



Ask a Vet Today!



A non-profit official publication of:
**Department of the Pacific Areas
Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States**



Check out the next edition of the **Around the Pacific** newsletter coming next month!



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FREE

“Fight for our Vets!”

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VFW CELEBRATES 115 YEARS OF SERVICE FROM 1899-2014 NO ONE HAS DONE DOES MORE FOR VETERANS



September 25, 2014 - On the evening of September 29, 1899, thirteen men — veterans who had fought on Cuba during the Spanish-American War — gathered at a tailor shop in Columbus, Ohio. They shared their accounts of what was then, the most popular war in America's history, but further, to discuss how they could assist their fellow veterans and the dependents of their fallen comrades.

These men could not have known then what would grow from such humble beginnings.

The simple and selfless desire to care for those who share in the common bond forged by war, laid the foundation for what has grown to become the multifaceted organization that is the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States.

Arguably the most recognized veterans service organization in America — and certainly the oldest and most accomplished — the VFW has evolved into nothing short of a powerhouse for veterans. It's the veterans service organization that has positively impacted the life of each American veteran, or at the least, helped to provide them the promise of opportunity and a better future.

Since its inception so long ago, the VFW has been a determined advocate for all veterans, service members and military families. Generations upon generations have joined in its cause, each as steadfast and determined to help fulfill the VFW mission as the last.

Before the VFW came into existence, veterans did not receive health care for wounds received in combat; most of them didn't receive any treatment for any disease or illness acquired as a result of military service; pre-VFW veterans had no reasonable expectation of receiving compensation of any sort.

The men who founded the VFW challenged the status quo and by doing so, helped shape the future for veterans forever.

It was the VFW that demanded America promise to graciously and appropriately care for those who bear the burden of war and put their lives on the line in defense of our nation and way of life. And throughout the years, it has been the VFW that has remained tenacious and resolute in its fight to ensure that America lives up to that promise.

Over its storied 115 year history, the VFW's efforts led to the establishment of the Veterans Administration. It helped to create the Montgomery and Post-9/11 GI Bills. It was a key player in the development of the national cemetery system. It led the fight for compensation for Vietnam vets exposed to Agent Orange and for veterans diagnosed with Gulf War Syndrome. It was a powerful

force in the passing of a record VA discretionary budget, the VOW to Hire Heroes Act, the reinstatement of military Tuition Assistance programs and most recently, the Veterans Access, Choice and Accountability Act of 2014. These achievements offer merely a glimpse into its long list of legislative accomplishments.

But, the effect the VFW has had on the lives of those who've worn the uniform, as well as those of their families, extends far beyond its advocacy efforts. Its programs and services are second to none and have provided a hand up to millions of those who have needed it and deserved it the most. Its service officers have helped hundreds of thousands of veterans recover billions of dollars in benefits and compensation from the VA. It has provided millions of dollars in grants to military families who've fallen on hard times, millions of free calls home for deployed and hospitalized veterans, and raised billions of dollars for needy veterans through its "Buddy" Poppy program.

VFW Posts have and continue to act as pillars of support in communities across America and abroad. Posts are often the first to organize and offer aid or assistance to local veterans and military families in need. They are the patriotic pulse of local communities, working to foster patriotism in our nation's youth, inciting good citizenship, erecting memorials, maintaining cemeteries, organizing community events and donating millions of volunteer service hours within their communities each year.

Though much has changed over the years, today's VFW operates by the same creed upon which it was formed back in 1899. It exists only to care for those who fight to ensure America remains a nation free from tyranny and fear. It's an organization that was created by veterans, for veterans, and owes all that it has accomplished over its many years to its members; the lifeblood of the organization.

No one has, does or will do more for veterans.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY U.S. AIR FORCE AND U.S. NAVY



U.S. Air Force on 18 September 1947 and U.S. Navy on 13 October 1775



Department Officer's Comments

From the Department Commander:

Comrades,

As most of you realize, VFW does much in trying to assist our Veterans, families, widows and orphans. Many people outside of VFW do not realize this fact. We in the Department of the Pacific are dedicated to supporting these important supportive efforts.

For those who do not realize some of the achievements in support of our Veterans, they may be interested in a few facts:

- 84,000 VA claims were filed by the VFW's force of service officers in 2013 resulting in over \$5.9 Billion in benefits in the past two years.
- There were 3,628 grants provided to military families facing financial hardship through the VFW Unmet Needs since 2004.
- \$2,376,910 in grants were provided through VFW Unmet Needs, covering housing for struggling military families since 2004.
- Over \$45 Million donated annually to local community service projects by VFW members.
- VFW is the largest and most influential organization representing our Veterans with Congress and the Administration, resulting in many Veteran's Bills being passed and enacted supporting our Veterans, last year alone.

These are just a small sampling of the actions that VFW and your Department of Pacific undertake in full support of our Vets, Active Duty, families, widows & orphans.

As I regularly indicate, we are dedicated to this purpose and increased membership is the key to being able to do more for our Vets.

In this regard, would like to congratulate Post 9612 at Camp Zama, Japan for being the first Post to reach or exceed 100%. They were followed, closely by Post 124 in Baguio, Philippines. Great work guys!

Also, Gasper Delise has now recruited 22 new and/or reinstated members while Cliff Wilsey has recruited 18. Keep it up, it is so important!



“Fight for our Vets!”

Warmest Regards,

Bear



VFW

**NATIONAL
MILITARY
SERVICES**

See how you can help: <http://www.vfw.org/>

If you make a donation, we thank you very much and ask you to please inform your Post Adjutant / Quartermaster.

From the Department Senior Vice Commander:

Comrades,

The last month of the 1st Quarter has begun and we are currently 43 recruits behind last year's National Membership Statistics. The Department is currently in 4th place at the National level sitting with 87.17% membership. Comrades we must recruit early to get our future members involved in our POST's activities. Remember retention is the major key to helping with your recruiting efforts if you do not lose them year after year it will be much easier to replace those that do not transfer out or decease.

I would like to congratulate POST 9612 Camp Zama Japan District 2 for being the first POST in the Department to achieve over 100% in membership. Also congratulations to POST 124 District 7 for being the second POST within the Department for exceeding the 100% membership as well as the first POST to exceed over 100% retention.

I would like to also extend a job well done to the current top 4 recruiters: Gasper Delise (23), Cliff Wilsey (20), Larry Lyons (12) Pete Callaghan (10). There are several Comrades who have also recruited members this 1st Quarter of the year to whom I would also like to extend special thanks to all recruiting Comrades and please keep up drive and initiative toward membership your time and effort will benefit your POST. Just as a reminder the deadline early bird awards for membership is the end of November 2014!

At the District level I would also like to extend a job well done to the current top 4 Districts on their membership percentages. District 2 (96.36%) District 1 (96.12%) District 4 (95.80%) District 7 (93.24%).

Comrades I have once again published the Feedback Worksheet please try to place this tool in your recruiting kit it will be very useful.

Membership Strategies Feedback Worksheet

Awareness:

- What is your Post doing to build awareness of the VFW in your local community?
- How is your Post working to improve public awareness of the VFW's goals and mission?

Recruitment:

- What is your Post's strategy for recruiting new members?
- How can you improve your current recruiting strategy?

Engagement:

- What is your Post doing to keep every member engaged and participating in the Post?
- What can your Post do to engage your members?

Renewal:

- What is your Post's strategy for retaining members through renewal or conversion to Life membership?
- How can your Post improve your strategies for increasing member retention?

Reinstatement:

- What is your Post's strategy for reinstating lapsed members?
- How can your Post improve your strategies and methods for reinstating lapsed member?

Comrades there are 3 great truths to remember about membership:

- 1) Membership acquisition is a team effort.
- 2) You will not reach 100% by running behind in New or Reinstated Members.
- 3) The National Membership Department Dues Notice is not a acquisition program, it is only one component of retention process.



I would like challenge each and every Comrade of the Pacific try to accomplish the 2014-2015 VFW National Commander and Chief John Stroud three basic goals:

- 1) Every Comrade recruit or reinstate one new member.
- 2) Share your VFW story.
- 3) Get involved.

Comrades please ask yourself what have I done about the three **R**'s in the past month? Did you **R**-cruit new members? Did you reach out and **R**-einstat members? Did remind annual members to pay their dues and **R**-etain continuous members? Thanks for all your support and lets have a great Year Fighting for our VETS!

Once again Thanks to all the Comrades of the Pacific for your support this year as the SVC as well as the Membership Chairmen. The numbers and percentages are growing daily on members and it is visible that there has been a lot of time and effort put into your recruiting. Please take the time and effort and ask the simple question to all that you meet are you a VFW member and always carry your applications!

Yours in Comradeship,
 Homer Kemper
 Senior Vice Commander
 Department of Pacific Areas



From the Department Junior Vice Commander:

Comrades,

Overall the Community Services Reports are not looking good! We still have some zeroes for a few of the months and only 17 of the 26 Post submitted entries for the month of September. It is never too late to submit a report. I know each post has many comrades doing community service. Therefore, please take the time to submit what you are doing in your community. The C of A is right around the corner. That means that the CSR year is almost half over. Post Commander's now is the time to review the All State and All American requirement' s for CSR's. Please work with your Jr. Vice Commander to get all your reports turned in. If you have any questions or concerns, please send me an email.



Post	Dist	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	Total
9723	1	15	10	14	17	21	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	80
1054	2	7	24	23	27	17	2	0	0	1	1	1	0	104
9555		18	3	12	9	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	55
9612		95	98	78	59	81	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	412
8180	3	13	12	14	3	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	44
9985		7	0	1	4	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	14
10033		0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
10215		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
10216		22	28	11	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	68
10223		5	5	4	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	17
12109													0	0
727	4	8	8	6	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	28
9957		2	0	5	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	18
9876	5	35	36	25	27	25	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	149
9951		47	13	4	22	19	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	105
10217		17	20	22	16	15	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	91

10249		9	1	3	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	15
11575		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
12074		2	20	25	37	20	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	109
1509	6	36	25	11	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	76
2917		0	1	4	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7
3457		17	16	17	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	56
124	7	6	6	6	7	14	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	39
2485		56	54	60	77	75	16	0	0	0	0	0	0	338
9892		4	22	10	18	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	71
11447		4	4	9	5	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	29
Total		425	406	364	363	303	26	0	0	1	1	1	37	1927

Yours in Comradeship,
 Robert Moses
 Junior Vice Commander
 Department of Pacific Areas



From the Department Junior Past Department Commander:

Comrades,

Having just read the Around the Pacific (ATP) newsletter, I am really disappointed. We have Posts that are doing outstanding work in the Communities. Yet, only Districts 1 and 2 have submitted articles for the ATP. This use to be a monthly newsletter. No one likes to write articles, however, this is the newsletter for the Post to use as a spot light and let the other Posts in the Department know what you are doing.



There is nothing in writing that says you have to submit articles for the ATP, but at the end of the year it might be the difference between two Posts that are competing for Outstanding Post of the year. The District Commander's read the write ups and then can go "Yeah, I remember reading about this Post in the Around the Pacific. They really did a great job this year." Now don't get me wrong here. I'm not saying that is the way it is done, I'm just saying it couldn't hurt when you are presenting the articles every other month.

Yours Always in Comradeship,
 Shawn Watson
 Junior Past Department Commander
 Department of Pacific Areas



Think Membership!
Did you ask anyone to join today?
They cannot say yes unless you ask.

From the Department Adjutant:

Comrades,

I hope all is well as you serve our fellow Comrades, Veterans, Widows, and Orphans. I just updated the General Order #1 and Memorandum. I TRY to update monthly. It is too difficult to update every time there is a change in Post or District Officers so I do it once a month. If you update your General Order online, it is automatically submitted to National and to me as well.

I look forward to seeing you all in Cebu at the end of the month for the Western Conference meeting. PDC Larry Lyons has put a lot of work into the event and I am sure it will be First Class. Take an extra day or two to enjoy the local sites. As we experienced, the Park Lane is a very nice hotel and is near many attractions.

Please take a look at the schedule for the Council of Administration meeting in December. We will meet in Subic the first week of December. District Commanders, do not forget to bring a special gift item for the Commander's Appreciation Dinner.

Commanders and Service Officers... you should have a letter in your department email that will assist you in your membership numbers. As you assist Veterans with their VA claims, you can give them a copy of this letter to inform them on how and why they should become a member. Please modify the letter to be more applicable to your situation and environment.

I will take this opportunity to address the Scouting program. The applications for the Scout of the Year will be due 1 March, just like last year. I normally do not get too many submissions. Please get with your local Scouting unit to solicit Eagle Scouts (Boy Scouts), Gold Award Winners (Girl Scouts), Silver Award (Venturing), or Quartermaster Award (Sea Scouts) for nomination. The application process is pretty lengthy so don't delay.

If you need me for anything, please email me at: adjdpa@vfwdeptpacific.org

Yours in comradeship and service,
Darin Combs
Adjutant
Department of Pacific Areas



From the Department Chief of Staff:

Greetings Comrades

We have two potential new Department post on the horizon, National recruiter Larry Lyons is hard at work within the K-16 area of Korea recruiting and providing guidance to new members engage in establishing a new Post. Comrade Douglas Cilley in Bang Chang Thailand is beating the bushes and working hard to recruit enough members to qualify for a new Post, he has successfully recruited 20 members to date. He is also searching to find a convenient location to hold meetings. Remember Comrades Rome was not built in a day it takes time and hard work. Larry and Douglas your Department Comrades wish you good luck.

Cheers!

Yours in comradeship,
Bob Zaher
Chief of Staff
Department of Pacific Areas

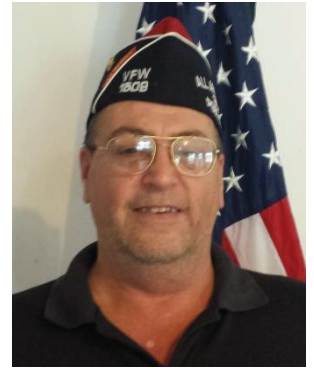
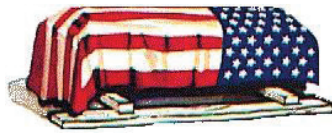


Murphy's Military Law: It is generally inadvisable to eject directly over the area you just bombed.

From the Department Chaplain:

Comrades,

As Always, thank you for your service to our members, other veterans and families members, and your service to our great Nation.



Member deaths reported since the June Convention total 4. This seems a low number, considering the size and demographics of our Department. Please continue to submit Taps Reports to your Post and District Chaplains, for forwarding to me so that we may appropriately Honor our fallen comrades.

Veteran suicide numbers have gone up in recent years with much of the attention focused on veterans of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan killing themselves. However, almost seven out of 10 veterans who have committed suicide were over the age of 50, according to a Department of Veterans Affairs study. Please check in on our older Veterans when you have a chance.

Please contact me if I can be of assistance.

Yours in comradeship,
Brian Merenda
Chaplain
Department of Pacific Areas



From the Department Inspector:

Comrade District and Assistant Inspectors,

We are now in our fifth month of the VFW Year, with only 2 months to complete our Inspections prior to the C of A Deadline in December.

I know that some of you have probably completed your Inspections, but you have not forwarded them to me yet. If so, please send them to me at inspda@vfwdeptpacific.org as soon as you complete them. I have only received 6 so far. Two from District 1 (complete), one from District V, one from District VI and two from District VII.

I know there are more out there. Don't be shy. Send them to me so I can check you off.

Good inspecting.

Yours in comradeship,
Jerry Prinz
Inspector
Department of Pacific Areas



Murphy's Military Law: Anything you can do can get you killed – including doing nothing.

From the Department Judge Advocate:

Comrades,

In this month's Typhoon article I will discuss policy and procedures for submitting amendments or a revision to Post, District and Department By-Laws. With that said, the following information is rendered for your connivance and review.

101 AMENDMENTS FOR BY-LAWS

The instructions from National indicate that if you want to propose a change to By-Laws it must be submitted as such, **not** as a resolution. This means **no** "Whereas" or "Be It Resolved" clauses are to be used when proposing an amendment. The by-law proposed amendments must be **definite** and **specific** as to the material to be deleted or added, containing the **exact wording** of the proposed change. Also, if a Post, District or Department adopts a proposed amendment(s) or revision it shall be submitted as an attachment to a cover letter, which may outline the rationale for the proposed change(s). If a Post or District adopts an amendment or revision to their by-laws the document shall be sent **direct** to Department for review in compliance with Department By-Laws and then forwarded to National for final review and approval.

In the examples below you will see that in documenting an amendment it is important to show clarification of; 1) **who** the amendment was proposed by, 2) **referenced** article and section that the amendment applies to, 3) **amend detail** of implantation and 4) **exact wording** of the proposed change. The following are some examples of what National desires when forwarding proposed amendments for Post, District, Department, or National By-Laws:

- **Example:** Amending entire section wording.

Proposed by Post 007 (**who**)

ARTICLE XIV – APPROVAL, AMENDMENTS and CONFLICT (**reference**)
Section 1402 – Amendments.

Amend Section 1402, Post 007 By-Laws, by deleting wording after the section title and substituting in its place the following; (**amend detail**)

These By-Laws may be amended by the Post with a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the members present at a stated meeting thereof provided each member has been notified at least twenty (20) day in advance and, upon request provided a copy of the proposed amendments. All amendments shall be forwarded through channels and reviewed by the Department Commander and the Commander-in-Chief before becoming effective. (exact wording)

- **Example:** Amending section words.

Proposed by Department of Pacific Areas

ARTICLE II - POSTS
Section 220 – Vacancies and Removal of Elective Officers or Committee Members.

Amend Section 220, National Manual of Procedure, by deleting the word "majority" in the first sentence of paragraph four, and inserting, in lieu thereof, the following;

two-thirds (2/3)

- **Example:** Amending by deleting and adding sentence(s).

Proposed by Department of Pacific Areas

ARTICLE V – OFFICERS ELECTED AND APPOINTED




Section 503 –Proof of Eligibility.

Amend Section 503, Department By-Laws, by deleting the second sentence of the section, and inserting in lieu thereof, the following;

The Adjutant shall ensure that proof of eligibility is on file with the Adjutant General of the Department Commander, Department Senior Vice Commander, Department Junior Vice Commander, Department Adjutant and Department Quartermaster.

The above examples of proposed amendments for submission are definite and specific to deletions and exact wording and are considered correct procedure for documentation. Also, if many amendments are required a unit may consider submitting a **proposed revision** to the by-laws. The proposed amendments are then written into the whole document and **highlighted** as a proposed revision to the by-laws with cover letter for review by Department, and then forwarded to National for final approval.

 Please note if a unit's current by-laws state in the last section; "Whenever these By-Laws or subsequent amendments may be found to be in conflict with the present or any future National and/or Department By-Laws the latter shall prevail and be binding upon this unit as though written herein". This statement may cover a unit's needs until such a time that a revision may be necessary to incorporate changes that occur over a period of time in National and/or Department By-Laws.

Who's the Originator



An originator of proposed amendments to by-laws may be a Post, District, Department officer or the Department Convention for Department and National By-Laws. In the case of Post By-Laws an officer or any member may submit proposals for adoption by the Post and forwarding as required. In the Districts the officers, a Post or the District Convention may submit proposals to District By-laws and if adopted at a Convention shall be forwarded for review and approval. In all instances where the originator is going to forward proposed amendments to by-laws a cover letter with an attachment containing the proposals shall be submitted through proper channels. Just remember that any proposed changes to by-laws being forwarded not in proper form, unclear as to meaning, or concerning matters clearly not within the scope and purpose of the VFW **cannot** be considered by Department or National.

In conclusion of my article the above information is provided to clarify how to draw up proposed amendments or a revision to by-laws. If you have any questions on what was presented please feel free to contact me at advdpa@vfwdeptpacific.org or bill.wichman@msa.hinet.net. God bless you comrades and God bless America.

THE JUDGE'S LAW PROVERB:



"The life of the law has not been logic; it has been reason."

Yours in comradeship,
Bill Wichman
Judge Advocate
Department of Pacific Areas



From the Department Quartermaster:

Comrades,

The new VFW membership application has several differences from the older version. You should discard the old ones and only use the new ones, especially if you mail your applications to National for processing. If you don't have the new ones, you can order them in packs of 25 from the VFW Membership Department. You can call them (not a good option in our time zones), or send them an email using the "Contact Us" option at www.vfw.org.

The first big difference is DATES OF SERVICE. Due to an IRS requirement, this block must be completed. But the dates have become simpler to record. All that is required are the dates the member joined the service to the date he/she left the service. Or record the start date to "Present" if the member is still serving. The word "Present" is provided using the online membership system, but not on the new application.

The biggest difference in the new application concerns methods of payment. There are several new options on the new application. Annual members providing credit card information may elect to have their membership renewed automatically every year. Obviously this is a good option for the Post since you don't have to worry about renewing this member.

New Life members have several options for payment. They may elect to pay if full using cash or credit card. Or they may elect to make an initial payment of \$45 and have the remainder automatically taken from their credit card in 11 equal installments. Finally, they may elect to make an initial payment of \$45 and have the VFW mail them a bill for the next 11 months. The recruiter should explain each option before asking the applicant to choose one. The installment plan amounts are listed on the back of the application's cover page.

If a new Life member elects to use the installment plan, the application MUST be mailed to National because the Online Membership System cannot process installment plans. The Post Quartermaster still needs to review every application and sign at the bottom.

If you have any questions about the application process, send me an email and I will get an answer for you. HAPPY RECRUITING AND FIGHT FOR OUR VETS!



2014-2015 POST AND DISTRICT AUDITS / POPPIES / QUARTERMASTER BONDS

AUDITS SUBMITTED	JUNE 14	SEP 14	DEC 14	MAR 15	BUDDY POPPIES ORDERED 14-15	QM BOND ORDERED 2014-15
9723	X				\$58.00/500	\$100.00/\$40,000. Pd.
District I					X	\$9.00/\$3,000 Pd.
1054	X				\$58.00/500	\$45.00/\$15,000 Pd.
9555	X				\$58.00/500	\$60.00/\$20,000. Pd.
9612	X				\$58.00/500	\$65.00/\$26,000. Pd.
District II	X				X	
8180	X				\$58.00/500	\$60.00/\$20,000 Pd.
9985						
10033	X				\$58.00/500	\$60.00/\$20,000. Pd.
10216	X				\$58.00/500	\$75.00/\$30,000 Pd.
10223					\$58.00/500	\$45.00/\$15,000 Pd.
12109					\$58.00/500	\$9.00/\$3,000 Pd.
District III					X	\$12.00/\$4,000. Pd.
727	X				\$58.00/500	\$9.00/\$3,000 Pd.
9957	X					
District IV	X				X	\$9.00/\$3,000. Pd.
9876	X				\$58.00/500	\$150.00/\$60,000. Pd.
9951	X					
10217	X	X			\$58.00/500	\$39.00/\$13,000. Pd.

10249	X				\$58.00/500	\$39.00/\$13,000.	Pd.
11575							
12074	X					\$45.00/\$15,000.	Pd.
District V	X				X	\$39.00/\$13,000.	Pd.
1509	X				\$58.00/500	\$60.00/\$20,000	Pd.
2917	X				\$58.00/500	\$60.00/\$20,000.	Pd.
3457	X				\$58.00/500	\$45.00/\$15,000.	Pd.
District VI	X				X	\$9.00/\$3,000.	Pd.
124					\$58.00/500	\$9.00/\$3,000.	Pd.
2485	X				\$58.00/500	\$175.00/\$70,000.	Pd.
9892	X				\$58.00/500	\$30.00/ \$10,000.	Pd.
11447	X				\$58.00/500	\$36.00/\$12,000	Pd.
12130					\$58.00/500	\$9.00/\$3,000	Pd.
District VII	X				X		

Yours in comradeship,
 Pete Callaghan
 Quartermaster
 Department of Pacific Areas



From the Department Surgeon:

Comrades,

Well Comrades, it is that time again to provide inputs to the Typhoon and I am, as usual, late. October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month and it is a subject that should be of interest to men and women.

What is Cancer? Cancer is a broad term for a class of diseases characterized by abnormal cells that grow and invade healthy cells in the body. Breast cancer starts in the cells of the breast as a group of cancer cells that can then invade surrounding tissues or spread (metastasize) to other areas of the body.



What causes cancer to develop? Cancer begins in the cells which are the basic building blocks that make up tissue. Tissue is found in the breast and other parts of the body. Sometimes, the process of cell growth goes wrong and new cells form when the body doesn't need them and old or damaged cells do not die as they should. When this occurs, a build-up of cells often forms a mass of tissue called a lump, growth, or tumor. Breast cancer occurs when malignant tumors develop in the breast. These cells can spread by breaking away from the original tumor and entering blood vessels or lymph vessels, which branch into tissues throughout the body. When cancer cells travel to other parts of the body and begin damaging other tissues and organs, the process is called metastasis.

Facts about Breast Cancer in the United States: One in eight women will be diagnosed with breast cancer in their lifetime. Breast cancer is the most commonly diagnosed cancer in women. Breast cancer is the second leading cause of death among women. Each year it is estimated that over 220,000 women in the United States will be diagnosed with breast cancer and more than 40,000 will die. Although breast cancer in men is rare, an estimated 2,150 men will be diagnosed with breast cancer and approximately 410 will die each year.

A Global Burden: According to the World Health Organization, breast cancer is the most common cancer among women worldwide, claiming the lives of hundreds of thousands of women each year and affecting countries at all levels of modernization.

Good News About Breast Cancer Trends: In recent years, perhaps coinciding with the decline in prescriptive hormone replacement therapy after menopause, we have seen a gradual reduction in female breast cancer incidence rates among women aged 50 and older. Death rates from breast cancer have been declining since about 1990, in part to better due to screening and early detection, increased awareness, and continually improving treatment options.

Male Breast Cancer: All people, whether male or female, are born with some breast cells and tissue. Even though males do not develop milk-producing breasts, a man's breast cells and tissue can still develop cancer. Even so, male breast cancer is very rare. **Less than one percent of all breast cancer cases develop in men, and only one in a thousand men will ever be diagnosed with breast cancer.** Breast cancer in men is usually detected as a hard lump underneath the nipple and areola. Men carry a higher mortality than women do, primarily because awareness among men is less and they are less likely to assume a lump is breast cancer, which can cause a delay in seeking treatment. Of the men who develop breast cancer, the vast majority of those cases are Infiltrating Ductal Carcinoma (IDC), which means cells in or around the ducts begin to invade surrounding tissue. Very rarely, a man might be diagnosed with inflammatory breast cancer, or Paget disease, of the nipple. **Risk Factors:** Radiation exposure. High levels of the hormone estrogen. Family history of breast cancer, especially breast cancer that is related to the BRCA2 gene. **Signs & Symptoms:** Male breast cancer can exhibit the same symptoms as breast cancer in women, including a lump. Anyone who notices anything unusual about their breasts, whether male or female, should contact their physician immediately. Survival rates and treatment for men with breast cancer are very similar to those for women. Early detection of breast cancer increases treatment options and often reduces the risk of dying from breast cancer.

Genetic testing: Although treatment outcomes are very similar to women at the same stage of detection, a man diagnosed with breast cancer should also consider seeing a genetics counselor for a consultation. If a man tests positive for a defective gene (most commonly either BRCA1 or BRCA2) that can lead to a future diagnosis of breast cancer and his children have a 50% chance of carrying the gene. **In addition:** A male child of a man with breast cancer who inherits the defective BRCA2 gene has only approximately 6% chance of eventually developing breast cancer and just over 1% with BRCA1. A female child of a man with breast cancer who inherits the defective gene has a risk between 40% and 80% of eventually developing breast cancer. Men with a genetic predisposition to breast cancer are also at higher risk of getting prostate cancer at a younger age than usually diagnosed.

Doctors seldom know why one woman develops breast cancer and another doesn't, and most women who have breast cancer will never be able to pinpoint an exact cause. What we do know is that breast cancer is always caused by damage to a cell's DNA. **Known Risk Factors:** Women with certain risk factors are more likely than others to develop breast cancer. A risk factor is something that may increase the chance of getting a disease. Some risk factors (such as drinking alcohol) can be avoided. But most risk factors (such as having a family history of breast cancer) can't be avoided. Having a risk factor does not mean that a woman will get breast cancer. Many women who have risk factors never develop breast cancer.

Genetic Factors: Gender: Breast cancer occurs nearly 100 times more often in women than in men. Age: Two out of three women with invasive cancer are diagnosed after age 55. Race: Breast cancer is diagnosed more often in caucasian women than women of other races. Family History and Genetic Factors: If your mother, sister, father or child has been diagnosed with breast or ovarian cancer, you have a higher risk of being diagnosed with breast cancer in the future. Your risk increases if your relative was diagnosed before the age of 50. Personal Health History: If you have been diagnosed with breast cancer in one breast, you have an increased risk of being diagnosed with breast cancer in the other breast in the future. Also, your risk increases if abnormal breast cells have been detected before (such as atypical hyperplasia, lobular carcinoma in situ (LCIS) or ductal carcinoma in situ (DCIS)). Menstrual and Reproductive History: Early menstruation (before age 12), late menopause (after 55), having your first child at an older age, or never having given birth can also increase your risk for breast cancer. Certain Genome Changes: Mutations in certain genes, such as BRCA1 and BRCA2, can increase your risk for breast cancer. This is determined through a genetic test, which you may consider taking if you have a family history of breast cancer. Individuals with these gene mutations can pass the gene mutation onto their children. Dense Breast Tissue: Having dense breast tissue can increase your risk for breast cancer and make lumps harder to detect. Several states have passed laws requiring physicians to disclose to women if their mammogram indicates that they have dense breasts so that they are aware of this risk. Be sure to ask your physician if you have dense breasts and what the implications of having dense breasts are.

Environmental and Lifestyle Risk Factors: Lack of Physical Activity: A sedentary lifestyle with little physical activity can increase your risk for breast cancer. Poor Diet: A diet high in saturated fat and lacking fruits and vegetables can increase your risk for breast cancer. Being Overweight or Obese: Being overweight or obese can increase your risk for breast cancer. Your risk is increased if you have already gone through menopause. Drinking Alcohol: Frequent consumption of alcohol can increase your risk for breast cancer. The more alcohol you consume, the greater the risk. Radiation to the Chest: Having radiation therapy to the chest before the age of 30 can increase your risk for breast cancer. Combined Hormone Replacement Therapy (HRT): Taking combined hormone replacement therapy, as prescribed for menopause, can increase your risk for breast cancer and increases the risk that the cancer will be detected at a more advanced stage.

What Are The Stats: 60-70% of people with breast cancer have no connection to these risk factors at all, and other people with risk factors will never develop cancer.

These do not cause breast cancer: Breast cancer is not contagious; you can't contract cancer from a person who has the disease. Breast cancer is not caused by wearing underwire bras, implants, deodorants, antiperspirants, mammograms, caffeine, plastic food serving items, microwaves, or cell phones, as myths often suggest.

Well Comrades, I have provided you with all the information that I can related to Breast Cancer and probably more than many want to know, lol. Hopefully it will give some of us information that either we or loved ones may be able to use.

Looking forward to seeing some of you at the Western Conference at the end of the month and the rest of you at the CofA in December. Take care and see y'all next month.

Yours in comradeship,
 Pat "Doc" Higgins
 Surgeon
 Department of Pacific Areas



Department Committee Reports

From the Department Americanism Chairman:

Comrades,

Arlington National Cemetery

The most honored hallowed ground in the world. The first soldier to be buried in Arlington National Cemetery was an Army Private, William Henry Christman of Pennsylvania on 13 May 1864.

More than 300,000 people are buried in ta area or 624 acres. Veterans and Military casualties from every one of the nation's wars are interred in the cemetery, from the American Revolution through the military action in Afghanistan and Iraq pre civil war dead were reinterred after 1900.



Let's have a candlelight vigil for those who paid the ultimate price for our country. May God let them rest in peace, and God bless America.

Yours in Comradeship,
 Billy Q. Quintero
 Americanism Chairman
 Department of Pacific Areas

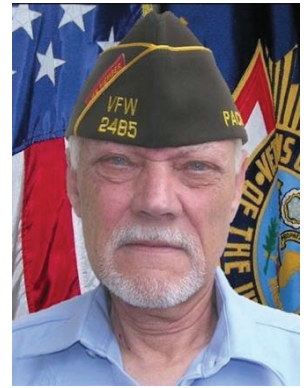


From the Department Clark Cemetery Chairman:

Comrades,

BURIAL UPDATE: New Burials at Clark remain suspended by direction of the Philippine Bases Conversion and Development Authority, (BCDA). Once again Veterans, (in this case deceased Veterans), are being held hostage to political machinations. With no one advocating for our position, an early resolution seems doubtful.

Please join us on 11 November at 1100 hours for our annual Veterans Day Observance. This event will recognize all Veterans, but highlights the service and sacrifice of those interred at Clark who represent over a century of service in all major, and many minor conflicts over the last 100 plus years. The VFW Post 2485 annual Picnic and Raffle will follow at the Post Home, Angeles City.



Significant Activities:

02 Sep 2014: VFW Post 2485 provided military burial honors for Roy Edwin Ralph, SSgt, USAF. (Clark)

16 Sep 2014: VFW Post 2485 provided military burial honors for Jorge Nicdao Canlas, CEC, USN. (Holy Mary Memorial Park)

As of 30 September 2014, Grave Digger membership stands at 1271, an increase of one over last month. New Grave Diggers:

Jimmy R. Canlas VFW Post 8180

Vincent H. Schwalbe Supporter

Memberships will continue to be offered as a legacy commemorative program, with donations used for indigent Veteran burials, upgrade of burial equipment, and to help defray the expenses of our annual Veterans Day Ceremony.

A copy of the monthly Clark American Cemetery report can be downloaded from the Post 2485 website at: http://www.vfwpost2485.com/cemetery_report.doc

Yours in comradeship,
John Gilbert
Clark Cemetery Chairman
Department of Pacific Areas



<http://www.vfwpost2485.com/cemetery.htm>



From the Department Convention Book Chairman:

Comrades, Commanders, and Quartermasters,

Please take notice it's a new VFW year 2014-2015 and all good leaders planned ahead budget your unit input to this year's convention book. Remember this is the only Department fund raiser that we have, please support it.

Here is the price list.

1 Page, Color	\$200.00
½ Page Color	\$100.00
1 Page, B/W	\$100.00
½ Page, B/W	\$50.00
Business Cards	\$10.00
Booster Ads	\$2.00



Rebates of 50% per ad start once your Post, District, or Pup Tent gets \$500.00 worth of ads. Rebates of 50 cents per booster ad begin after 35 names.

Besides the ads, captioned photographs of Post and District commanders in action with their unit members always enliven and add spice to the convention book. Send in your best and we will do our best to include them in the book, though we cannot promise to publish all photos submitted. Also, if you need any help designing your Post, District or Pup Tent ads, the convention book staff can assist you in this regard. You can contact me at: bobzaher@gmail.com

Cheers!

Yours in Comradeship,
 Bob Zaher
 Chairman, 2014-2015 Convention Book
 Department of Pacific Areas



From the Department Historian:

Fellow VFW Comrades,



This past month commemorated the 200th Anniversary of our National Anthem:



The Star Spangled Banner

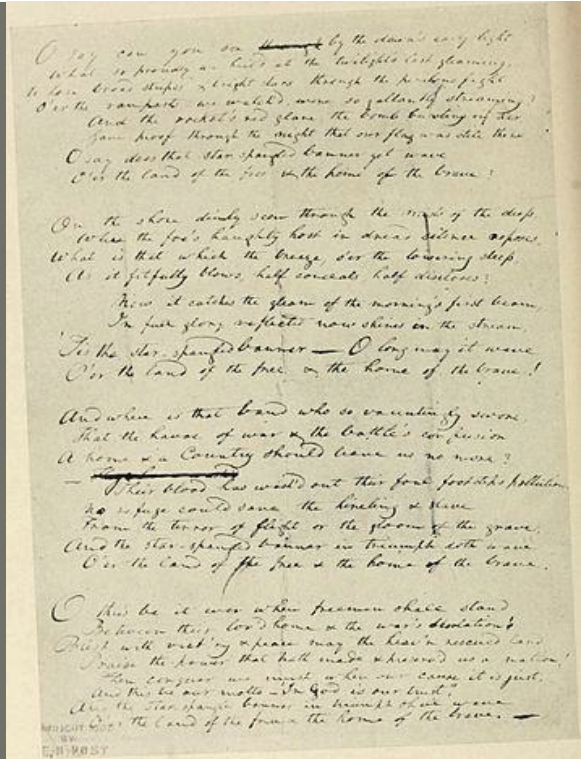
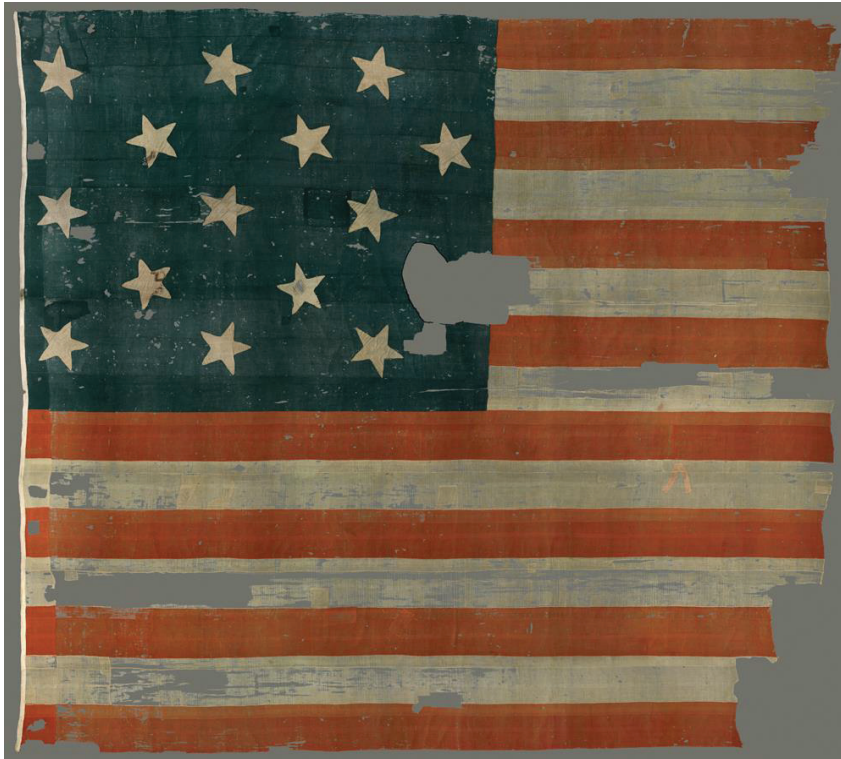
It was during the War of 1812 and after the burning of Washington DC that Francis Scott Key found himself witness to the bombardment of Fort McHenry in Baltimore Md, by the British. During the stormy night of 13 September 1814, the fort was continually shelled by the British warships. The sky was filled with the noise of exploding bombs and shells and the flashes rockets going off. A small storm flag continued to fly during the night and in the morning of September 14, a larger flag was raised. The Americans had prevailed and won the battle.

Key was so inspired by the victory and the flying of the 15 star flag with 15 stripes that he penned a poem that he titled the Defense of Fort McHenry. On September 20th, two newspapers ie Baltimore Patriot and the American printed the song. It quickly became popular and later seventeen newspapers from Georgia to New Hampshire printed it.

Throughout the the 19th century, the song gained popularity and bands played it during public events such as Fourth of July celebrations. The US Navy adopted the song to be played at the raising of the flag in 1889.

President Woodrow Wilson mandated that the Star Spangled Banner be played at Military functions and “other appropriate occasions” in 1916. The song began to be played at baseball games and was significant in the 1918 World Series during the seventh inning stretch. It wasn't until WWII that the song was played regularly before each game as it is today.

Incredibly the United States did not have a National Anthem until March 3, 1931 when then President Herbert Hoover signed a law making the Star Spangled Banner our national song.



Oh say does that Star Spangled Banner yet wave. O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave.

Please remember to send me changes or updates to Post or District History. I prefer my personal email address: tom.bergam@gmail.com

Thanks for everyone's support in assisting our Commander in his charter to Fight for our Vets.

Yours in Comradeship,
Tom “Bergie” Bergam
Historian
Department of Pacific Areas



From the Department Legacy Life Membership Chairman:

Comrades,

Comrades, we would like to welcome the below listed members to Department Legacy Life Membership Program these comrades will be leaving a lasting Legacy.



- Jonathan P. Brazee – Post 9951 District V
- Laurence V. Senato – Post 124 District VII
- Andrew E. Mayeaux – Post 12074 District V
- Richard A. Corni – Post 2485 District VII
- Jerry C. Prowant – Post 12130 District VII
- Edward W. Kenny – Post 2485 District VII



DEPARTMENT OF PACIFIC AREAS LEGACY LIFE MEMBERSHIP PROGRAM

These Legacy Members cared enough about our Department/Post future that their Legacy will live on forever. Be a Legacy Member, sign up today.

YES I PROUDLY SERVE IN THE PACIFIC AREAS

Taiwan District IV
Beautiful Island
Orville D. Humfleet ★

Thailand/Cambodia District V
Land of Smiles

- Frederick W. Berg, Sr. ★
- Jonathan P. Brazee ★
- Kenneth W. Falk ★
- Al R. Fitchett ★
- William "Bear" Hudson ★
- Eric D. Larsen ★
- Delbert N. Marohl ★
- Andrew E. Mayeaux Jr. ★
- Raymond D. Mendigorin ★
- Raymond J. Papp ★
- Morris J. Sapp, Jr. ★

Guam/Saipan District VI
Where the USA Day Begins

- Melissa Miller ★
- William W. Bradford ★
- Peter Callaghan ★
- David L. Ehlers ★
- Mark W. Franchino ★
- Gerald L. Kraus ★
- Brian J. Merenda ★
- Jesse F. Pangelinan ★
- Edward Tudor ★
- Shawn Watson ★
- Robert Woodruff ★

At Large

- Edward C. Geimer ★

135 Members

- Okinawa District I**
Home of the Rock
- Mitchell L. Farris ★
 - Robert E. Morgan ★
 - Dennis E. Provencher ★
 - Terry T. Shoemaker ★
 - Jeffrey R. Ullmann ★
 - Kimball L. Wilson ★

- Japan District II**
Land of the Rising Sun
- Michael Castro ★
 - Ricky W. Farris ★
 - Randell E. Himes ★
 - Francis A. Hunter ★
 - Homer B. Kemper ★
 - Michael D. Lutman ★
 - Sidney E. Malone ★
 - Kevin E. Mitchell ★
 - Robert W. Moses ★
 - Joseph F. Mortimer Jr. ★
 - Terrence J. Noonan ★
 - Allen W. Sanders ★
 - David D. Wykes ★

- John Q. Adams ★
- Thomas G. Aldrich ★
- Warren E. Bannister ★
- Edward P. Brozowski ★
- Carl Burke ★
- Thomas Burnett ★
- Ronald Burrus ★
- Grady E. Byrd ★
- Robert C. Chesko ★
- Richard A. Corni ★
- Thomas Darkus ★
- Terry D. Davenport ★
- Robert L. Delves ★
- Jack B. Dietz ★
- Dennis Doty ★
- Charles J. Dwyer ★
- Kenny Edward ★
- Thomas I. Elliott ★
- R. Bob Farrow ★
- Thomas J. Gallagher ★
- Paul Gasperson ★
- Steven C. Gebhardt ★
- John Gilbert ★
- William R. Grubbs ★
- Ronnie E. Harvey ★
- Craig Higginbottom ★
- Frank B. Hilliard IV ★
- James D. Hoggs ★
- Walter E. Howard ★
- John J. Istvan ★
- Eddie L. Jernigan ★
- Lowell E. Johnson ★
- Gregory L. Korder ★
- Edgar J. LaBenne ★

- Korea District III**
Land of the Morning Calm
- George E. Beck ★
 - Thomas E. Bergam ★
 - Donald Button ★
 - Jamarcus A. Brooks ★
 - Ashley D. Combs ★
 - Ralph L. Connor, Jr. ★
 - Christopher F. Coyle ★
 - Daniel G. Delaney ★
 - Lon G. Garwood ★
 - Bill T. Haney ★
 - Mike W. Higgins ★
 - Patrick J. Higgins ★
 - Ernest W. Lee ★
 - Dora Conwell Lynwood ★
 - David L. Mahanes ★
 - James D. Malott ★
 - Albert L. McFarland ★
 - Keith E. Michael ★
 - Cory D. Musgrave ★
 - Douglas G. North ★
 - Casey E. Roberts ★
 - Jeffery D. Rowan ★
 - Rockie P. St John ★
 - Kenneth P. Swierzewski ★
 - Stephen M. Tharp ★
 - Mark B. Varney ★

- Philippines District VII**
The Last Paradise
- Gonzalo Y. Limson ★
 - Edward Lyons ★
 - Richard P. Malkovich ★
 - John A. Marsh ★
 - John Marshall, Jr. ★
 - David T. Mason ★
 - John T. Mayberry ★
 - Malcolm M. McCallum ★
 - Buddy W. McGuire ★
 - Clayton L. McKelvie ★
 - James E. Montgomery ★
 - Richard A. Moran, Sr. ★
 - Eric D. Nelson ★
 - Refugio Palomino ★
 - Benjamin N. Pennell, Sr. ★
 - Edward L. Perdeu ★
 - Gerald H. Prinz ★
 - Jerry C. Prowant ★
 - Larry B. Rader ★
 - William J. Reedy ★
 - Emory C. Russell ★
 - Lawrence V. Senato ★
 - Scott Simms ★
 - Ronald D. Teets ★
 - Tom Thomas ★
 - Linus B. Travers ★
 - Archie Turner Jr. ★
 - Charles Viands ★
 - Rhett O. Webber ★
 - Clifton W. Wilsey ★
 - David Wyffels ★
 - Robert W. Zaher ★

★ - Gold ★ - Silver ★ - Bronze ★ M - In Memoriam As of 04 October 2014

Cheers!

Yours in comradeship,
Bob Zaher
Legacy Life Membership Chairman
Department of Pacific Areas



From the Department Legislative Committee Chairman:

Comrades,

Congress is back in session, and it has been a busy period for military and veteran-related issues. The VFW, at the national, department, district, and post levels remain busy in ensuring our rights are protected.

I had a chance to visit Post 10047 in Las Vegas last month (where John Stroud, our National Commander, once served as Post Commander). It was enlightening to see just how active post members are in our political process. Out in the Department of the Pacific, we don't have the easy access to our representatives and government functions, but we still have email, and we need to make sure our representatives don't forget about us. Make your voice heard!



Midterms are coming up. Know who is running in your district and make an informed vote. If we really care about veterans, we need to elect those who care as well.

Once again, I highly recommend that each member sign up for the VFW Action Corps Weekly. This weekly e-mail highlights VFW legislative issues of interest and is a good way to remain up-to-date on items that could affect veterans. To sign up, simply go to vfw.org, click on "VFW in D.D.," then go the National Legislative Service" link where you will find the current newsletter as well as being able to sign up for the newsletters to be e-mailed to you.

Here are some of the current legislative highlights concerning vets:

1. **DOD Releases Military Health System Review:** The Pentagon released a 200-page Military Health System Review that Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel had ordered in response to the access to care crisis at the Department of Veterans Affairs. The Military Health System encompasses 56 hospitals, 361 medical clinics and 249 dental clinics that serve a worldwide patient population of 9.6 million beneficiaries. Seventeen multiservice Military Treatment Facilities were selected for the review, which "found pockets of excellence — significant excellence we are very proud of," said Hagel at a Pentagon briefing on Wednesday. Regarding surgical morbidity, or complication rates, three MTFs stood out in the top tier nationally: Travis AFB, Calif., Fort Gordon, Ga., and Tripler Army Medical Center in Hawaii. But the secretary also said the report "found gaps and facilities that must improve," which in the surgical morbidity category included eight of the 17 MTFs surveyed. Wrote one outside consultant, "Overall [Military Health System] performance mirrors what we see in the private sector, a good deal of mediocrity, pockets of excellence, and some serious gaps." Said Hagel, "We can do better." Read the report at http://www.defense.gov/home/features/2014/0614_healthreview/.
2. **House Holds Hearing on Jailed Marine Sergeant:** House Foreign Affairs Subcommittee Chairman Matt Salmon (R-Ariz.) held a special hearing Oct 1 regarding the plight of Marine Sgt. Andrew Tahmooressi, who has been languishing away in a Mexican jail for six months without any noticeable help from the White House or U.S. State Department. The sergeant's mother was the key witness. Jill Tahmooressi testified how her son's condition has significantly worsened because the Mexican government is unable to treat him for his diagnosed PTSD. The VFW led the way by twice calling on President Obama to phone Mexican President Nieto about Sergeant Tahmooressi, a simple call that subcommittee members also questioned why never took place. The VFW continues to call for a nationwide boycott of products and travel to Mexico until the sergeant is released. For more on the hearing, go to the committee website at <http://foreignaffairs.house.gov/hearing/subcommittee-hearing-sergeant-andrew-tahmooressi-our-marine-mexican-custody>.
3. **New Disabled Veterans Memorial Opens Sunday:** The new American Veterans Disabled for Life Memorial opens in Washington on Oct 5. The President is expected to dedicate the VFW-supported memorial, and he will be joined by the secretaries of Interior and Veterans Affairs, and many others, to include VFW National Commander John Stroud. The memorial will open to the public at 3 p.m. It is located at the foot of Capitol Hill on the House side, at the trisection of 2nd and C Streets and Washington Avenue, SW.
4. **Camp Lejeune Care Update:** The Department of Veterans Affairs released final regulations for the "Honoring America's Veterans and Caring for Camp Lejeune Families Act." The published regulations put in motion VA's ability to provide hospital care and medical services for veterans, and to reimburse eligible Camp Lejeune family members for out-of-pocket health care costs related to any of the 15 covered medical conditions listed in the law (P.L. 112-154). What you should do now:

* Call 1-877-222-8387 and ask to be added to VA's Camp Lejeune database. VA will contact you after Oct. 24.

* Gather documents showing your relationship to a veteran who served at Camp Lejeune, such as marriage license or birth certificate, and copies of orders or base housing records that showed you lived on base for 30 days or more between Jan. 1, 1957 and Dec. 31, 1987.

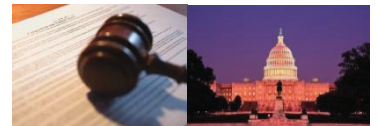
* Keep receipts for health care expenses you paid for a covered condition on or after March 26, 2013. This is the date when Congress began to fund this program. Hold on to your documents and receipts. You'll be able to submit these starting Oct. 24.

For more information about VA's Camp Lejeune program, including eligibility and how to apply, visit <http://www.publichealth.va.gov/exposures/camp-lejeune/>.

5. VFW Charter Update: VFW's congressional charter was signed in 1936, by President Franklin D. Roosevelt when the military consisted only of men. Today, our military consists of brave men and women putting duty and service before themselves. Based on a resolution that was passed on the floor of the VFW National Convention, two companion bills, S. 2782 and H.R. 5441, were introduced by Senate and House VA Committee chairmen will make small but significant changes to that charter. The update consists of two wording changes - replacing the word "men" with "veterans" and the word "widows" with "surviving spouses." Contact your Senate and House members today and ask them to support passage of S. 2782 and H.R. 5441. Tell them that the VFW believes that being an eligible veteran is what is most important to our organization, not gender. And changing widows to surviving spouses more accurately reflects the membership of the VFW. Urge them to support and pass these bills today!

Comrades, this concludes my report on legislative matters concerning veterans. If you have any questions you may contact me at corter79@hotmail.com.

Yours in Comradeship,
Jonathan Brazee
Legislative Chairman
Department of Pacific Areas



From the Department National Home for Children Chairman:

Comrades,

You all make it possible for the VFW National Home for Children to help families, give hope and honor service. Thank you for all you do!

"Give struggling military and veteran families the gift of a brighter future. The National Home receives no government funding. We rely entirely on private donations for our funds".



Did you know there are **Other Ways to Give?** From clipping and sending in your soup labels to hosting a fundraiser in your community, there are many ways to make a difference in the lives of struggling military and veteran families at the VFW National Home for Children.



Campbell's Labels for Education Program, you can send Campbell's product UPCs to the National Home and help us work toward our goal of getting another mini-van! Since 2004, we have collected nearly 8 million UPCs, earning six mini-vans to date. Visit the [Campbell's Labels for Education website](#) for information on product eligibility and cutting instructions. To [view the current list of eligible products](#). Use these special collection sheets and make your Campbell's points add up even faster: [1-Point Collection Sheet](#), [5-Point Collection Sheet](#) or the [10-Point Collection Sheet](#).



Gifts-in-kind are welcome at the National Home. Our [Amazon.com Wish List](#) has the most current list of items we can use. And our Santa Shop program is always accepting donations for use at Christmas time. [Learn more.](#)



Good Search just select the VFW National Home for Children as your charity at www.goodsearch.com and your Internet searches will add up to donations to the National Home.



Tyson Project A+

Clip and save Project A+ labels from participating Tyson products. The National Home can redeem them for about 24 cents each for up to \$12,000 cash in one year! For details go to www.tyson.com/projectaplus.

Fundraiser Ideas:

Looking for ideas to get your whole post or auxiliary involved in raising money for the National Home? We have a ton of fundraising ideas for you!

National Home Donation Report

The report for Department of Pacific Areas has arrived and it does not look that good so far this year for most of our Post. Please check this list and let me know if you have made your Post Donations for this year. If you send me a copy of the receipt that the National Home sends to you I can make easier updates for your Post donations.

This report was for July – Sept 29 2014, there has been a few Post that have sent copies of their donations and I have also added them to this report. I cannot update something that I have not received. I will be requesting this report on the 10 of each month so make you donation before then.

Post	District	Post Donated	Members Participated	Life Members	Post	District	Post Donated	Members Participated	Life Members	
9723	1	\$60.00		142	9876				4	
1054	2			66	9951				7	
9555				157	10217	\$50.00			12	
9612		\$100.00	3	26	10249				3	
8180	3			10	11575				4	
9985				6	12074				0	
10033					15	1509				27
10215					4	2917				1
10216					78	3457				2
10223					8	124				0
12109					0	2485		\$269.85		21
727	4			10	9892		\$70.00	2	3	
9957				53	11447				7	
Total			\$160.00	3	275	Total	\$389.85	2	91	

Did you know, that the National Home for Children Host a Military & Veteran Family HELPLINE.

MILITARY & VETERAN FAMILY HELPLINE

800-313-4200

A service of the VFW National Home for Children.

help@vfnationalhome.org

The Military and Veteran Family National Home Helpline at 800-313-4200 is a free service for the military, veterans, and their families who are facing challenges in the areas of housing, disability, benefits, and more.

The MVF Helpline is staffed by caring professionals weekdays from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. EST. Staff are able to assist callers with connecting to resources in their own community, with Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Service Officers nationwide, and provide information and application to the Home's on-site housing program.

People call with a variety of issues they need help with. The caller might be a veteran facing eviction from his home. Or the caller could be a soldier's wife needing some food to tide the family over after a power outage.

Whether it is providing information about local resources or assisting with admittance to the Home's on-site program, the Helpline staff are here to help!

Every caller is helped no matter what problems are there; no one is turned away. Please pass on the Military and Veteran Family Hotline number – 800-313-4200 – to those who could benefit from the help offered. Be heard. Be helped.

The VFW National Home for Children serves as a living memorial to America's Veterans by helping our nation's veteran and military families during difficult times.

For inquires about any of our services, call the National Home Helpline at 800.313.4200 or email help@vfnationalhome.org.

Please report any and all donations that you make to the National Home to me so they can be recorded and tracked. Email them to nhcdpa@vfwdeptpacific.org

Yours in Comradeship,
Randell E. Himes
National Home for Children Chairman
Department of Pacific Areas



From the Department Publicity Chairman:

Comrades,

DPA Tidbit's

Department of the Pacific Areas Like page on Facebook, come join your comrades on it at: <https://www.facebook.com/DPAVFW>.



VFW Mobile Recruiter APP

New this year in the membership-recruiting program is the ability to specify a specific post using the VFW Mobile Recruiter APP. Once you find a potential new member you collect his/her information and submit it using the VFW Mobile Recruiter APP. The post Quartermaster can then access this information via the OMS under the New Member Prospects Tab. This will allow the post to accept or decline their application. If the applicant is declined for membership in the post or if no action has been taken within a certain period of time, that person's information is forwarded to the Department Quartermaster. To find out more about how it works log into OMS, open the New Member Prospects and you will find a training video.

VFW magazine is published by the Veterans of Foreign Wars at its national headquarters in Kansas City, Mo. VFW is among the nation's 50 largest magazines in circulation and the 8th largest association publication. It is published 10 times a year and has a readership of 1.3 million war veterans.

VFW is First Veterans Organization to Join VA's #VetQ Initiative VFW is proud to be a leader in helping veterans online

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (July 30, 2014) — Today, the Department of Veterans Affairs launched #VetQ, a new initiative that will provide quick and credible information and vast resources to any veteran, service member or family member seeking answers on a wide array of service-related questions. The VFW was the first veterans service organization to join VA as an official partner to its latest veterans service endeavor and will play an active role in helping to fulfill #VetQ's mission. Anyone with a question pertaining to veterans' benefits, entitlements, compensation, health care, etc., should submit their question via Twitter<<http://www.twitter.com/>> using #VetQ. The VFW will be on hand to provide the answers needed, efficiently and expeditiously.

"The VFW knows one of the biggest problems veterans face is getting accurate answers to their questions in a timely fashion. This bold initiative takes a 21st century approach to resolving that issue and will undoubtedly help countless veterans and their families. We're proud to be a part of it," said VFW Communications Manager Randi Law. During a time when hashtags are ubiquitous, the VFW knows this effective means of communicating will be utilized on a large scale and will work to assist countless veterans and service members each day. There are 255 million monthly active Twitter users, 78 percent of whom are on mobile. Perhaps more impressive, 500 million tweets are sent each day. With an estimated 21 million veterans living today, this customer service initiative is the largest of its kind, and the VFW is extremely optimistic about the potential of this progressive approach to helping veterans in today's world.

The VFW has experienced much success in its social media endeavors in recent years. It was the first, and remains the only, VSO to hold regular Facebook town hall meetings during which users can chat with a VFW subject-matter expert on topics ranging from the Post 9/11 GI Bill, the VA claims process or the VFW's scholarship program. During the VFW's recent national convention, hundreds of convention delegates used #VFWconvention to share their experiences. The VFW maintains a sizable social media following with approximately 480,000 followers on Facebook, more than 21,000 on Twitter and 50,000 on Google+.

Yours in Comradeship,
Al Fitchett
Publicity Chairman
Department of Pacific Areas



From the Department POW-MIA Chairman:

Comrades,

This is copied *From Naval History and Heritage Command, Communication and Outreach Division*

There are stories about other senior and well-known POWs, such as Lt. Cmdr. John McCain and future Adm. James Stockdale. But one of the more remarkable stories is about the youngest Navy POW to be jailed in North Vietnam, Seaman Apprentice Douglas B. Hegdahl. The 19-year-old South Dakotan had joined the Navy only six months before, lured by a chance to visit Australia. He was assigned to serve as an ammunition handler on the guided-missile cruiser USS Canberra (CAG 2) in the Gulf of Tonkin.



Eager to witness a night bombardment, he went topside without authorization and was knocked overboard by the concussion of the ship's giant guns on April 6, 1967. He stayed afloat for several hours before being picked up by North Vietnamese fishermen and turned over to militiamen and then trucked to Hoa Lo.

Hegdahl's story that he had fallen off a ship was so preposterous to his captors they thought he was a spy. After being slapped around for a few days, he finally convinced officials he was just a raw recruit and then cunningly played up his country bumpkin demeanor. More than 6-feet tall and near-sighted without the glasses he lost overboard, Hegdahl played the fool to gain extra communication opportunities and time outdoors. In the process, he became a valuable reconnaissance operative and "mailman" in the POW network.



Left: Seaman Apprentice Douglas B. Hegdahl on cleanup detail at Plantation. Right: Lt. Cmdr. Richard "Dick" Stratton

Using the tune of "Old McDonald Had A Farm" as a mnemonic device, Hegdahl memorized 256 captive's names, their shoot-down dates and a personal reference to prove his information was correct, all gained through an elaborate tap code created by the prisoners.

A peace delegation visit in 1969 offered the opportunity for the North Vietnamese to free a few pre-chosen POWs while hiding the true numbers of POWs held captive and the atrocities they endured. Although the POWs had pledged that no one would accept an early release unless all were released, Lt. Cmdr. Richard "Dick" Stratton, the senior officer at the Plantation, ordered Hegdahl to accept it. And so unbeknownst to the enemy, Hegdahl "sang" a detailed accounting of captives and conditions to Naval Intelligence of Hanoi's neglect and mistreatment of American prisoners that discredited the Communists' "humane and lenient" claim.



Stratton, who would survive as a POW and retire as a captain in the Navy, credited Hegdahl with saving his life by providing that information. And with his permission, he offers an uncensored, poignant and often hilarious recounting of his time with Hegdahl on his blog, [Tales of SE Asia](#). One includes Hegdahl surreptitiously dumping a little dirt each day into the fuel tanks of the Plantation's trucks. Over the course of his captivity, Hegdahl disabled five trucks. The country bumpkin who played his captors for a fool would eventually become a civilian instructor in the Navy's SERE school in California.

Stratton said the emotion he feels on POW/MIA Recognition Day is "relief that I made it and sorrow that others didn't," he said Friday morning from his home in Florida. "I am very proud of the efforts being made to account for people who remain missing, from the incredible work being done to identify remains at the laboratory in Hawaii to the folks in Washington who are doing a superb job considering the issues of working with other countries."

For those returning during Operation Homecoming in 1973, the journey that ended with Denton's words on the tarmac at Clark brought some of the prisoners home to hard-won honor and tributes

and others to new trials. For all of them, their tenure as POWs would be a defining chapter in their lives, just as their homecoming would be a singular moment in the life of the nation that celebrated their return.

When Marine aviator Capt. Harlan Chapman arrived stateside, Gen. Louis Wilson shook his hand and said: “Welcome back to the Marine Corps.” Chapman replied: “Thank you, General, but I never left.”

Yours in Comradeship,
Alex Roesete
POW-MIA Chairman
Department of Pacific Areas

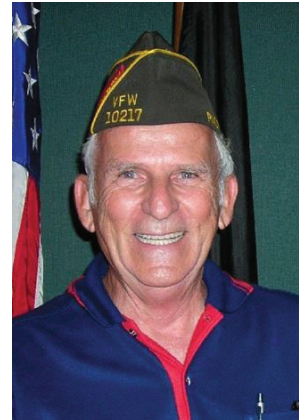


From the Department Public Servant Award Chairman:

Commanders,

Howdy Comrade District and Post Commanders of the Great Department of the Pacific, I have a sick horse and I have led him to water and he won't drink so this is what I need:

1. A qualified Medical Person to revive him.
2. A qualified Law Enforcement Person to protect him.
3. A qualified Firefighter to put out the gassy fire coming out his rear.



Time is running out to find these qualified individuals so I refer you to the July 2014 Typhoon, page 22 for the information needed.

The judging will be held on 05 December 2014, 1300 hrs, at the CofA.

Insure you send all the appropriate information to me at freddefreeloader@gmail.com. You have less than two months to get it done.

Thanking you all for your support.

Yours in Comradeship,
Fred W Berg, Sr.
Public Servant Award Chairman
Department of Pacific Areas



From the Department Voice of Democracy / Patriot's Pen / Teacher's Award Chairman:

Commanders, District & Post Chairmen for the VOD / PP / Teacher's Award,

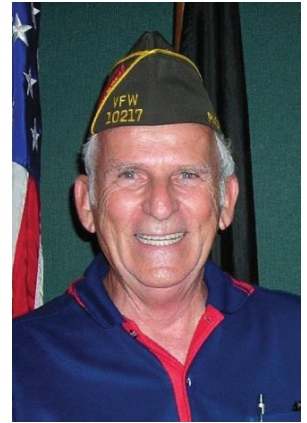
We have entered the last 20 or so days for all entries for the VOD / PP / Teacher's Award that are due at District Level by 01 Nov 2014. If you have not already done so, may I suggest that you make one more stop to all schools in your area and remind them of the coming deadline. I would also explain all requirements, as I would hate for a student that has taken the time to submit an entry and be disqualified for not following all required instruction. (i.e. PP – essay length: 300-400 typewritten words, in no way may contestants identify themselves within their essay, do not put their name or the school they are from on the essay. VOD – students should record their reading of the draft to a CD. The recording can be no shorter than 3 minutes and no longer than 5 minutes (plus or minus 5 seconds), preferred format for CD's is the audio CD format. When burning your CD make sure that "Create Audio CD" option (or Similar) is selected so the program can properly convert your sound file and burn it to CD. After it has finished, be sure to play back your audio CD on a system other than your computer, such as a standard radio or car CD player, to verify that the conversion/burning process was successful, the body of the essay must not identify you in any way.)

You may download the official entry forms online at www.vfw.org, click on community and then programs and the programs for all three awards will appear. If anyone has any questions or concerns, please let me know by contacting me at: vodddpa@vfwdeftpacific.org or freddefreeloder@gmail.com.

The Department Judging will be 1300 hrs on 05 Dec 2014 at the CofA.

Yours in comradeship and service,
Fred W Berg, Sr.

Voice of Democracy / Patriot's Pen / Teacher's Award Chairman
Department of Pacific Areas



From the Assistant Department Service Officer:

Comrades,

VA Updates Disability Claims Application

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) today announced that it is introducing a uniformed disability claims form to better serve Veterans, families and survivors. Standardizing the process by which Veterans file claims and initiate appeals will make it easier for Veterans and their survivors to clearly state what benefits they are seeking from VA and provide information that is necessary to process their claims and appeals. The new forms eliminate applicant guesswork, which often leads to delays in decisions and ultimately delays in receiving benefits. The new regulations go into effect in late March 2015.



"We must do everything that we can to make it as fast and easy as possible for Veterans and their survivors to file for and receive an accurate decision on their claim," said VA Secretary Robert McDonald. "Our Veterans and survivors will know, at the outset of the claims process, what is needed, which removes subjective interpretation from the process. We want to eliminate any barriers that make it difficult for our Veterans or survivors to receive benefits to which they are entitled."

In the past, a Veteran or survivor did not have to use a certain form to seek compensation or other benefits from VA. Claims or appeals (Notice of Disagreement) could be submitted on any piece of paper which caused delays due to missing information.

By using standard forms for all disability claims, VA can more quickly and accurately

identify what the Veteran is claiming or appealing. This will allow VA to immediately move on to next steps in the evidence-gathering and decision-making process, which saves administrative processing time and speeds the delivery of earned benefits. The existing process is also inconsistent with most, if not all, other government and non-government application processes, such as applying for social security, applying for a driver's license, applying for a job or filing for an income tax refund.

"These days, government agencies and private businesses rely on standard forms to deliver faster and more accurate customer service," said Under Secretary for Benefits Allison A. Hickey. "VA's ability to deliver better customer service requires the use of standard forms as well. That is why we worked extensively with our partners in the Veterans community to streamline the way we process claims while preserving the effective date rules concerning informal claims through the creation of a new intent to file a claim process."

The updated process also includes standardizing the traditional informal claims process by employing a new "Intent to File a Claim" process which affords the Veteran or survivor one year to compile the necessary documentation or evidence to support the claim while preserving an effective date of claim.

Fight For Our Vets

Yours in Comradeship,
Barry P. Moshinsky
Assistant Department Service Officer
Department of Pacific Areas

ADSO

From the Department Webmaster:

Comrades,



The website has been updated with the registration page for the Council of Administration. There is one error with the registration. Once you register, you will receive an email, in the email it will show your room is a smoking room. **Please disregard this.** I'm not sure how or where the smoking part is getting in there. I guess it's like all smoke it just gets into everything.



Anyone that is having any problems access their Department email, let me know. Email accounts are created for Post Commanders, Adjutants, and Quartermasters, District Commanders and Adjutants, and members on the Department Council.



Yours Always in Comradeship,
Shawn Watson
Webmaster
Department of Pacific Areas



"It's not what you paid to be a member, it's what you paid to be eligible."

Murphy's Military Law: Make it too tough for the enemy to get in and you can't get out.

Murphy's Military Law: The quartermaster has only two sizes, too large and too small.

From the Department Typhoon Editor:

Comrades,

The “Typhoon” is a non-profit publication of the VFW Department of Pacific Areas reporting on VFW programs and activities. This is YOUR newsletter and it will only be as good as the submissions YOU send, so I solicit your support on providing articles and photos. **Inputs for this publication are due before the 5th of each month for that month.**

All Department officers and chairmen have a piece of this pie and need to submit their report for the month. Please do not wait until the last minute. Anything sent to me after the 5th of the month, I am not able to guarantee late submissions will be able to get in. It takes time (several days) to edit, move things around, see what fits where, etc., and it is difficult to do if I have to continually readjust due to late submissions.

NOTE: If a slight delay is needed please notify me in advance, so I can coordinate your submission. As Editor I need time for preparing the newsletter for publication to meet the distribution deadline. I thank you in advance for your support.

I am also the Editor for the Around the Pacific Newsletter and was recently appointed as Grand Newshound for the Rim of Fire Newsletter. As you can see, these are busy times for me.



SPECIAL EDITORIAL NOTE

NEW SUBMISSION IDEAS: I would like to see submissions for new sections, i.e., Comrade in the Spotlight, Comrades Then and Now, Photograph of the Edition, Joke of the Edition, etc., from the rest of the Department. We can have a little fun with this and make it more interesting with more input from the entire Department.

SUBMISSION FORMAT: Please provide your inputs on a Word Document in Arial Font 10 Pitch. It gets time consuming reformatting them all. Try to keep them to one or two pages. PDF inputs will not be placed in the newsletter. Send as a Word Document. Send only to: typhoon@vfwdeptpacific.org

PHOTOS / GRAPHICS / CLIPART: If sending photos, graphics, clipart, etc., please ensure they are in a reduced file size (preferably less than 1MB). Some photos I get are 6MB or more at times. It makes the document too hard to work with, especially with 4 or 5 photos at 6MB each for one submission. Really slows up the works on the computer.

LABELING INPUTS: Editing three newsletters and trying to sort out all the inputs received in many varying forms and formats can be a little challenging. Something very helpful to help keep inputs from getting mixed up is to label them with a little more information. I receive some very vague e-mail subject lines labeled as, “Typhoon”, “Input”, etc., and some files labeled as, “Input.doc”, “Oct 2014.docx”, “10_14”, etc., and I have to rename the labels with who it is from and what it is for, so I can place them in the correct folder for editing. Recommend Labels / Subject line with more information would be very useful, i.e., Newsletter Name, Month Year, Position, and Name. It does not have to be exactly what is written below, however the idea is to make it easier to sort inputs. The following is the input information for each newsletter:

VFW DPA Typhoon Newsletter: (Monthly)

Inputs Due: 5th of the Month (except for July and December)
 Published: 10th of the Month (except for July and December)
 Send to: typhoon@vfwdeptpacific.org
 Label File as: Typhoon Nov 2014 Position Name.doc
 Sample Label File: Typhoon Nov 2014 JVC Moses.doc

VFW DPA Around the Pacific Newsletter: (Bi-Monthly)

Inputs Due: 15th of the Month (in July, September, November, January, March, and May)
 Published: 20th of the Month (in July, September, November, January, March, and May)
 Send to: typhoon@vfwdeptpacific.org
 Label File as: ATP Nov 2014 Position Name.docx
 Sample Label File: ATP Nov 2014 Post 1054 Kemper.docx

MOC GPA Rim of Fire Newsletter: (Bi-Monthly)

Inputs Due: 10th of the Month (in July, September, November, January, March, and May)
Published: 15th of the Month (in July, September, November, January, March, and May)
Send to: grdrof@vfwdeptpacific.org
Label File as: ROF Nov 2014 Position Name.docx
Sample Label File: ROF Nov 2014 Historian Johnson.docx

Cootie Newshound Note: The Rim of Fire will have varying fonts and pitches. Usually in Comic Sans MS Font in 10 Pitch for general information, however other portions may differ depending on the type of input provided and depending on how silly we get.

Thank you all for everything you do for our military active duty, veterans, and their families!

Yours in Comradeship,
Joe Mortimer
Editor
Department of Pacific Areas



 **Pacific Areas General Announcements**

MOVING, TRANSFERRING, OR LEAVING THE LOCAL AREA OF YOUR POST?



If moving, be sure to let your Post Quartermaster / Adjutant know and provide your change of address, so you will not miss any of your VFW Magazine subscriptions and other VFW benefits.

IS YOUR MEMBERSHIP UP TO DATE



Are you a member in good standing? Look at your membership card. If it is about to expire, renew it today or better yet, go **LIFE MEMBERSHIP** and save money over time. It's never too late to switch to a Life Membership and you never have to worry about rate increases or remembering to renew! Log onto:

<http://emem.vfw.org/>

VFW LEGACY LIFE MEMBERSHIP

VFW Life Members can now take the next step in ensuring veterans a better tomorrow by becoming a Legacy Life Member today. Be remembered for your service as a veteran and VFW member. It's easy to get started. Choose from Gold, Silver or Bronze, each with its own prestigious benefits.



Gold \$1,200 / Silver \$800 / Bronze \$400

Legacy is tax deductible to the maximum extent allowed. Use the installment plan option to make quarterly payments.

For more information logon to:

<http://emem.vfw.org/>

DEPARTMENT OF PACIFIC AREAS CLARK CEMETERY



Clark Cemetery Maintenance Fund donations accepted to support the maintenance of this cemetery, which is completely dependent on individual and group donations. VFW Post 2485, located in Angeles City, Philippines, is the caretaker of Clark Cemetery for the VFW Department of Pacific Areas and is in need of your help.

<http://www.vfwpost2485.com/cemetery.htm>

If you make a donation, we thank you very much and ask you to please inform your Post Adjutant / Quartermaster.

DEPARTMENT OF PACIFIC AREAS GRAVE DIGGERS



Become a member and support the Department of Pacific Areas Grave Diggers Program which is open to anyone who has a desire to support the Clark Cemetery. To use our PDF "fill-able" application form log:

http://www.vfwpost2485.com/grave_diggers.pdf

- Please mail your application and membership fee, as well as any future donations to:

VFW Post 2485
 Attn: Grave Diggers
 PSC 517, Box RC-V
 FPO AP 96517-1000

If you make a donation or become a member of the Grave Diggers, we thank you very much and ask you to please inform your Post Adjutant / Quartermaster.



VFW Cootie Corner Announcements

MOC GRAND OF PACIFIC AREAS PADDY DADDY PROGRAM

M.O.C. Grand of the Pacific is asking you to help support the Paddy Daddy Program.

Applications are available online on the VFW Department of Pacific Areas website. The Paddy Daddy Application for signing up Comrades, Cooties, Friends, Family, and yes, even your Pets can be signed up!

Please fill out as many applications as you like for a very good cause. The VFW National Home Special Project is the recipient of the proceeds from our very own program in the Pacific Areas.

Send the application to me along with a check made out to "Ee CHI GAE Pup Tent #2, in the amount of US\$25.00, and I will promptly prepare your Certificate, Card and Pin and mail them to you. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to e-mail bthaney@vfw10223.org.



Yours in Comradeship,
 L.O.T.C.S.
 Billy Haney
 Seam Squirrel Pup Tent #2
 Military Order of the Cootie
 Paddy Daddy Chairman



Pacific Areas Photo of the Edition

Knuckle Heads



Pacific Areas Joke of the Edition

One American Soldier



A Taliban was sitting in a cave when he hears over a dune the voice of one American soldier: "One American soldier is better than 10 Taliban fighters," so the Taliban angry sent over ten of his high-ranking soldiers. After a lot of gun fire and yelling and screams of agony the Taliban heard the voice again. "One American soldier is better than 100 Taliban fighters," so the Taliban sends over 100 of his highest ranked soldiers sure of victory. After a lot of gun fire and yelling and screams of agony the Taliban heard the voice again. "One American soldier is better than 1,000 Taliban fighters," so the Taliban sent his toughest, meanest, personal guards over the dune. After hundreds of bullets fired, and explosions and the screaming and crying, it was over. The Taliban now wondering what happened goes over the dune where he finds a wounded Taliban soldier who says, "don't send any more men it's a trap there is really two of them!"

Murphy's Military Law: Don't draw fire, it irritates the people around you.

Murphy's Military Law: Tracers work BOTH ways.

Commander CHARLES 'Chick' PARSONS
 VETERANS OF FOREIGN WAR
 of the United States
VFW POST 124
 Baguio City, Philippines

18th Year Anniversary
 OCTOBER 19, 2014
 Gilligan's Island Restaurant

Remember their Sacrifices

CHARTER MEMBERS

PATRICIO ABALOG
 DANVON
 RAFAEL ANDRUELA
 DANVON
 FARAR ANDUBAR (R)
 DANVON
 JOSE B.S. AGOST
 DANVON
 AVELDO DINGAP
 DANVON
 ROBERT BAKER
 DANVON
 ANOLFO BRIONES
 DANVON
 EDUARDO CABADORN
 DANVON
 ALBERTO CABUS
 DANVON
 ROBERTO CASILLAN (D)
 DANVON
 GARY DEACOCHE
 DANVON
 LARRY HUIE
 DANVON
 RICHARD ESTACADO
 DANVON
 WILLIAM FORD (R)
 DANVON
 HERMAN FRANCISCO
 DANVON
 LEONARD GARGAMORTE
 DANVON
 WARREN KULLER
 DANVON

CHARTER MEMBERS

BOB BLUREY (R)
 DANVON
 RAFAEL BONE ALAZA
 DANVON
 BOB, KESSE
 DANVON
 JOE LEE
 DANVON
 REBE LACREYDOR
 DANVON
 ROBERTO LARAYANA
 DANVON
 PABLO MANSUYANG
 DANVON
 DARLO MANSUYANG (R)
 DANVON
 BILL LAWRENCE
 DANVON
 YOE MORADO
 DANVON
 JACKSON PANGAYAN
 DANVON
 MENDOZA PANGAYAN
 DANVON
 RICHARD PANGAYAN
 DANVON
 CRYSTAL PANGAYAN
 DANVON
 LARRY MORAJO
 DANVON
 ROBERT VPIOR (R)
 DANVON
 ANSEL VILLARALVO
 DANVON

PAST COMMANDERS

LARRY SENATO
 1976-1981
 2010-2014

JOE AGOST
 1976-1981

BILL LAWRENCE
 1998-2000

NOEL KRAMER
 2000-2003

CESCO FRANCISCO
 2003-2004
 2008-2009

TOM MORADO
 2009-2010

JOHN LACRETA
 2010-2011

ALEX FORD
 2011-2012

WILSON TROSA
 2012-PRESENT

Thanking those who made us FREE! And those who today keep us FREE!
 Facebook: VFW 124, Baguio City Philippines

VFW POST 2485,
 ANGELES CITY, PHILIPPINES

VETERANS DAY 2014
 ANNUAL OBSERVANCE

11 NOVEMBER AT 1100
 CLARK VETERANS CEMETERY MEMORIAL PLAZA AREA

**HONORING AMERICA'S
 FORGOTTEN VETERANS!**

PLEASE JOIN US AT POST 2485 FOR OUR ANNUAL PICNIC
 AND RAFFLE FOLLOWING THE CEREMONY

**You Served with Honor and
 Pride, Reward Yourself...**

Make a commitment that will last a lifetime.

AVFW Life Membership creates a substantial savings over paying annual dues while helping to support VFW. There's no better way to say you're concerned about veterans issues and the future care of our young fighting forces today than to become a Life Member now.

Here's what you can look forward to:

- Significant cost savings over annual fees
- Lifelong accidental insurance policy
- Lifetime member services, benefits and discounts
- Uninterrupted delivery of VFW magazine
- Eligibility for VFWs Legacy Life program

Start saving now! Becoming a VFW Life Member is easy.

Pay all at once or use the installment plan to spread out the payments. Both are affordable ways to show your commitment to the organization.

Here are examples of how the savings can work for you based on the current rate.
 New members can fill out an application online at www.JoinTheLife.org to see their savings.

<p>Eligibility: Operation Iraqi Freedom</p> <p>Cost to pay annually over the course of her membership* \$1,750 Cost to be a VFW Life Member \$425 How much she saves \$1,300</p> <p>Joined in 2004 Age: 25</p> <p>Cost to be a life member in other vet organizations up to \$1,326</p>	<p>Eligibility: Vietnam War</p> <p>Cost to continue to pay annually over the course of his membership* \$455 Cost to be a VFW Life Member \$290 How much he saves \$165</p> <p>Joined in 1974 Age: 62</p> <p>Cost to be a life member in other vet organizations up to \$668</p>
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* Based on assuming a member through age 75

VFW MEMBERSHIP



“It’s not what you paid to be a member, it’s what you paid to be eligible.”

See you in the next edition!