

September Pot Shot 2026

September 2026						
SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
		1	2	3	4	5
SATURDAY-SUNDAY POST IS OPEN AT 1100 AM	MONDAY-FRIDAY POST IS OPEN AT 2:00 PM	6 PM Post Event Planning 7 PM VFW House Committee Meeting	10 AM Garage Sale Setup	9 AM Garage Sale Setup 6 PM dinner Teriyaki Chicken 7 PM Karaoke	830 AM Garage Sale	830 AM Garage Sale
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
9 AM Garage Sale	LABOR DAY 6 PM dinner Spaghetti 7 PM Karaoke	7 PM VFW Post Membership Meeting 7 PM VFW Auxiliary Meeting:		6 PM dinner Lasagna 7 PM Karaoke	Blue Oak Elementary School 9/11 Assembly	POST OPEN AT 1100 AM
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
POST OPEN AT 1100 AM	10 am – 1 pm Troopathon 3105 Fite Cir. Suite 108, Sacramento 6PM dinner Enchilada 7 PM Karaoke	7 PM American Legion Executive Board Meeting		6 PM dinner Ribs 7 PM Karaoke	11:30 Jack Hilden SVNC 6 PM POW/MIA Ceremony	POST OPEN AT 1100 AM
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
POST OPEN AT 1100 AM	6 PM dinner 1/2 chicken 7:00 PM Karaoke	6 PM American Legion Auxiliary Meeting 7 PM American Legion General Meeting		6 PM dinner Shepherd's Pie 7 PM Karaoke	3 PM Jack Hilden Celebration of Life	POST OPEN AT 1100 AM
27	28	29	30			
POST OPEN AT 1100 AM	6 PM dinner Beef burgundy 7 PM Karaoke					

VFW AUXILIARY 6158

8990 Kruitof Way, Fair Oaks, CA 95628

RUMMAGE SALE

September 4 & 5, 2026

Friday & Saturday

8:30 A.M. to 4 P.M.



And



Sunday – Sept. 6, 2026

9 A.M. To 12 Noon

FINAL DAY ONLY !!!

FILL YOUR BOX \$ 10



You're Invited

PLEASE JOIN US FOR A

POW/MIA REMEMBRANCE CEREMONY

NATIONAL POW/MIA DAY

*Honoring America's
Prisoners of War and
Missing in Action.*

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 18

AT 6 PM

**OUTDOOR MEMORIAL PARK
AT THE**

FAIR OAKS VFW

8990 Kruitof Way
Fair Oaks, California

*Refreshments will be provided
after the ceremony.*

Fair Oaks Veterans Hall Monthly Meetings

8990 Kruitof Way, Fair Oaks, CA 95628

VFW Post Housing Committee Meeting: 7 pm, 1st Tuesday each month

VFW Post General Meeting 7 pm, 2nd Tuesday each month

VFW Auxiliary Membership Meeting: 7 pm, 2nd Tuesday each month

American Legion Executive Committee Meeting: 7 pm, 3rd Tuesday each month

American Legion General Membership Meeting: 7 pm, 4th Tuesday each month

American Legion Auxiliary Membership Meeting: 6 pm, 4th Tuesday each month

In Memory of Jack Hilden

A military service for Jack Hilden, a life member of the VFW, is scheduled for September 18, 2026, at 11:30 AM , at the Dixon National Cemetery for anyone who would like to attend.

A celebration of life will be taking place on September 25th at 3:00 PM at VFW Post 6158 in Fair Oaks. Please let the bartender know if you will be attending as the family would like to have an accurate count.

POW/MIA Day

On September 18th at 6PM, there will be a POW/MIA Day ceremony at the Post 6158 Memorial Garden. Refreshments will be available at the conclusion of the event.

Sacramento Stand-down September 24-26

This is a great opportunity to help our unhoused veterans. Denise will have a comprehensive list of items our veterans need. One of the treasures that our Post has made in the past is our knit beanies.

VFW Commander's Corner *By Gary Burns*

First, I would like to congratulate our last year's officers for achieving the All-American Post recognition. This is a great accomplishment and a reflection of our outstanding leadership and membership. If you served as a post officer last year, and haven't yet received a commander's coin from me, please hit me up the next time you see me. Thank you for your service!

The horrific events of September 11, 2001, launched our nation's war on terrorism. Today, we honor those who lost their lives that day with a national Patriot Day. This year, Blue Oak Elementary School in Cameron Park wishes to honor our veterans that day during a school assembly. If you are a veteran, and are available to be there that day, please let me know so you can be honored. Our local fire fighters and law enforcement will also be honored during this event.

The 3rd Friday of September is set aside for the National POW/MIA Recognition Day. This year, we plan to have a ceremony in honor of our prisoners of war and missing in action. This

will take place at the post's memorial park/outdoor gazebo starting at 6PM. Shortly after the ceremony, refreshments will be served.

As we head into the new school year, think about the two scholarship programs the VFW offers to middle school and high school students each year. The middle school competition (Patriot's Pen) involves a patriotic essay, and the high school competition (Voice of Democracy) involves a recorded speech. At each level of the competition (Post, District, State, and National), students could receive prizes and recognition. At the national level, the Patriot's Pen winner will receive a \$5,000 scholarship, and the Voice of Democracy winner will receive a \$35,000 scholarship! All entries are due on October 31st. For more information, pick up a flyer at the post, or visit: vfw.org -> Community -> Youth & Education -> Youth Scholarships.

VFW Benefits Officer *By Chuck Jamison* Any VFW member that does any community service can let me know and I can add it to our online dashboard. I need your hours, mileage, the date, and a brief description of what you did. It helps the Post get recognition and helps the VFW generally to show the volunteer work being done by members. American Legion and the Auxiliaries have similar programs. Contact your leaders.

American Legion Post 383 Commander *By Chris Siegfried*

Recently, Post 383 conducted a mission analysis to determine the direction and priorities we wanted to pursue moving forward. After careful discussion, our members identified Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation as our number one priority, followed closely by Children & Youth Programs.

Over the past few months, our commitment to Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation has translated into meaningful assistance for Veterans in our local community.

When the VA was unable to immediately accommodate a Veteran in need of substance-abuse treatment, we helped connect that Veteran with an inpatient treatment program, ensuring they could get the help they needed without delay.

We also assisted a Veteran who had fallen behind on car payments. The Post contributed toward the outstanding balance, and, working alongside community partners, we were able to secure the remaining funds needed to prevent the vehicle from being repossessed.

In another case, we helped a Veteran transition from temporary housing into an apartment of their own. To help provide a positive start in their new home, the Post provided funds for groceries and other immediate necessities.

These efforts are a reminder of what can happen when Veterans, community organizations, and dedicated volunteers work together. Our mission is not simply to honor those who served—it is to stand beside them when they need us most.

Post 383 is proud to continue putting Veterans first and looks forward to expanding these efforts in the months ahead.

ALA/AUX Chaplain

By Denise Verbeck deniseverb@aol.com, 916-967-5110

Greetings to all our beloved Auxiliary members. If you or someone you know from our organization is in the hospital, sick at home, going through a rough patch, or has lost a loved one, please contact me. If you are celebrating your birthday, please join us on our 4th Tuesday meeting at 6 pm, I'll treat you to a celebratory drink.

VFW Auxiliary



On August 11, Chaplain James Copley joined the VFW Auxiliary for a moving presentation on veteran care and suicide prevention. Though daily veteran suicide rates have decreased from 22 to 17–18, progress is not victory. It is a reminder that the battle for their lives continues right here at home.

Many veterans return home fundamentally changed. The instincts that kept them alive in combat don't easily translate to a peaceful world, creating a deep sense of isolation that grows over time.

Thanking a veteran for their service is a meaningful gesture, but gratitude only lasts a moment. Real connection takes effort: ask their name, grab a cup of coffee, and check in on them long after Veterans Day has passed. Pay attention when someone quiets down or stops showing up and listen without trying to fix them. Healing relies on trust, not advice.

That connection is the heart of a Veterans Service Organization: providing uncomplicated friendship and a safe space where veterans are surrounded by those who understand without needing explanations. Simply knowing those memories aren't carried alone can change everything.

To guide us, Chaplain Copley shared three crucial steps known as ACE:

- **Ask:** Be brave enough to ask the hard questions.
- **Care:** Remember that sometimes the greatest gift isn't advice, but your presence.
- **Escort:** Walk *with* them to get help, rather than just pointing them toward it. Going together can save a life.

Let's do more than thank our veterans. Let's care enough to make sure they are still here tomorrow.

(The Auxiliary extends its deepest gratitude to Chaplain Copley for his time and vital message. Much of this article was adapted directly from his presentation. Lara Smith, AUX Historian)



**VFW Chaplain James Copley receiving District 17
Chaplain of the Year from Matt Gillen, District 17
Commander with VFW Commander Gary Burns**

Ice Cream Social

Thank you to those who attended the Ice Cream Social this year. We raised \$250 for the VFW National Home for Children that day.



Gary and Melissa Burns