VFW Post 3199 2801 W Hatch Rd Modesto, Ca 95358 *Return service requested* Non Profit Organization U.S. Postage Paid Modesto, CA 95353 Permit No. 80

CALENDAR OF EVENTS			
Th 1/10 House Committee Meeting at 6 pm F 1/11 Chili Baked Potato Bar General Meeting at 7 pm Su 1/13 Sunday Breakfast F 1/18 Tuna Casserole Su 1/20 Sunday Breakfast M 1/21 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr Day F 1/25 Goulash Su 1/27 Sunday Breakfast February	F 2/1 Chicken Fried Steak Su 2/3 Sunday Breakfast Past District CC/Pres at 11 am Th 2/7 House Committee Meeting at 6 pm F 2/8 Chicken Enchiladas General Meeting at 7 pm Sa 2/9 District Meeting at the Eagles Hall in Modesto	Crab Feed at Stanislaus County Veterans Service Office (vfw3199events@gmail.com) Su 2/10 Sunday Breakfast Th 2/14 Valentine's Day F 2/15 Spaghetti Pin-Ups on Tour (pinupsontour.com) Sa 2/16 Dinner with Elvis at 6 pm Su 2/17 Sunday Breakfast M 2/18 President's Day F 2/22 Beans and Ham Su 2/24 Sunday Breakfast	Friday Dinners: 4-7 pm Sunday Breakfasts: 7-11 am

A Message From the Commander, continued

(go to pinupsontour.com for ticket information). Finally, in February, the Auxiliary is hosting a dinner night with an Elvis impersonator (Tony Freitas). Again, you will need to check out the website or our Facebook page for ticket info. Tickets are going fast for all these events so if you are interested, you better get your tickets now!

For those who have chipped in and gave up a few volunteer hours, thank you. For those members that haven't been able to make it out and see the changes going on, come on by. I know we can find a little something you can do to give back to your veteran community. With breakfast every Sunday, some type of fund raiser a month, and dinners every Friday, every little bit of support helps. It's why we joined the VFW in the first place.

Finally, I would like to again thank our incredible Auxiliary. You continue to provide unyielding support to the veterans of this post. You supported us while we served and you continue to support us while we strive

to serve others. We can't do this by ourselves and it's great to have your sturdy, and sometimes stubborn, support behind us. I know I speak for the post when I say we can't thank you enough for giving us a home to come back to when we need it.

Again, Happy 2019 everyone! I'm looking forward to what the new year will bring. If you haven't paid your membership dues for the year, come by the post or go online to vfw.org and get caught up. Also, you can always visit our website: vfw3199.org, or follow us on Facebook.

May God bless you and your family. Please reach out to the post if there is anything we can do or help you out with.

Kevin Aqueche
Commander

Auxiliary President's Comments

Happy New Year! Wow – what a busy few months. Thank you to all of the members who helped make our holiday dinners such a great success. We served over 100 people for each dinner. So many adorable children visited Santa. We had wonderful donations of turkeys, hams and canned foods for our holiday baskets. We were able to pass out 16 baskets for each holiday. All of your donations helped to make that a huge success.

We have a really busy month coming up in February. We are partnering with the post for 3 events:

2/9: Crab Feed. Call me for tickets.

2/16: Pin-Up USO Show. It's free for veterans & \$20 for others. Tickets are available at pinupsontour.com. **2/17:** Elvis Dinner starring Tony Freitas. Dinner will be ham, scalloped potatoes and veggies. There are only a few tickets left-call me if you're interested.

Volunteers are needed for helping with these events. We continue to have our Friday night dinners from 4-7 pm each week. Menu posted on the post Facebook page "modestovfwpost3199" or on our website: vfw3199.org. In order to continue these dinners, we need volunteers to sign up to cook for a Friday. Volunteers for cooks and servers are needed.

We continue to do breakfast every Sunday from 7-11 am. We are also looking for help with cooking,

dishwashing, set up, steam table and clean up. The funds truly have helped give us the opportunity to care for others.

Our Auxiliary meetings are the second Friday of each month at 7 pm. Come and see what we have going on. We are always looking for new ideas and helpers to help our veterans. Our next meeting will be January 11th.

Our membership is at 99.3%. We need to get over 100%. If you know someone that is eligible to become a member of the VFW Post or Auxiliary, please put them in touch with myself or the Commander. Reminder: sons, daughters, granddaughters, grandsons, brothers, sisters of a Veteran who served in a foreign war-are eligible for the auxiliary. You can be involved as much or as little as you want. But membership is the key for us to help make a difference. We are here to support our veterans and their families. If you know a veteran in need, please have them reach out to their local vet center or VFW.

Tammi Aqueche

Auxiliary President 2018-2019

Feel free to reach out to me: 209-505-2808

House Chairman Note

Fellow warriors and all our supporters, I would like to wish you a Happy New Year! I believe that this year is going to be one of our finest. Our Commander has informed me the parking lot, we have all been working so hard to raise money for, will become a reality. HOOOOOrah!

The house committee has been working diligently to present to our membership, projects needed to keep our post presentable and to be running smoothly. I have started a project that I need all of your help. I believe our post needs better lines of communications to keep all our members informed and to try to gain better participation. I know many times our members have good intentions in participating in our meetings and functions we have here at our post, but before you can make it, life happens and it slips by you. So I am proposing a phone tree so we can remind you of upcoming events. However, we do not have everyone's contact information. I'm asking now for every members email, mobile phone number and address. You can come by our canteen and leave it with one our bartenders or feel free to text or email me (see the contact info listed below. Thank you for taking the time.

Semper Fi

Fred Garcia

House Committee Chairperson

Mobile: 209-606-4123

Email: mrvato_50@sbcglobal.net Post email: vfwpost3199@gmail.com

Please call/email the post if you have any changes to make: address, email, phone number, etc.

If you would like to receive your newsletter by email—please email the post.

209.537.3360 vfwpost3199@gmail.com





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A Message From the Commander

Happy 2019 everyone! 2018 was incredible. The 16th Annual Chili Cook-Off brought in almost \$10,000 for the parking lot fund. We're only \$20,000 away, now, and I think we can get that this year. Wouldn't it be great to finally see a parking lot around here this year? If you would like to help out, come down and purchase a brick or paver. All of the proceeds go towards the parking lot and you get a chance to permanently recognize someone at the same time. When you come in, you will see that we already started putting them down. We need a lot more to fill in the space we have made for them.

To recap the year, members of the post participated in more than 20 memorial services for veterans throughout the county. We donated over \$4,000 toward assisting veterans in need. We supported our local schools with flag raising ceremonies while showing them the importance of honoring our flag. We contributed over \$500 towards assisting veterans returning to continue their education. We provided clothes to more than 80 of our homeless counterparts during the 2018 Stanislaus County Stand down in October. We gave out 34 holiday baskets with all the fixings to our brothers and their families that could use the support during Thanksgiving and Christmas. Finally, on Christmas Eve, we came together and provided over 200 gifts to 45 single mothers and their children. As you know, no one does more for veterans than the VFW. VFW Post 3199 in Modesto is living up to that motto.

Moving into 2019, we are planning to start the year off strong. In February, we are hosting the 1st Annual Crab Feed to be held at the County Veterans Foundation building on Coffee Rd. Check out the web site (vfw3199.org) or Facebook for more details. We are also hosting a USO-type event on the 15th

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Chaplain's Corner

May we send out prayers for our comrades: Ben Huerta, Anthony Pasalaqua, and Alan Segru; for health and wellness.

Right now is a good time to reflect on the passing year and set new goals for the new year. In an effort to help our Comrades in Paradise, we are asking for donations of toilet paper, diapers, and infant formula. If there is a way for me to help you please feel free to contact me. My email is guido4usa@gmail.com and my phone number is 209-850-4353.

I understand that this time of year is hard for people-if you or someone you know needs a listening ear, do not hesitate to contact me. Please, if you know a comrade in distress or ill let me know.

Thank you and God Bless,

Chaplain Guido

Post 3199 Chaplain

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