



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

Volume 83 Issue 5

May 1, 2011

From the Commander - Gene Plocki

Post Elections. At our April 4, 2011 General Membership Meeting, you elected me Commander of the Post for another year. Thank you very much for your confidence. I greatly appreciate the support, enthusiasm, and hard work all the members have been contributing, thus making our programs very successful and our Post praiseworthy. I pledge to you the same as we move forward into a very promising 2011-2012.

Please note on page 2 of this newsletter the names of those serving on the 2011-2012 Board of Directors. We are very pleased to welcome several new staff members. As we discussed at that meeting, with the continuation of the very generous cooperation, respectful communication, and remarkable friendliness all exhibit here, we will have another very successful year.

While this Post is very active, there is room for great growth. We need more members to step forward and contribute in great and small ways. Simply showing up for the coffees, lunches and dinners adds invaluable to the camaraderie of this community. Showing up at the Post during the week and doing different jobs here and there lightens the load of all. Volunteering for a project not yet tackled increases our contribution to the community.

At the same time that we reach out to others, members of this Post play a very important role for each other. If you need help, please let your staff members know. Our Service Officer is ready to do whatever he can to help.

Mark Your Calendars. Our Pancake Breakfast Meeting will be on May 4, 2011. Our Post's participation in this annual July 4 Twin Cities community event is an important tradition and this is your golden opportunity to participate. Please come to the meeting or contact Gene Plocki if you are interested in knowing more about how you can help us with this event.

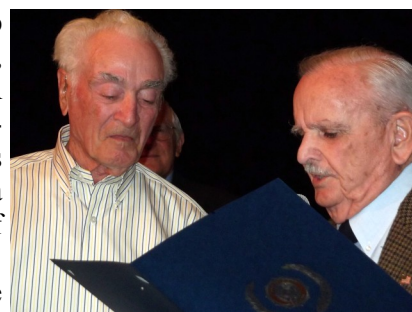
Spring Dinner. Our April 21 *Spring Fling* was the best ever. Bob Gonzalez deserves great kudos for yet again putting on a very satisfying, fun-filled, smoothly run eve-

ning. We are very grateful to him for working so hard to provide us with good food, great entertainment, and wonderful opportunities for visiting with many Post members and their guests.

The food was excellent. Thank you, David Monson, head chef. And thank you for conducting a survey offering a wide variety of very appealing changes in future menus. We know that whatever is chosen will be perfect, and we look forward to enjoying those new entrees.

Pleasing the gathering with his ever present humor and beautiful singing voice was Cecil Green. We all settled back to be entertained, and he suddenly stopped, sacrificing his moment at the mike, to honor several Post members, who have been giving hours of their time every week. A certificate of appreciation was given to Bill Brennen, Bob Gonzalez, Will Kaefer, and Gene Plocki. A Continuous Membership Certificate was awarded to Steve Santa Maria for sixty years of service to the Post. Thank you, Steve. We have many long time members, and we thank them for helping this Post endure for over eighty years. *Additional Dinner Photos on page 3.*

This evening was different from others also in that it highlighted and provided invaluable details of the many exciting improvements to our facility. Bob Gonzalez discussed the very latest in technical improvements, which will make our building very attractive to a wide variety of renters. He demonstrated the very impressive array of lights able to



(Continued on page 3)

American Legion
 Twin Cities Post 313, Inc.
 500 Magnolia Avenue
 Larkspur, CA 94939-1329

415-924-6283 •E-mail:
 americanlegion313@gmail.com

Officers & Staff

Commander Eugene Plocki
 eplo@comcast.net 415-924-2854

1st VC/Membership Cecil Green
 415-898-9901

2nd Vice Commander Bill Brennen
 billnm@sbcglobal.net 415-927-0393

3rd VC/Bar Manager Jim Reilly
 3200pa@gmail.com 415-250-3009

Past Commander Bob Gonzalez
 bobsrags@comcast.net 415-924-6834

Facilities Manager & Sergeant-at-Arms C.J. Carrillo
 415-637-8625

Adjutant David Stainbrook
 davidstainbrook@yahoo.com 415-924-7890

Deputy Adjutant Russ Wallace
 kitruss@sbcglobal.net 415-492-2550

Financial Officer/Property Mgmt. Will Kaefer
 willmary@pacbell.net 415-927-1043

Asst. Financial Officer John Farley
 415-924-8854

Asst. Property Mgmt. Bill Howard
 Board of Health Liaison (Marin Country) 415-827-0227
 City of Larkspur Liaison

Newsletter Editor/ Asst. Adjutant Marilyn Bourke
 americanlegion313@gmail.com 415-924-6283

Member-at-Large Jack Dennis
 hjdennis80@gmail.com 415-479-0749

Member-at-Large John Farley
 415-924-8854

Member-at-Large Bill Howard
 hwhoward@aol.com 415-924-0227

Chaplain Rev. Palmer O. Wilkins
 revrobinhood@aol.com 415-897-7859

Service Officer Sean Stephens
 415-473-6193

Auxiliary Unit

President Pauline Angleman
 415-924-3447

1st Vice President Maxine Cohen
 415-924-3833

2nd Vice President Valentina Onick

Secretary Yolanda Fugate
 415-924-0323

Treasurer Merna McIntosh
 415-924-4461

Historian: Brenda McKown
 415-927-7731

Chaplain: Marie Sullivan
 415-383-1289

Sons of The American Legion
 (A squadron is forming)

Commander Vacant
 SALCommander@americanlegion313.org

May 2011

2	9 am	10 am	Coffee
2	7:30 pm	9 pm	General Membership Meeting (Club Room)
5	9 am	10 am	Coffee
8			Mother's Day
9	9 am	10 am	Coffee
10	12 noon	2 pm	Auxiliary Unit Meeting (Club Room)
12	9 am	10 am	Coffee
16	9 am	10 am	Coffee
19	9 am	10 am	Coffee
19	7 pm	9 pm	40 & 8 (Club Room)
23	9 am	10 am	Coffee
26	9 am	10 am	Coffee
26	10 am	12 noon	Executive Committee Meeting
30			Memorial Day
30	9 am	10 am	Coffee

June 2011

2	9 am	10 am	Coffee
6	9 am	10 am	Coffee
6	7:30 pm	9 pm	General Membership Meeting (Main Hall)
9	9 am	10 am	Coffee
13	9 am	10 am	Coffee
14	12 noon	2 pm	Auxiliary Unit Meeting (Club Room)
15	12 noon	2 pm	Member Luncheon (Club Room)
16	9 am	10 am	Coffee
19			Father's Day
20	9 am	10 am	Coffee
23	9 am	10 am	Coffee
27	9 am	10 am	Coffee
30	9 am	10 am	Coffee
30	10 am	12 noon	Executive Committee Meeting

For Calendar updates, see the club
 room bulletin board & the post
 website: <http://americanlegion313.org>

(Continued from page 1)

operate on pre-set commands. Almost invisible hanging microphones help augment the voices of very young performers. A beautiful black curtain, complete with side---gives the option of players being hidden offstage before their entrances. Five large sets of adjustable stages can be moved into nearly limitless configurations in the room.

A giant movie screen, covering almost the whole back curtain, invites many uses both recreational and educational. Bob also discussed the plan to create a control booth housing all of the lighting and sound equipment, thus facilitating the work of drama directors. Of course, augmenting any gathering is the very beautiful grand piano. All of this added to the beauty of the room, painstakingly remodeled by so many of the members, makes this space one of the most appealing and attractive areas in all of Marin.

An important adjunct to Bob's presentation was the assurance by Will Kaefer that these improvements are all possible because of fund-raising already done by Post members. No money is being borrowed. This is all an example of true fiscal responsibility. Maybe Washington, D.C. should take notice. Will also emphasized that this facility is primarily for the use of Post members for personal and business occasions.

One member, very moved by this dinner and these presentations, asked for the microphone. Taking the American flag into his hand, he spoke for the Viet Nam and Gulf War generation of veterans, testifying to his great admiration for those vets who had gone before. Pat La-Tray spoke of his deep gratitude for all who had given so much to assure that this great country shall endure. He honored those not only for service in World War II and Korea but for their continuing service in many ways to our country.

Finally, in our well established custom, the bar was a very lively place before dinner was served. For that we thank bartenders Jim Hanretty and Jim Reilly. Our dinners are exciting, delicious, warm, and friendly.

Initiation ceremony. The following officers were initiated at the April 25, 2011 meeting. Commander: Gene Plocki. First Vice Commander: Cecil Green. Second Vice-Commander: Bill Brennen (*in absentia*). Third Vice-Commander: Jim Reilly. Member at Large: Jack Dennis (*in absentia*). Member at Large: John Farley. Member at Large: Bill Howard.

Post 313 Spring Fling 2011



HALL IMPROVEMENT - Bob Gonzalez

For months now I've been saying that the stage lighting improvement was still underway. I am very pleased to now say that the task has been completed. Finally, a new Elation Scenesetter lighting controller was installed to complete the job.

Now that a modern and powerful stage lighting system is in place, our Hall can be configured into an excellent small venue for theatrical groups throughout Marin County. There is a need for venues like this and we are hopeful that when word gets out, we will accommodate several productions each year.

The audio system is also being improved. Earlier this year we installed four microphones suspended over the stage area to pick up dialog spoken on stage without the need for mic stands. These are so tiny that you don't notice them. In order to manage the audio needs of musical groups, theatrical groups or for general purposes, it was necessary to upgrade the existing equipment. Before the end of April, we hope to have installed an audio mixer for up to sixteen microphones and two external stereo sources. Sound from a CD player, laptop computer or film can be played. As with the stage lighting, we believe this audio system will compliment the Hall as one of the best entertainment venues around.

To complete the creation of a perfect small entertainment venue, we are planning to use the storage area between the lounge and Hall to construct a control booth for the lighting and audio controls. A window will be added to the East wall for the production director's use. This final part will be part of a larger remodel. Stay tuned for details in the months ahead.

RICHARD J. KALISH
ATTORNEY AT LAW

KALISH NEXON & BIRNBAUM LLP TEL (415) 482-2810
999 FIFTH AVENUE, SUITE 320 FAX (415) 482-2815
SAN RAFAEL, CA 94901 rkalish@knblaw.com



Lou La Gatta
Broker/Owner CRB

c 415.608.4842
f 866.843.9476
e lou@marinrealtygroup.com

DRE #01124649

Post 179
San Anselmo

Memorial Day
May 30

Free Lunch for Vets
1 pm

Post 313
May 18 Lunch Cancelled

Auxiliary News - Pauline Angleman

The Auxiliary members donated prize items for Bingo at the Veterans Home in Yountville for the month of April. In March Brenda McKown delivered 6 large boxes containing small toiletries from the Auxiliary for the Veterans Home. Contact Brenda at 927-7731 if you would like to donate items to the Veterans Home.

Elena Bartley, Barbara Fugate and Brenda McKown continue to send out boxes to the Troops each month. Tips from the Tip Jar at the Post Bar are most appreciated. So when Jim, Jack or Jim make you a drink at the next Post social event, TIP GENEROUSLY....it's for a good cause.

The Auxiliary will have an entry again this year in the Twin Cities 4th of July Parade. The Auxiliary members will be joining Pauline's entry by walking in the parade giving out flags to children. Last year Pauline and the Auxiliary won Best of Parade Theme and also 1st Place for Service Organization. The theme this year is "Freedom Rocks". If you would like to join the Auxiliary in the parade this year, or have a convertible they would like to drive in the parade for the members that won't be walking, please contact Brenda at 927-7731.

All reports were completed and forwarded to the district chairman on time. A reminder again that volunteers are needed for Poppy Days: May 15-21.