



Moorpark Post 502

The American Legion • Sixteenth District •

February 2008

Vice Commander Message

Jim Carpenter

American Legion Post 502 1st Vice Commander

Greetings Legionnaires,

Let me start by wishing everyone a very healthy and happy new year!

I hope you all had a wonderful Christmas, a fun holiday season and that you are now ready to get back to the business of serving our veterans.

Since our last newsletter we have been a busy group. Once again we had the privilege of being a part of the Civil War Reenactment event by presenting a Flag Retirement Ceremony with the Boy Scouts. We also had our booth, which gave us great public exposure and gave us the opportunity to sell tickets for our main fundraiser the airplane ride.

We had our Veterans' Day ceremonies at the present memorial and at Poindexter Park.

We were very fortunate to have one of our newest members, Nelson Holman, as the guest speaker for this important event.

On the next day Pete Duncan and I attended the Veterans' Day ceremony presented at the Reagan Library. It was a very nice tribute to all veterans. We attended the 16th District meeting (our Post is part of

this district) held in Lompoc.

The Christmas Dinner was held at the Grinder and those of you who did not attend really missed out on a fun night! There were lots of raffle prizes to win and the food was great.

We were honored by the presence of our 16th District Commander, Marvin Douglas who surprised us by presenting our Post with an "Early Bird" membership award. (More about this later.)

The winner of the airplane ride was one of our own members Michael Wesner!

Michael very generously donated his ride to Miranda Heaslip. We will post pictures on our website when she has her ride.

Veterans' Memorial update:

At their December 5th meeting the City Council accepted the conceptual design for the new memorial and authorized the architect to proceed with the bidding process.

This is very good news! Moorpark will have a new memorial!

Membership:

I want to thank the members who have already sent in their renewals! We really appreciate this!

As we move into 2008 we only have 6 of our members who have not renewed.

Please, with the holidays behind us now is the time to make this a top priority!

I cannot stress enough how important Membership is in providing support for all the veteran service functions of the Legion. (Please help by bringing in new members.)

As I mentioned earlier our Post received an "Early Bird" award! Those members who have that little "Early Bird" stamp on your membership card won this award. This is recognition for your eager support of the Legion.

Again, please check out our website. (moorparkpost502.org)

I hope to see you at the Post meeting on February 12th.

Jim Carpenter, 1st Vice Commander.

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Adjutant's Report

Pete Duncan

American Legion Post 502 Adjutant

We're Off and Running: It is already proving to be a busy year. At our first 2008 meeting in January, the membership recommended that we keep the web site up and running and increase the publishing dates of the Post Newsletter. It will now be bi-monthly. Look for the following events over the next twelve months: Memorial Day in May, Flag Retirement (Ceremonial Burning) in June, July 3rd Fireworks Extravaganza, Moorpark Country Days after summer, Veterans' Day in November. The Post will also honor the Military and Veterans with a BBQ during the summer, date to be determined. We will continue with the E-Waste Recycling Fund Raiser and will do another Soar with the Eagles raffle. There will be a Holiday/Christmas Dinner in December and we hope to get in a couple of Post Socials (dinner and stuff).

The Post is still looking for a home: Awhile back, the Active Seniors at the One More Time Thrift Store on High Street offered the Post the use of one of their rooms as a location to meet and conduct the business of the Post. Unfortunately, due to the leasing agreement with the Moorpark Redevelopment Agency and the Active Seniors the Post had to discontinue meeting there. The City volunteered a building near the old fire station across from City Hall on Moorpark Avenue but that too had to be abandoned because of the Americans with Disabilities Act. Currently, we meet at the Moorpark United Methodist Church at Third Street and Flory Ave. If you would like to have more of a say in how the Post conducts its business or have some thoughts on a new location at which the Post can conduct its business come to a meeting. We meet the second Tuesday of each month at the Church on Third and Flory.

Personal note: As a twenty-plus year member of Post 502 and having held most all offices and appointments the Post has to offer, I would like to extend my most sincere appreciation to the First Vice Commander, Jim Carpenter. Jim has taken his association in The American Legion to heart and with great sincerity. At our Holiday/Christmas Dinner in December, the Sixteenth District Commander, Marvin Douglass (Santa Maria Post 56), presented the Post 502 with a 2008 Early Bird Membership streamer to be added to the Post Colors. Will Done, Jim!



Vice Commander Jim Carpenter displaying the most recent addition to the Post Banner

See Adjutants Report for the details.

Photo by: Jim Beaver

Calendar

February

5 – Tue: Election Day

12 – Tue: Post Meeting 7:00 PM

March

11 – Tue: Post Meeting 7:00 PM

April

8 – Tue: Post Meeting 7:00 PM

May

13 – Tue: Post Meeting 7:00 PM

26 – Memorial Day

June

10 – Tue: Post Meeting 7:00 PM

14 – Sat: Flag Day, BBQ for Veterans

Auxiliary Message

Faye Beaver

American Legion Auxiliary Unit 502 President

As we reflect on some of the events for this year, we should be proud of all we have accomplished. Our largest accomplishment was the Veteran Lap Robe Project.

Approximately four hundred plus Lap Robes, Candy Canes, Christmas Ornaments, Socks and Skives were delivered to the West Los Angeles Hospital's. Nineteen students and two teachers helped deliver the gifts to the Veteran's. Having a large turn out at the Post Veteran's Day Ceremony was very exciting. We had a nice turnout at the Christmas Party, we would love to see more of you coming out to some of these events. We hope to be having a couple of events in the coming months. The District President has asked to visit one of our meetings. It was discussed at the last meeting that a Pot Luck Dinner would be nice to invite her to. If you could participate in this please let me know and we will see what we can do.

Membership is the main topic for us at this time. Asking family, friends, neighbors, and even strangers can work if you bring up our club and accomplishments whenever the opportunity arises. New members bring more awareness of what our military does and allows us to do more for them. Remember the Post; they are in the same state of membership as we are. When asking for memberships, ask if the husband would be interested in joining the Post, as well. Remember juniors count as a full member. So if you have daughters, nieces, granddaughters, cousins, and o.k. you know what I mean, get them signed up. We still have members that have not sent in their renewals. If you are one of them, please do so. Hopefully we will get an active juniors program in the works. Maybe our two new Girls State Candidates can work something up for us.

Girl's State interviews will be February 20, 2008. If you wish to be on the interview board please contact me, 805-529-1848 or email fbeaver@pacbell.net.

Thank you,
Faye Beaver, President
Moorpark Amer. Legion Auxiliary Unit 502



Moorpark High students distribute lap robes to Veterans at Wadsworth VA hospital Dec. 2007

Editor's Comments

Jim Beaver

American Legion Post 502 2nd Vice Commander

(♦) Look for the diamond.

In future editions of the Post 502 newsletter, the diamond symbol will be placed somewhere among the fine prose submitted by my esteemed colleagues. The first member of Post 502 to email or call with the location of the diamond will win a prize. The email address is adjutant@moorparkpost502.org, the phone number is 805 523-3355. Next time: Why a diamond?

Good Hunting,

Jim Beaver
American Legion Post 502 2nd Vice Commander

Post 502 Officers

Moorpark Post 502 Officers

Commander	Bruce Thomas	(805) 529-9215
1st Vice Commander	Jim Carpenter	(805) 523-7721
2nd Vice Commander	Jim Beaver	(805) 529-1848
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How to Reach the Post

Post Phone Number.....(805) 523-3355
Post Website.....<http://www.moorparkpost502.org/>
Email.....Adjutant@MoorparkPost502.org

A Message of Interest From The American Legion Moorpark Post 502

Inside: Calendar of events. Vice Commander's Message, Adjutants Message, Unit 502 info, Photos, and more!!!

Visit Our Website at
www.moorparkpost502.org

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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

Mailing Address