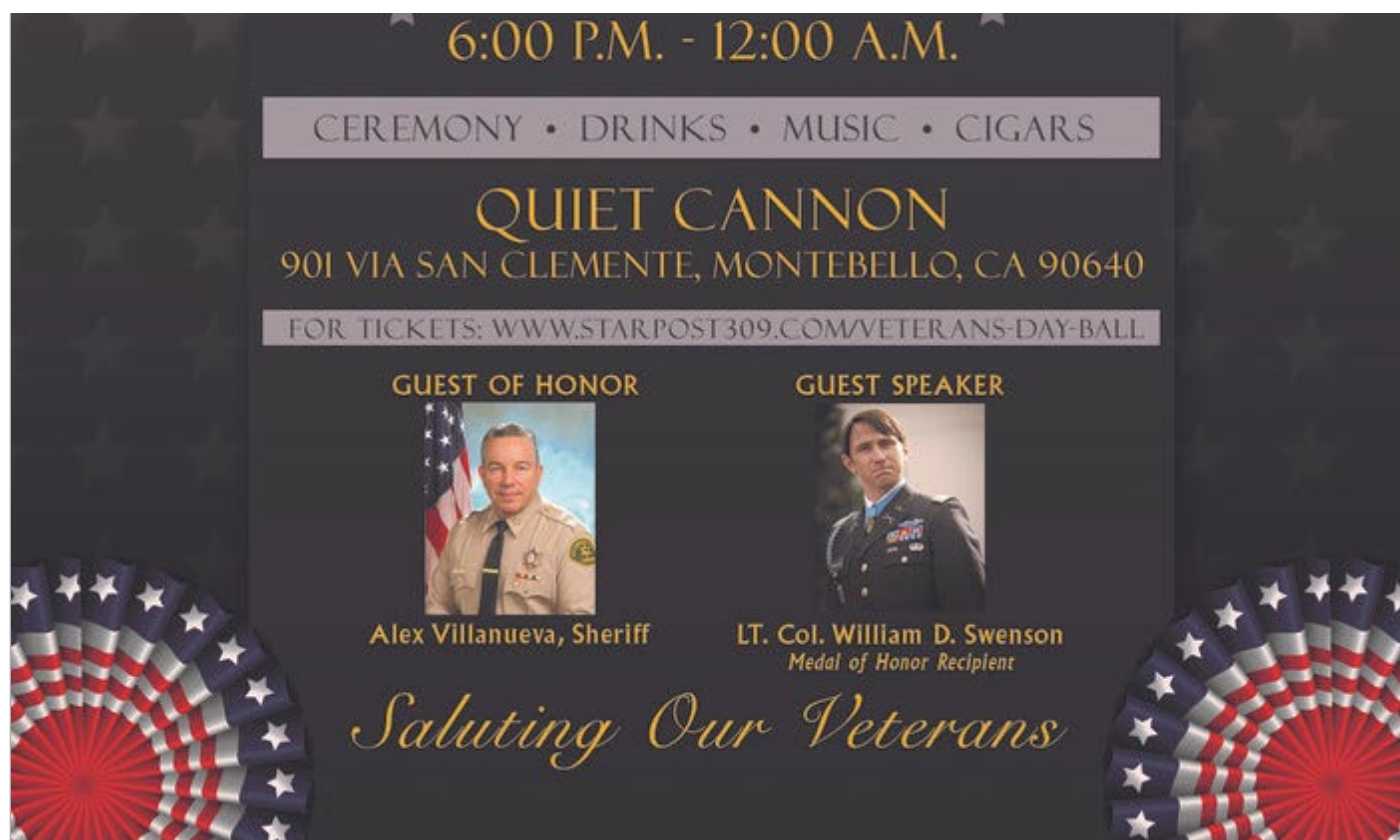




Star Post 309 News

October 2021





We are only one month away from our inaugural Veterans Day Ball. The last day to purchase tickets is October 28, 2021.

We secured a block rate with the Hilton hotel on site. See the information below:

Hotel: Hilton Garden Inn Los Angeles Montebello

Group Name: Sheriff's Star Post 309

Arrival Date: 11/06/2021

Departure Date: 11/07/2021

Cut-off Date: 10/15/2021

Simply copy and paste the URL below into your browser to access the exclusive rates available for this group:

Booking Link: <https://www.hilton.com/en/book/reservation/deeplink/?ctyhocn=LGBMBGI&groupCode=SSP&arrivaldate=2021-11-06&departuredate=2021-11-07&cid=OM,WW,HILTONLINK,EN,DirectLink&fromId=HILTONLINKDIRECT>

Please note, the entire URL must be copied and pasted for it to work properly. Please share this link with anyone who needs to book their sleeping rooms.

Another way you can book your reservations is by calling the Hilton Reservations toll-free number at 1-

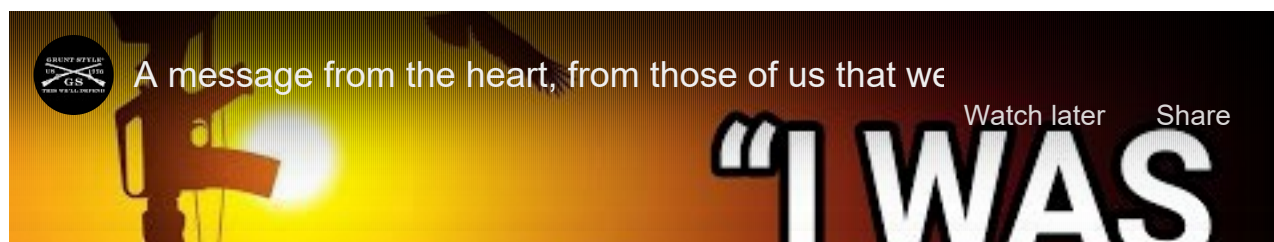
800-HILTONS, mention the Sheriff's Star Post 309 Group Block at Hilton Garden Inn Los Angeles Montebello or the unique code SSP to receive the group rate.



On October 27, Star Post 309 is teaming up with the Sheriff's Information Bureau and Psychological Services Bureau's **VETS 4 VETS** program to host a virtual and in-person meeting to discuss mental wellness of our military veterans.

The event is meant to bring focus on the Vets 4 Vets program and other services offered by our Department, and to dispel the misconception that asking or seeking help is a sign of weakness, but is rather a sign of strength. The event is not meant to be a therapy session (which is more appropriate in a private setting), but to initiate the discussion about what our military veterans experience, especially those who have continued forward as law enforcement officers.

Once the details have been finalized, we will distribute more information. If you are interested in participating, email Sgt. Carlos Levario at clevvari@lasd.org. If you are unable to attend, the event will be made available at a later date in the form of a video.





Members of Star Post 309, including Sheriff Villanueva and the LASD Color Guard comprised of military veterans assigned to the Recruit Training Unit, were invited to commemorate the 20th anniversary of 9/11 at the Hall of Justice.

It is incumbent on all of us to never forget the tragic events surrounding that fateful day which changed history. It is also essential to never forget the men and women who have fought for our freedoms since then. While a lot of appropriate attention has been placed on honoring the sacrifices of the service members killed in the recent attack in Kabul, Afghanistan, we must also remember the sacrifices endured by those since 9/11. We remember all of our fallen, and we pay homage and respect to their memory and sacrifice.

For God and Country.



On Wednesday, September 8 at 7:00 PM, the City of Indio will host a Candlelight Vigil to honor USMC Corporal Hunter Lopez, son of Riverside Sheriff's Deputy Alicia Lopez and Captain Herman Lopez.

On September 8 at the Hall of Justice flag raising ceremony, we will have cards available for anyone to sign to send their condolences to the Lopez family.



**American Legion
Day
-Sept 16-**

Did you know the American Legion celebrates its birthday on September 16?

Since its founding in 1919, the central mission of the American Legion is to support our military service members, our veterans, and their families. This support comes in a myriad of ways from changing legislation at the national level, to the boots-on-the-ground work of our local Posts.

Veterans Strengthening America





A reminder that the Climb for Heroes event was rescheduled to NOVEMBER 13, 2021.

We invite all veterans, American Legion members, LASD and family to join our team as we raise funds to assist our veterans in need. Take on the challenge of climbing to the peak of Mt. Baldy.

To join the Star Post 309 team,
visit <https://p2p.charityengine.net/climbforheroes2021/Register/Activity/>
Click "Join Existing Team" then hit NEXT. In the search bar, type "American Legion" and you will see the team pop up. Click "Join" and select your choice of "Climb for Heroes 2021" to participate in the team, or "Virtual Participant." As a virtual participant, you do not have to physically join the event.

Create your account and ask your family and friends to donate toward your goal.

For more information about the climb,
visit <https://p2p.charityengine.net/climbforheroes2021/Home/Index/>



A big **CONGRATULATIONS** to our American Legion Auxiliary member, Destini Bocanegra, daughter of Fred (USMC) and Trish (retired LASD Sgt.).

We are very excited that she was selected from among hundreds of eligible candidates for the Jimmy Trimble Scholarship. As a Young Marine Master Gunnery Sergeant, Destini has displayed the qualities of leadership and service.

We are extremely proud of her!

Commander's Corner

I am honored to serve as your Post Commander for 2021-2022. I have much to learn and look forward to exchanging ideas and with each of you. It is with deep humility and gratefulness I serve.

First and foremost, I would like to thank Ernie for his service, dedication, and support to our Post. In the past year, with the pandemic greatly affecting our operations and activities, he was a continuous force and standard bearer that kept us together while increasing our membership. Please, as your time permits, make sure you let him know how grateful we are for his leadership and friendship.

My priorities as your Post Commander are as follows:

1. Find us a home.
2. Increase membership and retain members.
3. Succession planning.

No matter where we get together, we are home. But it would be nice for us to have a physical location that we can call home and gather together and celebrate as brothers and sisters. Second, will be to continue increasing our membership while retaining current members. Finally, we have a strong membership, but we need to all pitch in and take leadership roles in our Post as we are all stewards of our Post.

In conclusion, I am looking forward to our Veterans Day Ball later this year. Hopefully it will become an annual celebration of fellowship as we celebrate our service to Country and County. Please get your tickets and invite others to get their tickets!

Once again, thank you for the opportunity to serve. If I make a mistake, please correct me. I can be reached at Oscar.Martinez@starpost309.com.

Semper Fi,
Oscar Martinez



The American Legion has launched its new website **mylegion.org**. This is a newly revamped site where members can access their membership information and profile, print a replacement membership card, and access the Flag and Emblem American Legion store. Veterans can also find valuable resources, links to discounts, and locate veteran service officers in their area, all in one manageable site.

American Legion Basic Training



Basic Training

How Does it Work?

Course Structure

Learn more about the American Legion by taking the [online Basic Training course](#). This is the Legion's official training course intended for all members, especially those who would like to be part of the leadership team for Star Post 309.

For the benefit of our newer members, we have on our [Star Post 309 website](#) numerous resources for your benefit. We also encourage all of our members to read our **Star Post 309 Member Handbook** which includes our governing bylaws.

Follow us on our social media pages:

- [Star Post 309 Facebook](#)
- [American Legion Riders Chapter 309](#)
- [American Legion Auxiliary Star Unit 309](#)
- [Instagram @starpost309](#)

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