

STAR POST NEWS

THE AMERICAN LEGION
LOS ANGELES SHERIFF'S STAR POST 309



SEPTEMBER 2019

VETS FORE KIDS GOLF TOURNAMENT

Our third annual charity golf tournament is in the books! On a bright and beautiful day at the California Country Club, over 100 hundred golfers, veterans, friends, and volunteers came together to support a great cause. We were humbled once again by the outpouring of support through the various donations and gifts we received, on top of the many players who registered to play in the tournament.

As a non-profit veteran service organization, all of our proceeds go back to funding our veteran and youth programs. These programs align with the Four Pillars of The American Legion: Veteran Affairs & Rehabilitation, National Security, Americanism, and Children & Youth. The bulk of our proceeds will go to our Boys State scholarships. And now with our newly formed American Legion Auxiliary Star Post 309 Unit, we'll be able to assist them with funding scholarships for Girls State.

We would like to extend our sincerest thanks to everyone who participated and supported this tournament. Our golfers were treated like VIPs with all of the on-course amenities, with the many giveaways, and with the awards banquet culminating in a large raffle drawing for various prizes.

We could not have had the success without some of our major sponsors.



THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS, VENDORS, AND SUPPORTERS!

PLATINUM LEVEL - Association for Los Angeles Deputy Sheriffs (ALADS)
American Legion Ronald Reagan Palisades Post 283

GOLD LEVEL - LA County Professional Peace Officers Association

SILVER LEVEL - POPA FCU, Securitas, 3M Corp (also sponsored the golf ball launcher)

BRONZE LEVEL - LA County Supervisor Kathryn Barger, FOP Lodge 1,
Offices of Lewis, Marenstein, Wicke, Sherwin & Lee

Notable Sponsors: Straussner-Sherman, Vienna Psychological Group, Andy and Coronne Jacob, Juan Santiago, Josie Woolum

On Course Sponsors and Vendors - Bastards Canteen (provided lunch), Ohana Brewing, La Verne Brewing, Classic Beverages, Alan Shea (Project Carbon), Backyard Mary, Cruise Planners, Sentry Printing and Signs, POPA FCU, Dixon Golf, Integra Golf, Andrew Linga and Greg (photographers), Marc Saunders (photographer), Jerry Berry and Pete Ramirez (military displays), and the California Country Club for their great hospitality.

We ask all of our readers to make it a point to visit these great sponsors and vendors, and tell them thank you for supporting our veteran initiatives.

We were also proud to be able to host a great veteran service organization, A Combat Veterans Hope (ACVH). We met Norbie Lara and the rest of the crew several years back. These combat veterans have established this organization with the mission of empowering combat veterans through engagement with each other and their local community. Based primarily in Visalia (central valley California), ACVH really steps up and takes action. They are a 501c(3) organization and be found at acombatveteranshope.org.

For more photographs, visit our website under the Photo Gallery tab. We'll also have a great video montage of the event posted soon, so make sure you check back.



INTRODUCING THE NEW LOS ANGELES SHERIFF'S STAR POST 309 SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION SQUADRON

In the "tradition of service," we find what traditions are. For veterans, rooted foundational values in our celebrate in action today. These part of carrying forward an

Since 1927, our Los Angeles the values of honorable service demonstration, our Star Post values held from military service families. Many members of our law answered the call for public service of their military legacy without

After 92 years, our Star Post has received our official Sons of the Los Angeles Sheriff's Star Post for ANY son or grandson of a military veteran to join and contribute to the remembrance of their family military legacy, patriotism, and dedication to service. We are proud bring the honor of our parents and grandparents into our Star Post through the Sons program.

The commanding leadership of our Star Post SAL Squadron was debated and decided during a number of committee meetings. After many considerations, we are proud to have officially selected and appointed Mr. Marc Saunders (retired LASD Sergeant) as our first SAL Squadron Commander!

At our recent Star Post golf tournament, we officially announced SAL Commander Saunders's appointment and presented him with the first ever Star Post 309 SAL uniform cap. SAL Commander Saunders, we look forward to your leadership and you will always have the support of the Post and our Auxiliary!

For information on joining the Star Post 309 SAL Squadron, contact the SAL Commissioner Patrick Gadut at patrick.gadut@starpost309.com, Post Commander Ernie Bille at ernie.bille@starpost309.com, or SAL Commander Marc Saunders at marc.sonspost309@gmail.com.

We can really use great volunteers who are willing to take up this mantle of service, and see this newly formed Sons program flourish and do great things for our veterans and their families.

About the Sons of the American Legion...

Founded in 1932, Sons of The American Legion exists to honor the service and sacrifice of Legionnaires. SAL members include males of all ages whose parents or grandparents served in the U.S. military and were eligible for American Legion membership. Members of The American Legion, American Legion Auxiliary and Sons of The American Legion comprise the Legion Family, which has a combined membership of nearly three million.

Although the Sons has its own membership, the organization is not a separate entity. Rather, the SAL is a program of The American Legion, and many Legionnaires hold dual membership in SAL. The Sons organization is divided into detachments at the state level and squadrons at the local level. A squadron pairs with a local American Legion post; a squadron's charter is contingent upon its parent post's charter. However, squadrons can determine the extent of their services to the community, state and nation. They are permitted flexibility in planning programs and activities to meet their needs, but must remember S.A.L.'s mission: to strengthen the four pillars of The American Legion. Therefore, squadrons' campaigns place an emphasis on preserving American traditions and values, improving the quality of life for our nation's children, caring for veterans and their families, and teaching the fundamentals of good citizenship.



ourselves in conversation of identifying they can be described as the deep military history of service that we values we share with our children as appreciation of service.

Sheriff's Star Post 309 has promoted and dedication to community. Through Legionnaires have passed these onto others, but primarily, to our enforcement community have out of family tradition and in celebration having served themselves.

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Sons Membership Eligibility Requirements

All male descendants, adopted sons and stepsons of members of The American Legion, and such male descendants of veterans who died in service during World War I or since December 7, 1941, during the delimiting periods set forth in Article IV, Section 1, of the National Constitution of The American Legion or who died subsequent to their honorable discharge from such service, shall be eligible for membership in the "Sons of The American Legion." There shall be no form or class of membership except an active membership.

Since the age eligibility begins from date of birth, activities and programs of any squadron should be determined by: (1) age groupings of those eligible; (2) needs of those eligibles; (3) needs of the community for the programs and activities which could be provided by the SAL; and (4) capabilities of those serving as leaders and advisers. Just as each Legion post determines the extent of its services to the community, state and nation, each squadron is permitted flexibility in planning programs and activities to meet the needs of its own age groups.

Preamble

Proud possessors of a priceless heritage, we male descendants of veterans of the Great Wars, associate ourselves together as "Sons of The American Legion" for the following purposes:

To uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States of America; to maintain law and order; to foster and perpetuate a true spirit of Americanism; to preserve the memories of our former members and the associations of our members and our forefathers in the Great Wars; to inculcate a sense of individual obligation to the community, state and nation; to combat the autocracy of both the classes and masses; to make right the master of might; to promote peace and good will on earth; to safeguard and transmit to posterity the principles of justice, freedom and democracy; to consecrate and sanctify our friendship by our devotion to mutual helpfulness; to adopt in letter and spirit all of the great principles for which The American Legion stands; and to assist in carrying on for God and Country.

National SAL Leadership Outlines Goals for 2019-2020

One of the many missions of the 371,000 Sons of The American Legion (SAL) members is to support the children and youth programs of The American Legion.

"That is what we do. It is a big part of the Sons program, and we have a lot of fun doing it," said SAL Children & Youth Chairman William Clancy of New York to attendees of the National Children & Youth Conference in Indianapolis Sept. 21.

Out of 6,158 squadrons, 1,638 submitted a Consolidated Post Report (CPR) for 2018-2019 that reported \$1.5 million in donations to American Legion children and youth programs and over 387,000 hours of volunteer service.

"We are working toward the betterment of our children and youth, betterment of the American Legion Family, and betterment of our country," Clancy said.

During his remarks, Clancy shared several of SAL's goals for the 2019-2020 membership year.

- Recruit 29,000 new members and reach an all-time high in membership of 400,000.
- Challenge every squadron to host an event that supports an American Legion children and youth program, such as the Child Welfare Foundation or Temporary Financial Assistance program, or other programs supported by The American Legion and SAL such as the Special Olympics, Children's Organ Transplant Association, etc. Squadrons are to publicize the event in their local media and get inactive squadrons to participate.

For more information, visit <https://www.legion.org/sons>

NEVER FORGET

It's very difficult to imagine that 18 years ago, the United States suffered a tragic loss of lives after the attacks of September 11, 2001. There is an entire generation who did not live through that. While those of us who lived it, fought because of it, and continue to support this great nation as a result of it will "never forget," it may be just as appropriate to tell our younger generation, "always remember" so that the memory of that day is never erased.

On September 9, 2019, Star Post 309 was called to assist the Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health, the Los Angeles County Department of Military and Veteran Affairs, and the Los Angeles Veterans Collaborative administered by the USC Center for Innovation and Research on Veterans & Military Families. The 9/11 commemoration event was to take place at the beautiful and historic Bob Hope Patriotic Hall. Because of our outreach, collaborations, and connections, we were asked with help finding a member for a speakers panel and a Color Guard.

A Color Guard? How about three? Our Executive Committeeman Pete Ramirez never fails us when it comes to finding a Color Guard. His Valley Veterans group comprised of Army Vietnam Veterans is always in high demand, and has proudly represented Star Post 309 at many functions. LASD Sgt. Cris Hofmeister, another of our Star Post 309 members, was instrumental in also providing our LASD Color Guard. Not enough? How about the addition of the LAPD Color Guard. The combined Color Guard represented that which we honor every 9/11 - we honor the sacrifices of our first responders who entered the Twin Towers never to return, and the many military service members who have since passed fighting the global war on terror.



Air Force Maj. Daniel Luczak, Air Force 2nd Lt. Tai Sunnanon, Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department (LASD) Deputy Kari Mercer (our Star Post 309 Adjutant), and Wounded Heroes of America (WHOA) Founder and President Mike Talleda were on the speakers panel to share their unique, personal stories of how the September 11 attacks galvanized their decisions to serve community and country. We were extremely proud to have Kari on the panel. As the only woman, mother, law enforcement officer and active duty Army soldier at the time of the 9/11 attacks, Kari's perspective of that infamous day was unique and moving.



IN THE NEWS...

At Star Post 309, we're always busy and holding to our mission of supporting our veterans and their families. Here's a few more things that happened this month of September.



WELCOME HOME!

Star Post member Deputy Carrillo and LASD Security Officer Torres just returned home after a year-long deployment out of country. As members of the 40th MP National Guard, they are always called upon for missions. Retired LASD member and Star Post legionnaire Jerry Berry, along with Post Commander Ernie Bille were on hand at the Los Alamitos Joint Forces Training Base to welcome them home. Along with them is Specialist Sanchez who has aspirations of becoming a deputy sheriff. We'll be welcoming him to the family very soon.

BLOOD DRIVE

Our Star Post members are always leading the way. Here's an excerpt from a recent Star News article about one of our own, Don Surber, doing great things for our community:

"We want to give a shout out to Custody Assistant Rudolph and Senior Deputy Don Surber for leading PDC North/NCCF to victory in the recent Battle of the Badges Blood Drive. Their team collected **59 units** of blood (potentially saving 177 lives) — enough to beat CHP, LAPD and Edwards AFB. Well done, everyone! (photo courtesy of Star News, Sept 2019) "



MORE NEWS...

Our Past Commander Tom Vetter, our Executive Committeeman Chuck Norris, and his lovely wife who is the newly appointed Finance Officer for the Star Post 309 Auxiliary Patty Norris, along with LASD Sgt. Andy Thompson and Sgt. Michelle Emeneger continue to be steadfast supporters of the Devil Pups of America. Together with our newly appointed Auxiliary Secretary and retired LASD sergeant Trish Bocanegra and her husband Fred, our Star Post Children & Youth Commissioner, they continue to support young men and women who at such an early age understand the importance of service. It's inspiring to see their dedication and hard work pay off. Star Post 309 was honored to host the event at the post building in Glendale. These particular Devil Pup participants were presented with awards and a special ribbon which they may wear on their respective uniforms. In the group were Sea Cadets, LASD Explorers, Air Force cadets, Young Marines, Boy Scouts, and many others.



Announcing the Dedication

of the Columbarium Expansion at Los Angeles National Cemetery

Saturday, October 5, 2019

10:00 am

950 S Sepulveda Boulevard

All are welcome at this once in a lifetime event



Keynote Address
The Honorable
Robert Wilkie
Secretary of the
Department of
Veterans Affairs



Featured Speaker
The Honorable
Randy C. Reeves
VA Under Secretary
for Memorial Affairs



Featured Speaker
The Honorable
Ted Lieu
Congressman
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LOS ANGELES COUNTY SUPERVISOR
JANICE HAHN
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Military Veterans Affairs
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES



2019 LOS ANGELES COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

FUN IN THE SUN
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OFF**

OCTOBER 12, 2019
11A.M. - 4P.M.

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Junior Tasting Card: \$5
Children under 5 Free

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purchase tickets:

www.sosc.org/scvtv/chilicookoff



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ALL
PROCEEDS
BENEFIT

Special Olympics
Southern California
Santa Clarita & Tri-Valley



We encourage all of our members to attend, especially if you are an active reservist and subject to activation under military orders. We have asked for all commands to allow persons to attend on duty, subject to the needs of the unit, officer safety, and availability. Check with your supervisors if you are on duty and would like to attend. For those who work in scheduling and training or operations, we highly encourage you to attend. **Click on the graphic below to be taken to the Eventbrite page to register.**



**Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department
MILITARY AND VETERAN AFFAIRS UNIT**

**WILL BE HOSTING A
MILITARY SYMPOSIUM**

**Where: S.T.A.R.S. Center - Gymnasium
11515 Colima Road, Whittier**

When: Wednesday, November 06, 2019 from 0700-1500 hours

LASD military veterans and current military reservists, do not miss this opportunity to learn of all the benefits specifically for you! There will be a variety of organizations presenting all of the incentives you have earned, but may not be aware of. The US Department of Labor, Military Leave Coordinator from Los Angeles County, and CalVet representatives, along with many more organizations, will be in attendance to answer all of your questions.

Please sign up at the below link if interested in attending.

<https://lasdmva-forum.eventbrite.com>

For more information, please contact Deputy Carlos Levario (clevari@lasd.org)
Brought to you by LASD Military and Veterans Affairs - Personnel Administration





On September 21, our First Vice Commander Jason Crosswhite and his trusty road dog, Assistant Adjutant and LASD Retiree Liaison Ron Nybakken travelled to the American Legion Tehachapi Post 221 to help them celebrate their 2nd Annual Poker Run. Aside from supporting our fellow Legion post, they also went on a recon mission to scout what it would take to host an event once our American Legion Riders Chapter for Star Post 309 gets going. Lots of great things to come and we invite you to be a part of it!

UPCOMING EVENTS

As you saw from the previous pages, we have a lot of great events coming up.

October 5 - Dedication of the Columbarium at the Los Angeles National Cemetery. All members and their families are welcome to attend. See flier on previous pages for more information.

October 12 - Fun in the Sun Chili Cook Off - Join Star Post 309 as we once again support this very worthwhile event. All proceeds raised go to the Southern California Special Olympics. We will be in Booth #1 and will be vying to regain our crown. Two years ago we were the Grand Master Chili Champions and last year we were presented with the Judges Award for Best Chili. Let's see what we can do this time around.

November 6 - Military and Veteran Symposium - The LASD Military and Veteran Affairs Unit and Star Post 309 will host a symposium meant to educate our active reservists and those who supervise them on the various federal, state, and local laws, and County and Sheriff's Department policies related to the active reservists. The first part of the day will focus on these statutes. The second part of the day will feature veteran resource and service organizations. See flier on previous pages for more information. To register, visit the [Eventbrite page](#).

November 11 - Veterans Day - The Los Angeles County Department of Veteran Affairs is hosting its inaugural Veterans Day event at the Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum. See the flier on the previous page for more information or visit VETERANSDAYLA.ORG. Register to receive your free ticket. If you are a vendor or exhibitor and want to be part of the event, you can also register on that same link.