



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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January 1, 2012

From the Commander . . .

Americanism Citation. The American Legion National Americanism Commission, California Department, Area I, and the Fifth District of the American Legion awarded our post this citation in appreciation of and recognition for our active participation in the Americanism Program. Our contributions included the flag lectures in the schools; a flag donation and ceremony; acting as color guards in parades; visiting and bringing gifts to the veterans at the VA Hospital, San Francisco; a fund-raiser for Fisher House, and supporting the Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts and Little League in our community. Post 313 is honored to receive this award.

Christmas Dinner 2011. The Day That Will Live in Infamy was the background for a dinner that will be remembered for a long time. Our Christmas dinner on December 7 was one of the best ever. Our capacity crowd was festive and enjoyed the Christmas spirit. Tad Craig, his wife, and his son kept everyone happy, serving them from our very festively decorated bar. Thank you, Tad. Our chef, David Monson, and his crew of workers served delicious meals of salmon and roast beef, which were enjoyed and praised by all. Cecil Green, Master of Ceremonies, kept the evening flowing with surprises like poppers, his always endearing singing, and his jovial wit. After dinner, a small contingent of singers from St. Patrick's Choir sang songs of Christmas. We thank them for their contribution to an evening that was greatly enjoyed by all.



We thank all who made this event possible: Bill Brennen, Dan Brennen, C. J. Carrillo, Tad Craig, John Farley,

Nancy Farley (pictures), Bob Gonzalez, Cecil Green, Will Kaefer, Janet Kreyer, Gene Plocki, and many others who helped with the set-up and clean-up.

Super Bowl Sunday at Post 313. The Post Bar will be open for the Super Bowl Sunday, February 5, from 3 pm to end of game. Join us then!

VA Hospital, San Francisco. Wednesday, December 21, was a very joyous and emotional experience at the Veterans' Hospital, San Francisco. Will Kaefer and Gene Plocki distributed \$10.00 coupon books (total value \$2,000.00) to all veterans in residence as a Christmas present from Post 313. While a very small way of expressing our gratitude for their service, this was a very heart-warming experience.



Veterans' Benefits Workshop & Free Lunch. Our general meeting on December 10 featured a Veterans' Benefits Workshop conducted by Sean Stephens, Marin County Services Officer, and guest speaker Carrie Bancroft, LCSW, from VASF Medical Center. This was an outstanding, informative meeting. Sean lectured for two hours, talking on subject matters of importance to veterans. Many questions were asked and all that attended said that they gained much knowledge about their veterans' rights. Following the lecture, attendees were treated to a free lunch prepared by cooks Dan and Bill Brennen and their helpers. Thank you very much.

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January 2012

1			New Year's Day
5	9 am	10 am	Coffee
9	9 am	10 am	Coffee
12	9 am	10 am	Coffee
14	10 am	12 noon	General Membership Mtg / Initiation of New Members (Hall)
16			Martin Luther King's Birthday
16	9 am	10 am	Coffee
19	9 am	10 am	Coffee
23	9 am	10 am	Coffee
26	9 am	10 am	Coffee
26	10 am	12 noon	Executive Committee Meeting (Club Room)
30	9 am	10 am	Coffee

February 2012

2	9 am	10 am	Coffee
5	3 pm	8 pm	Super Bowl Sunday - Post Bar
6	9 am	10 am	Coffee
9	9 am	10 am	Coffee
11	10 am	12 noon	General Membership Mtg. & Post Everlasting (Hall)
13	9 am	10 am	Coffee
14			Valentine's Day
14	12 noon	2 pm	Auxiliary Unit Meeting (Club Room)
16	9 am	10 am	Coffee
20			Washington's Birthday
20	9 am	10 am	Coffee
23	9 am	10 am	Coffee
23	10 am	12 noon	Executive Committee Meeting (Club Room)
27	9 am	10 am	Coffee

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

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Fisher House Visit. On Thursday, December 22, Cecil Green, Will Kaefer, and Gene Plocki drove to



Travis AFB to present a \$2500.00 check to Fisher House manager Charlene Hall and Jane Hassanieh, assistant manager. Our donation

was the result of our November fund raiser. Charlene and Jane reported that an additional residence will soon be built at Travis.

General Meetings. We welcome and encourage many more members to attend our monthly General Meetings. At the next meeting, on January 14 at 10:00 a.m., we will install our new members. Please be there to extend a warm welcome and to celebrate their joining the American Legion Twin Cities Post 313.

Bill Brennen. Special recognition and thanks go to Bill Brennen for his tireless work and many hours of service as Second Vice Commander in charge of Hospitality at Post 313. Bill has resigned from this office. We greatly appreciate all that he has done to make ours a very welcoming post.

Volunteers Needed. There are now two executive board openings, giving an opportunity for additional members to contribute essential services. We ask that you seriously consider volunteering for the office of Second Vice Commander or Adjutant.

Post 313 Membership Update. We presently have a total of 170 members. That total includes 36 PUFLs, 5 HONLs and 26 members whose 2012 dues remain outstanding. A reminder that these dues need to be paid by March 31 to avoid lapse in your membership.

2011 in Review

- January** Ten new members initiated.
Quilters, a play, presented in the hall by DeTurk Academy.
- February** New audio system installed in hall.
- March** New tenant at 504: Joanie's Hair Salon.
- April** Flag lecture at St. Peter's School in the city by Cecil Green and Will Kaefer.
- May** New lighting system for hall completed.
Flag lecture at St. Patrick's School, Larkspur, by Cecil Green and Gene Plocki.
- June** *The Laramie Project* presented in the hall.
- July** Pancake Breakfast on July 4. Over 900 attended.
- August** New ADA walkway installed.
- September** New electrical system installed.
Free Veterans' Picnic
USS Hornet visit
- October** Post 313 becomes rental agent for hall.
- November** American flag ceremony and donation to Neil Cummins School.
Reopening of Veterans bar.
Flag lecture at Our Lady of Loretto School in Novato by Cecil Green and Gene Plocki.
Huge Veterans' Week celebrations: College of Marin, Marin Veterans Honored at Marin Catholic Dinner; Fisher House Fundraiser and Dinner at American Legion Post 313.
- December** \$2,000.00 donation and visit to Veterans Administration of San Francisco.
\$2,500.00 donation presented to Fisher House.

Congratulations to all on a very productive year!

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Cecil Green lecturing about the American Flag to second graders at Our Lady of Loretto School in Novato last November.

Auxiliary News - President Pauline

The Auxiliary's record of supporting community needs during the holidays has been most evident this year. Members have contributed to homeless shelters; to local food kitchens and pantries for the homeless; to local fire and police departments with toys for children in low income families.

Also remembered were gift needs to those at Veterans' Hospital as well as patients at Children's Hospital where fleece blankets were distributed.

Our Armed Forces overseas have been receiving weekly packages in the Auxiliary's Troop Support Program. Packages include food, hygiene items and requested CDs and DVDs for the season.

Special Note: Our next **meeting**, originally scheduled for January 10, has been **cancelled**. Our next meeting will be on February 14.