



THIS IS





# Tracy A. Rascoe

- ▶ IV in 2012
- ▶ Married w/ 6-Grandchildren
- ▶ Renewable Energy Operations Manager
- ▶ El Centro – Desert Trails
- ▶ Community Volunteering
  - ▶ HOA VP
  - ▶ UWIC Board of Directors
  - ▶ Co-Founder IVPPC
  - ▶ Dept. of CA American Legion
    - ▶ Past Post Commander
    - ▶ 30<sup>th</sup> District Commander (Imperial)
    - ▶ Candidate for Area Commander (Riverside, Orange, San Bernadino, San Diego & Imperial)



# Department of CA 30<sup>th</sup> District

## 8-Post Imperial County & 1-Riverside County

- ▶ Post 24 Blythe\*
- ▶ Post 25 El Centro\*
- ▶ Post 60 Brawley\*
- ▶ Post 90 Calexico
- ▶ Post 135 Calipatria
- ▶ Post 138 Holtville
- ▶ Post 597 Niland
- ▶ Post 801 Bombay Beach\*
- ▶ Post 802 Winterhaven\*

\*Physical facility

569 Broadway St., El Centro CA

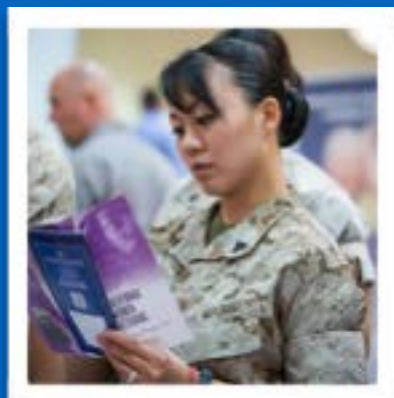
760-352-2964





ABOUT THE LEGION

# OUR PILLARS OF SERVICE



## VETERANS

VA benefit and appeal assistance

Job and career guidance

Homeless outreach



## YOUTH

Scholarships

Youth programs and competitions

Junior ROTC and Scouting sponsorship



## DEFENSE

Military family support

Comfort items for wounded servicemembers

Advocacy for troops and military in Washington, D.C.



## AMERICANISM

Flag respect education

Citizenship services

Support for the Pledge of Allegiance and National Anthem



ABOUT THE LEGION

## THE AMERICAN LEGION FAMILY

- ▶ More than 2.1 million members of The American Legion
- ▶ Nearly 1 million members of The American Legion Auxiliary
- ▶ More than 360,000 members of The Sons of The American Legion



ABOUT THE LEGION

# COMMUNITY FOOTPRINT

- ▶ 13,500 American Legion Posts
- ▶ North America
- ▶ The Caribbean
- ▶ Europe
- ▶ Latin America
- ▶ Asia





# HISTORIC MOMENTS

A large group of World War I soldiers are seated in bleachers, likely at an American Legion event. They are holding signs for their divisions, including 5 DIV., 6 DIV., 91 DIV., 7 DIV., 30 DIV., 32 DIV., 36 DIV., 88 DIV., 82 DIV., 26 DIV., 41 DIV., 1 DIV., 78 DIV., 28 DIV., 35 DIV., and 89 DIV. A sign on the left reads "PARIS COME LAND" and another says "TROOPS SERVING IN FRENCH". The soldiers are dressed in military uniforms, and the setting appears to be an indoor arena or gymnasium.

**1919**

Since its founding nearly a century ago, The American Legion has influenced multiple important changes in America.





## OUR HISTORY

### **U.S. FLAG CODE**

American Legion conferences establish standardized rules of respect and display for Old Glory.





## OUR HISTORY

### **FORMATION OF THE VA**

Worked to consolidate multiple disconnected federal offices, agencies and bureaus into one Veterans Administration.



## OUR HISTORY

### **THE GREATEST LEGISLATION**

Formulated, drafted and fought for passage of the the Servicemen's Readjustment Act of 1944.

#### The GI Bill

- ▶ Educated millions
- ▶ Triggered a half-century of economic prosperity
- ▶ Revolutionized higher education
- ▶ Made home ownership possible for average Americans
- ▶ Created the American middle-class
- ▶ Allowed for an all-volunteer military





## OUR HISTORY



### **SERVICE-CONNECTED CONDITIONS**

The 1983 American Legion-Columbia University Study on the effects of Agent Orange exposure on Vietnam War veterans was one of many ways the organization helped suffering veterans receive care and benefits.





# TODAY'S AMERICAN LEGION



# SERVICES FOR VETERANS

## VETERANS AFFAIRS & REHABILITATION

- ▶ Free representation for some 750,000 veterans and families seeking VA disability and medical benefits at any one time
- ▶ Support for veterans suffering from PTSD and TBI
- ▶ Millions of volunteer hours and services at VA facilities
- ▶ Representation before Congress and the White House to provide timely VA health care and efficient benefits processing





## SERVICES FOR VETERANS

# VETERANS EDUCATION & EMPLOYMENT

- ▶ More than 1,000 job fairs and other career events for veterans and their families every year, nationwide
- ▶ Fighting for fair conversion of military experience to credit hours for civilian careers in specialized fields
- ▶ Mentorship and advice for veteran entrepreneurs
- ▶ Relief, support and help for homeless veterans
- ▶ IV VEC and more...





# SERVICES FOR YOUTH CHILDREN & YOUTH PROGRAMS

- ▶ Financial assistance for needy military and veteran families with young children
- ▶ Grants to organizations that provide support for children in need
- ▶ College scholarships to children of U.S. servicemembers killed while on active duty since Sept. 11, 2001
- ▶ Mentorship through American Legion Boys State, Boys Nation and Oratorical Competition
- ▶ Youth programs, including more than 3,000 Scout units, nearly 4,000 American Legion Baseball teams, dozens of Junior Shooting Sports Clubs and more...





# MILITARY SUPPORT

## NATIONAL SECURITY

- ▶ Advocacy in Washington, D.C., for quality-of-life benefits for members of the Armed Forces
- ▶ Comfort items for hospitalized military personnel recovering from wounds and illnesses
- ▶ Fair treatment and support for military retirees
- ▶ Discharge review services
- ▶ Support for adequate defense funding
- ▶ Adoption of deployed units and volunteerism at National Guard armories





# AMERICANISM

## PATRIOTIC VALUES

- ▶ The nation's foremost authority on U.S flag respect, procedures and code
- ▶ Support for public expression of the Pledge of Allegiance and the national anthem
- ▶ Classroom presentations for children on such topics as flag respect, military service, history and patriotism
- ▶ Citizenship and naturalization education and support for legal immigration





# Boyce Aten Post 25 American Legion



- ▶ More than dinners/bar...
- ▶ Chartered in 1919
- ▶ Legion Family Members
  - ▶ TAL = +200
  - ▶ Aux +100
  - ▶ SONS = +25
- ▶ Service Area: El Centro & Imperial
- ▶ Youth: Little League, BSA Imperial Troop 4070 Sponsor and more...
- ▶ Defense: National Guard & family, care packages & more...
- ▶ Veterans: VA rides, fun, comradery & much more...most importantly we are a home to many Vets!
- ▶ Americanism: Flag Day, Memorial Day, Veterans Day, IVPPC and more....



# IN TIMES OF NEED

## CRISIS CONTROL

- ▶ The National Emergency Fund has provided more than \$8 million in direct financial assistance to American Legion members and posts after crises
- ▶ Posts serve as relief stations and command centers during natural disasters
- ▶ The Family Support Network ensures families of deployed service members endure no hardship caused by their service
- ▶ Temporary Financial Assistance program awards grants to help families of veterans with children





# HONOR & REMEMBRANCE

## PRESERVATION OF MEMORIES

- ▶ Provision and delivery of U.S. flags for the graves of American military personnel laid to rest at overseas cemeteries
- ▶ Demand full accounting and repatriation of all U.S. military personnel listed as prisoners of war or missing in action
- ▶ Participation in thousands of patriotic observances and events around the world each year
- ▶ Honor guard services and memorial tributes for fallen military personnel and veterans





COMMUNITY

# THE LEGION IS LOCAL

- ▶ Every American Legion post is its own entity, working alongside local government, business and civic groups
- ▶ Legionnaires help schools with flag education, military history, Boys State, Oratorical contests, Junior ROTC, Junior Shooting Sports, American Legion Baseball and more
- ▶ Legion Riders hit the road to raise funds, provide military funeral escorts and to volunteer for multiple local, state and national causes





## HOW YOU CAN HELP

### HELP US HELP OTHERS

#### JOIN

- ▶ [www.legion.org/join](http://www.legion.org/join)
- ▶ 800 433-3318

#### GET INVOLVED

- ▶ [www.alaforveterans.org](http://www.alaforveterans.org)
- ▶ [www.legion.org/sal](http://www.legion.org/sal)
- ▶ [www.legion.org/riders](http://www.legion.org/riders)

#### GIVE

- ▶ [www.legion.org/donate](http://www.legion.org/donate)
- ▶ (800) 433-3318







THIS IS

the American Legion

**LOCAL CONTACT**

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30<sup>th</sup> District Commander

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