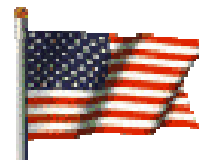


AMERICAN LEGION
 Dixon Post 208
 231 North First Street
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DIXON LEGION DIGEST

May 2004

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 Law Day
2	3	4	5 Legion Post 208 Meeting ELECTIONS	6 National Day of Prayer	7	8 May Fair Parade (9 AM start) V-E Day (1945)
9 Mother's Day	10	11	12	13	14	15 Armed Forces Day
16 Hall clean up Day (10 AM start)	17	18 Blood Drive at Vet Hall 1-7PM	19	20 VFW Post 8151 Meeting	21	22 Area Meeting in Youth Environmental Conference
23 Clearlake, CA Youth Environmental Conference	24	25	26 Post 208 Exec Comm Meeting	27	28	29 Dedication of National WWII Memorial in Washington DC
30 Memorial Day (Traditional)	31 Memorial Day (Observed)					

JUNE EVENTS: June 6th – 5th District meeting in Yountville

June 14th – Flag Day

June 23-27th – Department Convention in Redding

BINGO EVERY MONDAY NIGHT – 7 P.M.

		POST 208	OFFICERS		
Acting Commander	William Allard	447-9607	Chaplain	Ray Lein	693-0437
1st Vice	William Allard	447-9607	Sgt-at-Arms	Mike Brown	678-0718
2nd Vice	Tammy Cueva	678-9527	Service Officer	Jim Harris	678-6905
3rd Vice	Tony Chavez	678-2152	Judge Advocate	Kevin Kilkenny	693-0933
Adjutant	Ed Bartosh	678-8636	Historian	Ed Bartosh	678-8636
Finance Officer	Kevin Kilkenny	693-0933	**Veterans Hall phone**		678-6308

<i>UNIT 208</i>			<i>OFFICERS</i>		
President	Doris Kilkenny	693-0933	Secretary	Pam Cozzoli	678-9137
1st Vice Pres.	Bev Schillinger	693-0693	Treasurer	Marv Havlin	450-0125
2nd Vice Pres.	Freda Minderman	447-7781	Chaplain	Roxie Sanders	678-4395

Commander's Corner

Dear fellow members,

First, I would like to thank all for you that showed up at the last meeting.

Second, we need some of you to fill openings we have in the post. We need an Adjutant, Second Vice-Commander, Third Vice-Commander, and someone to be in charge of renting the hall. All positions are open. More than one person can be nominated.

The May Fair Parade is just weeks away. Participation will be needed from as many members as possible. A large turnout will be very impressive. Let's show our pride for our country our soldiers and our city. Again this post is only going to function if the members are involved.

Thanks for your help.

William Allard
Acting Commander

Second Vice Commander

Happy Mother's Day to all. Hope may finds you all well and enjoying some nice weather.

Bingo is in full swing. Extra games and pull-tab type games will be added soon. Please continue to support our Bingo.

God Bless

Tammy Cueva
Second Vice

Third Vice Commander

Here is the latest concerning Youth Programs:

Youth Environmental Conference - We have two participants, Julian Castro and Haley Kercher. The conference is scheduled for 21 - 24 May. Thanks to Mr. Colombano (DHS) for his support and putting information out to his students.

Boys State - We have two participants from Dixon High School, Julian Cuevas and Julian Castro. This event is scheduled to begin June 19th. Thanks to Mrs. Reed (DHS) for recommending the two students.

Tony Chavez
Second Vice

Adjutant

National is preparing next year's membership cards. In case the records are not completely updated, if your label has ('05) after your name, you are already paid for next year (either a PUFL or advanced payment credited). I'll send your card as soon as I receive it. Please ignore any invoice should one arrive (unless you need to update your personal data).

Welcome to our new members and applicants:

- Tony Baza (welcome back for Tony)
- Steve Wilson (transfer from North Dakota – now serving Overseas)
- Alvin Chu
- Larry LeDuff
- William Holland (transfer from San Diego)
- Bradley Roberts
- Robin Romo

Ed Bartosh
Adjutant

Chaplain

May is a good month to honor our troops.

May 6th . . . National Day of Prayer

May 15th . . . Armed Forces Day

May 30th . . . Memorial Day

Blood Bank

Tuesday May 18th

Chaplain Ray



From the Auxiliary President


A huge thank you to all that helped on the 14th of April to fill out our yearend reports. This is a huge project that has a deadline to be met and I am grateful to all of you who could be there to help. A big thank you also to Bev and Heidi for providing us the work space and the great refreshments.

It's a busy time of the year for the Auxiliary, our Girls State chairperson, Bev Schillinger has selected our candidate for this year and our Scholarship chairperson, Joann Gianoni and her team has been busy selecting our scholarship winners for both Dixon High School and Maine Prairie.

Again, I thank all of you; the teamwork makes our unit run smoothly.

April 18th was the Spring Party at Yountville – we had two volunteers that went to help, and 6½ dozen cookies were donated. If you have never gone to one of the holiday parties, you should try to attend at least one. The veterans are always happy to see us and really enjoy themselves. For some it is one of the very few times they get out and socialize. They have a lot of fun and are always willing to share their stories about the time they spent serving our country. One gentleman was telling us that he has two toe tags – left for dead twice. Once was on the beach during the Normandy Invasion and the other was after being sent to the front line a second time.

Nominations were held at our last meeting and the elections will be at our next meeting on May 5th. If there is a chairmanship that you would like, please let me know before next meeting.

 May 8th is the May Fair parade and for the third year in a row we will have our Auxiliary color guard marching.

Don't forget the week of May 9th is Poppy week. Contact our Poppy chairperson, Vi Reeser if you can volunteer in any way to help out.

BINGO every fourth Monday is hosted by the Auxiliary – we always have food on that night. Join the fun and bring a friend – hope to see you there.

**Doris Kilkenny
President, Unit #208 Auxiliary**

House Manager

Please help us with our clean-up/paint-up day on Sunday May 16th. We'll start at 12 noon and go for 3-4 hours, as necessary. We'll be painting the inside walls, cleaning the back patio area, and performing a kitchen cleaning of the stove, hood, filters, floors, and walls among other needed chores. Hope to see you here at YOUR Veterans Hall. We'll have a sign-up list at the next meeting, but please come to help even if you are not able to sign up.

Dianna Cockerham

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS!

ELECTIONS THIS MEETING

Officer elections take place at the May 5th meeting. The elective officers of the Post are the Commander, the First Vice-Commander, the Second Vice-Commander, the Third Vice-Commander, the Adjutant, the Finance Officer, the Service Officer, the Sergeant-at-Arms and three members of the Board of Directors. We still need volunteers for Second and Third Vice Commanders and Adjutant. Also, help keep our post active by considering serving in one of these positions or an appointed position (Historian, Chaplain, Judge Advocate, Assistant Sergeant-at-Arms, or Hall Manager).

COME JOIN IN THE MAY FAIR PARADE – SATURDAY MAY 8TH

Your American Legion and Auxiliary are marching to lead off this year's May Fair Parade. With the theme, "Honoring America's Heroes", we will carry the colors and show our pride. The parade starts at 10AM, so we will gather at the Veterans Hall at 9 AM to prepare.

For more information about the parade, see <http://www.dixonmayfairparade.org/>.



PLEDGE DAY A GREAT SUCCESS.

Acting Commander Allard, Past Commander Fletcher, and Adjutant Bartosh visited Dixon's four elementary schools. Under a program started 4 years ago, the schools first graders assemble for a Pledge of Allegiance Ceremony. After a welcome message by Acting Commander Allard, Ed Bartosh recited the Pledge of Allegiance while Bob Fletcher explained the words or phrases after they were recited. Then, each class rose to recite the Pledge in unison. When they were finished, each student was given a certificate commemorating the ceremony, a 4 inch US flag, and a ruler prepared by the Missouri Department with the pledge on the back and the saying "Don't Do Drugs" on the front. Over all, 17 classes made presentations on this day. Thanks to Bob Fletcher for making it all happen.

NATIONAL WW II MEMORIAL TO BE DEDICATED THIS MEMORIAL DAY

Nearly 59 years after the end of World War II, the National World War II Memorial will be dedicated in Washington, D.C., on Saturday, May 29, 2004. This will be the first national memorial dedicated to all who served during World War II. The memorial, which will be established by the American Battle Monuments Commission, will honor all military veterans of the war, the citizens on the home front, the nation at large, and the high moral purpose and idealism that motivated the nation's call to arms. The Second World War will be the only 20th century event commemorated on the Mall's central axis. (<http://www.wwiimemorial.com/>)



TAPS



Vacaville mourned the loss of Army Specialist Casey Sheehan of Vacaville on April 13th. A Mass was held at St. Mary's Catholic Church for the 24-year-old Sheehan, who was killed April 4th in a battle with Shiite militia outside Baghdad. Graveside services were held following the Mass. Sheehan, a member of the 82nd Field Artillery of the 1st Cavalry Division, was awarded the Purple Heart and Bronze Star posthumously. Vacaville Post 165 presented his parents with a gold star banner at the reception that followed the service. There were a number of active duty personnel as well as Legion and VFW members from Solano County showing our respect for our fallen comrade and support for his family. Thank you all. See the Reporter article and photo gallery at <http://www.thereporter.com/Stories/0,1413,295%257E30195%257E2083277,00.html>.



USEFUL WEB RESOURCES (from Kevin Kilkenny)

www.calegion.org is the California Department's official website.

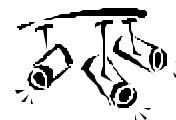
<http://www.va.gov/opa/pressrel> At this website, you can view and download VA news releases.

<http://veterans.iom.edu> This website provides separate sections for healthcare issues affecting the last four major military conflicts - World War II, the Korean War, the Vietnam War, and the Gulf War. In each section, visitors can read electronic versions of Institute of Medicine-produced reports or purchase publications.

You can locate your congressman at <http://www.house.gov/writerep> by entering your zip code and see the names of your representative with full communications details for electronic and surface methods.

Your Senator can be located at <http://www.senate.gov>.

Spotlight on Youth Environmental Conference



The Annual Youth Environmental Conference is sponsored by The American Legion, Department of California, and is supervised by personnel of the U.S. Forest Service

The conference will be held for four days commencing Friday, May 21 through Monday, May 24, 2004 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.

Students MUST be excused from all school activity on Friday the 21st and Monday the 24th.

The sponsoring American Legion Posts or other service clubs pays these monies; however, the Legion must choose the students.

Professional cooks will prepare all meals and housing will be at the Sly Park Education Conference Center, under the supervision of the Sacramento School District. There will be space available for 70 students and a minimum of about 12 adult chaperones. Full insurance coverage is also provided.

Last year, there were 51 students from throughout the state, sponsored by Posts, PCC's and Districts. For more information, see the Department web page at <http://www.calegion.org/programs/agriculture/agriculture.html>.

BLOODSOURCE – Facts about your blood drive and the organization.

(remember the blood drive May 18th)

- BloodSource is the source of blood and blood components to more than 40 area hospitals in Northern and Central California. As one of the premier blood center/research organizations in the world, BloodSource is also affiliated with domestic and international medical, research and blood banking organizations.
- BloodSource is recognized internationally for our contributions to advancements in transfusion science. One of only a few blood center-based research departments, BloodSource Center for Blood Research is comprised of dedicated doctors, scientists and technical specialists who are continually working with research and development companies to enhance the safety of the blood supply throughout the world.
- Natural disasters, disease, accidents, acts of terrorism, or military conflict often require instant mobilization to provide the necessary blood. BloodSource is one of the lead centers called upon to assist with emergencies, whether local or in other parts of the nation.
- The BloodSource HLA laboratory is one of the most highly acclaimed in the world. "HLA typing" is essential for organ and marrow/blood stem cell transplants. More and more people are alive today because of advances in complex tissue typing. The BloodSource Reference Laboratory is one of only about 50 accredited in the U.S. to handle complex blood compatibility testing.
- In the past, BloodSource has been called upon to provide blood to American troops engaged in military conflict. In the event we are called upon in the future, the fulfillment of our obligation is not a statement of politics or support of war. Rather, it is a statement of compassionate giving from our donors to all men and women who need blood – wherever and whenever the need.