

Let's Clear the Air on the Pledge of Allegiance

By Gary Leach
Adjutant

The National Defense Authorization Act of 2008, which took effect on Jan. 28, 2008, included a provision authorizing the military hand salute for veterans and out-of-uniform military personnel during the raising, lowering, or passing of the flag. The National Defense Authorization Act of 2009, signed into law by President George Bush on Oct. 14, 2009, added "the playing of the national anthem" to those occasions when veterans and out-of-uniform military personnel may render the military hand salute. Unfortunately, these changes led to the widespread and erroneous assumption that veterans were now permitted to say the Pledge of Allegiance while rendering the hand salute, even though there was no mention of the Pledge of Allegiance in either bill. The manner of delivery of the Pledge of Allegiance is contained in Title 4, U.S. Code, Chapter 1, commonly referred to as "the Flag Code." The first Flag Code was drafted during a conference headed by the Daughters of the American Revolution and the American Legion. As Legionnaires, we are proud of this contribution to our country, and we are obligated to obey it. The latest version of the Flag Code, dated Feb. 1, 2010 says this about the manner of delivery of the pledge: "The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag...should be rendered by standing at attention facing the flag with the right hand over the heart. When not in uniform men should remove any non-religious headdress with their right hand and hold it at the left shoulder, the hand being over the heart. Persons in uniform should remain silent, face the flag, and render the military salute." To sum it up, you may recite the pledge with your hand over your heart, or you may render the hand salute and remain silent, but you may NOT render the hand salute and recite the pledge. To do so is a violation of Title 4, U.S. Code, Chapter 1, a federal statute which is near and dear to the hearts of the American Legion.



Sergeant First Class Steve Moreno, USA (Ret) is awarded the Purple Heart and Bronze Star for his actions in Vietnam. The medals were awarded by BGen James T Cook. SFC Moreno was also a member of the US Navy and served as a tail gunner in bomber aircraft where he was credited with shooting down a Chinese MIG during the Korean war.



Albert Castillo, Commander
Marty Bernavage, 1st Vice Commander
Mike Phillips, 2nd Vice Commander
Gary Leach, Adjutant
Edward Trautt, Immediate Past Commander
Corbin Smith, Finance Officer &
Assistant Adjutant
Steve Waldeck, Treasurer
Vince Olvera, Sergeant-at-Arms
Edward Trautt, Chaplain
Zeke Plocher, Service Officer
Frank Eakle, Athletic Committee Chair
Dan Cameron, Historian
Dave Kauderer, Judge Advocate
William Allardice, Legislative Advocate
Dan Cameron, Executive Committee
Delbert Guise, Executive Committee

POST HAPPENINGS

BY CORBIN SMITH

Hello fellow Veterans!

Coming to you with Post building news and events past and coming!

Post Building Upgrades

Our parking lot got a much needed helping hand. All the holes are filled in and patched and the lot will be sealed once the weather is dry in the Spring. And, all the ladies are raving about their improved upgraded bathroom with new double sinks, faucets and granite countertop.

Veterans Day and Annual Post Veterans Turkey Dinner

Post 77 delivered yet another Veterans Day Ceremony at the Court House in honor of all veterans. The ceremony was successful in many ways and enjoyed by all. After the ceremony, we hosted our annual luncheon served by the Auxiliary ladies.

On Saturday, November 6th, Chef John Benedict came through again! The Post had their annual Veterans Turkey Dinner with all the trimmings.

Post 77's On-going Chef

If you're craving a home-cooked meal, Connie Zenger is your answer! Connie cooked up her famous Chicken and Dumplings and Chicken Bread Bowl dinners in December. Anyone will tell you that Connie's home-cooked meals are a Post favorite! Thanks to Connie for all her dinners and all the other jobs she does around the Post!

District Meeting

On December 5th, Post 77 and the Auxiliary hosted another District 6 Meeting. For Post members that attended, it was exciting to witness our Post receive the National Excellence Award presented by the District Commander. The award is given to those Posts that show excellence in membership, youth activities, community service and support to currently serving troops. Post 77 couldn't be more proud.

Christmas Parade and Veterans Children's Christmas Party

After the Post 77 Color Guard took 3rd place in the Christmas parade on Saturday, December 11, the Sons of the Legion hosted a Christmas party with Santa Claus as the guest of honor! They had a Santa's workshop where all the children created crafts while watching a Christmas movie. Santa's helpers, Joanne Roe treated all to cake, cookies and drinks. As we waited for Santa to arrive, Nadine Salonites, with audience participation, thrilled us again with Christmas carols echoing through the Post Hall. After sitting on Santa's lap reciting their list of wishes, Santa's helper Joanne passed out bags of toys to all the good boys and girls!

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EVENT CALENDARS

JANUARY 2011

- 6th 7:00 p.m. Yolo Veterans Coalition meeting at West Sac VFW Post
- 14th Ribkrouter Dinner. \$15. tickets at the post bar. Limited quantities.
- 16th 1:00 p.m. At Post 77 is the High School Oratorical Contest
- 19th 7:00 p.m. Post Executive Committee meeting
- 22nd 6:00 p.m. Baseball Crab Feed 6:00 p.m. open Bar, 7:30 p.m. dinner
- 25th 7:00 p.m. Post 77 membership meeting

FEBRUARY 2011

- 3rd 7:00 p.m. Yolo County Veterans' Coalition meeting at Post 77
- 5th 6:00 p.m. Past Commanders Recognition Dinner
- 14th 6:00 a.m. Presidents Day-Place flags on Main Street and remove at 4:00 p.m.
- 16th 7:00 p.m. Post 77 Executive Committee meeting
- 22nd 7:00 p.m. Post 77 General membership meeting
- 26th Area 1 meeting in Healdsburg

SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

- January 12 7:00 p.m. Sons Membership meeting
- January 15 Dinner
- February 6th Superbowl party
- February 9 7:00 p.m. Sons Membership meeting

Carl Prutch, Commander, tel. 669-7975; Robert Roe, Adjutant
SAL meetings are held at Post 77 on the 2nd Wednesday of the month at 7:00 p.m.

AUXILIARY

Auxiliary officers:

- President-Christine Rogers
First Vice President-Maria Lopez
Second Vice President-Arlene Sandoval
Secretary-Lorraine Childers
Treasurer-Vacant
Chaplain-Maria Hernandez
Sergeant-at-Arms-Mary Cogburn,

If you have any questions about the Post 77 Auxiliary or would like a ride to an Auxiliary meeting, please call Auxiliary President Christine Rogers at 908-5686 or Mary Cogburn at 662-0624

Phone Cards for the Troops

Travis Air Force Base was thrilled to learn that Post 77 was donating \$300. for phone cards for local deploying servicemen leaving to Iraq. Master Sergeant Kevin James meet with Commander Castillo, Gary Leach and Corbin Smith to receive the check and to pick up boxes of toys donated from the Post for Travis' Children's Christmas party.

To help raise funds for this VIP mission, the Post filled a five-foot stocking with \$150. worth of toys. Raffle tickets were sold for \$5.00 and enough funds were raised for the cards and the toys. This was a win-win for the Post, troops and our stocking winner Anthony Rubes!

More Post 77 Christmas Donations

Post 77 proudly donated \$200. to Wreaths Across America. Local volunteers meet at the Sacramento Valley Veterans National Cemetery located in Dixon to lay the wreaths on the graves of those who gave their service for our freedom.

Post 77 continued the Christmas spirit by donating \$100. worth of toys to fill the USMC's Toys For Tots barrel and a \$100 worth of food to the food bank. Our donations helped fill the barrels already packed by our generous Post patrons and the public.

Rib Dinner – It's Coming

On January 14 Chief Jeff Youngmark is at it again! This time he will be cooking a scrumptious rib feed. If you haven't experience his cooking yet, here's your chance.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year,
Corbin Smith, Finance Officer

From the Chaplain

Don Campbell had a right knee replacement at Woodland Memorial Hospital on Nov. 29, 2010. Post Chaplain Ed Trautt visited Don at the hospital on Nov. 30. Don returned home on Thursday Dec. 2. Don says that he hopes to attend Post 77 regular meeting in Feb. 2011. A get-well card was also sent to his home address.

Ed Trautt, Chaplain

WANT YOUR MONTHLY POST 77 NEWSLETTER IN COLOR?

Each issue of the Post 77 newsletter can be emailed to you rather than mailed through the U. S. Postal Service. The emailed version comes in color. The mailed newsletter is in black and white. If you would like your Post 77 newsletter by email rather than through the mail, send us your name and email address at optout@yolopost77.com



Past Commanders' Club Dinner

On December 3rd nineteen past Commanders attended the Annual Past Commanders' Club Dinner. Attendees enjoyed another wonderful dinner by Chef John Benedict. It was really nice to have the past commanders come together and be acknowledged for their years of service to the Post and take pride in sharing their accomplishments and even their hardships while Post Commander.

New Member

Jack Schaller USAF 1960-1980



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

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 ORGANIZATION
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Christmas Parade

After the Post 77 Color Guard took 3rd place in the Christmas parade on Saturday, December 11, 2010.

The legion has led the parade every year for 46 years.

IN MEMORIAM
DELBERT GARDNER TUCKER
RONALD WALTER FRITZ
“Farewell, My Comrades.”



Annual Baseball Crab Feed

By Frank Eakle, Athletic Committee Chairman

January 22nd, 2011 is the date for the Annual Crab Feed fund raiser to support the Yolo Post 77 Baseball Program. This is a great evening of fun and food. If you have never attended you don't know what your missing! All the crab, Prawns, Salad, Garlic Bread and Wine you can eat plus a no host bar. Cost for this event is \$40.00 person. For more information on this event and for tickets clubroom at (530) 662-9772.