



Typhoon Newsletter

Department of Pacific Areas, Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States



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FREE

“VFW - Honoring Our Past, Securing Our Future”

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**TO RECRUIT NEW
VFW MEMBERS?
SIGN UP ONE TODAY!**



**Inputs for the March edition
are due on 05 March 2018.**



Department Officer's Comments & Department Committee Reports

From the Commander:

Greetings Comrades,

I would like to thank everyone in the Department for your continued hard work. Your support of VFW programs, your local communities, individual and groups of Veterans, and achieving our membership goals has, as always, been outstanding. You exemplify on a daily basis the values of the VFW and although we have some challenges the remainder of the year, you have proven yourselves equal to the tasks before us.



Membership remains a major challenge to complete our successful year. Although we are still ranked third nationally among the 52 Departments, over the coming five months we will need 600+ new, reinstated or renewed members for 100%. We must maintain our momentum and bring in good numbers in all categories. If you aspire to be an All American District or Post, please note the 5% new or reinstated member requirement, which may require some adjustment to your recruiting strategy.

The more focused Typhoon has received numerous positive comments, as have the two new Facebook pages. The DPA Around the Pacific Facebook page replaces the Around the Pacific section of the Typhoon, and serves as a means for Districts and Posts to publicize their events and activities. The VFW Department of Pacific Areas Facebook page serves as an additional Official Communications link. Thanks to Typhoon Editor Lenée Zaher for the new look Typhoon, and to SVC Mike Verville and Post 10223 Adjutant Brian Hamic for bringing the new Facebook pages on line.

Due to our geographic dispersion, effective communication will always be a challenge, but we are making progress. Essential information is now available in multiple locations and more are using our backup systems. District 5 recently received VFW National grant funding to purchase video conferencing equipment, allowing them to better conduct District business in three countries on two continents. This is great use of both available technology and the Grant program.

As always, thank you for all you do on a daily basis to make the Department of Pacific Areas a high performing organization.

Yours in Comradeship & Service,

John Gilbert
Commander
Department of Pacific Areas

VFW – Honoring Our Past, Securing Our Future

From the Senior Vice Commander:

Comrades,

The DPA currently stands in 3rd place at VFW National with 94.41% as of 1 February 2018. We have eight posts (Post 124 - Baguio City; Post 2485 - Angeles City; Post 3457 - Saipan; Post 10223 - Camp Humphries; Post 10217 - Korat; Post 11447 - Subic; and Post 12146 - Bang Chang and Post 11575 - Phnom Penh, Cambodia) and District 7 at/over 100%. There are 13 Posts and 6 Districts with more than 90%. You can now see your current numbers on the DPA Around The Pacific Face Book Page! We are currently 654 members from reaching 100%. Push your recruiting efforts NOW!



The DPA Face Book Pages are growing fast. I encourage all of you to tell your fellow VFW comrades about our pages and to submit their friend requests!

Our 2017 - 2018 Membership Program is posted on the DPA Website. Check out the changes for this year. The DPA is providing much more financial assistance to Posts to use for their recruiting efforts. Our New/Reinstated Life Memberships have topped 200 already this year. Our Legacy Life Membership is a leader among the Top VFW Departments. Keep using the programs.

My major emphasis for this month's Typhoon focuses on our All-State and All-American Program. Checklists have been distributed to all the Posts who were represented at the Mid-Term C of A. I have started receiving preliminary updates from more than a dozen Posts already this year! Once you have achieved a requirement and verified it with the appropriate Committee Chairman - send it to me! I have folders set up on all 26 of our Posts. Please Don't Wait until the end of the year to send me your input!

I look forward to seeing all of you during my upcoming Department Trips to your area. The Department Leadership asks that you schedule recruiting events during our trips. We need to get the job done by February thru April 2018. The later you recruit this year - the more difficult it is to renew the same members next year.

The Department of Pacific Areas Team needs to work even harder as a Team and get the job done! Please contact me at mverville2005@gmail.com or +639182491184!

Yours in Comradeship and Service,

Michael R. (Mike) Verville
Senior Vice Commander
Department of Pacific Areas

A graphic with a solid green background. The text "Membership Matters!" is written in a large, bold, white sans-serif font. The word "Membership" is on the top line and "Matters!" is on the bottom line. There is a slight drop shadow effect behind the text.

From the Junior Vice Commander:

Comrades,

As we enter the New Year, we are really looking good on Community Service Reports. I want to thank you all for following the guidelines presented late last year. Reviewing the CSR reports has been much easier, and my successor will have a much better job in the coming years. There are a few posts lacking in submissions for December and January. Please get those in and they will be reflected in the next report.

Start thinking about your submissions for Post Awards, and adhere to the guidelines.

CATEGORIES:

OUTSTANDING POST
OUTSTANDING POST COMMANDER
OUTSTANDING ADJUTANT
OUTSTANDING POST QUARTERMASTER
OUTSTANDING SERVICE OFFICER
OUTSTANDING MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN
OUTSTANDING MEMBER
OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTING BUSINESS
OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTING INDIVIDUAL

PROCEDURES:

Award Recommendation forms for each category are posted on the Department website. Review each Recommendation form carefully as each has some category unique instructions. Narratives, unless otherwise noted, are limited to a **single typed page** and bullet comments are encouraged.

Districts may submit only one recommendation in each category. Districts should develop a selection process to determine their submissions in cases of multiple recommendations for a given category within the District.

Recommendations for Awards in each category should be submitted by each District no later than **15 April**. Please ensure all submissions are complete and conform to instructions provided. Districts shall submit to the DPA Junior Vice Commander, jvcdpa@vfwdeptpacific.org by **30 April**.

The Department Awards Board shall consist of all District Commanders, (or designated representative), and will be chaired by the Department JVC. The Chairman shall be a non-voting member except in cases of a tie vote. The Board will meet to review the winners prior to the Department Convention. Time and location will be reflected in the Convention schedule.

I look forward to the coming months. I believe we have made great strides so far this year in number of ways. Please keep up the good work.



CSR Reports as of 01 FEB 2018

Post	Dist	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	Total
9723	1	13	14	9	14	12	17	11	12	9	0	0	0	111
1054	2	39	25	30	54	62	61	60	29	14	0	0	0	374
9555		22	20	22	25	24	19	18	17	21	0	0	0	188
9612		24	20	26	36	37	22	35	18	9	0	0	0	227
8180	3	31	13	34	25	51	38	17	16	0	0	0	0	225
9985		7	6	7	5	6	4	10	4	5	0	0	0	54
10033		3	10	1	8	1	1	4	3	0	0	0	0	31
10223		9	7	12	7	11	12	10	6	6	0	0	0	80
12147		7	3	4	4	21	6	7	3	3	0	0	0	58
9957	4	6	1	1	5	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	17
9876	5	36	17	28	24	21	24	27	30	0	0	0	0	207
9951		27	19	24	25	29	15	18	22	1	0	0	0	180
10217		12	8	26	13	18	20	5	15	7	0	0	0	124
10249		12	11	9	7	3	5	10	7	4	0	0	0	68
11575		1	1	13	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	20
12074		17	8	16	19	31	22	13	10	8	0	0	0	144
12146		20	19	20	17	17	13	16	15	6	0	0	0	143
12163		0	0	0	0	2	13	16	3	0	0	0	0	34
1509	6	10	14	3	10	4	5	4	0	0	0	0	0	50
2917		104	96	101	147	197	250	108	89	20	0	0	0	1112
3457		22	18	14	17	26	8	18	11	3	0	0	0	137
124	7	12	10	15	17	15	14	18	19	20	0	0	0	140
2485		121	117	86	153	207	246	221	173	142	0	0	0	1466
9892		24	7	11	7	10	12	10	18	36	0	0	0	135
11447		7	6	4	4	8	3	6	5	2	0	0	0	45
12130		4	10	6	7	5	5	3	3	1	0	0	0	44
Total		586	470	516	648	813	832	664	525	316	0	0	0	5370

Yours in Comradeship,

Rick Farris,
Junior Vice Commander
Department of Pacific Areas



From the Junior Past Department Commander:

Comrades,

The year is more than half past and it's time to look at where we stand as a Post, District and Department and ensure that if we completed all our programs and have membership under control we have completed all requirements for All-State and/or All-American. Don't leave anything to chance or for others to accomplish.

I hope all took time over the MLK holiday to "Reach Out" to our military and civilian community with a membership drive. We have another federal holiday this month, which is President's Day. Please try to do a membership drive to share our VFW story and what we do for them and our communities. Many do not know about our elite organization of combat veterans. Through our membership drives we have an opportunity to explain what a great organization of veterans from all branches of military service working together in patriotic youth programs, community activities and supporting veteran and active duty military causes up through our VFW National Headquarters in Kansas City. Many will be amazed to learn about what we do in our continued service. Make a difference in your community through your continued service as Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States.

Yours in Comradeship and Service,

Robert "Mo" Moses
Junior Past Department Commander
Department of Pacific Areas



From the Adjutant:

Greetings,

I would like to take this opportunity to thank **ALL** of you for your support, patience, and understanding during the past seven (7) months. In June 2017, I was asked to assist the Department by becoming the Assistant Adjutant then subsequently became the Adjutant following the passing of "Bear" Hudson.

These were somewhat trying times as I had no Department files and no transition (learning) period. However, through the support of many Department Members, obstacles were overcome, correspondence was handled and suspense's with National were met and made it through a successful Mid-Term Council of Administration. We have had to search for documents, correspondence, emails and other needed material or references, sometimes with good success and at times not so good.

The bottom line is, through cooperative efforts the Department is doing well and be proud of all that has been and will be achieved.

Again, MY THANKS.

Yours in Comradeship,

Jerry Chaplin
Adjutant
Department of Pacific Areas



From the Chief of Staff:



Comrades,

As we move into the 2nd half of the year, it is now time for everyone to review All-State and All-American requirements. Most of the requirements should have been met by now. I would like to remind you that for Post you will need to be in the top 50 of your division and Districts need to be in the top 25 for All-American. You will also need to have new or reinstated members of 5% of last year's membership. Department needs about 650 more members to achieve 100%. Let's all continue to work and help make the Department of Pacific reach 100% again this year.

Yours in Comradeship,

Shawn Watson
Chief of Staff
Department of Pacific Areas

From the Quartermaster:

Comrades,

One of the changes to the VFW's By-Laws and Manual of Procedure enacted at last year's National Convention was to eliminate the need for Posts to maintain a Dues Reserve Fund. As a refresher, the Dues Reserve Fund consisted of one-half of all Dues payments a Post receives monthly and annually from National. These include payments for new and recurring annual members and an annual payment for the Post's Life Members.

The idea behind a Dues Reserve Fund was a good one, and I can't really say why it was eliminated for Posts. It insured that every year a new Post Commander would have money in the bank to start his term and implement some of his ideas, with the Post's approval. I'm guessing the Fund was started for good reasons to rectify past abuses. On July 1 every year, the Dues Reserve Fund was transferred to the Post General Fund.

As a suggestion, I would like to recommend that Posts continue to use the Dues Reserve Fund for its intended purpose. But now a Post has the option to spend money from the Fund for "emergencies", i.e., when there are no other funds available for any good reason the Post membership votes is worthy of spending the Reserve Fund. This is merely a suggestion and every Post has the right to eliminate the Fund or use it however they wish.

On another note, in order to avoid the last minute rush trying to get hat sizes for our All-State Post and District winners, I've included a chart with names of the CDR and QM and ask that you email me with your hat size if it does not appear below (or if I have the wrong size). This will help greatly to have the hats ready to pass out at our June Convention. Every Post and District is included, because I am confident every one of you will achieve All-State status. (Smile)



Post/District	Commander	Quartermaster	CDR hat size--QM hat size
District I	Willie Brandon	Dennis Provencher	
Post 9723	same	same	same
District II	Randell Himes	Robert Moses	7 3/8 --
Post 1054	Christopher Smith	Ricky Farris	-- 7 3/8
Post 9555	Robert Moses	Percy Brothers	7 1/4 --
Post 9612	William Russell	David Ingram	-- 7 1/8
District III	Ron Davis	Dan Delaney	7 1/4 --
Post 8180	Warren Maxson	Ron Davis	-- 7 1/4
Post 9985	Thomas Dix	Jose Tejada	
Post 10033	Darryl Hamilton	Richard Hagaman	-- 7 1/4
Post 10223	Donald Kelley	Chris Winstead	--7 1/2
Post 12147	Larry Lyons	Gerald Oliver Sr.	
District IV	Jim Ascencio	Bill Wichmann	
Post 9957	Jim Ascencio	Scott Ellinger	
District V	Ken Stein	Delbert Marohl	7 3/8 --
Post 9876	Eric Larson	Emmanuel Guarnuccio	
Post 9951	Ricky Reece	David Neutzler	7 3/8 -- 7 1/4
Post 10217	William Chapman	Joel Pierson	-- 7 1/4
Post 10249	Delbert Marohl	Al Fitchett	7 3/8 -- 7
Post 11575	Roy Day	John Muller	
Post 10274	Chaz Kampitak	Roscoe Butler	-- 7 3/8
Post 12146	Ken Stein	Lou Holub	7 3/8 -- 7 1/8
Post 12163	James Maughmer	Jason Bitner	
District VI	Shawn Watson	Bill Bradford	7 3/8 -- 7 3/8
Post 1509	Lonnie Clark	Sean Elliott	
Post 2917	Shawn Watson	Bill Bradford	7 3/8 -- 7 3/8
Post 3457	Brad Ruzala	Mariano Fajardo	-- 7 1/8
District VII	Charles Spain	Tom Burnett	-- 7 1/2
Post 124	Alex Fores	Joseph Catacutan	-- 7 1/4
Post 2485	Norm Smith	Mike Compton	7 1/2 --
Post 9892	Wayne Onge	Charles Spain	
Post 11447	James Rogers	Tom Burnett	-- 7 1/2
Post 12130	Yusuf Nurridin	Mike Tierney	-- 7 3/8

Yours in Comradeship,

Pete Callaghan
Quartermaster
Department of Pacific Areas



From the Judge Advocate:

Comrades,

In a few months it will be time to consider nominations and election of officers for both Posts and Districts for 2018-19 term of office. So, in this month's issue I will present questions and render answers on some by-laws and parliamentary procedures concerning the forthcoming elections.

101 NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS

The following are questions with answers that may come up at nominations and election time:

Question: When do nominations commence and for how long?

Answer: Nominations for Posts normally shall start in March and end in April at election time. Districts may open nominations in the meeting prior to their Convention and then continue at the annual Convention prior to elections.

Question: Does a member have to be at a meeting or Convention to be nominated?

Answer: No, if the comrade making the nomination of an absentee for any office presents to the Adjutant, in writing, the consent of the member being nominated prior to the opening of nominations.

Question: If I'm nominated for office do I have the right to decline the position for which I was nominated?

Answer: Yes, any nominee may have the opportunity to decline the position for which he has been nominated before the close of nominations.

Question: Who determines what form of elections shall be used?

Answer: The membership at the March Post meeting prior to opening nominations or governing body to a Convention shall decide the form of election to use, unless By-Laws indicate the manner of elections. Normally, balloting for officers may be conducted by open or written secret ballot. Another method of balloting that may be used is the poll system and preprint ballots. Another method of balloting that may be used is the poll system and preprinted ballots.

Question: If the Post decides at the March meeting to use the poll system with preprint ballots, are nominations held open until the April meeting?

Answer: No, in the poll system, nominations are closed at the March meeting. Then the Post shall determine certain procedures used to conduct polling of the vote.

Question: What kinds of procedures are used in the poll system?

Answer: The Post may determine procedures such as date, time and where polling shall take place, who does the tallying and what happens in case of a tie. A Notice and preprinted ballots shall be distributed to members in good standing within a reasonable time prior to the date of voting. The notice shall contain the names of the candidates and a space for write-in candidates. There shall be no absentee or proxy votes when the poll system is used. Also, the greater number of votes rules when using the poll system.

Question: What's the difference between a majority vote and plurality vote?

Answer: A majority vote at election time is considered more than half of all votes actually cast. Whereas, a plurality vote means a person having more votes than any other person is the winner. (Note: National By-Laws call for majority vote of all votes cast, except where otherwise designated, shall be necessary to elect.)

Question: Who is eligible to vote at election time?

Answer: In Posts any member in good standing at the time of elections and at District Conventions those members in good standing that are part of the governing body defined in the District and/or National By-Laws.

Question: When is a member considered to be in good standing to vote at elections?

Answer: Any Life members and a member who has paid his current annual dues to December 31 the year of elections is in good standing, and cease to be in good standing on 1 January immediately following the year for which his dues were paid.



Question: If I'm an elected two year House Committee member can I be elected to another Post office?

Answer: Yes, as elected committee members are not considered Post Officers, so you may concurrently hold an elected Post office.

Question: What happens when more than two candidates are nominated and there is no majority vote realized?

Answer: You would drop the comrade with the lowest amount of votes and continue successive ballots until the election is made.

Question: If the final vote is deadlocked, how is it decided?

Answer: There are two ways to decide a tie which are; 1) the units by-laws specify that in event of a tie vote, the candidates or their nominator or designated representative shall determine the result by lot or coin, or 2) if the by-laws are silent, a motion can be adopted in advance of vote stating in the event of a tie vote for a final choice, the candidates or their representatives or nominator shall decide the result by lot, or toss of the coin. (Note: At conventions normally Rules of Order for the convention will state the second choice and shall be voted at start of the convention.)

Question: What happens if the By-Laws are silent and no motion was made in advance of voting concerning a deadlock?

Answer: Pursuant to Demeter's Manual the Chair can't break a tie in elections, therefore, the Chair can call for unanimous consent meaning everyone in the meeting or delegates to a convention must be in favor for the candidates or their representatives or nominator to decide the election by lot, or toss of the coin. The Chair should normally ask if there is any objection to having the method of deciding the election by lot, or toss of the coin. If there is one objection then a motion shall have to be made in advance for the method of breaking a tie and then reelection at the current meeting or convention shall be held again.

Question: Who do I submit my grievances' to as I want to challenge the Post elections for irregularities?

Answer: Any challenge must be made in writing containing specific details concerning the irregularities, signed and forwarded to the District Commander, mailed no later than three (3) days after the election. (Any appeal to actions taken by the District Commander shall follow procedures in the National By-Laws and Manual of Procedure, Section 109 – Right of Appeal.)

Question: What if I'm elected to a Post office and can't make the installation?

Answer: If you're an officer-elect and absent for good reason you may be installed at any regular or special meeting prior to the convening of the Department Convention. If not installed your office is automatically vacant. Then after the Department Convention the Post shall go through the election process to fill the position and if elected you would be installed.

Question: What happens if a District officer-elect can't be at the District installation?

Answer: In the case of a District officer-elect not being installed for good reason you may be installed at any succeeding regular or special meeting of a unit of the organization, within sixty (60) days of the date of installation. If not installed, the office will automatically become vacant.

As you can see comrades there are various questions that may come up during the course of nominations and voting during election time that can be answered by reviewing the various by-laws at different levels of command, as well as consulting Demeter's Manual of Parliamentary Law and Procedure.

If you have any questions concerning by-laws and procedures during your upcoming elections you may contact me at a ipdcdpa@vfwdeptpacific.org

Yours in Comradeship,

Robert "Mo" Moses
Asst. Judge Advocate
Department of Pacific Areas



From the Surgeon:

Department Surgeon Focus on Stress and its Management

What's Important to know?

If you are having difficulty coping with the demands in your life, you are experiencing stress. **EVERYONE HAS STRESS!** While some is healthy, too much stress creates problems in our lives. If you are overly stressed for too long, it can put your health at risk. If you have too much stress your body will let you know such as:

- Have difficulty concentrating
- Feel worried and fearful
- Feel "wound up" – sweaty palms, pounding heart and tense muscles
- Feel irritable towards others
- Feel tired

Veterans Crisis Line at 1-800-273-TALK (8255)

<https://www.veteranscrisisline.net/>

<https://mobile.va.gov/appstore>

HealtheLiving Assessment (HLA) can help Veterans improve their health

What is Health Age?

Health age is an estimate of your overall health. Things like family history, diet, exercise, weight and smoking are used to estimate how healthy you are compared to a typical person your age. If you are 50 years old and have a health age of 45, you are living a healthier lifestyle than most people your age and if it is the opposite, then you might want to change to get healthier.

The powerful new tool can help Veterans better understand their health habits and overall health. It can provide advice on ways to improve their well-being. It's called the "HealtheLiving Assessment" or "HLA".

Health Age + the HLA = Positive Changes

The HLA is interactive—users can select health recommendations, then re-calculate their health age and disease risk. This can help them understand which changes can most benefit their health. Example, users who select "stop smoking" will see a positive change in their health age and a lower risk of heart disease and some cancers.

<https://www.myhealth.va.gov>

Live a Healthier Life and a Longer Life!

Yours in Comradeship,

Michael S. Napsey
Surgeon
Department of Pacific Areas





Note from the Chaplain:



Comrades,

Sadly, I am reporting since the CofA we have lost 14 of our Comrades. This will bring us to 75 Comrades who have passed this year. Hit the hardest this past year has been Post 2485 Angeles City, Philippines. I ask all the Post Chaplains at their next Post meeting to take a moment to pay respect and remember our fallen Comrades, and to say a prayer for their families.

Comrades Still Out On Patrol

ANDREW BAHR

WAYNE PACKER JANIS WILLIAMS JR.

JOHN SORKACH HERMAN TINNIRELLA

ALFREDO MONTEMAYOR SALVATORE FINA

RUSSELL PENWITT ISAMEL BACANI

MICHAEL MOONEY DON MELOAN

Rest Easy Comrades, We'll Take It From Here

Again, please make sure your Post Chaplains get the names of anyone who passes so we make sure they are recognized. If you are unable to attend your Posts meetings to inform your Chaplain email me directly at either chapidpa@vfwdeptpacific.org or my warren.maxson@yahoo.com . Also On Facebook [Chaplains of the Dept. of the Pacific VFW](#).

Send me the Following:

- FULL NAME and NICK NAME (if they have one). Some Comrades are known more by their Nicknames.
- Post Number/Pup Tent
- Army/Navy/Air Force/Marines/Coast Guard

Chaplains continue to send your Taps reports. And again, Thank You for your Service, God Bless you and yours.

I leave you this month with "A Soldiers Prayer" written by the late Medal of Honor recipient Col. Lewis L. Millett.

A Soldier's Prayer
A Poem by Col. Lewis L. Millett

I've fought when others feared to serve.

I've gone where many failed to go.

***I've lost friends in war and strife,
who valued duty over the love of life.***

I've shared the comradeship of pain

I've searched these lands for men that we've lost.

***I've sons, who've served our land of liberty
who'd fight to see that other lands are free.***

I've seen the weak forsake humanity.

I've heard fakers praise our enemy.

I've seen challenged men stand ever bolder.

***I've seen the duty, the honor, and the sacrifice of the
soldier***

***Now, I understand the meaning of all lives,
the lives of comrades of not so long ago.***

***So to you who answered duties siren call, may
God bless you my son, may God bless you all.***

Yours in Comradeship,

Warren "MAX" Maxson
Chaplain
Department of Pacific Areas
"Rest Easy, we'll take it from Here"

From the Convention / Convention Book Chairman:

Commanders and Comrades,

Not too early to get your Post / District DPA convention book ads submitted to bobzaher@gmail.com Book Publisher Mrs. Lenee Zaher standing by to enter your art work. Please do note the deadline for submission is early this year, 01 May 2018.

If you have any question, please contact me at holublouis@gmail.com or phone; +66817208124

The following are the book ad prices:

1 Page, Color	\$200.00
½ Page, Color	\$100.00
Buisnes Cards	\$10.00
Boosters Ads	\$2.00

“E” Mail ADS to: bobzaher@gmail.com

Note: Convention Book Art (ads) should be JPEG, Publisher no PDF



DPA Convention 10 to 14 June 2018 in Banchang Thailand; update

The plan of action and millstones remains on schedule; Hotel rooms are reserved standing by for most important date 10 Feb 2018 “Going Live” DPA website Convention Registration. Register early! I will collect registration details weekly and coordinate room assignments with hotel. VIP, AA both Commander dinner menus have been finalized, did taste testing with Commander Gilbert in January, the hotel Chef has risen to the occasion “Western Meals” with slice of Thainess. As I had posted on the newly launched DPA Face Book page “Around the Pacific” Convention Polo Shirts can be order stating size and number of shirts required, Sizes S, M, L, XL to 5X available, if you require lager size 8X “Big Man”, please contact me via email holublouis@gmail.com Shirts are 1,000THB each, sneak peek next month. Our Friend of the Post “Delta Gulf” is offering transportation from and to the airports same as the CofA 2015, we continue to follow the expansion and scheduled flights in and out of Pattaya Utapao International airport QATAR Airways has just landed maybe option with connection in QATAR. Any transportation requirements please email len.Fernandez@craneww.com or holublouis@gmail.com

Counting down to Banchang Thailand in June 2018!

Yours in Comradeship,

Lou Holub
Convention/Convention Book Chairman
Department of Pacific Areas



From the Inspector:

Comrades,

All inspections are complete other than two and they are scheduled in a couple of weeks. Outstanding job by all. Let us not lose focus and maintain due diligence in keeping our records up to date. April 15 is coming, so insure the 990's are filed with the IRS.

District/Post	Received Date	Notes
District I	01-Oct-17	Completed
9723	01-Oct-17	Completed
District II	28-Oct-17	Completed
1054	17-Aug	Completed
9555	28-Oct-17	Completed
9612	01-Dec-17	Completed
District III	14-Nov-17	Completed
8180	14-Nov-17	Completed
9985	19-Nov-17	Completed
10033	07-Oct-17	Completed
10223	14-Oct-17	Completed
12147	19-Nov-17	Completed
District IV	in progress	Scheduled Feb 2018
9957	in progress	Scheduled Feb 2018
District V	19-Aug-17	Completed
9876	12-Dec-17	Completed
9951	14-Oct-17	Completed
10217	13-Nov-17	Completed
10249	13-Sep-17	Completed
11575	12-Oct-17	Completed
12074	14-Sep-17	Completed
12146	14-Sep-17	Completed
12163	17-Oct-17	Completed
District VI	17-Nov-17	Completed
1509	18-Nov	Completed
2917	17-Nov-17	Completed
3457	12-Oct-17	Completed
District VII	10-Nov-17	Completed
124	29-Nov-17	Completed
2485	10-Nov-17	Completed
9892	26-Nov-17	Completed
11447	13-Sep-17	Completed
12130	13-Oct-17	Completed



Yours in Comradeship,

Bill Bradford
Inspector
Department of Pacific Areas

From the Certified National Recruiter:

Greeting Comrades,

I hope everyone is feeling great after the Super Bowl yesterday, well some of us are! Speaking of great I would like to congratulate some **"Over the Top"** Post's and Districts. We now have 9 Post's that are **"Over the Top"** and they are Post's 10223, 12147, 10217, 11575, 12146, 3457, 124, 2485, and 11447 leading the pack in percentages is **Post 12146 with 117.46%** Congrats to all. We have 1 District that is also **"Over the Top"** and that is District 7, Congrats also to all of District 7!



In individual recruiting efforts we have 105 recruiters in the Pacific Areas that are keeping us in 3rd place in the National Standings. We could use some more to help lighten the load here! We have some really super recruiters that I am calling the **"20 Plus Group"** and they are William Russel: Post 9612, Ron Davis: Post 8180, Warren Maxson: Post 8180, Larry Lyons: Post 12147 and **Cliff Wilsey from Post 2485 leading this group with 51 recruits thus far this year!** I want to thank ALL the recruiters for it is definitely a TEAM PACIFIC effort to make this happen year after year.

Comrades as I spoke at the CofA; District III Military bases are realigning this year which is effecting our VFW Membership, Youth Activities in our VOD, Patriots Pen Programs and merging of post's here in Korea. District III has carried a great balance of our Department Membership for a long time. I am now asking the other Districts to help the **Department** to keep up the pace so we can remain our high membership standings at the National Level. If each Post could go above and beyond and get an additional ten members above their membership that they were planning for this year I feel that we will be able to keep the Pacific Areas back up there and make the Pacific Areas All American again this year. This will not happen by itself. **WE need to help US out!**

Currently in an email I received this morning from the National Membership Department, we the Pacific Areas are **60 members in membership behind at the same time last.** Let us **ALL** go out and even get one member to join or continue their membership. Better yet get them to go LIFE!

Let me know how I can help. I am only an email away. I can be reached at PDCLyons@VFWDeptPacific.org.

Yours Always in Comradeship,

Larry Lyons
Certified National Recruiter
Department of Pacific Areas



From the Legacy Life Membership Chairman:

Comrades who are serving in the Pacific Area,

Your Department, District and Post need your support. If you are not a Legacy Life Member please consider becoming a Legacy Life Member of your Post. You would be leaving a legacy and helping the financial future of your post forever.

As a Legacy Life Member, future generations will know you not only for the sacrifices you made as a veteran but for the contributions you made as a member. That's a legacy to be proud of!



284 Legacy Life Members as of February 2018

DISTRICT I - OKINAWA - 7
Post 9723 - 7

DISTRICT 2 - JAPAN - 19
Post 1054 - 8
Post 9555 - 3
Post 9612 - 8

DISTRICT III - KOREA - 40
Post 8180 - 18
Post 9985 - 6
Post 10033 - 7
Post 10223 - 7
Post 12147 - 2

DISTRICT IV - TAIWAN - 3
Post 9957 - 3

DISTRICT V - THAILAND/CAMBODIA - 43
Post 9876 - 5
Post 9951 - 6
Post 10217 - 5
Post 10249 - 4
Post 12074 - 8
Post 11575 - 0
Post 12146 - 14
Post 12163 - 1

DISTRICT VI - GUAM/SAIPAN - 21
Post 1509 - 4
Post 2917 - 10
Post 3457 - 7

DISTRICT VII - PHILIPPINES - 149
Post 124 - 7
Post 2485 - 118
Post 9892 - 7
Post 11447 - 9
Post 12130 - 8

MEMBER AT LARGE - 2
Post 15055 - 2



LEAVE A LASTING LEGACY FOR VETERANS

Under this program, VFW life members have the opportunity to further contribute to VFW programs and services by choosing Gold, Silver or Bronze levels, each with great benefits. For more information, contact the VFW Membership Department at membership@vfw.org, or go to www.vfw.org and type "Legacy Life" in the search box.

MEMBER INCENTIVES

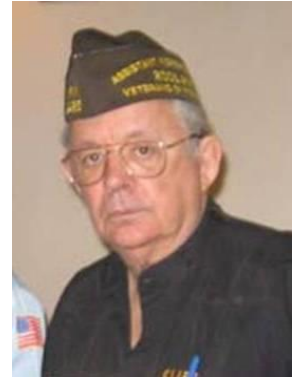
	BRONZE \$400	SILVER \$800	GOLD \$1200
Plated Engraved Life Member Card			
Lapel Pin			
Hat Pin			
Distinctive Emblem & Supply Line for Legacy Life Members			
Framed Certificate for Legacy Life Membership			
Recognition on Internet & Convention Program			
Recognition at Kiosks at Memorial Building in Washington, D.C. And Museum at National Headquarters			
Special Plaque			
Hat Patch			
Personalized Brick at Centennial Plaza			
Emblem & Supply Discounts (For Personal Use Only)	5%	10%	15%
Increased Level of No-Cost AD&D Insurance	\$2000	\$3500	\$5000
Annual Endowment: Post	\$6	\$12	\$18
Annual Endowment: Dept.	\$6	\$12	\$18

Yours in Comradeship,

Bob Zaher
Legacy Life Membership Chairman
Department of Pacific Areas



From the Life Membership Chairman:



Comrades,

On 30 June 2017, the 2016-2017 year ended with 10,223 Life Members. Despite over 250 Members passing away last year, the Department has surged ahead with 10,323 Life Members currently on board. This is an increase of 90 Life Members over last year's end figure.

For the 2017-2018 year, the Department will provide a free Life Membership or a \$400 stipend for Posts meeting the following criteria:

- | | |
|---|------------------------------------|
| A. Posts over 500 Members | Each 10 N/R Life Members recruited |
| B. Posts with 500 Members and under | Each 5 N/R Life Members recruited |
| C. If a District has ALL Posts at 100%, a free Life Membership will be awarded. | |

The following Posts have won DPA paid Life Memberships or \$400 stipends:

<u>Post</u>	<u>Total N/R Recruited</u>	<u>Total Awarded</u>
124	21	4 (\$1600)
2485	33	3 (Life Memberships)
3457	10	2 (\$800)
9612	15	1 (\$400)
10223	10	2 (\$800)
11447	21	4 (\$1600)
12146	19	3 (\$1200)
12147	21	4 (\$1600)

Congratulations to the above Posts. As a reminder, these funds must be used to support the Life Membership Program.

My personal thanks to Commander Gilbert and the current Administration for supporting this Program.

Yours in Comradeship,

Cliff Wilsey
Life Membership Chairman
Department of Pacific Areas

Sign up a Life Member today!

From the National Home for Children Chairman:



VFW NATIONAL HOME FOR CHILDREN
Every child deserves a happy family

Comrades,

February is coming in hard and fast, with just five short months to go before the DPA Convention. We have four (4) Districts and twelve (12) Posts that are needed to give the Department a 100% in donations to the National Home.

This report is as of January 30, 2018 as received in from the National Home and Post Quartermasters.



District / Post	Reported	District / Post Donated	District / Post	Reported	District / Post Donated
District 1	No		District 5	No	
9723	No		9876	No	
District 2	YES	\$100.00	9951	No	
1054	YES	\$100.00	10217	YES	\$50.00
9555	YES	\$100.00	10249	No	
9612	YES	\$100.00	11575	No	
District 3	No		12074	YES	\$50.00
10216 Merged with 8180	YES	\$50.00	12146	YES	\$50.00
9985	No		12163	YES	\$50.00
10033	No		District 6	YES	\$50.00
10223	YES	\$50.00	1509	No	
12109	No		2917	YES	\$50.00
12147	No		3457	No	
District 4	No		District 7	YES	\$50.00
727 Merged with 9957	No		124	YES	\$100.00
			2485	YES	\$115.57
			9892	YES	\$125.00
Post 12147 Pacific House		\$100.00	11447	YES	\$50.00
Post 1054 Benefit Concert		\$2,500.00	12130	YES	\$50.00
Sub-Total		\$500.00	Sub-Total		\$675.00
Dist./Post Total	\$1,175.00	Special Projects	\$2,600.00	Grand Total	\$3,775.00
Not Confirmed					

Check out the National Home for Children by [Click here](#) this link will take you to the News and Photo's as to the happenings with the National Home on their web site.

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

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 challenging times.

Yours in Comradeship,

Randell E. Himes
 National Home for Children Chairman

From the Veterans Assistance Committee Chairman:

Comrades,

No change for this month! The Department of Pacific Areas (DPA) Veteran's Assistance Committee (VAC) has awarded three \$500.00 grants so far this year. We have \$4,500.00 left in the budget for the 2017-2018 year. Please keep looking for needy veterans. District Commanders are encouraged to promote this program! Keep in mind that each of you are a member of this committee.

Any VFW Member in your District can nominate a worthy veteran for a VAC Grant. Just let your membership know to contact their Post Commander or you if they know of anyone who needs our help. As you know - It is a simple process that requires only a one page nomination form. In order to receive assistance a veteran must have served honorably in the U. S. Armed Forces. Each request for assistance will not exceed \$500.00. All assistance will be provided on a Grant basis. Let's kick the program in gear and get out there and help our fellow veterans.

I look forward to seeing all of you on my trips around the Department of Pacific Areas in 2018. You may contact me any time day or night. My contact information is as follows: (1) Email - mverville2005@gmail.com, (2) Telephone - +639182491184.

Yours in Comradeship,

Michael R. (Mike) Verville
Veterans Assistance Committee Chairman
Department of Pacific Areas



From the Webmaster:

Comrades,

The Department Convention registration is now up and operational. There have been two new links added to the page. This is for airport pickup and ordering shirts. Please print these out, fill in and email them to convention@vfwdeptpacific.org

If anyone has a problem with their registration please let me know.

Yours in Comradeship,

Shawn Watson
Webmaster
Department of Pacific Areas



From POW/MIA Chairman:

Comrades,

we all know about the great work that the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA) does in locating, identifying and returning MIA's to a final resting place in the United States, but, are you aware that there are other organizations that also dedicate themselves to finding and repatriating MIA's?

One organization that really stands out is "History Flight"!

History flight is a true non-profit charity in which 96% of donations go directly to pay for the programs cost to find and recover missing service members from America's wars of the 20th Century.

History Flight is a non-governmental organization dedicated to finding, recovering and repatriating America's war dead to American soil. Over the last twelve years History Flight has sent out over 100 search and recovery teams world-wide to locate loss sites of missing servicemen and to recover them. History Flight deploys cutting-edge, multi-disciplinary remote sensing methodologies to find loss sites where American Servicemen are still missing.

Mark Noah founded History Flight to employ the entrepreneurial spirit of business to support the science of finding missing service personnel from WWII. A graduate of Emory University with a B.A. in History and a full-time captain for a major airline, Mark works 40 to 60 hours a week on the MIA search effort for NO compensation! He has funded History Flight and its programs with over \$500,000 of his own money, and has been involved in MIA recovery efforts in the Caroline, Marshall, Palau and Gilbert Islands. He also spear-head and personally funded the majority of the expenses of History Flight's two search missions to Tarawa Atoll.

Please go to www.historyflight.com to learn more about this outstanding organization. Go to the site and click on the "NEWS" section. If you do, you can read about the team member that helped to find his own grandfather!!

Yours in Comradeship,

Tom Friend
POW/MIA Chairman
Department of Pacific Areas



One of the 2013 Tarawa teams.

From the Veterans and Military Support Chairman:

Comrades,

Thus far this year it has been very slow on the Veterans & Military Support Programs we have had only 4 posts out of Department requesting funds out of the MAP program for the units in their area or units that have gone TDY to their area. VFW Post 12146 has been successful in receiving approval for two units deploying to Thailand in support of Cobra Gold this year. Even though there is no Commissary or PX in this country they were able to get \$10.00 per person attending these events due to that fact and they had to cater these events from restaurants in their area. Way to go 12146! The norm is approx. \$5.00 per person; but as you can see it can be waived under special circumstances. Also looking at the new MAP Grant Request form there no longer is a shopping list of items needed for the event. So basically they are looking at the \$5.00 per head ratio.



With the Holiday now behind us it's time to look at your requirements for All State. One of the requirements is in my area and that a donation to Veterans & Military Support Programs and conduct a MAP Function, or Adopt a Unit. If you had adopted a unit in the past it must be current with your reports to National on that unit you support. I will request a current Adopt- A- Unit listing from National and post it in next month article. However, Posts however know if they are current or not.

The list below list what I have thus far, but I know it hard to understand but I am only human so I do make mistakes. So If I am missing a donation from your Post or District please get back with me. When donating online please ensure that you mark your Post or District on the form before submitting it so you will ensure that they get the credit.

2017/2018 MAP Donations/Events/Adopt a Unit

Post/District	MAP Donation	MAP Function	Adopt-a-Unit	Post/District	MAP Donation	MAP Function	Adopt-a-Unit
9723				1509			
1054	\$100.00	YES	X	2917			
9555				3457			
9612		YES		2485	\$150.00		
8180				9892	\$50.00		
9985				12130			
10033				D1			
10223	\$50.00		X	D2	\$50.00		
12147	\$500.00	YES		D3			
9957				D4			
9876				D5			
9951				D6			
10217	\$50.00			D7			
10249				DPA	\$2,000.00		
11575				TOTAL	\$3,050.00		
12074	\$50.00						
12146	\$50.00	YES					
12163							

If I can be of any assistance please let me know. You can reach me at PDCLyons@VFWDeptPacific.org. In closing as I mentioned at our CofA, my 3 year term as Veterans & Military Support Program will end at the VFW National Convention this July thus I will be stepping down and allowing new blood to grow and mature in the VFW. Our Top 3 chairs once elected in June for our Department must agree on this 3 year appointment so if you are interested this job please let SVC Mike and JVC Rick know your interests.

Yours in Comradeship,

Larry Lyons
Veterans & Military Support Chairman



From the Clark Veterans Cemetery Chairman:



1) All veterans are encouraged to have a clean and readable copy of their DD214 on file both at home and with their veteran's organization. Not finding a deceased veteran's DD214 causes delays in burial and other benefits.

2) The last wishes of the deceased veteran need to be made known either through a last will and testament or by the next of kin. If wishes are not known, normally the wife or child of age residing the Philippines will have lawful authority over a veteran's disposition as next of kin. Barring either, the next of kin residing abroad will have authority and may issue a Letter of Authorization assigning someone to act as administrator and executor for burial purposes in their absence.

3) Significant Activities (5):

- 4 Jan - VFW Post 2485 provided military honors for Paul Raabe, SP4, USA at Clark Veterans Cemetery.
- 5 Jan - VFW Post 2485 provided military honors for Sean Paige, TSgt, USAF at Clark Veterans Cemetery.
- 19 Jan - VFW Post 2485 provided military honors for Salvatore Fina, SMSgt, USAF at Clark Veterans Cemetery.
- 19 Jan - VFW Post 2485 provided military honors for George Paul, Pvt, USMC at Clark Veterans Cemetery.
- 30 Jan - VFW Post 2485 provided military honors for Ismail Bacani, PO2, USN at Clark Veterans Cemetery. He is interred at Holy Mary Memorial Park.

4) As of 31 Jan 2018, Grave Digger life membership stands at 1399 with no new grave diggers added in January. Grave Digger 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.

5) Information is available on the new VFW Post 2485 website <https://vfwpost2485.org/clark-veterans-cemetery>.

Yours in Comradeship,

Norman G. Smith
Clark Veterans Cemetery Chairman



From the Americanism and Loyalty Day Chairman:

Comrades,

During the month of February, we have a few observances that have a deep meaning among our Veterans. As we celebrate President's Day, let us remember our founding fathers, who helped shape this great Nation of ours. President's Day is traditionally viewed as a time of patriotic celebration and remembrance. Many people enjoy this day as a holidays. Others remember it as "George Washington's Birthday". Younger generations know it as President's Day. Only a few people know that this date in 1932, while celebrating the 200th anniversary of George Washington's birth, was also the date that was used to reinstate the Purple Heart, military decoration originally created by George Washington to honor Soldiers killed or wounded while serving in the armed forces. Take time this month to recognize the sacrifices of those comrades that have received this medal. This is much more than a medal. This is awarded to recognize the singularly meritorious act of extraordinary fidelity service to our Nation. It symbolizes courage and patriotism.



We also observe Black History Month. This is a perfect time to teach our younger generation, not only about the 200-year struggle for freedom and equality, but also to highlight the African American Veterans who stood up and served honorably when our Nation called. Individuals such as Alexander Thomas Augusta, who despite having to face both Confederate guns and Union prejudice, served as a surgeon though the end of the Civil War and continued on as a civil rights leader later in life. Harriet M. Waddy was a Lieutenant Colonel in the Army and she made a legendary radio broadcast imploring women to join the military. Doris Miller's bravery during the attack on Pearl Harbor saved the lives of many Sailors. His action earned him the Navy Cross. In 1965, PFC Olive sacrificed his life by smothering a grenade in Vietnam. His actions saved the lives of his platoon and posthumously earned him the Medal of Honor in 1966.

These actions are synonym of bravery, loyalty and heroism. Don't ever forget our brothers and sisters that pay the ultimate price for our freedom, and those injured in the battlefield. May they will always be in our minds and hearts. We must ensure that our younger generations understand the sacrifices that our Veterans have made to ensure their future.

Yours in Comradeship,

William Russell
Americanism and Loyalty Chairman
Department of Pacific Areas



From the Outreach Program Chairman:

Comrades,

As a reminder, the DPA Community Outreach Program has been defined as support to local community organizations, charities, local community members in need, and other Veteran and Fraternal groups. It does not include support to veterans.

A review of CSR event inputs, Post websites and Facebook posts shows that 69% of DPA Posts conducted at least one community outreach event in January. Since July 2017 the monthly average is 71%. These figures slightly decreased from last month. The goal is 100% of DPA Posts to conduct at least one community outreach event every month.



Here are some events that were posted in January on the VFW DPA's new Around the Pacific Facebook group page. This new venue is a fantastic way to get the word out as it already has 322 members. Please remember to use #VFWPostPride as well as other hashtags to increase your visibility beyond the DPA.

- VFW Post 9892 La Union, Philippines: Delivered sports equipment, an electric stove and mixer for the TLE section. Basketball hoop and ring will be installed soon. This is for the B Flores Foundation School Phil., Inc school in Catbangan, SFC, La Union. 75 kids and several teachers were very thankful.
- VFW Post 12130 Cebu City, Philippines: Recycling material and providing the material to an indigent couple for them to feed and clothe their children.
- VFW Post 2485 Angeles City, Philippines: Supporting our fellow veterans of the Australian Returned and Services League, Angeles City Sub-Branch in their annual Celebration of Australia Day. Included in the Festivities was a Curry cooking contest and VFW Post 2485 placed first, with Cootie Pup Tent 15 finishing in second place and getting the Humdinger Award for the hottest curry. Proud to support our Australian comrades, and a great time.
- VFW Post 10223 Camp Humphreys, Korea: The Pacific Far East JROTC Marksmanship Championship was held at Humphreys High School on Jan. 31, 2018. Army, Marine, Air Force and Navy Junior Cadets from 11 schools across the Pacific participated in the competition. VFW Post 10223 Commander Donald E. Kelley assisted in the presentation of the individual and team awards. First place went to Kadena AB, Okinawa.

If you have any suggestions on ways your Post reaches out to the local communities and want to showcase it here, please let me know.

Yours in Comradeship,

Jon Crist
Outreach Chairman
Department of Pacific Areas





Letter of Intent – 2018-2019 VFW Year

For Junior Vice Commander Kenneth A. Stein



It is with humility and pride I announce my candidacy for the position of Junior Vice Commander, VFW Department of Pacific Areas. I am a 30-year veteran of the U.S. Navy, retiring in 1996. I'm a Gold Legacy Life member of the VFW, currently serving as District 5 Commander and as Commander of Banchang Post 12146.

I have served in a variety of positions during my twenty-two year membership in the VFW, including; Post Adjutant, JVC, SVC, and CDR. I have been privileged to have been elected three times as CDR of Banchang Utapao Post 12146. I am extremely proud we have been selected as an All-American Post the first two years and, as we have met all requirements, we expect to be awarded All-American Status again this year. I am truly fortunate to be surrounded by so many dynamic, dedicated comrades.

I will bring all the lessons learned during my twenty-two years in the VFW, thirty years in the U.S. Navy, and my ten years as a private business owner to the DPA Junior Vice Commander position. I ask for your support, and pledge if elected to work hard and work smart to make our Department a proactive voice in supporting veterans and their families.

Yours in comradeship, service to veterans, and with best regards,

Kenneth A. Stein
Candidate for Junior Vice Commander
VFW Department of Pacific Areas