

**SPECIAL CEREMONIES AT THIS  
YEAR'S VETERANS DAY PROGRAM**

As in the past, Post 77 will present the Veterans Day program in Yolo County. The program will contain two special parts. One will feature Yolo County women of World War II, with an introduction and background by Post member Catherine Portman. Some 350,000 women served in the Armed Forces during World War II, and Yolo County had a large group of those enlistees.

Also a part of the Veterans Day program will be a belated, 35-year late presentation to Vietnam War veteran Isaiah Perez of his Purple Heart and Vietnam War medal.

But the main thrust of the Veterans Day program will be to thank you for your efforts and contributions in service to America. We'll be gathering at the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month, Nov. 11, 11 a.m., Yolo County courthouse in Woodland. Should there be rain, the program will take place next door, in the County office building atrium, 625 Court St.

The Woodland Community Band will present a music program starting at 10:30 a.m.

Afterwards, the Post Auxiliary and the Yolo County Veterans Coalition will provide lunch for all at the Post. A highlight at the Post hall after the program is a display of World War II era photographs taken in Yolo County by Paul Hollingshead, a member of Post 77 at the time and World War I veteran.

It looks to be another outstanding Veterans Day celebration.

*Alberto Castillo, Second Vice Commander*

**IN MEMORIAM****DONALD E. BRANIGAN***"Farewell, My Comrades."***NORTHERN CALIFORNIA AMERICAN  
LEGION MEETING COMES TO POST 77**

On Saturday and Sunday, Dec 1st and 2nd, Post 77 will host the quarterly meeting for Area One of the American Legion. Please join us for any of the meetings throughout the two days (starting 1 p.m. on Dec. 1 and 10 a.m., Dec. 2), and for the Area One dinner. The clubroom will be open for business on Saturday at 4 p.m. and the dinner will be served at 6 p.m. for \$10.00. Attire for the dinner is jacket and tie for men and suitable equivalent for ladies. RSVPs for dinner would be appreciated at telephone number 662-9772.

Glen Mayer, American Legion Department Vice Commander representing Area One will be in attendance, as will many Past Department Vice Commanders. Commanders from the seven districts which make up Area One will also be present. Guest speakers at the dinner will include Woodland Mayor Dave Flory, California Assemblyman Doug LaMalfa, and Assembly candidates Jim Nielsen and Charlie Schapp. All Legion members are encouraged to attend the meeting and bring a guest to the dinner.

*Gary Leach, Post 77*



Corbin Smith, Commander  
Dave Isbell, 1st Vice Commander  
Albert Castillo, 2nd Vice Commander  
Terry Parkhurst, Immediate Past Commander  
Gary Leach, Adjutant  
Ron Gee, Assistant Adjutant  
Warren Meyer, Financial Officer  
Steve Waldeck, Treasurer  
Vince Olvera, Sergeant-at-Arms  
Gil Garcia, Chaplain  
Zeke Plocher, Service Officer  
Ray Redmill, Clubroom Chairman  
Frank Eakle, Athletic Committee Chair  
Larry Schapiro, Historian  
Homer Swigert, Executive Committee  
Dave Kauderer, Judge Advocate

## EVENT CALENDARS

### November 2007

1st	7:00 p.m.	Yolo County Veterans' Coalition meeting at West Sacramento VFW
3rd	9:00 a.m.	Volunteer clean up the Post day
10th	6:00 p.m.	Annual Veterans Day turkey dinner at the Post, \$12
11th	6:30 a.m.	Posting U.S. flags on Main Street, Woodland and at the Woodland Cemetery
11th	10:30 a.m.	Woodland Community Band pre-program presentation of patriotic music at the Yolo County Courthouse.
11th	11:00 a.m.	Veterans Day program at the Yolo County Courthouse, Court Street, Woodland
11th	11:50 a.m.	Post-Veterans Day program musical presentation by the Woodland Community Band
11th	Noon	Veterans Day free luncheon and presentation of Hollingshead WWII photo collection at Post 77
11th	4:00 p.m.	Taking down U.S. flags on at the Woodland Cemetery and on Main Street, Woodland
21st	7:00 p.m.	Executive Committee meeting
27th	7:30 p.m.	Post 77 membership meeting

### December 2007

1st	1:00 p.m.	American Legion Northern California Area One meeting at Post 77
1st	6:00 p.m.	American Legion Area One dinner at the Post. All members and their families are invited, \$10
2nd	10:00 a.m.	American Legion Area One meeting continues at Post 77 hall
6th	7:00 p.m.	Yolo County Veteran's Coalition meeting at Post 77
7th	7:00 p.m.	Post 77 Past Commanders Club Dinner Tickets go on sale for Post 77 Baseball's Crab Fee dinner to be held on January 26
12th	7:00 p.m.	Executive Committee meeting
18th	7:30 p.m.	Post 77 Membership meeting

## AUXILIARY

### November 2007

6th	7:00 p.m.	Regular meeting
11th	Noon	Auxiliary's Veteran Day free luncheon

### December 2007

4th	7:00 p.m.	Regular meeting
9th	9:00 a.m.	District 6 meeting

Maria Hernandez-President  
 Janet Lough-First Vice President  
 Mary Lavorico-Second Vice President  
 Carolyn Smith-Secretary/Treasurer  
 Ashley Hernandez-Sergeant at Arms  
 Mary Cogburn-Past President

## MISCELLANEOUS GOINGS-ON

Post members Gil Garcia and Gary Leach attended a recent Woodland City Council meeting where Post 77's plans to upgrade the Veterans' Memorial at the Woodland Cemetery received a favorable vote of the Woodland City Council. It will include two 35-foot flag posts, emblems of each service, two stone benches and a granite commemoration of those who died fighting for this country..... Who says guys can't cleanup after themselves? Nov. 3rd is the day Post members are asked to help cleanup the hall for the upcoming community open house visit to the post. We will be starting at 9 a.m.... There is now new ceiling tile in place in the main meeting and dining room at the Post, put up by First Vice Commander Dave Isbell. With the previous repairs to the roof, the new ceiling tiles should stay looking good for a long time.... The Daily Democrat newspaper ran a nice photo of Post 77 members, along with an article about assistance to Yolo County veterans.... The City of Woodland has placed a sturdy metal bench in front of the Post building. The plaque on it reads: "American Legion Post 77 honors all veterans of Woodland and those who gave all.".... Flag raising events since the last Post 77 newsletter include the Pioneer High School homecoming and the Woodland Relay for Life Cancer Society fundraiser at the Woodland Community football field. We noticed next to the flag post at the Woodland Community football field a Post 77 plaque: "In Honor of Those Who Served. Dedicated Sept. 1971, Yolo Post 77, American Legion.".... In September and October, Post 77 members have represented the Post at the American Legion Area One meeting in Fortuna, the District 6 meeting in Sacramento, the homeless and indigent veterans' stand-down in Dixon (including cooking breakfast for 263 and yours truly giving flu shots), and meetings and ceremonies at Post 233 in Elk Grove, Post 447 in North Sacramento, and Sacramento's Post 832.... If you renew your American Legion membership by Veterans Day, you get an "early bird" stamp on your new membership card.... Pioneer High School wood shop students will be making cabinets for the Post to house trophies and other memories. Thanks, Pioneer High School.... While we are giving out thanks—a thank you deservedly goes to Ray Redmill for running the clubhouse bar. He spends lots of hours a week on that.... We're looking for women World War II veterans from Yolo County to attend and be honored at this year's Veterans Day program. If you know such a person, please call Larry Schapiro at tel. 304-6099 and leave us the contact information.... Woodland Parks Department has done a beautiful job fixing up the area around the veterans' memorial at the Woodland Cemetery. The headstones, along with the high and low spots, have been leveled. New grass is to follow shortly.

*Vince Olvera, Sergeant-at-Arms*

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

# VETERANS DAY/ARMISTICE DAY IN YOLO COUNTY



Armistice Day Parade (now called Veterans Day), circa 1937, marching west on Main Street, Woodland. On Second and Main Streets, in the background, were two of Woodland's largest buildings. The Elliot Building was on the northwest corner, now the site of Rotary Park. The Julian Hotel with businesses on the first floor was on the northeast corner, now Heritage Plaza and The Daily Democrat building. The first Hollingshead Photograph Studio was at 325 2nd Street, now The Daily Democrat parking lot across from the Woodland Opera House.

Yolo County draftees going to war, November 10, 1940, one day before Armistice Day. The draft was in effect even before Pearl Harbor. In the center is Owen Hiddleston in the short leather jacket and hat. Owen returned after the war to be the Woodland High School drama teacher. In the front row to the far right and looking to his left is Woodland Mayor Henry Anderson.



1947 Armistice Day at the Yolo County Courthouse with 2,500 to 3,000 in attendance. The entire stairway of the Courthouse was filled with Legionnaires, dignitaries, and active members of all the Armed Forces. The American Legion Post 77 still organizes both the Veterans Day and Memorial Day celebrations and still serves lunch afterwards at the Legion Hall.

Photos this page taken by  
Paul W. Hollingshead  
Courtesy of  
Edward and Bill Hollingshead



Post 77 Auxiliary members serve their own homemade food at a community-wide luncheon.



Congratulations go out to Gary Leach (l.), Post 77 Adjutant, Mary Cogburn, immediate past President of the Post 77 Auxiliary, and Terry Parkhurst, immediate past Commander of Post 77 upon their election to District and Area American Legion offices. Gary Leach is the new District Second Vice Commander and Area Secretary. Mary Cogburn was elected by the Auxiliaries in this District as First Vice President. Terry Parkhurst will be serving in the coming year as District First Vice Commander and Area Treasurer. Our American Legion Area consists of all Posts from the Bay Area to the border of Oregon.

## LETTER FROM THE BASEBALL COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

Dear Fellow Legion Members,

The Baseball Committee sends its thanks for members' support during the past season. Unfortunately, the Yolo Post 77 baseball program has started to become financially challenged to continue this youth program at its present level. (Four State tournaments in the last seven years and an average of at least 30 wins each season over the last ten years).

One way to support keeping this outstanding youth program at its present level is by Legion member participation by purchasing tickets for the annual raffle and the January crab feed fundraiser. This year's crab feed will be held on January 26th, with tickets going on sale December 12th.

We can sure use your support for our fundraising activities to continue this outstanding youth program. Thank you.

*Frank Eakle, Baseball Committee Chairman*



### LEGION HALL RENTAL

The Post 77 Legion Hall Front Room and Back Room are available for rental for your special parties and events.

Contact Corbin Smith at (530) 406-1599



## NOVEMBER 10 TURKEY DINNER AT THE POST

Hey, you're a veteran! Join your fellow veterans at this year's Post 77 Veterans Day dinner, Saturday, Nov. 10th, 6 p.m. Turkey with all the fixing will be the menu, all for \$12.

Current duty military personnel have been invited to attend at no cost – our way of showing some of our appreciation for their wonderful efforts throughout the world.

Tickets are available at the door or in the clubroom from 1 p.m. to 9 p.m. each weekday.

*Corbin Smith, Commander*



The Yolo County Veterans Coalition here meets at Post 77 for its October meeting. Post 77 hosts the Coalition meetings every other month. Post 77 is also the site for meetings of the Yolo County chapter of Disabled American Veterans.

## MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

The American Legion 2008 membership year began on July 1, 2007. So far, we have 297 paid members. Our assigned goal for 2008 is 366. We surpassed our goal last year and would like to do so again this year. If we are able to obtain 100% of that goal by Dec. 31, the American Legion will present a special award to the Post.

Why is it important to pay your dues? Because it makes you a member in good standing. And why is that so important? Because there's strength in numbers! When American Legion representatives speak to officials in Washington, D.C. about veterans benefits, the greater the membership of the American Legion, the more weight their words carry. Remember, it was the American Legion that got the G.I Bill passed.

So, please, pay your dues as soon as possible and help the American Legion continue to provide assistance to veterans and their families, and service to our community, state and nation. Thank you.

*Dave Isbell, First Vice Commander*

## POST 77 FLOWS WITH THE COMPUTER WAVE

Post 77 now has its own web site. It can be found at [www.yolopost77.com](http://www.yolopost77.com). There, Post 77 Second Vice Commander Alberto Castillo provides the latest on what is going on at the Post, Post newsletters, and other information.

*Ron Gee, Assistant Adjutant*

## COLLEGE TUITION AVAILABLE TO CHILDREN OF DISABLED VETERANS

So, you have decided not to break the record for the oldest veteran in college. However, children, up to the age of 26, of disabled veterans can receive free tuition and fee waivers at California community colleges, and at campuses of the California University and College systems. The amount of disability of a veteran to qualify for your child's free tuition and fees can be as little as zero percent.

For more information, stop by or call the Yolo County Veterans Service Office at tel. (530) 406-4850, 120 West Main Street, Suite A, Woodland 95695.

*Zeke Plocker, Post 77 Service Officer*

## THANKS, WITH A STORY, FROM THE FAMILY OF ONE OF US OLD SOLDIERS

The family of Jacob Korth, Sr. was kind enough to send Post 77 the following letter after members of the Post provided a funeral honor guard and firing squad for World War II veteran Korth's funeral service at Monument Hill:

"Men and women patriots of the American Legion Honor Guard,

"Please accept this note and gift in gratitude for your attendance and honorable participation at the interring of our father's ashes at Monument Hill, Woodland, July 14, 2007. Your Esprit de Corps was appreciated by us and well earned by our father, Jacob Korth., Sr.

"Please allow me the opportunity to put a face to the person for which you honored that Saturday morning.

"All battles of World War II were vital to the ultimate victory of the United States and its allies during a very difficult period for our country. Our freedoms were held in the balance of the war. All the lives impacted by that great war cannot be measured other than in the freedoms earned as they were paid forward by large numbers of our men and women. Too many had to pay the ultimate price. Too many were made to continually pay the price with injuries in mind and body.

"Our father participated in the campaigns with the 5th Army, beginning in Africa. As his unit moved North through Italy many men of his unit were lost and replaced with 'fresh' replacements from home. At one point the men in his unit actually ran out of ammo and were forced to fight off the defending Germans with rocks that covered the ground. When his unit reached the canyon across from the abbey at Monte Cassino, they were unable to continue their forward movement. The commanders continued to push on the men to move forward. Requesting and being denied offensive air strikes on the abbey across the canyon at Monte Casino, they were finally able to convince the Commanding General Mark Clark, and General Patton came to the forward lines where Jacob Korth and fellow front-line fighters were located. General Patton went forward of the front lines and stood in front of Jacob looking through his binoculars at the abbey where upon he was able to see the German soldiers in their defensive positions in and around the abbey. Air strikes were then called in on the Germans in the abbey and the forward movement of the 5th Army once again began, foot by foot, blood covered rock by blood covered rock.

"For his service in those very difficult situations, Jacob Korth was honored to receive the Bronze Battle Star. Jacob was the last surviving member of his original unit before being sent back home to the United States. As with the other men and women participating in that war and in other battles, these men and women deserve all the honor and respect you provided last Saturday.

"Thank you for your time and efforts in providing a wonderful patriot the honor of your time, three volleys, the actual playing of the Taps, and the flag ceremony as the ashes of another patriot were laid to rest."

*Larry Schapiro, Historian*



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

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

Return Service Requested



Warren Meyer, right, in charge of Boys State for Post 77, and Mary Cogburn, Girls State chair for the Post 77 Auxiliary, are pictured here with Post 77-sponsored attendees from throughout Yolo County after the students made a presentation at a recent Post meeting about their experiences at Girls and Boys State.



In Post 77 garb, Vince Olvera (l.), Terry Parkhurst and Gary Leach post the colors at Community Stadium in Woodland for the start of the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life.

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

PLEASE SAVE YOUR NUGGET MARKET RECEIPTS FOR US. THE RECEIPTS ARE TURNED IN TO HELP PAY FOR VETERANS PLOTS AT THE WOODLAND AND MONUMENT HILL CEMETERIES.  
 Ron Gee, Assistant Post Adjutant