



Post 377 Tujunga, California

# Family Forum

March 2025



## Message from the Commander

Greetings to all Legionnaires, Auxiliary Members, and Sons of Post 377. By the time you read this, most of our Post's repair cleanup will be complete. I am personally grateful for the "can do" attitude of our contributors! Thank you to all who took time to contribute to this huge project.

*Vincent Valdivia, Commander*

As we stride into 2025, so much of our great country is changing. I won't get partial on politics, but I'd like to encourage us to have faith in our future and to stand together in brotherhood for our mission and goals.

Please join me in a shout out to our Auxiliary Juniors. They had a bake sale fundraiser which helped the fire victims. Not only did they receive accolades from their customers, but they did a great job of promoting our Post and Legion family to the community. Way to go ladies – thank you!

Please remember, raffle tickets are on sale!!! I hope to see everyone come out for our all-day event on March 15<sup>th</sup>; "Veterans serving together - Celebrating 106 years of the American Legion!" Breakfast starts at 9 AM...

Loyalty is the first obligation of a soldier.

*Vincent Valdivia  
Commander*



## From Your Service Officer and his dog, Rambo



*David Gouger  
Service Officer*

Get the VA benefits you deserve! Start by visiting [mva.lacounty.gov](http://mva.lacounty.gov) and make an appointment at the Sepulveda VA. Ask for Hector Castillo. Hector is my VSO (Veteran Service Officer) and has been a blessing. He served as a U.S. Navy Corpsman with 2nd Battalion 1st Marines in Iraq and Afghanistan. Appointments usually take around 30 days. Walk-ins are welcomed but waiting periods on average take 2-4 hours. He is located at building 22 which is directly behind the main Sepulveda VA Hospital. The process can be long and at times stressful, but in the end is worth it. Remember, you deserve it!

Semper Fidelis



—March 15th—  
Big event  
at the Post!  
**Don't miss it!**



## Auxiliary President's Message

It's right around the corner! Our Legion Family St. Patty's Day Event!!! As we prepare to celebrate our **Legion's 106th Anniversary on March 15th**, we are asking all **Auxiliary members to commit to selling 40 raffle tickets for the 50/50**. Your participation will help ensure a successful celebration.

The **Samsung American Legion Scholarship** provides significant financial support for undergraduate studies, covering tuition, books, fees, and room and board. Information about the scholarship, including eligibility requirements and the application, can be found on the web-site at:

<https://www.legion.org/get-involved/scholarships/samsung-american-legion-scholarship>

Scholarship Details:

- ◆ Ten National Scholars: \$10,000 each (two from each region)
- ◆ Ten National Runners-Up: \$5,000 each (two from each region)
- ◆ Department Finalists: \$1,250 each guaranteed

**Huge Shout Out to our Junior members!** I am so proud of you for raising money for local fire victims through their successful bake sale and for decorating the Post for St. Patrick's Day.

We are currently looking for donations of disposable round tablecloths in all colors and bottles of water. Thank you for your generosity. **Let's continue to support and empower our youth. Thank you for your dedication.**

**Chandra Young**

**President, American Legion Auxiliary Unit 377**

## Chaplain's Corner



*The nation which forgets its defenders  
will be itself forgotten. — Calvin Coolidge*



*Trish Ramsey  
Chaplain*

As we navigate this year, let us remember that hope is the light that guides us through even the darkest times, and perseverance is the strength that helps us carry on when the road feels long. For our veterans and their families, the journey has not always been easy, but it has been filled with courage, resilience, and a deep sense of purpose. As we continue to honor and support one another, let us remember that the strength within us, both individually and as a community, is a beacon of hope for the future. Together, we lift each other up, reminding ourselves that no challenge is too great when we face it with determination, faith, and a shared commitment to one another's well-being.

The Amazing Junior Members of ALA Unit 377 are proudly sponsoring Christine Chung, a junior at John F. Kennedy High School in Granada Hills, as our Unit's 2025 Delegate to the ALA California Girls State Convention this June in Sacramento. Bravo, Junior Members, for your dedication to fostering and perpetuating the value of one hundred percent Americanism. Junior Members, you are shining stars and our "beacon of hope for the future."

Grant us, God, that as Americans and Auxiliary members, we may continue to help our veterans and those in need. We thank You for our devoted Auxiliary members and pray You will bless their many works. Be with us, we pray. Amen.



# 106 Years



50/50 Raffle

## March 15, 2025

Join Post 377 in celebrating Veterans Serving Veterans



# \$15



Dinner

## Whole Smoked Pig

## Reuben Sandwiches

Fisherman Dan's famous Fries



## Events: \$35 All day

- 9:00am Pancake breakfast (\$13)
- 10:00am Legion Riders Ride
- 12:00pm Scouts Court of Honor
- 2:00pm happy hour(\$10)
- 3:00pm The Nighlight
- 3:00pm Hairsmith (Aerosmith cover Band)
- 6:00pm Dinner (\$13)
- 7:00pm Code Red
- 9:00pm Hard to Handle (Black Crowes cover Band)



SUNLAND-TUJUNGA AMERICAN LEGION POST 377

(818) 353-9856

All Day Event —Pancake Breakfast 9 AM — Happy Hour 2 PM — Four Bands — Dinner 6 PM

50 / 50 Raffle — Tickets: 2 for \$10 / 5 for \$20 / 15 for \$50 / 40 for \$100

# March 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
9	10 Pool League 7 PM	11 Men's Pool League 7 PM	12 Pool League 7 PM	K-9 Veterans Day 13 Women's Pool League 7 PM	14 Game Night 6 PM	American Legion Birthday 15 ALL DAY EVENT at POST 377
16	17 Pool League 7 PM	18 Men's Pool League 7 PM	19 Pool League 7 PM	20 Women's Pool League 7 PM	Rosie the Riveter Day 21 Queen of Hearts 7 PM 	22
23	24 Pool League 7 PM	25 Medal of Honor Day Men's Pool League 7 PM	26 Pool League 7 PM	27 Women's Pool League 7 PM	Viet Nam Veterans Day 28 Queen of Hearts 7 PM 	29
30	31 Pool League 7 PM					

# April 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30	31 Pool League 7 PM	1 Men's Pool League 7 PM	2 Pool League 7 PM	3 Women's Pool League 7 PM	4 Queen of Hearts 7 PM 	5 Gold Star Spouses Day
MEETINGS: Sons of at 10 AM Legion at Noon Auxiliary 1:30 PM 6	7 Pool League 7 PM	8 Men's Pool League 7 PM	9 Former POW Recognition Day Pool League 7 PM	10 Women's Pool League 7 PM	11 Game Night 6 PM Queen of Hearts 7 PM 	12
13	Air Force Reserve Birthday 14 Pool League 7 PM	Purple UP Day 15 Men's Pool League 7 PM	16 Pool League 7 PM	17 Women's Pool League 7 PM	18 Queen of Hearts 7 PM 	19 Family Dinner 6 PM
20	21 Pool League 7 PM	22 Men's Pool League 7 PM	23 Army Reserve Birthday Pool League 7 PM	24 Women's Pool League 7 PM	25 Queen of Hearts 7 PM 	26
27	28 Pool League 7 PM	29 Men's Pool League 7 PM	30 Military Brats Day Pool League 7 PM	National Day of Prayer 1 Silver Star Service Day Women's Pool League 7 PM	2 Queen of Hearts 7 PM 	3

# May 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
MEETINGS: Sons of at 10 AM Legion at Noon Auxiliary 1:30 PM 4	5 Pool League 7 PM	National Nurses Week 6 Men's Pool League 7 PM	7 Pool League 7 PM	V E Day 8 Women's Pool League 7 PM	Military Spouse Appreciation Day 9 Game Night 6 PM Queen of Hearts 7 PM 	10

# American Legion Auxiliary Juniors



On February 23rd, the Juniors sponsored a Bake Sale in front of Trader Joe's in Montrose. It was a great success, raising over \$250 for the victims of the recent fires in Los Angeles. Kudos to the young ladies of our Auxiliary Juniors for all your time, effort and organization skills. The Juniors are always thinking of something clever to do. We are proud of you!



Hmm.....

Does the Auxiliary have a new mascot? This is Ron's dog "Chilly" all dressed-up in a vest with the logo and ready to help with the Poppy Fund Campaign.



It's official. The Sons of the American Legion have their charter. They are ready to help wherever needed at Post 377.



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## Christine Chung: A rising star with a vision for excellence

Christine Chung is not your average high school student. At just 16 years old, she has already proven herself to be an outstanding scholar, athlete, and

leader. With a strong passion for service and a clear vision for her future, Christine aspires to attend the United States Military Academy at West Point and ultimately pursue a career in the Judge Advocate General's Corps.

Christine's journey has been one of hard work and determination. As a dedicated student, she maintains a stellar academic record with a 4.0 unweighted GPA and 4.375 weighted GPA, ranking at the top of her class. She challenges herself with a rigorous course load, including Advanced Placement (AP) courses in subjects like Psychology, U.S. History, Biology, and Calculus. Her academic prowess is complemented by her recognition in various competitions, including winning 1st place in the Regional Journalism Writing Competition and earning 3rd place in the Next Generation Scientist competition at UC Irvine.

But Christine's achievements go far beyond the classroom. A committed athlete, she has served as the captain of her high school swim and water polo teams since her sophomore year. Her leadership extends to numerous clubs and organizations, including National Honor Society (NHS), California Scholarship Federation (CSF), and Best Buddies, where she works closely with peers and mentors students, demonstrating her teamwork, communication, and organizational skills.

Christine's passion for service is also evident through her involvement in extracurricular activities like the American Legion Auxiliary, Boy Scouts, and Taekwondo, where she earned a black belt. As an Eagle Scout and a Brotherhood member of the Order of the Arrow, Christine has displayed unwavering commitment to helping others and making a positive impact on her community.

Her leadership abilities are further showcased through her role in student government, where Christine has contributed to District 12 Student Council and the Schmelerson Student Advisory Council. She also finds time to tutor elementary school students and support special needs students, showing a compassionate side that complements her academic and athletic pursuits.

Christine's dream of attending West Point is not just about academics or athletics—it's about her dedication to service, leadership, and making a difference. Her journey has been one of purpose and perseverance, and she is determined to continue her path of excellence in all aspects of life.

The Junior members of ALA Unit 377, District 20, are proud to sponsor Ms. Chung as she embarks on a trip of a lifetime to the ALA California Girls State Convention. It is an experience that will only further fuel her drive to achieve her goals and inspire others to follow in her footsteps. With her vision, ambition, and unwavering work ethic, there's no doubt that Christine will make a lasting impact wherever she goes.

***It is easier to build strong children than to repair broken men.***

*—Frederick Douglass*

# Councilmember Monica Rodriguez Visits Post 377



Councilmember Rodriguez visited the Post in late January and met with the Commander, Auxiliary President, Sons Squadron Commander and several Legion and Auxiliary members. Topics discussed were banners on the light poles on Commerce Avenue from Foothill to Valmont, Veterans Awareness Day and possibly getting a glass globe for the light on the front patio to match the one already there.

From Councilmember's February 1st, 2025 newsletter:

*It was great to connect with Council District 7 stakeholders this week and share the work we are doing together for our community. The Shadow Hills Property Owners Association and the American Legion Post #377 are both amazing partners to my office and it was a delight to meet with them and discuss all the different ways we can continue to partner to uplift one another. It was also a pleasure to meet Raj Basara who owns and operates Subway restaurants in the San Fernando Valley.*



## Cleaning Up After Plumbing Repairs



Strong backs and much volunteer time got it done — shovel full by shovel full.

The plumbing has been repaired and everything is flowing downhill. All the dirt from the trench in the parking lot has been removed and the lot is almost back to normal.



They worked into the night to load the trailer that took away the excess dirt.



A safe space was found to unload the excess dirt. The next day, the trailer was un-loaded — shovel full by shovel full.



If the front patio area looks neater it's because of the hard work of Juvi Segura and David Gouger. They took out the dead tree and picked up all the debris, loading into Juvi's VW to cart it away. It was said Juvi's vintage VW truck looked like a Chia Pet on wheels. Thank you Juvi and David!

# MARCH 15th

On this day 106 years ago, members of the American Expeditionary Force convened in Paris for the first American Legion caucus.  
The American Legion was born.

Celebrate March 15th all day at the Legion Hall!

9 AM—Breakfast—\$15

2 PM—Lunch/Happy Hour—\$10

6 PM—Dinner—\$15

OR

\$35 for the whole day

Go riding with the  
Legion Riders at  
10 AM.

Stay for the Scouts  
Court of Honor at  
Noon.

Four bands:

3 PM — The Nightlight

5 PM — Hairosmith

7 PM — Code Red

9 PM — Hard to Handle



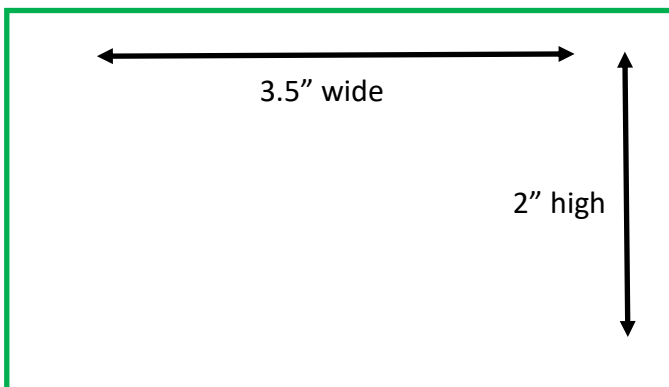
**Don't forget to get to get your 50/50 raffle tickets.**

The next American Legion meetings are on Sunday, April 6th  
Sons of the American Legion meet at 10 AM  
The Legion meets at Noon — Upstairs  
The Auxiliary meeting follows at 1:30 PM  
We hope you will attend.

## Place an Ad in the Newsletter

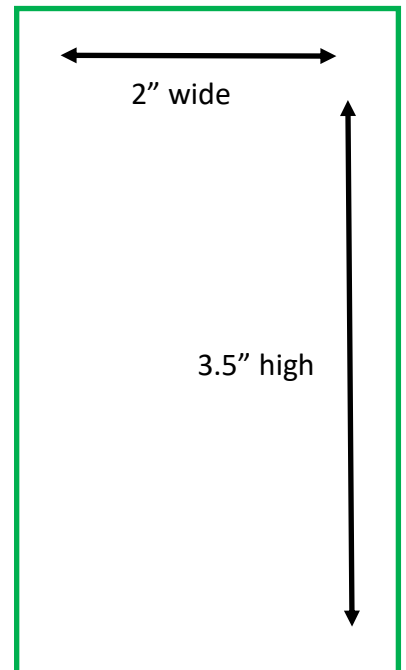
Whether you want to promote your business, send birthday or anniversary wishes, or make an announcement, here is your opportunity.

- \$35 per ad, per month
- Ads are 3.5" x 2" (business card size)
- Send camera ready art work in JPEG format to: PubRelALA377@gmail.com
- Deadline is the first Friday of each month
- An invoice will be generated and e-mailed to you and to the Legion Treasurer
- Payment is due upon receipt of invoice
- Ad space is available only to our members



If you need help  
designing an ad,  
we can help you.

Let us know what you  
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Support Legion  
and Auxiliary  
Businesses