

Newsletter

November 2022

Recent Activities at Alamo Post 2, The American Legion

Commander's Corner

"Service to God and Country" – it's an American Legion program, yes, but the saying describes just as well our members' attitude and way of life. Nondenominational and nonsectarian, the Legion's support for religion in the public square is basic Americanism. Rather than acting independently of religious groups, the Legion desires to cooperate with and join them in reminding the American people with one voice that God is the author and architect of our beloved "land of the free." Without God, there is no Americanism

Together, we make a difference

The American Legion provides life-changing assistance and guidance for veterans, military personnel, their families and communities in thousands of ways every day around the world. Help comes in the form of personal assistance, cash grants, donated goods, disaster relief, labor, networking, volunteerism and advocacy. Our post has over six hundred members. Only less than thirty are actively volunteering. We have the opportunity to be the best post in the Legion. What would occur if only half our members would volunteer for only a few hours a week? I am asking every member to tell me what it would take for them to come to the post and participate. Every Friday we need help with the fundraiser. Have you done the basic training course at Legion.org. This tells you what the Legion is all about and maybe you will find something that you can help with. Mutual helpfulness is what it is all about. Find out what the four pillars are and where you can best help. Our veterans, their families, our children, and our community need you.

Howard Gravely, US Navy, Retired
Commander, Alamo Post 2



Why is membership important

Why is it important for me to renew my membership and why is membership important? Membership is important for two reasons: (1) Nationally, people will listen to numbers instead of individuals. This is especially true at Capital where the American Legion has a voice Congress with the backing of over 2 million paid members. Another example is when CBS aired an episode of the Amazing Race in Hanoi Vietnam where the participants were encouraged to sing communist songs at the site of a B-52 crash site. Then National Commander James Koontz contacted the network to voice his and other Vietnam veterans' displeasure in the disrespectful way things were being conducted. The next week, CBS apologized for the insensitivity of their actions during the episode and the disrespect of those who fought and died in the Vietnam War. If the American Legion decreases in membership size then the voice that we have will be diminished and we may not be able to support the four pillars of the American Legion: rehabilitation of veterans, Children and Youth, National security and Americanism. (2) Locally, we need to maintain membership to continue our influence on our community, state and nation. In addition, if you donate monies to any institution other than the American Legion, \$1.00 donated will actually be .20 to .30 for the actual beneficiaries. In the American Legion, \$1.00 donated equals \$1.00 going to the beneficiaries of American Legion charities because my dues plus your dues and the other 2 million members pay for all administrative costs including the salaries of the employees of the American Legion and emblem sales.

Alamo Post 2, The American Legion

Recent Activities, *continued...*

PUFL: What is Paid Up for Life (PUFL)?

Current members may now enroll in the Paid Up For Life (PUFL) program online Pay in full or choose 12 monthly payments.

Benefits:

- No more renewal notices. No more paying annual dues.
- No more worrying, "Did I renew my membership or not?"
- Join the other 184,000 PUFL Legionnaires in saying, "I believe in The American Legion and what it's doing. I am in this for the long haul."
- Avoid future dues increases. No matter what inflation does, you never have to pay another penny in dues.
- Lifetime subscription to the American Legion Magazine!

Each Paid Up For Life member receives a permanent plastic card, as well as an annual paper card to verify continuing membership in The American Legion. The annual card is mailed in July of each year. The rates effective 1 June 2016 are:

Age FEE Pricing for members whose Post dues are more than \$48.00 are to be calculated from the previous rate chart:

Age 18-29 30-39 40-49 50-59 60-69 70-79 80-89 90+

FEE \$ 1,535 \$1,399 \$1,229 \$ 1,025 \$815 \$599 \$429 \$329

For more information, go to <https://www.legion.org/PUFL>

Years of Service recognition

At the October meeting, the following members were recognized for their years in The American Legion:

20-years: Carl Fuller, John Horgan, David Ingram, Javier Patron, Greg Pruneda, Daniel Ragsdale.

25-years: Andres Cardona Sr (he was presented his certificate at the meeting); Patricia Clary, Freddie Dizon, Gordon Jones, Lee Lopez, Mike Mayen, George Robinson.

30-years: Bobby Allen, Manuel Franco, James Franks, Maria Garza, Helen Kopczynskianton.

40-years: Stephen Danko, Eduardo Jackson, Raul Macias Sr, Terry Partlow, George Sanmiguel.

50-years: Thomas Haynes

60-years: Jimmie Gennero

If your name is listed above, we invite you to come to the November General meeting on 2 November to receive the recognition you deserve. We will also be recognizing those that have obtained 10 & 15 years in the American Legion.

Scouting

We are almost there in getting a Cub Scout pack. Wilson Elementary has 20 families signed up and five adult leaders identified and are in the final stages of adult training and paperwork for Cub Scout Pack 2. We have another school, Arnold Elementary who is also working toward a Cub Scout Pack at a later time. There is in discussion about the Post hosting the District dinner in February 2023 and also becoming the site for the District/Regional/Council Pinewood Derby competition for Cub Scouts.

Upcoming Events!

- Tuesdays: Game Night
- Fridays: Fundraiser Fish Fry and Chicken Fried Steak
- November 10th: USMC Birthday—cake cutting event
- November 12th: Veterans Outreach Event
- November 12th: Veterans Day Parade in downtown
- December 31st: New Years Eve Dance

See flyers at the end of the newsletter

Alamo Post 2, The American Legion

Post Information

General Membership Meeting

The monthly General Membership Meeting occurs on the **first Wednesday each month at 6:30pm**. Post members and Veterans who are interested in attending are welcome and encouraged to attend. Meeting minutes are now available on our website.

Update your contact information

To verify or update all your contact information, including your **email address**, mailing address, and phone numbers, go to **www.mylegion.org** and login. If you prefer to speak to a Post Officer to update your information, please contact the **Post Adjutant, Allen Iott**, 210-425-5562 or aIott@outlook.com

Hall Rental

Rental Hall Manager, Commander Howard Gravely at 508-254-7303.

Friday night dinner — Fish Fry & Ultimate Chicken Fried Steak (4pm-8pm)

Every Friday the hardworking volunteers of Alamo Post 2 host a weekly dinner with 100% of the proceeds benefiting the Post. Come on down for the camaraderie, great food, good music, and support the cause!

Calling all volunteers!

Would you like to help out around at the Post? We need volunteers for many activities! To help with the Fish Fry, skilled labor, or other activities at the post, contact **Commander, Howard Gravely** at 508-254-7303. Prefer to help from home?

Volunteer from home

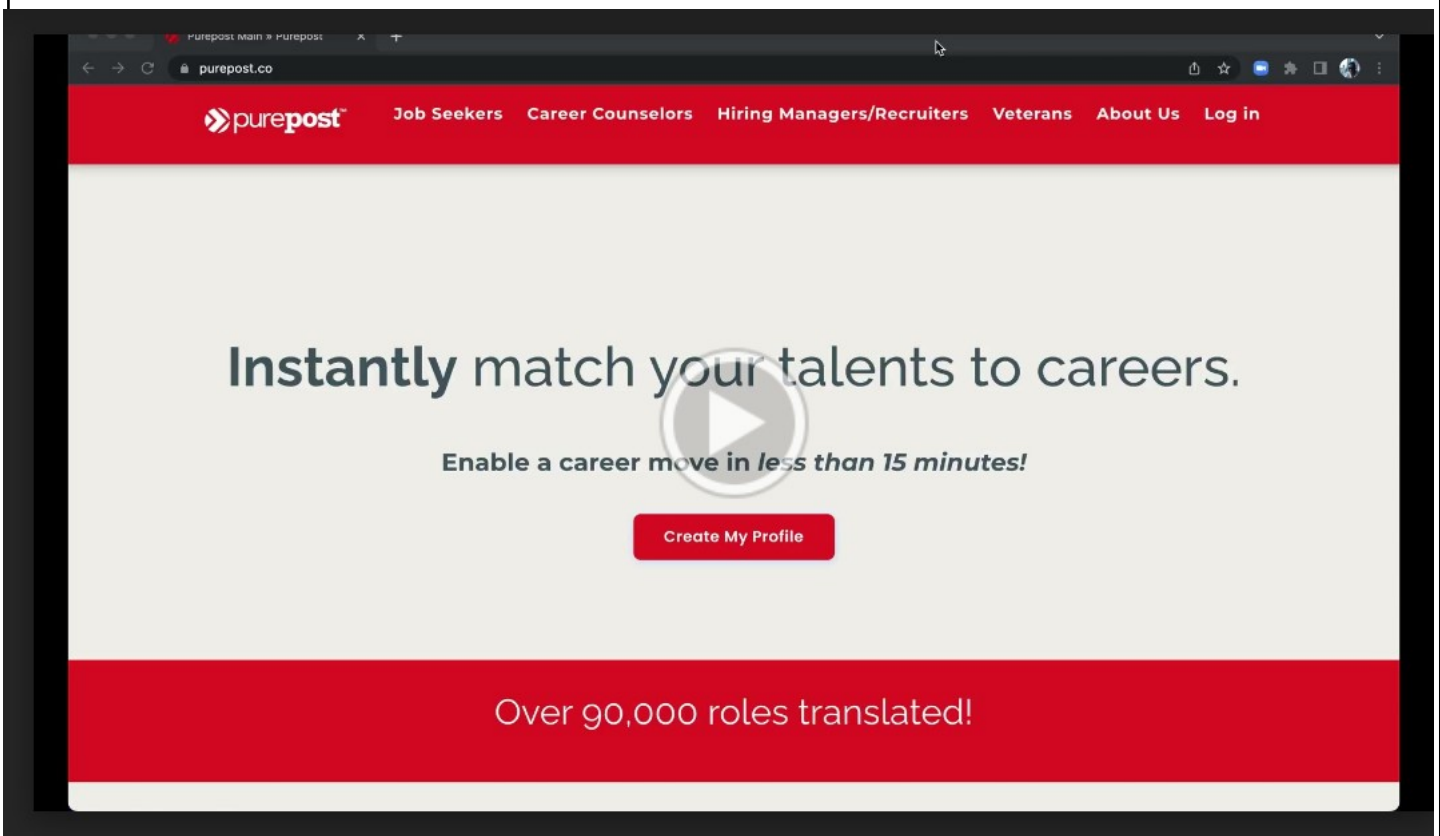
The Phone Tree needs support in calling members. **Contact 1st Vice Commander, Suzzie Thomas** at 805-535-9839 to learn more!

What is Purepost?

Purepost converts military experience into language that employers can easily comprehend. By decoding underlying skills and competencies, we make it easy to hire veterans into positions that fully utilize their talents.

<https://www.purepost.co/veterans>

[Watch video](#)



Thank you for reading this month's newsletter—

Looking forward to seeing you again next month!

www.legion.org/renew

Your
Membership
Matters



RENEW ONLINE

Legionnaires can safely renew through MyLegion.org and save time with auto renewal setup.



DIGITAL DISPATCH

Membership Card
2023
The American Legion
"Veterans Strengthening America"

DEPT. POST NO. MEMBER ID NO. CONT. YRS.

THE ABOVE MEMBER HAS PAID DUES IN THE POST INDICATED
Celebrating 100 Years of the US Flag Code

NOT VALID UNLESS COUNTERSIGNED BY MEMBER AUTHORIZED POST OFFICER

Membership renewal made easy online

American Legion membership for 2022-2023 is underway. And membership renewal in The American Legion can easily, and safely, be done through your MyLegion account.



The American Legion was chartered and incorporated by Congress in 1919 as a patriotic veterans organization devoted to mutual helpfulness.

988—

New Number for Veterans Crisis Line

Dial **988** then **Press 1**—helps make it easier to remember and share the number to access help in times of need.

Signed into law in 2020, the National Suicide Hotline Designation Act authorized 988 as the new three-digit number for the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline. The 800-273-8255 remains available as well.

Add 988 to your contacts.



AMERICAN LEGION

Let's change the narrative. Instead of talking about the staggering number of daily suicides, **BE THE ONE** to save **ONE** veteran. We can end the stigma surrounding mental health with your help!



BE THE ONE

TO **ASK** VETERANS IN YOUR LIFE HOW THEY ARE DOING.

TO **LISTEN** WHEN A VETERAN NEEDS TO TALK.

TO **REACH** OUT WHEN A VETERAN IS STRUGGLING.



Are you a veteran in crisis or concerned about one?

**Veterans
Crisis Line**
DIAL 988 then **PRESS 1**

