



**AMERICAN LEGION MEMBER
EDDIE GRAY IS WALKING AMERICA
FOR TWO YEARS TO MEET HIS FELLOW
CITIZENS. HE VISITS POST 77**



Resting from his 2,000-plus mile walk from Montana to Woodland, American Legion member Eddie Gray, of Post 77 in Montana, stopped in on Feb. 10th to say hello to California's Post 77 members.

When on duty in the Marines, Eddie Gray thought if I should die in the service, who are the Americans I am dying for? For Gray, the next logical step upon his discharge is to take about two years to walk the perimeter of the United States to meet those Americans throughout the country. This has included camping in freezing weather, being attacked by a mountain lion, getting knocked down by an SUV as he walked one of America's highways, and having his boots melt when he helped to put out a fire. After walking 10 ½ months from Montana (and not allowing himself to do any hitchhiking), he stopped by Post 77 to meet us. What did he find? A member of Lame Deer Post 77 in Montana, Eddie Gray observed that he loves coming to American Legion posts in each town he walks through to meet his fellow veterans. "American Legion posts are my home away from home."

And who has assisted him the most in his quest to travel through America on foot? It is American Legion National Assistant Director Jin Kong. "Jin's continuous support has been incredible," Gray notes. One more of the many instances of the American Legion helping veterans all over this great country.

Larry Schapiro, Post Historian

MEMORIAL DAY PROGRAM PREVIEW

Memorial Day this year is Monday, May 25th. A special Post 77 Memorial Day program at the Woodland Cemetery will feature the dedication of the new upgraded Veterans Monument. The featured speaker will be Air Force Col. Ed Trautt (ret.). A presentation will be made honoring members of the U.S. Merchant Marines for their heroic accomplishments during World War II. Post 77 member Bill Hollingshead will give his observations of the treatment of Vietnam-era Armed Forces personnel by their fellow citizens. Continuing the tradition of Post 77 Memorial Day observances, there will be plenty of patriotic music.

Ray Redmill and Homer Swigert, Post Executive Committee

**NEW LEGION BASEBALL SEASON
TO COMMENCE**

Thanks to those who attended the Baseball Committee's crab and shrimp feed dinner. That helps us finance the upcoming season of American Legion Baseball.

There will be a number of returning players, as some are still at or under the maximum age level of 19. There are 40 games on the May through July regular-season schedule. If the Post's team can again get into the playoffs, there will be additional baseball games.

Frank Eakles, Baseball Committee Chair



- Dave Isbell, Commander**
- Edward Trautt, 1st Vice Commander**
- Albert Castillo, 2nd Vice Commander**
- Gary Leach, Adjutant**
- Corbin Smith, Assistant Adjutant**
- Warren Meyer, Financial Officer**
- Steve Waldeck, Treasurer**
- Vince Olvera, Sergeant-at-Arms**
- Gil Garcia, Chaplain**
- Zeke Plocher, Service Officer**
- Frank Eakle, Athletic Committee Chair**
- Larry Schapiro, Historian**
- Homer Swigert, Executive Committee**
- Ray Redmill, Executive Committee**
- Dave Kauderer, Judge Advocate**
- William Allardice, Legislative Advocate**

MISCELLANEOUS GOINGS-ON

I am saddened by the unexpected death of Post 77 member John Contreras. Still a member of the Post Baseball Committee after many years, he was a great guy, loved by many. Members of the Post provided a special service for him at McNary's on Feb. 6th and then later that day at the hall. John will be missed.... The head of the California National Guard, Major Gen. William Wade II, will be the Post's speaker on Veterans Day, Nov. 11. He leads the largest National Guard force in the U. S., with almost 23,000 National Guard and Air National Guard members.... Local Congressman Wally Herger has come through again. Herger provided one of his few tickets to the presidential inauguration to Army Spec. 4 David Mayer, who lost both legs in Iraq on March 14, 2008 during an attack upon his squad. David, a member of Post 214, which is in Shasta and Tehama counties, is the son of last year's Area 1 American Legion commander, Glenn Mayer.... Post 77 provides the meeting place for the Yolo County Disabled American Veterans who meet at the Post hall once a month. We are happy to assist the DAV members.... Starting in August, post-9/11/01 enlistees, under a law passed by the last Congress, will be eligible for up to \$4,806 per year in California for college tuition, \$1,000 a year for books and supplies, and approximately \$1,758 per month for living allowance. For enlistees who were in the service for less than 36 months, the above amounts are less.... The Post Baseball Committee's Crab and Shrimp dinner had some special raffle prizes, among them an autographed photo of the American League's Most Valuable Player Dustin Pedroia and a bottle of Baseball Hall of Famer Rollie Fingers' wine, autographed to the American Legion by Rollie himself.... The annual Post 77 Joe Espigares Memorial Pinochle Tournament is in full swing on Thursday nights in the back meeting room. It lasts until April 9th.... Post 77 will be sponsoring two students to this spring's American Legion Youth Environmental Conference. Subjects at the conference include lumbering, fire control, erosion control reforestation and watershed management.... Post Assistant Adjutant Corbin Smith lets us know that he will be installing a top-of-the-line solar light at the Woodland Cemetery Veterans Monument to spotlight the United States flag during darkness.... Past Commanders Don Urain (1961-62), Irving Shellhammer (1968-69) and Joe Battles (1974-75) were posthumously honored at the Post's February Past Commanders' dinner. Their wives, Betty Urain, Nada Shellhammer and Thelma Battles were in attendance.... On Feb. 28, Post 77 participated again in the Yolo County Veterans Coalition's destruction of ripped and otherwise unfit U.S. flags.... The Yolo County Archives requested a copy of past Post 77 newsletters. After receiving them, the County Archives Coordinator wrote us that "They are a great addition to our ongoing collection of veterans' records. We, at the county, believe very strongly that the people who serve should be recognized and remembered.... This is a good time to practice your golf. May 3 will be the Post 77 Art Casas Memorial Golf Tournament at the Wildhorse Golf Course. For information, call Post Commander Dave Isbell at (530) 219-3174.... For those seeking a job, a Yolo County veterans' job fair will be held on March 12, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at 500-A Jefferson Blvd., West Sacramento.... Members of Post 77 have been serving dinners for homeless and others at the Wayfarers Center. We were helped out with donated food from Silvina's Basket Restaurant, Main St., Woodland. If you wish to join us in serving a future dinner

from 4:45 p.m. to 5:45 p.m., please call Larry Schapiro at 304-6099.... Marty Bernavage has agreed to take on the duties, starting in June, of Post Second Vice Commander.

Vince Olvera, Sergeant-at-Arms

EVENT CALENDARS

MARCH 2009

- | | | |
|------|------------------|---|
| 5th | 7:00 p.m. | Yolo County Veterans' Coalition meeting at West Sacramento VFW |
| 8th | 10:00 a.m. | American Legion District 6 meeting at Post 440 in West Sacramento |
| 10th | 7:30 p.m. | Post 77 meeting for all members to present the annual Law Enforcement Officers of the Year awards |
| 14th | 6:00 p.m. | Annual National American Legion Birthday corned beef and cabbage dinner |
| 18th | 7:00 p.m. | Post Executive Committee meeting |
| 24th | 7:30 p.m. | Post 77 membership meeting (nomination of new officers – first reading) |
| 25 | 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. | American Legion lobbying day at the Legislature |

APRIL 2009

- | | | |
|------|------------|--|
| 2nd | 7:00 p.m. | Yolo County Veterans' Coalition meeting at Post 77 |
| 7th | 7:30 p.m. | Post 77 meeting to present annual Firefighters of the Year awards |
| 15th | 7:00 p.m. | Post Executive Committee meeting |
| 25th | 10:00 a.m. | Post members march in the Winters Youth Day Parade |
| 25th | 6:00 p.m. | Cook Your Own Steak dinner and "Bump City" dance band, \$17 |
| 28th | 7:30 p.m. | Post 77 membership meeting (nomination of new officers – second reading) |

AUXILIARY

March 2009

- | | | |
|-----|-----------|-----------------|
| 4th | 7:00 p.m. | Regular meeting |
|-----|-----------|-----------------|

April 2009

- | | | |
|-----|-----------|-----------------|
| 1st | 7:00 p.m. | Regular meeting |
|-----|-----------|-----------------|

Maria Hernandez-President
Christine De Knikker-First Vice President
Teddy Cooper-Second Vice President
Arlene Sandoval-Secretary
Mary Cogburn-Treasurer

If you have any questions about the Post 77 Women's Auxiliary or would like a ride to an Auxiliary meeting, please call Maria Hernandez at 661-2210 or Mary Cogburn at 662-0624.

IN MEMORIAM

JOHN CONTRERAS

LES MEANS

"Farewell, My Comrades."

POST 77 MEMBERS IN UNIFORM



Marine Sgt. Kurtis Griffis is currently serving his second tour of duty in Iraq. A member of the Marines since January 2006, Sgt. Griffis is part of the First Recon Battalion of Special Forces and is jump and dive certified. Part of the Helo Task Force, he is on call twenty-four hours a day for any mission.

For the last few months Sgt. Griffis has been deployed to a remote part of Iraq. He will be leaving Iraq in May.

Proud grandfather, and also a Post 77 member, Bud Emmerson explains that Kurt was born in Woodland and is now part of a great unit of Marines.

We salute Post 77 member Sgt. Kurtis R. Griffis for his service to America.

WELCOME, NEW POST 77 MEMBERS

The father and son team of Robert B. Johnson and Robert L. Johnson are new members as of Feb. 1st. Robert B. was in the Navy from 1957 to 1971 as a diver and working in ordinance disposal. His Navy duty brought him all over the world, including Africa, Europe and Asia, Vietnam, Japan and the Philippines. Son, Robert L. rose in the Air Force from Airman 1 to Captain as a medical provider during 1983 to 2001.

New Post 77 member Bill Taketa was in the Army at the tail end of World War II, plus six years as a member of the California National Guard.

Frank Aulgur of Dunnigan was assigned with the Army 82nd Airborne during the Vietnam war, as his wife says: jumping out of perfectly good airplanes.

Col. John Lowe of Davis joined the Air Force and Air Force Reserves, staying on for a total of 30 years. As a pilot he was part of the invasion of Panama and Dessert Storm.

Glenn Wood was a member of the Navy from 1961 through 1967, serving in Vietnam, Japan, the Philippines and throughout the South China Sea.

Esparto resident Edward Sandford was a diesel submariner while in the Navy from 1943 to 1945. Ed was a member of the Navy Reserves from 1950 – 1964.

Eldee Wirth, Army 1942-44, including being assigned to General Douglas McArthur's Headquarters Company.

NEW POST 77 MEMBER ELDEE WIRTH AGREES THAT IT IS NEVER TOO LATE TO JOIN THE AMERICAN LEGION



What do Eldee Wirth and the American Legion have in common? Two things. First, both are 90 years old. Second, as of 2009, Eldee is a new member of the American Legion. It shows that the old saying is true with regard to American Legion membership: better late than never.

Eldee Wirth is a World War II Army alumnus, 1942-45. He served in New Guinea, the Admiralty Islands, the Dutch East Indies, Australia and the Philippines.

HOW IS YOUR PRINTING?

Did your third grade teacher say you wrote neatly? If so, you may be just the person we are looking for. The Woodland Cemetery has a monument, erected in the 1800s, honoring Civil War veterans. It is engraved, "In memory of our unknown dead 1861-1866." The inscription of these words has nearly been worn away. The Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War organization has asked Post 77 to paint the words over the fading inscription. Woodland Cemetery officials have given Post 77 the go ahead to do that lettering. Monument experts say that we should use enamel.

This leads us back to you. The Post can use the help of one or more people who are good at painting letters. We owe it to those unknown soldiers who served America at one of its most troubled times.

If you can help with the painting of those words of remembrance for the unknown soldiers of the Civil War, please call Larry Schapiro at (530) 304-6099.

AMERICAN LEGION MEMBERSHIP

We have been a team for years, all of us who have been members of Post 77. Your membership allows the American Legion to maintain patriotic programs, both locally and nationally. And that's a good thing.

Check your wallet to see if you have a 2009 American Legion membership card. If not, please send in to the Post \$33 for this year's dues. Thanks.

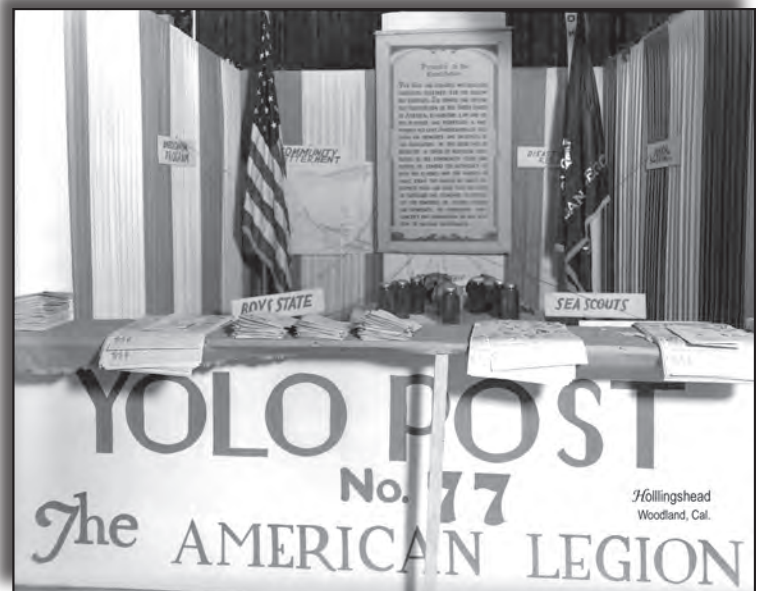
Ed Trautt, First Vice Commander



Yolo Post 77 has always been active in community projects. As well as sponsoring Boy Scout Troop 68, they also sponsored The Sea Scouts. Pictured is the annual inspection ceremony on March 24, 1939 in the old Legion Hall. As well as the basketball backboards, notice the three window movie projection room in upper background, a reminder that the hall had also functioned as The Legion Hall Theatre for major Hollywood movies.

Preamble to the Constitution of The American Legion

For God and Country we associate ourselves together for the following purposes: To uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States of America; To maintain Law and Order; To foster and perpetuate a one hundred percent Americanism; To preserve the memories and incidents of our associations in the Great Wars; To inculcate a sense of individual obligation to the Community, State and Nation; To combat the autoocracy of both the classes and the masses; To make right the Master of Might; To promote Peace and Goodwill on earth; To safeguard and transmit to posterity the principles of Justice, Freedom and Democracy; To consecrate and sanctify our comradeship by our devotion to mutual helpfulness.



This 1938 photo is the American Legion display booth promoting projects which were spelled out with signs that read, AMERICANISM PROGRAM, COMMUNITY BETTERMENT, DISASTER RELIEF, BOYS STATE, BOY SCOUTS, SEA SCOUTS AND JUNIOR BASEBALL. On the back table were Mason jars and fresh vegetables promoting home canning and vegetable gardens. In the center of the booth is the Preamble to the Constitution of The American Legion. Please read the complete Preamble which still holds true today.

*Photographs by Legionnaire Paul W. Hollingshead (1896 – 1974).
Photos, research and captions courtesy of son Bill Hollingshead – Member of Yolo Post 77.*



Discussing their experiences in the Armed Forces are (l. to r.) Post 77 members Margaret Nicolson (Army, 1942-46), Catherine Portman (Air Force, 1973-77), and Jane Isbell (Army, 1964-65).

Civilian Friends vs. Veteran Friends

CIVILIAN FRIENDS: Get upset if you're too busy to talk to them for a week.

VETERAN FRIENDS: Are glad to see you after years, and will happily carry on the same conversation you were having the last time you met.

CIVILIAN FRIENDS: Have never seen you cry.

VETERAN FRIENDS: Have cried with you.

CIVILIAN FRIENDS: Borrow your stuff for a few days then give it back.

VETERAN FRIENDS: Keep your stuff so long they forget it's yours.

CIVILIAN FRIENDS: Know a few things about you.

VETERAN FRIENDS: Could write a book with direct quotes from you.

CIVILIAN FRIENDS: Have shared a few experiences.

VETERAN FRIENDS: Have shared a lifetime of experiences no civilian could understand.



Another Post 77 community service project has been cooking and serving meals for the homeless at the Wayfarers Center in Woodland. Three of our servers above (l. to r.) are Larry Schapiro, Marty Bernavage and Dave Isbell. Other cooks and helpers have been Patty Schapiro, Vince Olvera, Ruth Wechsler, Jack Newman and Corbin Smith. If you wish to help serving at a future dinner (4:45 p.m. to 5:45 p.m.), please call Larry Schapiro at (530) 304-6099.

THE FURTHER ADVENTURES OF YOLO COUNTY'S 184TH IN WW II



Two members of Yolo County's 184th Headquarters Company, Red Sieber (l.) and Don Kuntz (middle) ran into Woodland resident Eldee Wirth in New Guinea. This photo of the three on a piece of enemy artillery was taken on Christmas Eve, 1944. New Guinea, that the Japanese Army had taken, was only about 75 miles from Australia. As a consequence, various towns in Australia were bombed by Japanese war planes.

Post 77 Past Commander Don Urain (1961-62) wrote before he died about Pearl Harbor Day for the Yolo County 184th Headquarters Company that trained at the Post 77 old Armory until the unit was called up in March of 1941:

"At 11:05 a.m. [on Dec. 7, 1941] all the fire station sirens went off all over Camp San Luis Obispo and we could not figure out what in blazes was happening. We then heard on the radio the announcement that the Japanese had bombed Pearl Harbor.... While we were loading [the trucks] the orders came down that the Regimental convoy would be ready to depart at 3:00 PM. The designated area assigned to the 184th Infantry Regiment was the San Diego area.... Our regimental convoy was the first to leave Camp San Luis Obispo.... Our area of assignment was the coast from San Clemente south to and part of the Mexican border at San Isidro to the ocean.... Our first major stop was the 'Rose Bowl Stadium' in Pasadena.... Within minutes of our arrival people started to drive into the same parking lot and by the time we departed [less than two hours later] there must have been 5,000 people there. I have never seen such hospitality before, people bringing us shoe boxes full of sandwiches, cakes, pies and bags full of oranges and apples.... We finally arrived in San Diego about 1:35AM, December 8th.... After breakfast we convoyed back up to the Coast Highway to Del Mar Race Track.... I was assigned to 'Seabiscuits' stall; a well known champion race horse of the time. I think back today on 'Pearl Harbor Day' 45 years later and still remember driving from San Luis Obispo to San Diego. I am still amazed at the change in people's attitude within hours after President Roosevelt's speech. In route, all the way, thousands and thousands of people lined up on the highways and city streets in fog and rain, day and night to wave and holler encouragement as we passed by. I was then and still am, very proud of the people of this nation during World War II for their support and sacrifices."

Don Urain (12-7-1986)



Post 77 member and 1st Lt. Bob Griffith examines his P-47 Thunderbolt in 1945 upon return from one of his 93 missions over France and Germany. This one did not go as well as his other sorties. As Bob was strafing a railroad train engine, the P-47 was hit by German 88 millimeter fire while he was 100 miles away from the base.

BOB GRIFFITH FILM BRINGS BACK POST 77 HISTORY OF THE 1930'S

Bob Griffith, long-time member of Post 77, has presented to the Post a disk of the original 16 mm film his father took of the Post's 1932 Memorial Day (then, Decoration Day) program. 1932 was the first year Post 77 was put fully in charge of the Decoration Day parade and program at the Woodland Cemetery, "a duty that for more than half a century has been the annual custom of the W.H. Seward post of the [Civil War] Grand Army of the Republic.... The local post of the American Legion will have charge of the ceremonials on Decoration Day." (Daily Democrat, March 18, 1932.)

Post 77, however, assisted with the Memorial Day program in Woodland soon after the Post's founding. The May 30, 1921 Daily Democrat story, entitled "City Joins with Post in Paying Tribute to Soldier Dead of County," reports: "About 50 members of the American Legion marched in uniform to the cemetery. They were followed by nine members of the G.A.R. [Grand Army of the Republic] in machines. Several hundred people were gathered about the G.A.R. plot, where the Memorial ritual exercises were carried out.... Three salutes were fired by the Legion boys in honor of the hero dead.... The sight of the Legion boys in soldier and sailor uniforms with many an overseas cap in evidence brought back vivid memories of those sad days just three years past when day by day the flower of Yolo's manhood was leaving for 'over there.'"

Bob Griffith's film includes the raising of the flag at the Post's old Armory building on Bush St., Woodland. Next, members of the 184th National Guard, which met in the Armory, Boy Scouts, Post 77's Sea Scouts, a band, and others marched and drove to the Woodland Cemetery for the placement of a wreath upon the civil war veterans' memorial to the unknown soldiers. The memorial reads: "In memory of our unknown dead, 1861-1865."

In the film and taking part in the Memorial Day ceremony was Civil War lieutenant and Yolo County resident William H. Winnie. The Civil War sword hanging in the clubroom at the Post was a gift from William Winne, at age 90, to Post 77 in 1930. The note accompanying the sword states in part: "Captain W. H. Winne presented his sword to Yolo Post #77. He carried this sword until the end of the [Civil] war. He went through many of its greatest battles, including Charlottesville and Antietam. During the latter part of the war he was a first lieutenant. But in Woodland was always affectionately known as Captain Winne."

Captain Winne moved to Woodland in 1868 and started a contracting business. As noted by Woodland historian David Wilkinson, one of Winne's initial projects was building Woodland's first public school at Main and East streets in 1868. Some of his other construction projects were the first planning mill in Woodland (1869), Woodland's oldest remaining church (the old Congregational Church at 450 First St. in 1874) and the Woodland Opera House (1895).

Captain Winnie and other Civil War veterans are buried in the Woodland Cemetery near the memorial to the unknown soldiers of 1861-1865. In 1921, William Winnie and fellow local Civil War veteran E. S. Farnham constructed a second Civil War stone nearby the first. That one, eight feet tall, has the Grand Army of the Republic badge engraved on it.

Bob Griffith's film of the 1932 Decoration Day parade and program will be played at the Post on May 25 during this year's Memorial Day free community luncheon at noon.

Larry Schapiro, Post Historian

NEW STATE LEGISLATION

A new State law (Vehicle Code section 22511.3), when approved by local authorities, allows veterans whose vehicles display plates honoring Pearl Harbor Survivors, Legion of Valor recipients, Purple Heart recipients, Legion of Valor recipients, former American Prisoners of War, and Congressional Medal of Honor recipients to park their vehicles without charge, in any metered space. Post 77 prepared a letter that we sent on behalf of the American Legion District 6, which covers Yolo and Sacramento counties, to the Sacramento City Council asking the City Council members and Mayor to implement this new law for veterans by passing an appropriate ordinance. The Department of Motor Vehicles reports that there are 741 Pearl Harbor Survivor license plates, 1,127 former Prisoner of War, 6,906 Purple Heart recipients, 85 Legion of Valor, and 16 Congressional Medals of Honor.

The State personal income law has allowed individuals to contribute on their tax form to California National Guard members in financial distress who are deployed under the California Military Family Relief Fund. A new addition to the State Revenue and Taxation Code now adds provision for these Military Family Relief Fund contributions (tax form 540, box 61) to also go to deployed members of the Armed Forces Reserves who are California residents.

Bill Allardice, Post 77 Legislative Advocate

COOK YOUR OWN STEAK DINNER

Along with
WOODLAND'S FAVORITE
DANCE BAND
"BUMP CITY"

SATURDAY - APRIL 25, 6:00 P.M.
NO HOST COCKTAILS 5:00 P.M.
WE'LL PROVIDE THE RIB EYE
STEAKS & THE BBQ'S,
YOU DO THE GRILLING TO YOUR LIKING.
INCLUDED IS SALAD, BAKED POTATOES,
ROLLS, CORN AND DESSERT ~ \$17.
BRING FAMILY & FRIENDS

FREE CAR LICENSE PLATES FOR CERTAIN DISABLED VETERANS

The California Vehicle Code provides for the issuing of free license plates, with no annual vehicle license plate fee, to disabled veterans who, as a result of injury or disease suffered on active duty, fit into one of the following categories:

1. Has lost or lost use of at least one limb;
2. Unable to move without the aid of an assistance devise;
3. Has suffered permanent blindness; or
4. Has a disability which has been rated 100 percent by the Department of Veterans Affairs or the military service due to a disease or disorder which substantially interferes with mobility.

Qualifying veterans receive special "DV" automobile license plates which permit free parking at all parking meters in the state. With "DV" license plates, disabled veterans may also park in handicapped zones.

Corbin Smith, Assistant Adjutant

HAPPENINGS AT THE POST CLUBROOM

Hello from the Post Clubroom. We are open Monday through Thursday from 1 p.m. to 9 p.m. and to 11 p.m. on Fridays. To bring back the old days, we have brought in a pinball machine to the Clubroom. Playing on the pinball machine will immediately return you to your younger years!

On Sunday, March 22, we will be having a NASCAR party at the Clubroom. It looks to be lots of fun. All are invited.

On Fridays from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m., Budweisers are only \$1.50 and Coronas \$2. See you then.

Patti Cox, Bar Manager

THE NATIONAL AMERICAN LEGION AND POST 77 ARE 90 YEARS OLD THIS YEAR

The American Legion was born 90 years ago this month, March 15 to 17, 1919, in Paris, France in an historic caucus consisting of World War I servicemen who were still in uniform. The idea of an American Legion leaped across the United States as hundreds of thousands of servicemen returned home after fighting a "war to end all wars." By the end of 1920, 843,013 veterans had flocked to swell the ranks of our then giant-infant organization. Today, almost three million belong to the American Legion, the largest veterans' organization in the world.

At home, Yolo Post 77 held its first meeting on September 26, 1919, at the Board of Trade rooms in the Yolo County Courthouse. The Post received its initial charter on October 11, 1919, less than five months after the first Legion Post in the United States received its charter on May 19, 1919. Post 77 members met soon after receiving that charter, on October 28, to elect their first officers. Total membership was already at 367.

A month later, on November, 1919, Post 77 purchased the Armory Hall on Bush Street for \$15,000. On August 2, 1921, the Yolo County Board of Supervisors leased the American Legion Hall for five years at a yearly rental of \$1,500 and a cash payment of \$2,800, which was of great assistance in paying for the cost of the Armory that housed the Post until the 1960's.

On October 25, 1921, Post 77 received its permanent charter. And the rest, as they say, is history – our history.

As Post 77 First Vice Commander Ed Trautt, age 93, says, "90 years old, that's nothing!"

Dave Isbell, Post Commander

In celebration of the American Legion's 90th birthday in March, Post 77 will hold its annual
HAPPY BIRTHDAY, AMERICAN LEGION

Corned Beef and Cabbage Dinner on
Saturday, March 14, 2009
6:00 p.m.

Come and enjoy Don Plank's famous corned beef and cabbage, along with the old mustard recipe from the long-closed Dutch Miller Saloon of Knights Landing. In addition for \$12, there will be salad, potatoes, carrots, and home-made apple cake.

Get your tickets for this highly popular corned beef and cabbage dinner by stopping at the Post clubroom or calling
(530) 662-9772.





American Legion
 Yolo Post 77
 523 Bush Street
 Woodland, CA 95695

NON-PROFIT
 ORGANIZATION
 U.S. POSTAGE
 PAID
 PERMIT #55
 WOODLAND, CA

Return Service Requested

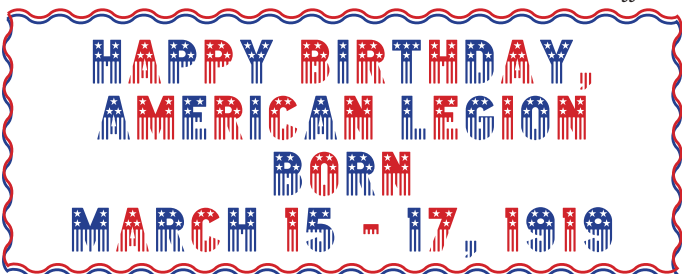
VETERANS ADMINISTRATION DIRECTIVE FOR GLASSES AND HEARING AIDS

The American Legion reports that the VA will now “provide glasses and hearing aids to those enrolled in the VA Healthcare System who are not service-connected for those conditions.” Additionally, “Veterans who are now enrolled in the VA health care system are eligible for battery replacement and repair of hearing aids even though those aids were purchased from a private source.”

Of the 945,423 who have left active duty since 2002, 400,304, or 42 %, have obtained VA health care. In total, 5.5 million veterans received VA health care in any one year.

The Walter Reed Medical Center is training wounded soldiers in the science of digital forensics so they can become cybersecurity investigators. In addition to cyber intrusions and identity theft, digital forensics also is used to analyze computer systems, recover data after system failures, and do debugging.

Zeke Plocher, Post Service Officer



WISE WORDS FROM U. S. SENATOR JUDD GREGG OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

“The veterans of our military services have put their lives on the line to protect the freedoms that we enjoy. They have dedicated their lives to their country and deserve to be recognized for their commitment.”



War time ration books bring back both good and not-so-good memories. This one above is Post 77 member Don Plank’s World War II ration book, with some unused war ration stamps still attached, prior to his leaving for war service.