



**AMERICAN LEGION
Cecil Cox Post 147**

P.O. Box 415, 508 Fourth Street, Clovis, CA 93613

JULY, 2015

COMMANDER'S CORNER

Another year has gone by and now we have time to reflect on it. Our year runs from July 1 to June 30. By the time you receive this newsletter the Department Convention in Ontario will have concluded and new State Officials elected. We also had elections and installation here at Post 147. The list of elected officers appear in this newsletter for your convenience.

Activities for this year began in September with a fundraiser called ClovisFest. We provided breakfast and lunch for a fee to the general public on Saturday and Sunday for this fun festival. On Veteran's Day we presented Quilts of Valor to the Hubbard and Baro families at the annual Baro-Hubbard Golf Tournament at Fort Washington CC. We joined up with the VFW in December to hold a Christmas Party at Clovis Veterans Memorial Building. It was very well run and successful. The money we raised went for our Toys for Tots campaign. In December/January we held our Oratorical contest with the winner from our Post going on to place second in the District contest. March saw us celebrating the American Legion Birthday at CVMD. We honored four individuals with Quilts of Valor for their service, and honored the Policeman of the Year from Clovis. In April we hosted a Big Hats Day fundraiser at the Post. On Saturday and Sunday of that weekend we sold breakfast and lunch to the public. April also kicks off Clovis Rodeo Month. We sponsored a queen candidate for the Rodeo this year, and what they call a Top of the Line Sponsor. We had a quarter page ad in their program and an American Legion Banner over the bucking chutes at the Rodeo Grounds. We were successful in our concession sales at the Rodeo selling beer, water, sodas and food. Jim Pacini and Mark Kim orchestrated an American Legion Memorial Day Golf Tournament at Belmont CC with roughly \$6000 in proceeds going to the VA Hospital. Overall it was a good year. Hope to see more of you at the meetings and various events. Thank you for your support and participation.

A NOTE FROM DAVE

John Lewis (Honor Guard OD) and I would like to bring all the members up to date on our ceremonial rifles. Last month we had a new locksmith, A1 Lock & Key, move in across from the post. We have already used their excellent services. When Martin Hinshaw with A1 Lock & Key moved in, he brought with him Halfcocked Gunsmithing. In needing some repair on our ceremonial rifles, John Lewis approached Frank Burgin of Halfcocked Gunsmithing. Frank has agreed to clean and repair all our ceremonial rifles at no charge as a service for our veterans. All of us in the Honor Guard would like to take our hats off to these two fine gentlemen. If you get a chance, please take some time to visit them at 515 4th Street. I have already used the services of Halfcocked Gunsmithing.

**DAVE ROBERTSON
POST 147 FINANCE OFFICER**

**** Women's Auxilliary**

Gloria Sinopli is your Auxilliary President. Her contact number us 277-5622. I will have a list of all the auxilliary officers and their contact numbers in the next newsletter.

Department Law and Order Chairman of the American Legion

On May 9th, 2015, the commissioners (there are five of us throughout the state) met in Clovis. There were several police officers submitted for valor and community service. As commissioners, it is our duty to determine who should be selected for two positions.

This program started last year, and this is the second officer from Clovis Police Department to receive Officer of the Year for Community Service. Last year the award went to Sgt. Lonnie Armijian. We selected Detective Jeremy Edmondson of the Clovis Police Department as Officer of the Year for Community Service. Detective Edmondson will receive his award at the American Legion Convention in Ontario, California in June with the other award winners.



Anthony M. Guerrero, Chairman
Law and Order Commission
Department of California American Legion



Cecil Cox Post 147 Schedule of Events

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| July 1st/August 5th | Executive Committee Meeting |
| July 18th | District Meeting and Installation of new Officers at Post 509. 10am-2pm |
| | Our own Dennis Bally is the new District Commander. Burgers With the Works Lunch will follow for \$10. |
| September 19th & 20th | Clovis Fest |
| December 16th | Christmas Party |
| April 2-3, 2016 | Big Hat Days |
| April 21-24, 2016 | Clovis Rodeo |
| May 26th, 2016 | 3rd Annual Golf Tournament at Belmont CC |
- *Regular General Membership Meetings will resume in September (2nd Weds of each month).
Executive Meetings are the first Wednesday of each month. General Meetings are the second Wednesday of each month.

Cecil Cox Post 147 2015 – 2016 EXECUTIVE BOARD ROSTER and Officers Contact List

Commander:	Alan Fry	alanfry@mail.fresnostate.edu	(559) 299-8116 (home)
1st Vice	Fran Kilgore	fran58@hotmail.com	(559) 977-8053 (cell)
2nd Vice	Mike Feist	mjfeist@comcast.net	
3rd Vice	Mert Mock	mmock1c@sbcglobal.net	(559) 438-1919 (cell)
Adjutant	Lea Minyard	lminyard@comcast.net	(559) 940-4783 (cell)
Finance Officer	Dave Robertson	info@clovislegion.org	(559) 299-9930 (office) (559) 392-2180 (cell)
Judge Advocate Service Officer	Tom Skypeck	tomskypeck@aol.com	(559) 292-9029 (home) (559) 341-4788 (cell)
Sgt. at Arms	Frank Ducar	fiducar@yahoo.com	(559) 269-8767 (cell)
Chaplain	Tom Skypeck	tomskypeck@aol.com	(559) 292-9029 (cell)
Historian	Karen Balske	kbalske@comcast.net	(559) 292-1844 (home)
Three Yr. Comm. Mem.	Byron Johnson	jazzman505@gmail.com	(559) 801-6009 (cell)
	Karen Balske	kbalske@comcast.net	(559) 292-1844 (cell)
Two Yr. Comm. Mem.	Jim Pacini	fresvito@sbcglobal.net	(559) 323-9189 (home) (559) 824-5646 (cell)
	Bill Dattola	bdattola0401@att.net	(559) 260-6671 (cell)
One Yr. Comm. Mem.	Lee Hopkins	hoppyy2@comcast.net	(559) 999-1323 (cell)
	Gilbert Pineda	gilbertmpineda@outlookexpress.com	(559) 917-9660 (cell)
Jr. Past Commander Editor	Mark Klim	markaklm1810@gmail.com	(559) 696-4703 (cell)
	Laura Hart	pineflatxpress@wildblue.net	(559) 787-3029 (home)

Quilts of Valor were presented to four individuals at birthday celebration of the American Legion at the CVMD.





The food was wonderful. It was an exciting evening for all. It was an honor to see and hear some of our real life heroes.

2ND ANNUAL GOLF TOURNAMENT

This year our golf tournament was played at the Belmont Country Club and from beginning to end a good time was had by all. Thanks to all our generous sponsors, players and volunteers we were able to earn \$6000 in proceeds that went to the VA Hospital. Next year's tournament will also be at Belmont CC on May 26th, Please mark your calendars now for this prestigious and fun event. Don't miss out on a great day for a great cause!





REMEMBERING WITH HONOR

It was not my intention to write this article on a somber note, but as Post and District Chaplain this opportunity to focus on a sensitive and important point could not be overlooked. It is the need to be remembered, especially for one's military service legacy.

During the year we have several holidays and times to honor those who have given their lives for our country. These special times include the Federal holidays of Memorial Day and Veterans Day (for the living and deceased). Suffolk County Massachusetts has Patriots Day. We also honor those lost on Pearl Harbor Day and Four Chaplains Day. In addition to these expressions of condolence there is a reminder on a stone wall of those lost in service to God and country during the Vietnam Conflict, and monuments in our nation's capital to those who have served and died in WWI, WWII and the Korean Conflict. There is also remembrance etched in bronze markers or carved on headstones at veterans' burial sites.

Given the fact that we, as humans, really don't have as much time in this world as some species, our being remembered by those left behind seems to me to be an important aspect of our being, particularly if our life expectancy is cut short by death in defense of our country and our WAY OF LIFE.

As I read the obituaries in the newspapers and receive the Post's reports of transfers into "Post Everlasting", I wonder how many of our veterans have received their burial honors that are available and deserved. I have been to more than one funeral where the veteran's casket was not draped in the American flag, which is usually later presented to the NOK (Next of Kin). A Certificate of Recognition of Service and a rifle salute are also an honors tradition. These honors are, of course, provided if requested by the veteran's NOK. No matter if the veteran is to be buried at a Federal or a private cemetery, the funeral director handling the arrangements is the key person to request military honors if the NOK so desires.

I have touched base with different funeral directors, and all were aware of their responsibilities of requesting military honors if the veteran's NOK so desire, but it isn't automatic. Funeral Directors **must be told** that military honors are desired. They have all the appropriate forms necessary to fill out for this. Post Service Officers can help NOK directly with referral to Funeral Directors and/or by advising Post members to work with the Funeral Director to request military honors.

We have a responsibility to do all we can to gratefully remember those who have served our country, especially those lost during wars and conflicts involving American forces.

THE AMERICAN LEGION
CECIL COX POST 147
CLOVIS, CA 93612

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