



**THIS IS THE BIG ONE FOR POST 77 ,
THE ANNUAL
YOLO COUNTY FAIR PARKING
FUNDRAISER. PLEASE HELP.**

August is an important month for Post 77. Operating the Yolo County Fair's parking of vehicles during fair days, August 13 – 17, is, by far, the Post's most important fundraiser of the year. In exchange for Post 77 being in charge of the parking at the County Fair from morning to closing, the Fair Board provides us with part of the parking fees collected.

As you have seen from previous years, it takes a large number of people to assist in parking all the cars and trucks that enter the fairgrounds for those five days. This is where we can really use your assistance by volunteering for a few hours on one of the days from August 13 - 17, or maybe you know another person who might assist!

If you can help, please give a call to Post 77 parking chair Gary Leach at telephone number (530) 724-0324.

The Post will be hosting a free thank you dinner to all those who help with this year's parking fundraiser. That dinner will be August 23rd, starting at 6:00 p.m.

Gary Leach, Parking Committee Chair

**POST 77 MEMBERS REGULARLY PROVIDE
FUNERAL HONORS TO VETERANS
IN THREE-COUNTY AREA**

In the last year, the Post 77 Honor Guard has participated in 47 funeral services for veterans in Yolo, Solano and Sacramento counties. This has included providing military honors for veterans' funerals in cemeteries such as Woodland, Capay, St. Joseph's, Davis, Winters, Monument Hill, Sacramento, the National Cemetery in Dixon, and at various churches and funeral chapels.

Additionally, the Honor Guard provided flag ceremonies for various charities, such as both the American Cancer Society's Relays for Life in Davis and Woodland, all the home football games of both Pioneer High School and Woodland High School, the opening-of-the-season ceremony of the Little League, the Woodland Stroll Through History, etc.

Terry Parkhurst, Past Commander

**POST 77 MEMBERS TO BE SWORN
IN AS AMERICAN LEGION
DISTRICT 6 OFFICERS**

Mary Cogburn, past President of the Post 77 Auxiliary, was recently elected President of the entire District 6 area of the American Legion Auxiliary. Mary has previously served in various other positions in the Post 77 Auxiliary and the District 6 Auxiliary.

Post 77 members will make up the largest share of District 6 officers when they take office in July. Elected as Commander of District 6 is Terry Parkhurst. Post 77 Adjutant Gary Leach is the new District First Vice Commander. Also serving in positions for District 6 are: Corbin Smith, Executive Committee; Vince Olvera, Sergeant-at-Arms; and Larry Schapiro, Historian.

The installation of District and District Auxiliary officers will take place at Post 77 on July 27, 2 p.m. All American Legion and Auxiliary members are welcome to attend.

Dave Isbell, Commander



- 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**

EVENT CALENDARS

July 2008

3rd	7:00 p.m.	Yolo County Veterans' Coalition meeting at West Sacramento VFW
4th	6:30 a.m.	Put up flags on Main St., Woodland
	4:00 p.m.	Take down flags from Main St.
11th	6:30 p.m.	Cook-your-own steak dinner and band, \$17
12th	7:00 p.m.	Post 77 Baseball Fan Appreciation Night, Clark Field
13th	7:00 a.m.	Golf Tournament, Wild Horse Golf Course, Davis
16th	7:00 p.m.	Executive Committee meeting
22nd	7:30 p.m.	Membership meeting
27th	2:00 p.m.	District 6 installation of new District officers

August 2008

7th	7:00 p.m.	Yolo County Veterans' Coalition meeting at Post 77
9th	6:00 p.m.	Veterans Coalition BBQ, Eagles Hall, \$15
13-17	All Day	Post 77 parking fundraiser at Yolo County Fair
20th	7:00 p.m.	Executive Committee meeting
23rd	6:00 p.m.	Free dinner for those who volunteered to assist at Fair Parking fundraiser
26th	7:30 p.m.	Membership meeting

AUXILIARY

July 2008

1st	6:30 p.m.	Regular meeting and installation of officers
27th	2:00 p.m.	District 6 Auxiliary installation of District Auxiliary officers at Post 77, with reception to follow.

At the July 1st Auxiliary meeting, there will be a pot luck dinner. All are welcome to attend. If you wish to bring a food item, please call Maria Hernandez at 661-2210 to let her know. Past Auxiliary officers are invited to assist and participate in the new officer installation.

August 2008

5th	7:00 p.m.	Regular meeting
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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, call Maria Hernandez at 661-2210 or Mary Cogburn at 662-0624.

MISCELLANEOUS GOINGS-ON

Memorial Day events by Post 77 in Woodland were outstanding because of many members, including those who attended the Post's Memorial Day program on May 26. Above and beyond the call of duty go out to Carl Desendorf and Dave Isbell who cleaned out each of the flag post holes on Main Street and in the Woodland Cemetery, and Corbin Smith and Vince Olvera who spent hours cleaning the Veterans Monument in the Woodland Cemetery, where the Memorial Day program was held.... Congratulations to the Post 77 color guard for their first place award among all color guards in the Winters Youth Day parade. Marching were Dave Kocsis, Dave Isbell, Frank Lucchesi, Albert Castillo, Gary Leach, Corbin Smith and Vince Olvera. Who says the old guys still can't get the job done?... Past Commander Dave Kauderer, in his capacity as State American Legion Finance Commissioner, had his photograph published on the front page of the May/June issue of the American Legion's State newspaper, the California Legionnaire. Dave looks handsome, as always....Off to the California American Legion convention in Bakersfield in June were Corbin Smith, Gary Leach and Terry Parkhurst....Only rave reviews were heard at the June 13 Cook-Your-Own-Steak dinner at the Post. A rib eye steak was provided to everyone at the dinner, who then grilled the steak themselves to their liking on one of the Post's barbeques. For good measure, the dinner also consisted of corn on the cob, baked potatoes with Steve Waldeck's famed home-made bacon bits, rolls and butter, Portuguese chili made by Joan Lucchesi, ice cream with topping, cookies and cupcakes. A little high on calories, but what the heck! Dinner attendees could also play darts on the Post new dart board. Zeke Plocher was the winner. Zeke rubbed in his victory a little when he announced that he had never played darts before that evening. I thus recommend that you attend the next Cook-Your-Own-Steak dinner at the Post on July 11, 6:30 p.m. This time the evening will also include music by the band, Bump City. Gil Garcia will, no doubt, want to know if the band plays Glenn Miller melodies.... The latest on the Sacramento Valley Veterans National Cemetery in Dixon: An \$18.1 million construction contract has been awarded by the Veterans Administration to complete the next stage of the cemetery development. The expansion project will encompass 60 acres of development, including approximately 12,000 full-casket gravesites, 8,000 columbaria niches, 5,200 in-ground cremation sites, two committal service shelters, a public information center, landscaping, etc.... Information learned at the Clubhouse bar: Post 77 member Don Plank's grandmother's great grandfather, Jack Martin, was a Colonel for the American side in the Revolutionary War. Don has provided us with a copy of the photo of Col. Martin's home, where Martin once met with General George Washington. The home has been refurbished by the Daughters of the American Revolution.... Post 77 member Larry Martinez has given us a copy of a page in the 1943 Woodland High School yearbook dedicated to those graduates who had died in World War II and those of the class of 1943 who had signed up to serve. Sir Speedy Printing, 47 West Main Street, Woodland, has graciously donated a four-foot

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MISCELLANEOUS GOINGS-ON

Continued from page 2

copy of that yearbook page, which is currently being displayed on the front window of the Post hall.... At the end-of-the-year ROTC banquet, Post 77 Commander Dave Isbell presented American Legion awards to the top four ROTC cadets from Sacramento State and U.C. Davis in the categories of military achievement and also academic performance.... The Daily Democrat published a photo on Flag Day of Post 77 members getting ready to put up our flags on Main Street, Woodland. And some newspaper headlines of the results of Post 77 baseball games just for the first three weeks in June: "Post has a homer fest," "Yolo Post piles on the victories," "Double the games, double the blowouts," "Big third inning sparks victory for Post 77," "Yolo posts a doubleheader shutout," and "Yolo continues hot streak." Post 77 is everywhere! ... Off to the California American Legion convention in Bakersfield in June were Corbin Smith, Gary Leach and Terry Parkhurst...

Vince Olvera, Sergeant-at-Arms



Thanks to Woodland High School woodshop teacher Jeff Shelene (right) and his students, including Brian Meador (l.), who have built and installed four sets of cabinets in Post 77's rear meeting room. They did beautiful work. Come in and take a look at the cabinets.

WE ALWAYS THOUGHT THAT POST 77 WAS SPECIAL. NOW WE KNOW IT IS ALSO AWARD WINNING.

The American Legion, Department of California, at its convention held June 19 – 22 in Bakersfield, presented Post 77 with a number of awards.

- ** First place in Area 1 for service to the community and public relations. (Area 1 extends from Lodi to the Oregon border.)
- ** Second place Statewide for the Post 77 newsletter.
- ** Third place Statewide among Posts with 300 to 499 members for our youth programs.
- ** Third place among all Posts Statewide for Annual Narrative of the Post's activities and history.

Albert Castillio, Second Vice Commander

VIETNAM VETS SHOULD APPLY NOW FOR DISABILITY RELATED TO HYPERTENSION

It appears that the U.S. Veterans Administration will soon be announcing that hypertension and related diseases for those who have served in Vietnam (even for one day) will presumptively be a service-connected disability. That is, the V.A. will presume if a Vietnam veteran has hypertension that the hypertension is a disability caused by the Vietnam service. Vietnam service includes those who served in Laos or Cambodia

Vietnam veterans may also be able to receive disability payments for diseases that are caused by the hypertension, such as heart attacks or kidney failures. The Yolo County Veterans Services Office says now is the time to apply. Stop by the County Veterans Services Office at 120 West Main St., Suite A, Woodland, or call Service Officer Ted Puntillo at (530) 406-4850.

The V.A. has already declared other illnesses to presumptively be service related for purposes of establishing a disability for Vietnam veterans. Some of those are diabetes, prostate cancer, Hodgkins disease, any respiratory cancers, leukemia and lymphoma.

Zeke Plocher, Post 77 Service Officer

NEW AMERICAN LEGION MEMBERSHIP YEAR

It was such a good year that the time flew by. But July 1 starts the new membership year for the American Legion. You should be receiving your notice soon for American Legion dues for 2008 - 2009.

POST 77 GOLF TOURNAMENT ON JULY 13

What better time can there be than playing golf with friends at the Post 77 golf tournament?



Location: Wild Horse
Golf Course, Davis

Date: Sunday, July 13

Time: 7:00 a.m.

Eighteen holes of golf will be followed by a steak luncheon at the Post 77 hall. There are prizes for participants.

To reserve a spot, call Dave Isbell at
(530) 219-3174.

POST 77 AUXILIARY

Those were the days! This 1950 Installation Dinner photo shows members of Yolo Post 77 Auxiliary dressed in their formals and wearing flower corsages. In past decades through the 1950s, people dressed up more than currently. Women wore dresses, hats, gloves and stockings to most events. Businessmen wore suits, dress shirts, ties and hats. This was proper dress for concerts, graduations, church, luncheons and most American Legion events. Suits and dresses were also worn for train and airplane travel.



Parades, parades, parades! Pictured is the Auxiliary float for the 1949 Yolo County Fair. Main Street, in Woodland, was the parade route for all such local events. We had parades for Christmas, Memorial Day, 4th of July, and Armistice Day (now Veterans Day), to name a few. There were also War Chest (War Bonds) parades, pet parades and decorated bicycle parades. In 1936, the Gilmore Gasoline Company brought a special circus-themed parade of air inflated characters which were attached to low wagons pulled by local volunteers dressed in clown costumes.



The American Legion Auxiliary members were creative, talented, funny, musical and active in fund raising. This show was a benefit and ticket sales were brisk. Before television sets were in every home, the Post 77 Legion Hall was in full use for meetings, movies, lectures, basketball games and even roller skating. The popular radio show "Breakfast in Hollywood" (1941-48) had a live road show which played the Legion Hall. Legionnaire Bill Hollingshead said, "I know - I saw the show when I was a kid in grammar school."

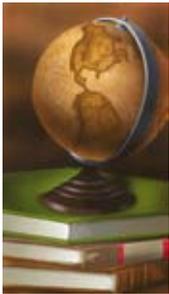
Photographs by Legionnaire Paul W. Hollingshead (1896 - 1974)
Photos, research and captions courtesy of Bill Hollingshead - Member of Yolo Post 77

**FOR THE 79TH YEAR, POST 77 PRESENTS
THE AMERICAN LEGION AWARD TO
LOCAL STUDENTS**

It started in 1930. That was the year Post 77 first presented “the American Legion Award” to Yolo County students found by their schools to especially support the ideals of Americanism, scholarship, leadership and service to the community. This year’s winners are:

- ☛ Ruben Zacapa and Farah Amjad of Douglas Middle School
- ☛ Alayna Campos and Alan Isaacson of Holy Rosary
- ☛ Angela Carinio and Jason Diaz of Lee Middle School
- ☛ Richard Bauer and Robyn Stiles of Woodland Christian School

*Mary Cogburn and Warren Meyer,
High School Scholarship Chairs*



POST 77’s LITTLE LIBRARY

There are many books on our bookshelves in the Post Clubroom for you to borrow. Come on in Monday through Friday, 1 p.m. to 9 p.m. to take a look and take a book.

**COOK YOUR OWN
STEAK DINNER**

FRIDAY, JULY 11, 6 P.M.

**FEATURING THE BAND
“BUMP CITY”**

**WE’LL PROVIDE THE
RIB EYE STEAKS & THE BARBECUES.
YOU DO THE
GRILLING TO YOUR LIKING.
INCLUDED IS SALAD,
BAKED POTATOES, ROLLS, CORN,
& DESSERT ~ \$17.**

Bring Family and Friends.



It looks like Vince Olvera (center) is holding up the new flag post just about all by himself. Post 77 has completed the raising of two new flag poles and placed a larger cement sidewalk around the Veterans’ Monument in the Woodland Cemetery. Also assisting have been Curt Richter, Corbin Smith and Ted Puntillo. The work on the Monument continues . . .

**PROGRESS IS BEING MADE ON POST’S
UPGRADING OF THE
VETERANS MONUMENT IN THE
WOODLAND CEMETERY**

Thanks to the assistance of many Post 77 members donating to enhance and refurbish the Woodland Cemetery Veterans Monument built by members of Post 77 in 1979, the work has started. Two aluminum flagpoles have been erected and a large cement base/sidewalk has been laid around the Monument which sits in the veterans’ section of the Woodland Cemetery.

Next up will be installing two four-foot-long benches, emblems for each of the services, a bronze helmet with folded flag, a black granite center piece, and a granite tablet for the names of sponsors who donated \$500 or more.

We’ll keep you filled in on the progress of this project.
Corbin Smith, Immediate Past Commander

AMERICAN LEGION BASEBALL

The National American Legion started its baseball program in 1925. Babe Ruth was the national director of the Legion baseball program until his death. Today, more than 60 percent of professional baseball players are graduates the American Legion Baseball program. About 89,000 high school-age youths play on Legion-sponsored teams each year. The Post 77 Baseball program has had many players who have received baseball scholarships to four-year colleges and community colleges.

Hope to see you at one of the next home games at Clark Field on July 9th, 10th and 12th.

Frank Eakle, Athletic Committee Chairman



**POST 77 BASEBALL DINNER SPEAKER
REVIEWS HISTORY OF BASEBALL
IN WOODLAND**

Larry Martinez, Post 77 member and local baseball historian, spoke at May's Baseball Committee Fundraiser Dinner. Larry provided us a wonderful evening of Yolo County baseball history and trivia, including how Post 77 saved Clark Field from being sold.

The earliest known baseball game in Woodland was played in 1871 on the southeast corner of College and Cross Streets, then known as Bynam's Field.

The first baseball game at Clark Field was on April 27, 1930. The next year, the Pacific Coast Baseball League held its summer training at Clark Field. In 1931 and 1932, three Major League teams played at Clark Field: ** the Detroit Tigers v. the Seattle Indians, March 21 and 22, 1931; ** the Pittsburgh Pirates v. the San Francisco Mission Reds, March 20, 1932; and ** the New York Giants v. the San Francisco Mission Reds, April 2 and 3, 1932.

Joe DiMaggio played shortstop for the San Francisco Seals in a game at Clark Field, where his primary statistic was earning three errors. DiMaggio and Mrs. Babe Ruth attended the 1964 Babe Ruth World Series that was held in Woodland.

Woodland's piece of baseball history continues because of the work of Post 77 in buying the field to keep baseball going there. In 1934, with the economic pressures of the Depression, plans were being made to close the ballpark built by Charley Clark, including tearing down the grandstands. But on July 2, 1934, The Daily Democrat published an editorial asking that Post 77 take charge and save the ball park. The newspaper editorial started: "Civic-minded citizens were shocked Saturday by the news that this city's magnificent baseball park is to be dismantled and abandoned.... It would be many a day before Woodland could have another park like Clark Field." As Larry Martinez noted, the newspaper editorial explained

that "The Legion has the happy faculty of making good in nearly everything it attempts. It is strong in numbers and in quality of membership." On July 6, four days later, Post 77's executive committee unanimously voted to negotiate with the Bank of Yolo for purchase of the ballpark. In response, Mayor H. I. Bobb explained that "Those legion fellows can be depended upon when action is needed." Post 77 eventually paid off \$3,000 of the \$5,000 owed, before fundraising garnered the rest and the deed was turned over to the City of Woodland. At opening day ceremonies, March 29, 1936, the deed to Clark Field was presented to the City of Woodland. The day got even better. The Woodland Oaks baseball team beat the Colusa Prunepickers, 6 to 3.

Larry Schapiro, Historian

**YOLO POST 77
BASEBALL TEAM SCHEDULE
AT CLARK FIELD,
WOODLAND**

**JULY 7, SATURDAY 6 P.M.
JULY 10, THURSDAY 7 P.M.
JULY 12, SATURDAY 7 P.M.**

(RAFFLE DRAWING ON JULY 12)

**ALL ARE WELCOME TO
THE GAMES!**

**POST 77 PINOCHLE
TOURNAMENT WINNERS**



This year's Post 77 Pinochle Tournament is over and in the history books. The back room was filled for months with card players. But four of the most outstanding players came out as victors. As David Letterman would do, here are the top 4 from fourth to first place:

- 4th place: Merv Nelson
- 3rd place: Rich Lee
- 2nd place: Del Tucker
- and our winner, first place went to Cheri White.

This year's "also ran" prize for being dead last was awarded to Frank Walton.

Dave Isbell, First Vice Commander

AUXILIARY AND POST SCHOLARSHIPS FOR HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES

Another way that members of Post 77 and Post 77 Auxiliary help others is providing high school scholarships. These graduates go on to college and become good citizens. The Auxiliary's two scholarships for this year were presented to Marisela Cortez and Anna Marie Belletti.

Post 77's Woodland High School scholarship went this year to Robert Bergren. Robert is an Eagle Scout out of the Boy Scout Troop that Post 77 sponsors, Troop 68. The Post 77 scholarship for a 2008 Pioneer High School graduate was to Ariel Stephens.

*Mary Cogburn and Warren Meyer,
High School Scholarship Chairs*



Yolo County Supervisors Matt Rexroad (at the podium) and Mike McGowan (r.) present a Board of Supervisors' resolution honoring Memorial Day and those who served in the military to American Legion Post 77, VFW Post 8762, and the Marine Corps League. County Public Guardian Cass Silva, who oversees the Yolo County Veterans Service Office, also participated at the May 13 Board of Supervisors meeting. The Board of Supervisors asked that "all citizens be aware of and recall Memorial Day, the deaths of their fellow countrymen and women who served our nation in the military."

IN MEMORIAM

**CLEVELAND DAIGRE
JOE PROVENCIO,
PAST COMMANDER, 2000-01
THOMAS VANCE PAULSEN**

"Farewell, My Comrades."

MEMORIAL DAY SPEAKER REMINDS US OF THE GREATNESS OF THE UNITED STATES

Jim Mortensen, former Commandant of the Yolo County Marine Corps League, was our main speaker at the Post 77 Memorial Day program in the Woodland Cemetery. In speaking about what is right with America, Jim reminded us that: "America is humanitarian, involved, compassionate and sensitive. America has extended a helping hand in crisis after crisis to nations in need from flood to earthquake to famine and yes, even attack. America has created a climate where any citizen may voice his/her opinion in any newspaper, radio, or television station in the country, whether it is critical or complimentary of the government, or any other facet of life. We have religious freedom that allows us to openly profess our faith. America has produced a climate in which a United Nation of peoples can work and learn and play and pray together. This is a day not only to renew our honor to those veterans who have made the supreme sacrifice defending our country but also all those who have answered the call to defend our liberties. I found this saying some time ago and saved it. This seems like an appropriate time to use it on this great day.

"What is a veteran? A 'veteran' whether active duty, discharged, retired or reserve, is someone who at some point in his/her life, wrote a blank check made payable to 'The United States of America' for an amount up to and including his/her life. That is honor."

Ed Trautt, First Vice Commander

AMERICAN LEGION NATIONALLY

With a current membership of 2.7 million wartime veterans, the American Legion was founded in 1919 on the four pillars of a strong national security, veterans affairs, Americanism, and patriotic youth programs. There are more than 14,000 posts across the nation.

Gil Garcia, Chaplain

POST 77 CLUBROOM REQUESTS ITEMS FOR POST RUMMAGE SALE. DART TOURNAMENTS AND VIDEO GAMES ARE A NEW HIGHLIGHT IN THE CLUBROOM

The Clubroom will be having a rummage sale on a Saturday in late August in the back room at the Post. Hot dogs will be served. Any donated items for the rummage sale would be appreciated and can be dropped off at the Post on weekdays between 1 p.m. and 9 p.m. or you can call Patty at 662-9772.

After the third week in July, the Post 77 Clubroom will be having dart tournaments. If you are interested in participating, call Patty in the Clubroom at 662-9772.

The Clubroom now has a table top video game machine for your use. Come in and try it out.

On Wednesday evenings, you are invited to play the dice game "pass the trash." Also each Wednesday evening, there is lots of free food. There are cards games in the afternoons everyday.

The clubroom has instituted a daily happy hour from 6 p.m. to 7 p.m. in which all drinks prices are lowered by 25 cents.

The Post clubroom is open Monday through Friday, 1 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Patty, Bar Manager



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



LEGION HALL RENTAL

The Post 77 Legion Hall front room, back room and kitchen are available for rental for your special parties and events.

Contact Dave Isbell at
(530) 219-3174 or (530) 662-9772



Woodland resident AE 3 (AW) Michael Leach, son of Post 77 Adjutant Gary Leach, let us know that the Post is remembered as he serves aboard the aircraft carrier Abraham Lincoln in the Persian Gulf. Michael is an Aviation Electrician's Mate who is assigned to pre-launch and post-flight activities.

If you would like a ride to monthly Post 77 meetings, please call Larry Schapiro at telephone number 304-6099