



The American Legion Twin Cities Post 313, Inc.
 Larkspur & Corte Madera, California
www.americanlegion313.org



Monthly Times

OUR MISSION: TO HONOR, SERVE AND SUPPORT OUR ARMED FORCES, VETERANS AND THEIR FAMILIES, WHILE PROMOTING PATRIOTISM IN THE COMMUNITY

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April 1, 2011

From the Commander - Gene Plocki

Luncheon. On March 16, we had another happy sell-out lunch. This event is clearly growing. The highlight of this gathering was the celebration of Richie Guetter's 88th birthday. We marked this memorable occasion with a huge cake covered with a parachutist reminiscent of Richie's service during World War II. A big thank you goes to Louise Allender, C.J. Carrillo, Helen Dennis, Jack Dennis, John Farley, Bob Gonzalez, Mike Kopf, Jim Reilly, and John Weir for all of their help. This event was a great success due to all of their fine work. All who attended were very appreciative of their efforts.



Post Everlasting. At our February 7, 2011 meeting, we remembered the passing of Comrades George Bonorris, Richard Carter, George Ekwall, John Lipsett, and Louise Souza.

Hall Rental. All members wishing to rent the hall for any personal use are entitled to a special discount. It's the best place in town and comes with an excellent built-in caterer. Please see me for details.

District 5 Meeting. On Sunday, March 27, the American Legion District 5 meeting was held in Sonoma at the Vintage House Senior Center. The morning session was very productive and informative. Various posts and the district reported on their activities. We are all asked to support and promote Boys' State, a program very well received by high school students. Post 313 needs a chairman to oversee our engagement in this activity. Sixty-six students are going from District 5. The Oratory Program was also

discussed as another good opportunity to reach out to youth. We need a chairman for this activity as well. See the Commander if you would like to help with these two programs.

After the meeting, taking advantage of being in Sonoma, I wanted to see one of our post members, who has not been around for awhile. I contacted and was invited to visit with Charles Gavette. For an hour and a half, we reminisced about Post 313, his civilian career, and his service during World War II. He mentioned that he would like to come to lunch one day. It was a great visit. You made my day, Charles. See you soon.

Novato ROTC. As you know, Post 313 donated \$1,000 last year to support the Novato Air Force Junior ROTC program. The high school was de-funding the program because of budget problems. An appeal was made both to veterans groups like the American Legion and to other civic groups. Through great public support, the program has been saved and is growing in size. Your support of the Post makes donations like this possible. You should be proud that your efforts make a difference for the youth in our Marin community.

Flag Lecture. At St. Peter's School, San Francisco, Cecil Green and Will Kaefer delivered a lecture on the American flag to the second grade class. The children love this presentation, and we would like to continue extending this very satisfying and fun-filled experience to many more children by members of this post. If you would like to be part of these presentations or know of any school we should contact, please see me.



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Still Serving. Our Pacific neighbor and ally, Japan, has suffered an unprecedented disaster. The combination of a record earthquake, tsunami, and nuclear accident has visited on the Japanese people a catastrophic combination of events, which they are tackling with great effort. Trailing close to these events has been the United Nations action in Libya. In both situations, our American Service Personnel are involved. We should be proud of the men and women serving in our Military. Their roles may be significantly different in these theaters, but their actions and heroic deeds are equally important, and we applaud their service.

Our motto is "Still Serving America." This is daily lived out by many men and women in our Active Reserve, who are now serving on active duty assignments. Kurt Birkhahn is serving a one-year tour in Afghanistan. Fernando Pons and Warren Bacciocco, both of whom served in Iraq, are currently active Naval reservists. Even though our member Rex Gardner has moved to Utah, he has assisted the post by providing his accounting expertise to help prepare our annual tax return. Yes, even as a non-profit, we have to prepare a tax return. Thank you, Rex.

"Still Serving America" also includes the many Legion members who continue to serve the Legion with their many talents. Without all of you, we would not have been able to contribute to our community as this Post does nor would we be able to plan an expansion of our activities.

Joanie's Hair Salon. Our new tenant, Joanie's on Magnolia, has settled in to a totally remodeled space and is open for business. If you or your spouse needs hair salon services, please consider her salon. Joanie has been in business in Larkspur for almost thirty years; this is a very strong testament to her fine work and excellent customer relations.

Keep in mind also our other tenant, Lavier Fusion Cuisine Catering. Gabriela and Mo are exceptional caterers. Please consider them for your next event.

Fort Miley Veterans' Hospital needs volunteers. They are constructing a new parking lot and one of



Post 313

Spring Fling

Dinner

Wednesday, April 20

Activities begin at 5 p.m.

Dinner at 6 p.m.

\$23 per person

MENU

Choice of Roast Beef
or Oven Broiled Salmon

Vegetables

Dessert

Coffee

Table Wine \$5 per Bottle

Send check and menu choice to

Post 313

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Please reserve by, and no cancellation after, April 17, 2011

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the most pressing needs right now is for golf cart drivers to shuttle patients between the hospital and the new temporary parking lot. The shuttles operate between 0730 and 1600 hrs., Monday through Friday. Volunteers can work any part of a shift and whatever day, or days they choose. There are many other services volunteers perform too. Contact Bill Brennen if you would like to help.

Long time Post 313 member John (Burr) Cavan died this past month. A memorial service honoring him will be held Saturday April 16th. at 2 pm, at the Unitarian Church, 240 Channing Way, Terra Linda.

Post 313 Election. The newly elected officers of Post 313 for the year 2011 – 2012 are:

Commander: Gene Plocki
First Vice Commander: Cecil Green
Second Vice Commander: Bill Brennen
Third Vice Commander: Jim Reilly
Member-at-Large: Jack Dennis
Member-at-Large: John Farley
Member-at-Large: Bill Howard

Auxiliary News - Pauline Angleman

Our newly appointed Nominating Committee will present their results at our meeting on April 12. Mark your calendars, attend our meeting and cast your vote. I'm proud to have been your Unit President for the past 12 years; it's time for an election and a change.

I'm pleased to report that all members have paid and with our new member, Patsy J. Roberts (Elena's mother), we are now at 100% and have reached goal! Welcome Patsy.

I spoke with Annie Crotts in Bolinas. No damage was done from the tsunami but they were still getting small surges. Catherine Otto's mother was evacuated from Crescent City without problems. Our deepest sympathy to Betty Fitch in the loss of her husband, LTC Arthur Fitch.

Annual Reports are due so please furnish your hours, expenses, etc. to me or Lonnie, our super secretary. We have a suspense date to meet. For reimbursement, contact Merna. Books close June 30.

Volunteers needed for Poppy Days: May 15-21.