

The American Legion
Moorpark Post 502
PO Box 156
Moorpark, CA 93020-0156

POSTAGE HERE

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

Mailing Address

A Message of Interest From The American Legion Moorpark Post 502 & Unit 502

Inside: Calendar of events. Commander's Message, March 10, 7pm Post Meeting

**Visit Our Website at
www.MoorparkPost502.org**

Calendar of Events

March

2 - Mon: Ventura County Council

6:00 PM Dinner 7:30 PM Meeting
Oxnard Post 48
2639 Wagon Wheel Road
Oxnard, CA.

10 - Tue: **Post 502 Meeting** 7:00 PM
Moorpark Chamber of Commerce
18 High Street, Moorpark, CA

13 14 15 - Fri Sat Sun: **DEC All Day**
Department of California Executive
Committee Meeting
Santa Marie Veterans' Memorial Building
501 North Pine Street, Santa Maria CA

19 - Thu: **VA Quarterly Stakeholders**
Meeting 4:00 PM
Greater LA Healthcare System
11301 Wilshire Blvd, RM 1281
West Los Angeles, CA

21 22 - Sat Sun: **Sixth Area Caucus**
All Day
Camarillo Post 741
7 Veteran Way (Nellora St), Camarillo, CA

25 - Thu: **Ventura Voiture 109 Promenade**
Will be DARK in March

28 - Sat: **23rd District Annual Dinner**
5:00 PM
Honoring Dept Cmdr Alan C Lennox
Jackie Robinson Post 252
3828 W Slauson Ave.
Los Angeles, CA

April

6 - Mon: Ventura County Council

6:00 PM Dinner 7:30 PM Meeting
Ventura Post 339
Location TBD
Ventura, CA

11 - Sat: **16th District Financial Meeting**
1:00 PM
Santa Maria Post 56
Santa Maria Veterans' Memorial Building
501 North Pine Street, Santa Maria CA

16th District Fundraising Dinner
3:00 PM
Donations \$15.00
Supporting Dennis Fercho (741-16)
Candidate for Department Commander
2009 – 2010
Santa Maria Veterans' Memorial Building
501 North Pine Street, Santa Maria CA

14 - Tue: **Post 502 Meeting** 7:00 PM
Moorpark Chamber of Commerce
18 High Street, Moorpark, CA

22 - Thu: **Ventura Voiture 109 Promenade**
6:00 PM Dinner 7:00 PM Prom
Location TBD

May

4 - Mon: Ventura County Council

6:00 PM Dinner 7:30 PM Meeting
Ojai Post 482
843 E Ojai Ave, Ojai, CA

12 - Tue: **Post 502 Meeting** 7:00 PM
Moorpark Chamber of Commerce
18 High Street, Moorpark, CA

16 - Sat: Armed Forces Day

Moorpark Veterans' Memorial Dedication
9:30 AM
Corner Spring Rd & Flinn Ave. Moorpark,
CA
18 High Street, Moorpark, CA

Armed Forces Day BBQ
11:30 AM Till Food is Gone
Veterans' Memorial Grove, Poindexter
Park, Poindexter Ave & Gisler Rd,
Moorpark, CA
Hosted by Moorpark Post 502, The
American Legion
Free to all Active and Reserve Military and
all Veterans
All Others, Small Donation is Requested

25 - Mon: Memorial Day

Memorial Day Raising of the Colors
8:00 AM
Veterans' Memorial (Old Memorial)
Corner Los Angeles Ave and Moorpark Ave,
Moorpark, CA
Raising of the Colors

Memorial Day Observance 10:00 AM
Moorpark Veterans' Memorial (New
Memorial)
Corner of Spring Rd & Flinn Ave. Moorpark,
CA
Remembering and Honoring those who
made the ultimate Sacrifice

27 - Thu: **Ventura Voiture 109 Promenade**
6:00 PM Dinner 7:00 PM Prom
Location TBD

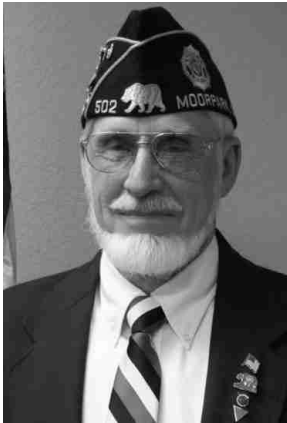


Moorpark Post 502

The American Legion • Sixteenth District •

Mar / Apr 2009

Commander's Message



Jim Carpenter

American Legion Post 502 Commander

Greetings again to all my fellow Legionnaires;

Let us get started with the latest and greatest happenings immediately:

New Veterans Memorial Update:

Wow! Things are really happening here, I'll try to bring you up to speed with the latest construction progress.

- The three flagpoles have been installed and look great.
- The wall circling the flag plaza (behind the flagpoles) is up and has been finished with a natural stone veneer which is very nice.

- Power and water infrastructure is in place.
- The base for the "Victory Column" is in and the column is being constructed.
- The site grading is mostly done and preparations are being made for the remaining concrete work to be poured.
- Preliminary plans for the dedication are being formed.

I strongly encourage you to go by and see the progress unfold, it is really exciting.

If you can not come by then at least look at our website moorparkpost502.org, there you can look at the link with photos of the work being done at the site.

Kevin Carter, the contractor, (Malibu Pacific Tennis Courts Inc.) is a long time resident of Moorpark. It is great that one of our own community members is building this memorial which will express Moorpark's appreciation for the men and women who answered the call to protect the freedoms we all enjoy so much in our great country.

Membership:

As of January 01 unpaid dues are delinquent!
Please look at your membership card. If it doesn't have 2009 at the top then you need to renew now!

The member's dues are the lifeblood of the Legion; this is the support necessary to keep alive the programs that provide assistance to the veterans and their families when needed.

Thanks to **Jim Beaver** our 1st Vice Commander, we are down to only a few members who haven't renewed yet. He cannot close the books by himself, he needs your help.

Do not wait for another notice; send your \$25.00 to the Post at P.O.Box 156, Moorpark, CA 93020. Please, this is very important; your fellow veterans are counting on your support!

(Note: if you are having difficulty with the dues we can help, please call me at 901-2133.)

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Commander's Message

Rabobank makes donation to our Post:

Laurie Rosenberg (Branch Manager) presented a check for \$1000 to our Post at the grand opening of the new Moorpark branch of Rabobank on February 3rd. What a wonderful surprise this was and it couldn't have come at a better time as we are preparing for our participation in upcoming community events. Pete Duncan (Adjutant), Joe Catrambone (Past Commander), Jim Beaver (1st Vice Commander) and myself were on hand to eagerly accept this generous donation.

Thank you Rabobank!



Left to Right: Branch Manager Laurie Rosenberg, Post Commander Jim Carpenter, Past Post Commander Joe Catrambone, Post Adjutant Pete Duncan, and Rabobank Regional Vice President Jeff Paul. Photo by Jim Beaver

Roaming:

Your Officers are roaming the highways to attend meetings all over southern California so they can be well informed and also keep the Moorpark Post 502 name out where it is highly visible to the Department of California leadership. Pete and I attended the 4th District Cheminot (40/8) in Culver City on Jan. 25th, then Santa Maria for the Grande Cheminot (state 40/8) Feb. 14 - 15 and the 16th District (Am. Legion) meeting in San Luis Obispo on Feb. 22nd. It is an honor to be able to represent our Post at these important meetings.



Speaking to the Sixteenth District assembly from the back of the room prior to its close, Commander

Carpenter brought to the floor some of the upcoming activities scheduled for our Post. Not least of which were the Vets' Memorial Dedication and the BBQ on Armed Forces Day. Photo by Pete Duncan

Next Post Meeting:

I encourage you all to come to our **next Post Meeting on March 10th at the Moorpark Chamber of Commerce Bldg., High Street & Moorpark Ave. @1900 hrs.** (7:00 pm for those of you who have forgotten how to tell real time.)

Come and participate in the planning and direction of **your** Post's future activities. We have several community events to prepare for; WE NEED YOUR VOICE!

Thank you for your support, I salute you.
Jim Carpenter
Commander

Post 502 Officers

Moorpark Post 502 Officers

- | | |
|---|----------------|
| Commander Jim Carpenter | (805) 523-7721 |
| 1st Vice Commander Jim Beaver | (805) 529-1848 |
| 2 nd Vice Commander John Kress | (805) 523-2828 |
| Adjutant Pete Duncan | (805) 529-0215 |
| Chaplain John Bickerstaff | (805) 529-0523 |
| Web Master / Service Officer Kevin Panet | (805) 991-7431 |



At a recent Sixteenth District Meeting (San Luis Obispo Post 66) Commander Carpenter wanted to know who left this tank on the sidewalk. Jim later discovered that it was part of a static display for the SLO Veterans' Memorial Museum. You should consider a visit to the Museum if you are planning a trip to the Central Coast.

Finance Officer's Report



Pete Duncan

American Legion Post 502 Finance Officer

Finance Officer's Comments

I have been a member of this Post for a long time, I know – I know, not a long as many of you, but I have had a chance to see the workings of our organization up close and personal. In our last Newsletter, I explained some of the challenges that we face with regard to our finances. I want to thank you for stepping up to the plate and lending a hand with your generous donations over and above what we already ask of you. Your dedication to our simple philosophy, Veterans helping Veterans is truly exemplified by your belief and trust in what we do, Thank-you.

As a member of The American Legion Family, your gracious act of digging a little deeper keeps alive our commitment to doing what it is we do and a vote of confidence for your Organization. Whether you are a Veteran, a member of the Auxiliary or a family member, you have set yourself above the rest us by lending a hand when we need it the most. Once again, I want to encourage you to pass along any suggestions or ideas you believe will help us maintain our current standards for Veterans helping Veterans.

A perusal of our Calendar will reveal that there are many items on the plate of Post 502. Due to the dedication of the Post leadership, we are known across the State. I wish to congratulate our Commander, Jim Carpenter, our First Vice, Jim Beaver and our Webmaster, Kevin Panet for providing greater visibility for our Post. That visibility not only extends across the State but across the Country.

None of this would be possible if not for you, the Members. We cannot afford to lose one of you. We are already two months into the new Legion year. Please, if you have not yet done so, get your dues in. In these times, I know that \$25 can influence a budget. If there is a concern, let me know. We can help. We'll come up with a plan, we'll do something.

Years ago, I received a hand written note for the spouse

of a long time member explaining that there would not be a renewal coming from her husband. It had become a hardship on their fixed income to rationalize that expenditure. In a casual conversation with another member of the Post I mentioned the note and that I never before received one quite like that. He reached into his pocket, came out with some cash and told me to use it to help cover the member's dues. He saw right away the look on my face and told me, "Been there, done that." While both of these members are no longer with us, that spirit is very much alive within our Post. We struggle, but we go on. We do so because of who you are, Veterans helping Veterans.

Pete Duncan

Post 502 Finance Officer

805-529-0215

San Luis Obispo Veterans' Museum



The SLO Veterans' Memorial Museum is located just off the 101 Freeway at 801 Grand Ave , San Luis Obispo , CA 93401 , (805) 781-5930. Open Wednesday thru Saturday, 10 to 3, the Museum is well worth the 60 minutes it would take to enjoy the displays. Pictured here is Jim Pickens, a Docent for the Museum and a Legionnaire with SLO Post 66. Oh, did we mention that Jim is a retired Marine who served in Korea and Vietnam . If we didn't we should have.

San Luis Obispo Veterans' Museum



Visit the Museum on the World Wide Web at
www.vetmuseum.org.

American Legion Auxiliary Unit 502



Unit 502 Board Members

Pat Miranda	President
Debbie Heaslip	Vice President
Yvonne Di Francesco	Secretary
Faye Beaver	Treasurer
Bonnie Vargas	Chaplain

Next Unit 502 Meeting: 21 April

Editor's Comments



Jim Beaver

American Legion Post 502 1st Vice Commander

Name the Newsletter

We are having another contest!

It is time to name the newsletter. Please send your entries to me at the email address at the bottom of this column. For those that are email impaired, just give me a call at the number at the bottom of this column.

What will the prize be? As of now it is a surprise (Hint: Moorpark Arts Center), but I promise it will be worth your effort to name the Post 502 Newsletter. Who is eligible? Any member of Post 502 or Auxiliary Unit 502 is eligible to name the Newsletter. The entries will be judged by the Post 502 board members. The judges' decision will be final. Good Luck!

Membership

I know I am repeating what our esteemed Commander wrote in his column, but please send in your dues if you haven't done so. There are just a few of you, but you are very valuable to Post 502. You make a difference that allows us to do what we do for Veterans in this area and beyond, and to bring the Americanism message to our fine youth in the community.

Let Me Hear From You

As editor of the Post 502 Newsletter I encourage your input on what you like about your newsletter and please comment on ways that it can be improved. You can contact me a JBeaver8414@yahoo.com or phone me at 805 529-1848.