



Web: [http:// www.dixonveterans.org/Legion](http://www.dixonveterans.org/Legion)

Email: post208@dixonveterans.org

Current officers listing on website

Veterans Memorial Hall Telephone Number: (707) 678-6308

MARCH 2008						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 Area One Meeting Mount Lassen Post 167, Red Bluff
2 Area One Meeting Mount Lassen Post 167, Red Bluff	3 <i>Star Spangled Banner made US National Anthem</i>	4	5 Post & Unit 208 Regular Meeting 7PM	6	7	8
9 <i>Begin Daylight Savings Time</i>	10	11	12 Girl Scouts Of USA founded 1912	13	14	15 American Legion's Birthday (1919)
16 <i>Palm Sunday</i>	17 <i>St. Patrick's Day</i>	18	19 Post 208 Exec. Brd. Meeting 7PM <i>Begin Operation Iraqi Freedom (2002)</i>	20	21 <i>Good Friday</i>	22
23 <i>Easter</i>	24	25 40 & 8 Meeting Suisun Vet's Hall 7PM	26	27	28	29
30 Yountville Spring Party	31					

APRIL 2008						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 <i>April Fools Day</i>	2 Post & Unit 208 Regular Meeting 7PM	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11 <i>Persian Gulf War Cease Fire (1991)</i>	12
13	14	15 <i>Income Tax Day</i>	16 Post 208 Exec. Brd. Meeting 7PM	17	18	19 <i>Patriots Day</i>
20 5 th District Meeting Konocti Post 437	21	22 40 & 8 Meeting Suisun Vet's Hall 7PM	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			



5th District Commander E. Paul Ball with District Oratorical Contest winner Andrew Crutchfield

Dixon Hosts Post and District Oratorical Contests

Dixon Post 208 was the site of the 5th District Oratorical Contest, held January 26th. The purpose of the American Legion National High School Oratorical Contest is to develop a better understanding and appreciation of the Constitution of the United States on the part of high school students. Other objectives of the contest include the development of leadership qualities, the ability to think and speak clearly and intelligently, and the preparation for acceptance of the duties and responsibilities, the rights and privileges of American citizenship. Turnout for the district contest was poor as only two contestants signed up to compete and only one showed up.

Andrew Crutchfield, sponsored by Suisun Post 182, went thru the steps specified by the national program, delivering a three to five minute prepared talk on some phase of the Constitution of the United States which will give emphasis to the attendant duties and obligations of a citizen to our government, followed by a eight to ten minute assigned oration on one of four Articles of the Constitution, pre- selected by the National American Legion organization.

Andrew will go on to the Area One contest, being held February 16, 2008 at Martin Slobodnick Post 338 in Rohnert Park, CA.

The Post level oratorical contest here in Dixon was unable to generate any interest by Dixon High School students, but we were able to begin a program at the Jr. High school level that brought two young students for an unofficial contest. We hope that these students will enter the High School contest next year and will spread the word regarding this very important program.

Boy's State Candidates Sought

As a program of The American Legion, Boys State developed from the concept that youth should be offered a better perspective of the practical operation of government; that the individual is an integral part and commensurately responsible for the character and success of his government. As such, it is an activity of high educational value, born out of a need for youth training in practical citizenship. American Legion Boys State is easily classified as a leadership action program where qualified male high school juniors take part in a practical government course designed to develop in the young citizens a working knowledge of the

structure of government and to impress upon them the fact that government is just what they make it.

For candidates qualifications please go to the California American Legion website at the following URL: http://www.calegion.org/html/boys_state.html

We will be sending two candidates to this year Golden Boy's State session.

Youth Environmental Program

Post 208 has chosen to sponsor at least one student to the annual Youth Environmental Conference sponsored by The American Legion, Department of California, and supervised by personnel of the U.S. Forest Service.

The conference will be held for four days commencing Friday, May 16 through Monday, May 19, 2008 at the Sly Park Conference Center in the El Dorado National Forest, five miles south of Pollock Pines.

This conference has as its purpose the exposure of the actual business of land management within a National Forest. It involves the students in the land-use decision making process by sharpening the student's awareness of the interdependence of man and his surroundings.

Subjects presented at the conference include inter-relationship of our resources (air, water, soil, wildlife, forests and esthetics) found in a Central California High Sierra ecosystem, and how they are affected by man's influence, dependence and actions. Concepts of land management will be introduced and students will be asked to make real decisions, both individually and in groups, and show the logical development of such decisions. This is mostly a hands-on program with minimum lecture time.

Participants are both male and female high school students in the sophomore and Junior classes in order that they might speak to others the following year. They should have a desire to continue school on a college level, majoring in some branch of Forestry, Conservation, Ecology or a related field.

We will be contacting the High School in order find a potential candidate for this program.

Valley Forge Workshop

Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge since 1965 annually has conducted a series of graduate seminars and workshops, primarily for educators but also for several other categories of professionals. These programs always have been fully accredited by major colleges and universities. The number of courses each year varies.

Participants consist of elementary and secondary school teachers, media practitioners, school administrators, college faculty, clergy, and various other professionals. Promotions are comprehensive as well as national in scope. Since 1965, 28 universities have accredited the graduate seminars and workshops. Nationally and internationally known experts in the disciplines of history, political science, economics, education, philosophy, international relations, communication, and other fields have lectured and directed the sessions. Almost 9,000 educators and other professionals have participated in the graduate programs since their inception. With the exception of some of the history workshops, these courses are held on the Freedoms Foundation Valley Forge campus.

Thomas Lanning and his wife Becky, both teachers at the Neighborhood Christian School, have expressed an interest in attending. We have voted to pay for one of them. At \$1000.00 per attendee this is one of the more expensive Legion programs. Fortunately, we can apply to receive \$600.00 in help from Area One.

Auxiliary Presidents Message

Hi Ladies,

Our Hobo dinner again this year was a great success, we made just over \$1200. I thank all of you who helped in any way for your assistance. This was our first year for a 50/50 raffle and it was a huge success – we were able to give \$230 in prize money from that alone.

We had a full house that night and the stew was wonderful – thank you to those who have kept that recipe over the years. Upcoming events are:

February 23rd – Girls State Interviews at Veterans Hall

March 30th – Yountville Spring Party we need cakes and cookies

April 20th – next District meeting at Konocti Post #437 in Clearlake

May is poppy month – watch for your letter in the mail
Our next meeting is Wednesday March 5th – start thinking about who we will have as officers for next year. The nominations will be in April and the elections will be in May. Also our April meeting will be spent filling out the Year End reports. Remember to keep track of any hours you have worked for community service, children and youth or any of the veteran programs we support. Make sure we report the hours and time spent doing these things for our veterans.

See you at the next meeting.

Doris Kilkenny

President Unit #208

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