



American Legion

Orcutt Post 534

145 W. Clark Avenue, Orcutt CA 93455 * 805-937-0651 * <http://post534.org/>

Constitution

Preamble:

For God and Country, we associate ourselves for the following purposes:

To uphold and defend the Constitution of the United States of America; to maintain law and order; to foster and perpetuate a one hundred per cent Americanism; to preserve the memories and incidents of our associations in the Great Wars; to inculcate a sense of individual obligation to community, state; and nation; to combat autocracy of both the classes and masses; to make right the master of might; to promote peace and good will on earth; to safeguard and transmit to posterity the principles of justice, freedom and democracy; to consecrate and sanctify our comradeship by devotion to mutual helpfulness.

Article I – Name

Section 1. The name of the organization shall be: Orcutt Post 534, The American Legion, Department of California, located at Orcutt, California.

Article II – Objects

Section 1. The objects and purpose of this Post shall be to promote the principles and policies set forth in the foregoing Preamble, the National and Department Constitutions of The American Legion.

Article III – Nature

Section 1. This Post is a civilian organization and membership therein does not affect or increase liability for military or police services. Rank does not exist in the Post. No member shall be addressed by his military or naval title in any meeting at the Post.

Section 2. This Post shall be absolutely non-political and shall not be for the dissemination of partisan principles or for the promotion of the candidacy of any person seeking public office or preferment.

Section 3. Each member shall perform his full duty as a citizen.

Article IV – Membership

Section 1. Membership in The American Legion shall be as prescribed by the National Constitution of The American Legion.

Article V – Officers

Section 1a. The officers of this Post shall be the Commander, the First Vice-Commander, the Second Vice-Commander, the Adjutant, the Finance Officer, the Historian, the Sergeant-At-Arms, the Judge Advocate, and the Ways and Means.

Section 1b. The elective officers of the Post shall be Commander, First Vice-Commander, Second Vice-Commander, and Sergeant-At-Arms.

Section 1c. The following officers shall be appointed by the Commander:

Adjutant	Chaplain
Finance Officer	Judge Advocate
Historian	Service Officer
Ways & Means	

Section 2. Nominations of officers and executive committeemen shall be held during the first regular meeting in April of each year and announcement thereof shall be made by the Adjutant at the next regular meeting.

Section 3. The elective Post Officers shall be elected for a term of one (1) year, the Executive Committeemen shall be elected for a term of two (2) years, at the first meeting in May and shall be installed prior to the first day of September of that year. All elections shall be by written, secret ballot and a majority of votes cast shall be necessary to elect the Commander and Vice-Commanders. The other officers and the Executive Committeemen shall be elected by plurality vote.

Section 4. Every member of the Post in good standing shall be eligible to hold office in the Post as provided in Article III, Section 2 of this Constitution.

Section 5. The duties of the officers and Executive Committeemen shall be those usually pertaining to such officers of committeemen and as further provided for in the By-Laws.

Section 6. All vacancies in the elective officers shall be filled by secret ballot at a regular meeting following the vacancy; provided that notice of the election by given at the meeting preceding the election.

Section 7. The office of the Finance Officer and any other offices/or positions charged by the Post Constitution and By-Laws with the responsibility of handling Post funds shall be bonded under a blanket bond to be purchased from Department Headquarters and be billed to the respective Post at cost.

Section 8. That in the event any Post officer or member of the Post Executive Committee shall be absent for three (3) consecutive meetings of the Post or Executive Committee without being excused by the Post Commander, or Executive Committee, such office may be declared vacant by a majority vote of those present at a regular Post meeting held after a written notice to all members that such a vote will be taken. The vacancy so created shall be filled by election or appointed as the case was originally filled.

Article VI – Finance

Section 1. No appropriations shall be made without first referring the same to the Finance Committee for report there from. All bills shall be referred to the Executive Committee for report. The Executive Committee shall prescribe the form in which the finance records shall be kept.

Article VII – The American Legion Auxiliary

Section 1. This Post recognizes an auxiliary organization to be known as the Auxiliary Unit of Orcutt Post 534, The American Legion, Department of California.

Section 2. Membership in the Auxiliary shall be as prescribed by the National Constitution of The American Legion.

Article VIII

Section 1. Proposed amendments to this Constitution must be submitted at a regular meeting of the Post, and read therein. At the next regular meeting, or subsequently of postponed, the proposed amendment may be adopted by a two-thirds (2/3) affirmative vote of those present and voting.

Section 2a. This Constitution and By-Laws shall be amended to conform to any changes in the National or Department Constitution or By-Laws. Failure of the Post to adopt the required amendment shall not delay or modify the effect of such changes.