



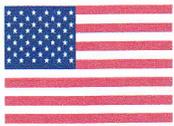
# The Flash

*Serving the 19th District Community, State and Nation Since 1926*



Volume 92  
No. 2

AUGUST 2016 Member National & California American Legion Press Associations



## MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL TIME

**HAVE YOU SUBMITTED YOUR ANNUAL DUES?**



**BOOTS ON THE GROUND**

### COMMANDER NICK ROSA "BONDING OUR LEGION FAMILY" WITH THANKS TO ALL

Hello Comrades:

I would like to thank everyone that attended the Department Convention in Fresno, California. Especially the Delegates that participated, and reported on their committee assignments at our Caucus 1st Vice Richard Ramirez, and his "Three Angels" Cindy, Esmeralda and Carmen, for the outstanding hospitality room, Thanks to Commander Gil Palmer, and the Auxiliary of Montebello Post 272, for the great job they did hosting our District Installation, on July 10th.

Would like to thank Bob Boyd and Robert Mitchell for the outstanding and hard work they put into the 4th Area Legion Baseball Program, we enjoyed the Championship game with our Legion Family. Thank you Karl Wilvert for stepping up to the plate as our new Webmaster, and what a wonderful opportunity to say a big American Legion thanks to James T. Higuera, for 50 years of service in the American Legion.

My message: A well bonded Legion family helps build up the American Legion," A divided Legion family does the opposite," My wish is for all the entire Legion family in all Post to become stronger and develop great working relationships, The American Legion, Legion AUX, Sons of the Legion, Legion Riders are our family and we all have the same mission.

This month will be a busy one as we will be attending the Fall D.E.C. Aug 12 - 14 in Amador, Ca , and the 98th National Convention Aug 26 - Sept 1st in Cincinnati, Ohio. Let's not forget Our District meeting on August 10th at Rivera 411, and Post visitations, along with our Leadership Team 1st and 2nd Vice Commanders Richard Ramirez and Ray Gard.

Good news is our Team has "Boots on the Ground" starting off with TRAINING for Adjutants & 1st Vice Commanders of all Post on Saturday September 17th Time: 9:00 A.M. at American Legion Post 335 South Gate, Ca.

Let us remind ourselves, the work we do is " All About Veterans" Best of luck to all.

*For God and Country Commander Nick Rosa*

**DALE  
BARNETT**

**"NATION MUST  
UNIT"**



### PRAYERS FOR LAW EN- FORCEMENT; VIOLENCE MUST END

American Legion National Commander Dale Barnett issued the following statement following the Thursday night attack on Dallas police officers:

"As an organization of wartime veterans, all Legionnaires have promised to protect America from foreign and domestic enemies. At the same time, we vigorously defend the constitutional right to peacefully assemble and petition our government. That's what makes last night's attack on law enforcement so tragic. We agree with President Obama that it was a 'despicable act.'

"Our heartfelt condolences and prayers go out to the families of those brave officers who were killed, and our prayers are with those who were wounded as we hope for their speedy recovery. The police are the protectors of our communities. Without them, we would have anarchy and chaos. At the same time, recent footage of shootings committed by police officers should be fully and fairly investigated. Violence on our streets must end, and our nation must be united."

## 2<sup>1</sup>ST VICE COMMANDER RICHARD "KIKI" RAMIREZ

562-949-5454

Hello Comrades,  
Now that we are in the new Legion year it's time to hit the ground running or in the words of



the Department Commander Gary Leach "FULL SPEED AHEAD".

Membership will be my main objective, all Legion members are responsible for membership. So let's all make it our main priority as membership has been dwindling for the past few years. I am asking every member to carry a membership application with them at all times, it can be handed to a prospective member any time anywhere. I

It has worked for me in the past, and I will continue to recruit new members.

The 19<sup>th</sup> District Legion has been challenged by the members of the 19<sup>th</sup> District Women's Auxiliary in a Membership contest. We need to prevail in this challenge, the strength of the American Legion Depends on membership. We must collect dues from all members on our current roster and recruit, recruit & recruit new members!! As the 19<sup>th</sup> district Membership Chairman I will be calling on post 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Commanders and make myself available to assist any of you to achieve our goal.

Thank you.

[Kiki1951@gmail.com](mailto:Kiki1951@gmail.com), 562-949-5454



**REMEMBER  
ONLY YOU  
CAN RAISE  
THE BAR**

**COMMANDER ROSA**

Has announced that our next

**DISTRICT MEETING**

Will be held on

**AUGUST 10, 2016**

at

**RIVERA POST 411**

**7642 SERAPIS AVE.**

**PICO RIVERA, 90660**

**DINNER / BEVERAGES 6:00**

**MEETING AT 7:00 PM**

**1ST VICE COMMANDER**

**RICHARD "KIKI" RAMIREZ**

**INVITES ALL OUR LEGION  
FAMILY TO JOIN US AT HIS  
HOME POST.**

**GREAT COMRADESHIP &  
FOOD**

## 2<sup>ND</sup> VICE COMMANDER RAY GARD

Hello comrades,

I would like to congratulate Nick Rosa and his officers for their installation at Montebello Post #272. Congrats to our Auxiliary as well. I also congratulate Houghton Park #560 on their installation as well. The 19<sup>th</sup> district had the opportunity to attend the 18<sup>th</sup> districts installation on Saturday the 16<sup>th</sup> at Abraham Lincoln Post in Baldwin Park. Thank you for the invite.

Congratulations to Post 411 and their great breakfast on Sunday the 10<sup>th</sup>. The food was excellent. I would also recommend the Norwalk Post for their great breakfast as well. I urge all our members to attend these breakfasts not only are they good but very reasonable price wise. You also will be supporting that post. I believe the Montebello Post will be having a breakfast on July 31<sup>st</sup> which I will attend.

With help from Jim Higuera we produced a 100 buttons with the phrase **All About Veterans**.

These were made to highlight what the American Legion is all about. I am happy to say that I have sold all 100 of them in a week. I will be ordering more and want to thank my fellow comrades for purchasing one. I expect my fellow officers to wear these proudly at our E-board meeting and District meeting. If you forget I will have extras for you to buy.



Congratulations to Bob Boyd and Robert Mitchell for their work with Legion baseball. The championship game between El Segundo and Long Beach Wilson was great. El Segundo had a great defense and overpowering offense. Good luck at Yountville.

**Remember it's All About  
Veterans**



**VA&R**

**CAMPAIGN**

**IS UNDER WAY**

**ALL DONATIONS TO**

**BENEFIT OUR**

**VETERANS**

## A REPORT ON DISTRICT FINANCES BY GIL SOTO



**Gil Soto**  
**Finance Officer**

Comrades,

I first want to thank the district for allowing me to be your finance officer for the 2016 -2017 year.

I want to report on the finances of the district, our investment portfolio is doing fine and paying a good return; the business select checking account has enough in the account to cover any emergencies that the district may face.

The district's other accounts General, Baseball, and Boys' State are in positive

We want to thank all of the posts that paid the district and per capita for 2015 – 2016, these funds help support the American Legion programs that the district participates in each year. Your donations to VA&R, Baseball, Boys' State, and Oratorical go a long way to help make these programs a success, I encourage each post in the district to continue support for this coming year, without you the district cannot have these programs.

Commander Nick Rosa has appointed the audit and budget committee for this year, we will meet on August 1 at Montebello Post 272; the committee will review the district's finances and set a budget for the

ill be presented at next general meeting in August.

It was recommended that the organization meeting held at Rivera Post 411 that district's finance report would be given each quarter instead of each month at the general meeting, if approved by the membership I will present a quarterly report. If you would like a copy of that report email me and I will send you a copy.

Finally, my family and I want to thank everyone for their prayers and good thoughts for my grandson who was injured in a traffic accident; that was the reason I was not at our installation. He doing fine, he has a long road ahead of him to get well.

## LET'S GET DOWN TO BUSINESS

Greetings to All,

By now most Post Commanders and Adjutants are aware of the importance of having all their Certifications, completed and turned in. We know this, as we have sent e-mails, and phone calls to those that have yet to respond.

As an added note, by not responding, YOU are placing Your Post in

Jeopardy of having YOUR post PLACED on Probationary status. Failure to pay obligations, failure to submit mandatory Certifications, Audit of Post Books, are thing you want to take care of NOW.

Upon assuming the position as your District Adjutant, we find a common excuse of "I didn't get the paper work". WRONG!!! And here's why: your Certifications of Post Officers notes

"All Mail to" section, It either goes to the Post address, or a designated Officer of the Post. Find that person, find the paper work.

We still have a few post that do not have their Membership Cards. Why? Simple, Didn't go to Convention, or NO paperwork. No paperwork, No Cards. You decide, Membership dues will be coming in soon, don't disappoint your members. Get that paperwork in.

## TICKLE ME WITH A LITTLE HUMOR SECTION

by Jay Leno:

"With hurricanes, tornados, fires out of control, mud slides, flooding, severe thunderstorms tearing up the country from one end to another, and with the threat of bird flu and terrorist attacks, are we sure this is a good time to take God out of the Pledge of Allegiance?"

**Frustration is trying to find your glasses without your glasses.**

**Blessed are those who can give without remembering and take without forgetting.**

**My wife and I had words, but I didn't get to use mine.**

**I was always taught to respect my elders, but it keeps getting harder to find one.**

Fifty-one years ago, Herman James, a North Carolina mountain man, joined the Marine Corps. On his first day in basic training, the Marine Corps issued him a comb. That afternoon, the Marine Corps barber sheared off all his hair. On his second day, the Marine Corps issued Herman a toothbrush. That afternoon, the Marine Corps dentist yanked seven of his teeth. On the third day, the

Marine Corps issued him a jock strap. The Marine Corps has been looking for Herman for 51 years.

## BOYS NATION

The first Boys Nation – then called Boys Forum of National Government – convened at American University in Washington in August 1946. The 1946 American Legion National Convention adopted the event as an official youth activity. Three years later, it became American Legion Boys Nation.

At the event, each delegate acts as a senator from his Boys State. The young lawmakers caucus at the beginning of the session, then organize into committees and conduct hearings on bills submitted by program delegates.

Senators learn the proper method of handling bills, according to U.S. Senate rules. Participation in the political process is emphasized throughout the week, including organization of party conventions and nominating and electing a president and vice president.

The week of government training also includes lectures, forums and visits to federal agencies, national shrines, institutions, memorials and historical sites. On Capitol Hill, Boys Nation senators meet with elected officials from their home states.

California is proud to have Samuel Spinner and Joseph Lerdal. at the 70th Boys Nation Session. We also note they are representing us well with in introduction of two Senate Bills.

### Sen. Samuel Spinner (CA)

Bill Title: Next Generation Science Standards Act.

Bill Summary: Adopt Next Generation Science Standards as the new national K-12 grade curriculum in all public schools

### Sen. Joseph Lerdal (CA)

Bill Title: The Working Immigrants Bill

Bill Summary: This bill will give lawful residence to those who can prove the have lived and worked in the USA for a certain amount of time.



Senators

← Samuel Spinner

Joseph Lerdal →



## THE MAGIC BANK ACCOUNT

THE AUTHOR IS NOT KNOWN. IT WAS FOUND IN THE BILL-FOLD OF COACH PAUL BEAR BRYANT, ALABAMA, AFTER HE DIED IN 1982

The Magic Bank Account

Imagine that you had won the Following \*PRIZE\* in a contest:

Each morning your bank would deposit \$86,400

In your private account for your use.

However, this prize has Rules:

The set of Rules:

1. Everything that you didn't spend during each day would be taken away from you.
2. You may not simply transfer money into some other account.
3. You may only spend It.
4. Each morning upon awakening, The bank opens your account with another \$86,400 for that Day.
5. The bank can end the game Without warning; at any time, it can say, "Game Over!" It can close the account And you will not receive a new one.

**What would you personally Do?**

You would buy anything and Everything you wanted right? Not only for yourself, but for all the people you Love and care for. Even for people you don't know, because you couldn't Possibly spend it all on yourself, right?

You would try to spend every Penny, and use it all, because you knew it would be replenished in the Morning, right? **ACTUALLY, This GAME is REAL Shocked ??? YES!**

Each of us is already a winner Of this \*PRIZE\*.

We just can't seem to see it.

**The PRIZE is**

**\*TIME\***

1. Each morning we awaken to Receive 86,400 seconds  
As a gift of Life.
2. And when we go to sleep at Night, any remaining time is Not credited to us.
3. What we haven't used up that Day is forever lost.
4. Yesterday is forever Gone.
5. Each morning the account is Refilled, but the bank can dissolve your account at any time WITHOUT WARNING...  
SO, what will YOU do with your 86,400 seconds?

Those seconds are worth so much More than the same amount in dollars. Think about it and remember to Enjoy every second of your life, because time races by so much quicker than You think.

So take care of yourself, be Happy, love deeply and enjoy life!

Here's wishing you a wonderful And beautiful day.

Start "spending"....

**"DON'T COMPLAIN ABOUT GROWING OLD...!"**

**SOME PEOPLE DON'T GET THE PRIVILEGE!**

**JOHNNY T. BROWN****SHARING LEGISLATIVE UP DATE****WHAT IS THE LEGION'S STAND ON THE CURRENT VERSION OF THE MILITARY CONSTRUCTION-VETERANS AFFAIRS APPROPRIATIONS BILL?****Answer:**

The American Legion was hoping for, and still fighting for, the full budget request from the Secretary of Veterans Affairs in the MiLCon-VA bill.

While we recognize that the passed version is still a 5.6% increase over last year's budget, we also recognize that last year, during the access to care crisis, it was apparent that VA needed to work to expanding its ability to provide care. The Veterans Choice Card program is intended to help meet that need by providing greater access for eligible veterans to private-sector health care.

In short, VA needs enhanced capacity and that takes funding. The proposed budget offered by VA includes funding that would expand care to more than 70,000 additional veterans; the version that was passed in H.R. 2029 doesn't include such funding.

The American Legion is still working to get the Senate to increase funding levels to the full budget request from VA. The Legion has always felt that budget caps shouldn't apply to VA or the Department of Defense. These agencies must be funded at the levels they need to provide for the defense and care that the country needs and that veterans have earned.

Sincerely, Ian de Planque, Director

**PCC OUTPOST 19**

In response to the many inquires on Paid Up for Life Membership, or MFL (Member for Life) program of the State Past Commanders Club of California, We have good News, for those of you that are interested.

We have applications available all of which may be obtained by e-mailing or calling our Outpost Secretary Jim T. Higuera, at [jthiguera@yahoo.com](mailto:jthiguera@yahoo.com) or Phone 626-852-0780.

Outpost dues are \$ 8.00 per year, and are now due. 2016 closing membership was 50 members, this is a number we can improve on.

Rate Schedule: **Your Age/Rate**

40-49 \$ 140.00 / 50-59 \$ 125.00

60-69 \$ 95.00 / 70-79 \$ 70.00

MFL Metal Card as show add \$ 8.00

**MEET WENDY****DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT**

Wendy O'Brien has been a member of the American Legion Auxiliary for 13 years; she qualifies for membership in the ALA under her husband of 38 years John O'Brien, a Vietnam Veteran who served in the US Navy and both her brothers who also served in Vietnam, both receiving Purple Hearts.

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both receiving Purple Hearts.

Ms O'Brien is a Lifetime member of the Ladies Auxiliary of the VFW Post 4647. Wendy has chaired most programs at the Unit and District levels, being District 6 President in 2011-2012.

She has served as Hospital Representative at Northern California VA Hospital for 6 years; she has served as Area 1 Membership Chairmen for 2 years, Department Education Chairmen, Department Leadership Chairmen, Department Veterans Affairs and Rehabilitation Chairmen, and as Department Membership Chairmen and Department Vice President in 2015-2016. Haggin-Grant Unit 521 and District 6 along with her family are happy to have endorsed Wendy for President of the Department of California.



The Noisy 19th Family takes great pride in Congratulating Wendy, and wish her well as she assumes the Presidency of The American Legion Auxiliary, Department of California.



*"Still and Forever*

*Sewing America"*

19th District Flash Editor

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## THE FLASH

### DEADLINE

20TH OF MONTH

COMMENTS/SUGGESTIONS

WELCOMED

Check us out on

19th District Face book

On the Web page

Noisy 19th.com

## COMMANDER ROSA APPOINTS

### CARL WILVERT

The Noisy 19th Leadership Team, in its effort to have "Boots on the Ground" has selected Karl Wilvert Commander of Gilbert Lindsay Post 352 (Carson, CA) as our New Web Master "[noisy19.com](http://noisy19.com)"



Commander Rosa, in make this appointment praised Comrade Karl for stepping up, and becoming part of our 19th District Leadership Team. Bring a wealth of knowledge, and expedience from the "World Wide Web,"

Commander Wilvert is a two year member of The American Legion, and in this short time has proved his dedication to serving his fellow veterans. Thanks in part to mentoring by two Past District Commanders Robert Mitchell, and Bob Boyd, both members of Post 352.

Commander Wilvert earned his eligibility by his service in the United States Air Force. 1971-1980, and for knowledge and Experience, he received his BS degree in Computer Science Engineering, University of Colorado Denver. Wilvert is also Director of Technology, Blueprint LSAT Test Preparation, Los Angeles, CA/, and Principal of Wilvert Technical Consulting, Carson CA.

In addition, Wilvert has, during his career done classified work in satellite communications with Lockheed Martin and have worked to automate United Airlines Airport hubs in Japan, US and the UK. In his spare time, his Hobbies include Garden Railroad, Trains, Computers, Robotics, Internet of Things (IoT), Woodworking, Ham Radio (specifically Software Defined Radio) Amateur Radio License (KK6WER).

The Noisy 19th, welcomes Commander Karl, and look forward to one outstanding, "[noisy19.com](http://noisy19.com)" web page. Another tool in keeping our membership informed, with the latest, around the county, and around the world. Click in and Enjoy.

## END ZONE BRIEFS

### L.A.C.C. News

### **GALAVIZ TO ASSUME COUNTY LEADERSHIP**

We are happy to announce that Past 18th District Commander Augustine E. Galivez will be installed Los Angeles County Council Commander on August 5, 2016.

The Installation will take place at the Bob Hope Patriotic Hall, 18th and Figueroa, Downtown L.A. 7:00 PM. We also understand that a dinner will be provided, with advance reservations.

Since its founding in 1920, the 6 districts in L.A. County, 17th, 18th, 19th, 20th, 23rd and 24th, each have the opportunity of having a County Commander. Looks like the 19th is up next in 2017-2018.

### News from Department

### Gary Leach

Department Commander



Department Commander Gary Leach has announced that the fall DEC will take place on August 12th—14th. Amador Post 108, 11th District will host the event.

The purpose of this meeting will be the reporting of Department Officers, and District Commanders. This meeting also gives us an opportunity to meet the newly appointed Department Officers. Adjutant John "Doc" Bart, Chaplain, John Aldridge, Historian Lillian Moss, and Parliamentarian Ed Fletcher

District 19 Commander Nick Rosa, 1st Vice Richard "Kiki" Ramirez, and Adjutant Jim T. Higuera will be in attendance, and will give the District a full report on the Departments Executive Board.

### News from National HQ

There has been a lot good things happening around the Nation, and it can all be seen on "[legion.org](http://legion.org)"

Recent news indicates the Boys Nation, with California sending 2 representatives. American Legion Baseball Regional payoff will also be underway.

Members posts are reminded that this Web site has a wealth of information, to keep you up with the latest happenings.

We also remind you, we are closing in on our 100th Anniversary. With the 98th National Convention taking place in Cincinnati, Ohio. August 26 thru Sept. 1st.

Mr. Charles Schmitz the leading candidate from the Grate State of Oregon, is expected to succeed Dale Barnet as our next National Commander.