues to me ASAP! Make your check out to: SONS of the American Legion, and mail it to me at: Mike Holmes, 425 S Lilac Ln, Orange, CA 92868-4140

Our next meeting is tentatively scheduled for the 1st Tuesday of the month – April 7th at 6 pm. We are in the kitchen for dinner on April 3rd. Of course as of this writing, I don't know if the Post will be open or not. Please watch our website for further updates.

For God and Country,
Mike Holmes, SONS Adjutant
Mike7335carol@yahoo.co.uk 714-803-0851

HAVE A SAFE AND HAPPY EASTER!



John Bloecher - AL Riders President

Hello my fellow Legion Family,

Unfortunately, our AL Riders President, John Bloecher, is seriously ill and is in the hospital in Las Vegas (NOT from the COVID-19 Virus)! Please join us and hold him up in prayer for a speedy recovery. With the current outbreak of the Corona Virus and guidance from the State and County officials, AL Riders functions at the Post for the month of April are uncertain.

Depending upon the guidance/directives of State and County Officials on when we will be able to open the Post to our Legion Family Members the Riders have tentatively **CANCELLED all our events and activities!**

If the Post is reopened, we will be serving Dinner on April 10th (6-7:30 PM) and cooking our succulent steaks. The special will be fish and chips. On Sunday April 26 we will have a Waffle Breakfast (8-11 AM).

Please stay safe and remember to use your common sense and try not to overreact during these trying times.

WE WISH EVERYONE A SAFE AND BLESSED EASTER!

For: John Bloecher
President, ALR 132

By: Flyer John
Treasurer, ALR 132



Happy Easter Patriots!
Blessings to each of you, our
Veterans and our Troops
Deployed. 🙏🇺🇸🙏 ~AngelVet~



Sid Gauna, Finance Officer

Greetings again, fellow members of the American Legion Family. Well, I hope everyone is staying safe. The following happened in February.

In the Clubroom/Building Account the rentals upstairs continue to keep us in the black. We had one good rental upstairs and two small ones downstairs. Daily attendance was fair and Friday nights continue to do well in February but slowed down at the beginning of March. We had a few donations. We received \$29.00 from ATM Machine and UMAVA made a \$100.00 donation for Office Supplies Expense. The Auxiliary made a \$400.00 donation for beautification expenses in the Clubroom. On The Parking Lot Fund, we received the \$900.00 from List Reports for North Parking lot Rental. On The Building Fund, we received \$200 from The 1st Cavalry Organization and \$100.00 from Richard Baca. Other donations that came early this month will be reported next month.

In the Legion Account, 11 Members paid their dues in February. We also voted in 6 new members. We have not received any notice from Department on how many Members paid on line. Again, I received dues from people that have already paid. I will be sending those checks back. As of Friday, March 13th, we were over 101%. **Again, if you get another Renewal notice and you have already paid your dues, ignore it!** Thanks to all that have paid their dues. There are still a lot of Cards left so a lot of people have not paid their dues.

UMAVA made a \$400.00 Donation to Boys State. Third and Fourth Friday Opportunity Drawings in February brought in \$410.00 for Bugle support. Thanks to all that come in and support the Friday Night Opportunity Drawings. Other donations that came in early this month will be reported next month.

The Fundraiser early this month didn't do well. We were \$45.00 short of paying the Band. I put that in so that we would break even. You can still send in your donations for Boys State. Thanks.

You can call me at 714-371-6247 or email me at sidgauna@aol.com.

SEMPER FI,
Sid Gauna, Finance Officer
USMC

EASTER BLESSINGS!
(IN SPITE OF THE SETBACKS FROM THE CORONA VIRUS)



GLEN HOWARD, CHAPLAIN

Comrades, it has been brought to my attention that AL Rider President, John Bloecher is in a coma and is in need of our prayers. Please include John in your prayers. Fortunately, I have not been notified of any other distress.

I believe that all things that happen to us are meant to bring us closer to God. Let us reflect on our relationship with God during the current situation of coping with the Covid-19 virus. Remember that the "social distancing" that we are being asked to practice should not prevent us from reaching out socially to others. We should just physically distance ourselves from one another, but still keep in touch with our friends and family.

As always, feel free to reach out to me for spiritual support and guidance as you deal with life.

Glen Howard, Chaplain
(714) 615-2370
g13how@gmail.com



EDITORS: LEO & ESTHER OUELLETTE

This month of March, as you all know, we had a set back due to the Corona Virus and it was mandatory that we close the Post. In lieu of that, and in order to preserve income at hand, it was decided to circulate the Bugle by email, only, as this would eliminate the costs of mailing it out via US Mail, until we get back on schedule.

Please let your friends and family members of Post 132 know that they can see the Bugle via our website: www.OrangePost132.com. Thank you all for your understanding and support during this difficult time.

Leo & I wish all of you a very blessed and safe Easter! Until we can get together again, take care!

Leo & Esther Ouellette
Editors,
lmocon@sbcglobal.net (714) 636-6275





April 2020

ALL ENTRIES ARE TENTATIVE DUE TO COVID 19! PLEASE CHECK PRIOR TO ATTENDING!

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 APRIL FOOLS DAY VVA #785 Mtg 6 PM Flag Ceremony Orange Plaza 6 pm	2 AL E-Board Mtg  7 pm	3 Sons, Fish & Shrimp/Steaks  6pm-7:30pm DJ SOMMER 8 pm—12 am	4 1949 NATO Founded
5 PALM SUNDAY 	6 ABATE MTG 6 PM=8 PM 1917 US enters WWI	7 UMAVA E-BOARD MTG 6 PM SONS MTG  6 PM KARAOKE 7 PM—11 Pm Tacos	8 Passover begins (Sundown)	9  AL General Mtg 7 PM Auxiliary Mtg  7 pm	10  AL Riders/ Corn Steaks 6 pm—7:30 pm	11 AL Riders' Mtg  8:30 am OC AVU MTG 11 AM
12 EASTER SUNDAY  1981 First Space Shuttle launched	13	14 AUXILIARY BUS TRIP  PALA CASINO CANCELLED!!!!  KARAOKE 7 PM—11 pm Tacos	15 VVA CHAPTER #1045 - 6 pm Legion Family Game Challenge 6-9 pm Flag Ceremony Orange Plaza 6 pm	16 Passover ends (SUNDOWN)	17 Legionnaires Dinner-/TBD / Steaks  6pm-7:30pm Midnight Cowboys Band 8pm—12 am	18 UMAVA GEN MTG 9:30 AM
19 Marine MC Mtg 11 am	20	21 Premier Women Mtg 6 pm—8 pm KARAOKE 7 PM—11 PM Tacos	22 Earth Day Administrative Professionals Day	23 Ramadan Starts in U.S.	24 Auxiliary Bleu/Steaks  6pm-7:30pm 5 Star 8pm—12 am Arbor Day	25
26  AL RIDERS PANCAKE BREAKFAST 8AM—11	27	28 KARAOKE 7 PM—11 PM Tacos Somalia Campaign Ended (1995)	29	30		

POST 132 HOURS: TENTATIVELY CLOSED DUE TO CORONA VIRUS!



AUXILIARY BUS TRIP TO THE PALA CASINO

**CANCELLED FOR THE MONTH OF
APRIL DUE TO THE
CORONA VIRUS!**



American Legion Post 132

**Orders Being Taken
CENTENNIAL
TEE SHIRTS
1920 - 2020**

BACK



FRONT LOGO



**Order Forms at the Bar or see John Schutz
to Place Your Order**

THIS FUNDRAISER IS TENTATIVE DUE TO THE CORONA VIRUS!



Save The Date

**On behalf of the American Legion Post 132
we would like to invite you to
Zito's Pizza for a fundraising event on**

**MONDAY, APRIL 20, 2020
FROM 4 TO 9 PM**



Bring your friends and family!

**Zito's New York Style Pizza
2036 N. Tustin Ave, Orange, CA 92865**



HAPPY EASTER
to all our troops
especially
those away
from loved ones

Submitted by Post #32 Veteran/Legionnaire Jack Peralta
"I talked to a man today"

I talked with a man today, an 80+ year old man. I asked him if there was anything I could get him while this Coronavirus scare was gripping America. He simply smiled, looked away and said:

"Let me tell you what I need! I need to believe, at some point, this country my generation fought for... I need to believe this nation we handed safely to our children and their children...

I need to know this generation will quit being a bunch of sissies...that they respect what they've been given...that they've earned what others sacrificed for."

I wasn't sure where the conversation was going or if it was going anywhere at all. So, I sat there, quietly observing.

"You know, I was a little boy during WWII. Those were scary days. We didn't know if we were going to be speaking English, German or Japanese at the end of the war. There was no certainty, no guarantees like Americans enjoy today.

And no home went without sacrifice or loss. Every house, up and down every street, had someone in harm's way. Maybe their Daddy was a soldier, maybe their son was a sailor, maybe it was an uncle. Sometimes it was the whole damn family...fathers, sons, uncles...

Having someone, you love, sent off to war...it wasn't less frightening than it is today. It was scary as Hell. If anything, it was more frightening. We didn't have battle front news. We didn't have email or cellphones. You sent them away and you hoped...you prayed. You may not hear from them for months, if ever. Sometimes a mother was getting her son's letters the same day Dad was comforting her over their child's death.

And we sacrificed. You couldn't buy things. Everything was rationed. You were only allowed so much milk per month, only so much bread, toilet paper. EVERYTHING was restricted for the war effort. And what you weren't using, what you didn't need, things you threw away, they were saved and sorted for the war effort. My generation was the original recycling movement in America.

And we had viruses back then...serious viruses. Things like polio, measles, and such. It was nothing to walk to school and pass a house or two that was quarantined. We didn't shut down our schools. We didn't shut down our cities. We carried on, without masks, without hand sanitizer. And do you know what? We persevered. We overcame. We didn't attack our President, we came together. We rallied around the flag for the war. Thick or thin, we were in it to win. And we would lose more boys in an hour of combat than we lose in entire wars today."

He slowly looked away again. Maybe I saw a small tear in the corner of his eye. Then he continued:

"Today's kids don't know sacrifice. They think a sacrifice is not having coverage on their phone while they freely drive across the country. Today's kids are selfish and spoiled. In my generation, we looked out for our elders. We helped out with single moms who's husbands were either at war or dead from war. Today's kids rush the store, buying everything they can...no concern for anyone but themselves. It's shameful the way Americans behave these days. None of them deserve the sacrifices their granddads made."

So, no I don't need anything. I appreciate your offer but, I know I've been through worse things than this virus. But maybe I should be asking you, what can I do to help you? Do you have enough pop to get through this? Enough steak? Will you be able to survive with 113 channels on your TV?"

I smiled, fighting back a tear of my own...now humbled by a man in his 80's. All I could do was thank him for the history lesson, leave my number for emergency and leave with my ego firmly tucked in my rear. I talked to a man today. A real man. An American man from an era long gone and forgotten. We will never understand the sacrifices. We will never fully earn their sacrifices. But we should work harder to learn about them...learn from them...to respect them.



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BUGLE



APRIL 2020 ISSUE

2019 / 2020 Post 132 American Legion Officers

Legionnaires	Auxiliary	Sons	AL Riders
Commander John Minnella <u>1st Vice Commander</u> Victor de la Rosa <u>2nd Vice Commander</u> John Schutz <u>3rd Vice Commander</u> Gerardo Robledo, Jr. <u>Adjutant</u> Susan Wood <u>Judge Advocate</u> Gil Flores <u>Finance Officer</u> Isidro "Sid" Gauna <u>Executive Board</u> Joe Mendoza David Kulcinski Bill Stringfield Bob Von Rehder <u>Jr. Past Commander</u> <u>Service Officer</u> Jose Martinez <u>Building Manager</u> Ernie Lopez <u>Chaplain</u> Glenn Howard <u>Sgt. at Arms</u> David Maldonado <u>Historian/Museum Curator</u> Leo Ouellette	President Darlene Phillips <u>1st Vice Pres.</u> Kathy Kulp <u>2nd Vice President</u> Terri Rodriguez <u>Secretary</u> Carolynn McMahon <u>Treasurer</u> Carol Goss Holmes <u>Chaplain</u> Kitty Yackle <u>Sgt. At Arms</u> Virginia Martinez <u>Asst. Sgt. At Arms</u> Madeline Macias Fina Cruz <u>Historian.</u> Carol Martinez <u>E-Board .</u> Dolores Aguilar Elsie Mendez Pat Wittman Kitty Yackle	Commander Ray Alvarado <u>1st Vice Cmdr.</u> Tommy Dees <u>2nd Vice Cmdr.</u> Tom Flynn <u>3rd Vice Cmdr.</u> Brett Jackson <u>Adjutant/Finance</u> Mike Holmes <u>Sgt. at Arms</u> Mario Beltran <u>Chaplain</u> Pierre Duco <u>Historian</u> Gilbert Flores <u>E-Board</u> Monte Floyd Dave Jimenez John Shore	President John Bloecher <u>Vice President</u> Tom Butters <u>Treasurer</u> John Schutz <u>Secretary</u> Brian Johnson <u>Sgt. at Arms</u> Bill Cook <u>Road Captain</u> Brian Johnson <u>Judge Advocate</u> Bill Cook <u>Historian</u> Frances Schuster <u>Chaplain</u> Darlene Phillips <u>Web Master</u> John Schutz

POST 132 HOURS: TEMPORARILY CLOSED DUE TO CORONA VIRUS—NEW HOURS PENDING OUTCOME!