



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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Inputs for the April Typhoon
are due on 05 April 2018.

Membership Goal

We are at 95.66%,
almost there!

We Have

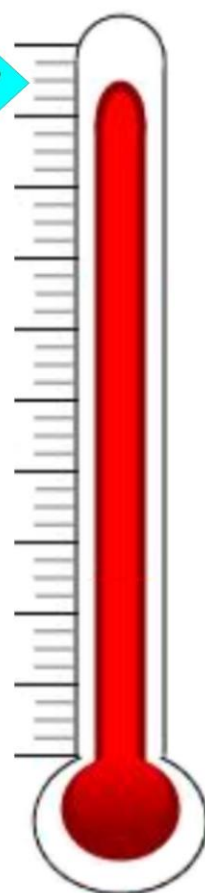
11201 Members

We Need

507 Members

To Reach 100%!

Help Us Reach our Goal!



No Excuse...Just Recruit!



Department Officer's Comments & Department Committee Reports

From the Commander:

Greetings Comrades,

As I travel around the Department, and view your activities on Facebook and your websites, I remain in awe of all that you do to that makes the Department of Pacific Areas a high performing organization. The hours annotated in your Community Service reports do not begin to reflect the actual level of services provided to active duty personnel, veterans, families and your communities. The range of activities and assistance provided is unique in the VFW, as each Post serves the identified needs of their geographic service area. My thanks for all you do on a daily basis to exemplify our motto, *VFW – No One Does More For Veterans*.



The 2018 VFW Department of Pacific annual Convention registration website is now active with 55 members registered thus far. Post 12146 and Convention Chairman Lou Holub have done an outstanding job of planning and preparation. I have personally visited the Convention venue, the Banchang Palace Hotel in Banchang, Rayong Province, Thailand, and think you will be pleased with the facility and attentive staff. Please encourage our younger members and Post Officers to attend, as this is how we grow the future of our Department.

We knew at the beginning of the year achieving our membership goals would be difficult, due to Post consolidations, troop relocations and other factors, but we are proving equal to the challenge. Among the 52 VFW Departments we have maintained our 3rd place position up to the present with over 95%. Our two Districts and eleven Posts over 100% position us to make a strong finish and achieve our membership goals of 100% and 12,000 Department members. My thanks to all who actively recruit and those who support the membership effort. VFW membership numbers are what allow the VFW to lobby effectively to protect our benefits, correct inequities and ensure a strong National Defense.

The final four months of the VFW year are a busy time, but do not overlook making your verifications for completion of All State and All American requirements. Districts and Posts meeting all requirements for All State by 30 April will be recognized at the Department Convention in June. Also, now is the time to prepare Department Award recommendations for submission. Recommend those members of your Districts and Posts that are key to the success of your organizations and deserving of recognition.

As always, I am honored to be your Department Commander.

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 95.66% as of 5 March 2018. We have eleven posts (Post 124 - Baguio City; Post 2485 – Angeles City; Post 2917 – Agat, Guam; Post 3457 – Saipan; Post 10217 – Korat; Post 10223 – Camp Humphries;; Post 11447 - Subic; Post 11575 – Phnom Penh, Cambodia; Post 12130 – Cebu; Post 12146 - Bang Chang; and Post 12147 – Seongnam; Post at or over 100%. Districts 6 & 7 are also Over-The-Top! There are 11 Posts and 6 Districts with more than 90%. You can view the current numbers on the DPA Around The Pacific Face Book Page! We are currently 507 members from reaching 100%. Keep pushing your recruiting efforts NOW!



The DPA Face Book Pages are growing fast. The DPA Around-The-Pacific Page is over 400 and growing. Tell your fellow VFW comrades about our pages and ask them to submit their friend requests!

Our 2017 – 2018 Membership Program is posted on the DPA Website and the DPA Face Book Page. Review the changes for this year. The DPA is continues to provide much more financial assistance to Posts to use for their recruiting efforts. Our New/Reinstated Life Memberships have topped 233 already this year. Our Legacy Life Membership is a leader among the Top VFW Departments.

It is time to get your requirements in for the DPA All-State Program. Checklists have been posted on the DPA F/B Page. Submissions have started to come in 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 April 2018. The later you recruit this year – the harder 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



From the Junior Vice Commander:

Comrades,

Again, Now is the time to prepare 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.

CSR reports have continued to look very good. I had to do the calculations a day early this month as I am flying to Texas on the 1st. Keep up all the good reporting.



CSR Reports as of 28 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	11	13	0	0	126
1054	2	39	25	30	54	62	61	60	29	14	2	0	0	376
9555		22	20	22	25	24	19	18	17	21	22	0	0	210
9612		24	20	26	36	37	22	35	18	9	14	0	0	241
8180	3	31	13	34	25	51	38	17	16	4	3	0	0	232
9985		7	6	7	5	6	4	10	4	5	0	0	0	54
10033		3	10	1	8	1	1	4	3	3	4	0	0	38
10223		9	7	12	7	11	12	10	6	6	7	0	0	87
12147		7	3	4	4	21	6	7	3	3	4	0	0	62
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	20	0	0	0	227
9951		27	19	24	25	29	15	18	22	17	8	0	0	204
10217		12	8	26	13	18	20	5	15	26	12	0	0	155
10249		12	11	9	7	3	5	10	7	5	4	0	0	73
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	7	13	0	0	157
12163		0	0	0	0	2	13	16	3	3	0	0	0	37
1509	6	10	14	3	10	4	5	4	0	0	0	0	0	50
2917		104	96	101	147	197	250	108	89	43	29	0	0	1164
3457		22	18	14	17	26	8	18	11	5	0	0	0	139
124	7	12	10	15	17	15	14	18	19	20	17	0	0	157
2485		121	117	86	153	207	246	221	173	147	110	0	0	1581
9892		24	7	11	7	10	12	10	18	43	26	0	0	168
11447		7	6	4	4	8	3	6	5	3	6	0	0	52
12130		4	10	6	7	5	5	3	3	4	0	0	0	47
Total		586	470	516	648	813	832	664	525	423	294	0	0	5771

Yours in Comradeship,

Rick Farris,
Junior Vice Commander
Department of Pacific Areas

WE 
VOLUNTEERS

From the Junior Past Department Commander:

Comrades of the Pacific,

Reaching Out to our military community through the many different programs we have to recognize and thank them for their service is the start to letting them know what the VFW does as an organization. Whether it is youth programs, adopt a unit, MAP functions, or just volunteering in the community, we can and should make a difference. We are veterans and it follows that fellow veterans are our first focus and priority. I know from reports given at Post, District and Department level that a great amount of assistance is provided to our local communities where we have VFW members.



That is why I ask each of you to 'Reach Out' to the military men and women. We cannot allow the military men and women, and veterans go unappreciated for their patriotic sacrifice and service. The more we show what our organization does for our active duty members, veterans and our local communities the better for us to recruit them as members for the VFW. As VFW members we need to be there for one another, our active duty men and women, veterans, communities and for our country, to ensure we are giving all eligible veteran a reason to want to be a part of our great organization.

Our year is fast approaching closure, have you and your post accomplished all the VFW programs and fulfilled all requirements for All-State and All-American? We are in the last four months of the 2017/2018 year. It is time to complete all remaining programs, start holding elections, and get things in order to ensure all post, districts and department will complete the year successful.

I want to encourage all to push to get new blood into the Posts and District officer positions. We need to always lead, mentor and care to have new ideas, refreshed energy to continue to show visions for the future of our VFW. Don't let the Comrades tell you they are too young or haven't had any experience. That is why we are leaders and here to mentor and help along the way.

At the time of this writing, the Department is only 517 from 100% in membership. Let's continue to get out and recruit. I am confident we will come through so let's not let up. Let's end the year strong as we go into this last quarter!

If you need any help or have any suggestions, please don't hesitate to contact me. You may email me at: pdcmoses@vfwdeptpacific.org

Thanks for all that you do for Veterans, their widows, and their orphans.

Yours in Comradeship and Service,

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



From the Adjutant:

Greetings,

I wish to encourage all of you to continue the good work you are doing for your Post, your District, and our Department and for the Veterans of Foreign Wars. This first week of March, the VFW is in full force on Capitol Hill in Washington D.C., making it known to Congress and the U.S. leadership where we stand on a multitude of issues. Continue to let your representatives know how you feel and the issues that are important to you.

Thank you ALL for your continuing support.

Yours in Comradeship,

Jerry Chaplin
Adjutant
Department of Pacific Areas



From POW/MIA Chairman:

Comrades,

In keeping with my theme from last month, other agencies that actively pursue the accounting of US personnel missing from US conflicts, I present the following article. The National League of POW/MIA Families is another such organization.

In Hanoi on January 24, 2018, U.S. Secretary of Defense James Mattis toured Detachment 2, [Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency](#), with U.S. Ambassador to Vietnam [Daniel J. Kritenbrink](#). The agency's mission is to achieve the fullest possible accounting for US personnel still missing from the Vietnam War, now numbering 1,601.



That same day, a delegation from the National League of POW/MIA Families, headed by Chairman and CEO Ann Mills Griffiths, and a delegation from the Special Operations Association (SOA) and Special Forces Association (SFA), headed by Mike Taylor, chairman of the Joint SOA/SFA POW/MIA Committee, also visited DPAA Detachment 2 and received a Country Team briefing at the US Embassy.

The League delegation also met that same day with the chairman and members of the Vietnam Office for Seeking Missing Persons (VNOSMP), longstanding Vietnamese interagency team tasked by the Prime Minister with managing Vietnam's POW/MIA accounting cooperation and the Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs.

Today, the League Delegation met with senior officials in Vietnam's Ministry of National Defense, and the SOA/SFA Delegation met with Vietnamese veterans who opposed MACV-SOG operations along the Ho Chi Minh Trail during the war to enlist their assistance with resolving cases that resulted from the secret war in Laos and Cambodia.

The delegations are in Hanoi as part of a four-nation Southeast Asia visit, having already visited Thailand, Laos and Cambodia, to promote increased efforts to account for missing Americans.

Yours in Comradeship,

Tom Friend
POW/MIA Chairman
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 500 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,

I'd like to explain further the Life Membership stipend offered as part of the Commander's Membership Program for this year. Based on the total membership of a Post, Department is giving a Post the choice of one free Life Membership or a stipend of \$400 for reaching the following goals:

For Posts over 1,000 members – 15 new or reinstated (expired annual member becomes a Life member) Life members.

For Posts with 500 to 999 members – 10 new or reinstated Life members.

For Posts under 500 members – 5 new or reinstated life members.

Cliff Wilsey is the Department's Life Member Chairman, and he administers this program. He will normally email a Post reaching one of the above milestones to inform them that they qualify for the Department's bonus. Since the Post must make a choice whether they want a free Life membership or the \$400 stipend, I wait for the Post to tell me which bonus they want before I process either the Life member or the stipend. It is usually the Post Quartermaster who tells me which bonus the Post chooses.

There is no limit to the amount of bonuses a Post can receive in any year. The more Life members you recruit, the more stipends or free Life members you can receive. It is understood that the \$400 stipend should be used to benefit your Post Life member recruiting. Offering a \$100 discount to a new prospect is a powerful tool to convince that prospect to become a Life member. Essentially, a Post under 500 members (which includes the majority of our Posts) uses \$100 of its own funds to recruit 5 new Life members. That's a pretty good deal.



The exercise in getting hat sizes for All-State caps was rather depressing in that it revealed just how few of our leaders read the *Typhoon*. Since I will be ordering the caps as early as possible in April, let's give it another try. Here is a quote from the March National Headquarters Bulletin: ***"Order your VFW Uniform Cap today! Department Conventions are quickly approaching and officer changes will be taking place. The peak season for ordering caps is April to July when the VFW Store processes over 10,000 cap orders! During this period, it can take up to 10 weeks to receive your cap."*** So if your hat size is missing from the chart below, please take a minute to let me know what it is.

Many thanks!

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 1/8 --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 5/8 -- 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

2017-2018 POST AND DISTRICT AUDITS/POPPIES/QM BONDS

AUDITS SUBMITTED	JUNE '17	SEP '17	DEC '17	MAR '18	BUDDY POPPIES ORDERED '17-'18	QM BOND ORDERED 2017-'18
9723					\$58/500	\$65.00/\$26,000 Pd./F
District I					X	\$10.50/\$3,000 Pd.F
1054	X	X	X		\$174/1,500	\$100.00/\$40,000 Pd./F
9555	X	X	X		\$58/500	\$65.00/\$26,000. Pd./F
9612	X	X	X		\$58/500	\$65.00/\$26,000. Pd./F
District II	X	X	X		X	\$17.50/\$5,000. Pd./F
8180					\$348/3,000	\$87.50/\$25,000 Pd./F
9985	X	X	X		\$58/500	\$35.00/\$10,000 Pd./F
10033	X	X	X		\$58/500	\$65.00/\$26,000. Pd./F
40216	Post10216	merged	with	Post 8180	\$116/1,000	\$65.00/\$26,000 Pd./F
10223	X	X	X		\$174/1500	\$65.00/\$26,000 Pd./F
12147	X	X			\$58/500	\$35.00/\$10,000 Pd./F
District III	X	X			X	\$35.00/\$10,000 Pd./F
727	Post 727	merged	with	Post 9957	missing	\$35.00/\$10,000 Pd.
9957	X	X	X		\$58/500	\$75.00/\$30,000 Pd./F
District IV					X	\$35/\$10,000 Pd./F
9876	X	X	X		\$58/500	\$125.00/\$50,000. Pd./F
9951	X	X	X		\$58/500	\$35.00/\$10,000. Pd./F
10217	X	X			\$58/500	\$42.00/\$12,000. Pd./F
10249	X	X	X		\$58/500	\$52.50/\$15,000 Pd./F
11575	X	X			\$58/500	\$10.50/\$3,000 Pd./F
12074	X	X	X		\$58/500	\$52.50/\$15,000 Pd./F
12146	X	X	X		\$58/500	\$70.00/\$20,000 Pd./F
12163	X	X	X		\$58/500	\$52.50/\$15,000 P/F
District V	X	X	X		X	\$52.50/\$15,000 Pd./F
1509	X	X	X		\$58/500	\$70.00/\$28,000 Pd./F
2917	X	X	X		\$232/2,000	\$65.00/\$26,000. Pd./F
3457	X	X	X		\$58/500	\$65.00/\$26,000. Pd./F
District VI	X	X	X		X	\$10.50/\$3,000 Pd./F
124	X	X	X		\$58/500	\$48.00/\$13,000. Pd./F
2485	X	X	X		\$58/500	\$400.00/\$160,000. Pd./F
9892	X	X	X		\$58/500	\$35.00/ \$10,000. Pd./F
11447	X	X			\$58/500	\$35.00/\$10,000 Pd./F
12130	X	X	X		\$58/500	\$10.50/\$3,000 Pd./F
District VII		X			X	\$35.00/\$10,000 Pd./F
*F = Bond application form received.						

Yours in Comradeship,

Pete Callaghan
Quartermaster
Department of Pacific Areas

From the Judge Advocate:

Comrades,

In this issue of the Typhoon I will discuss the preparing, handling of resolutions.

Preparing a Resolution

In order to understand the procedure of preparing a resolution we need to know the definition of a resolution. Therefore, it is defined as a formal expression, opinion, or intention agreed on by a legislative body. With that said, it follows that the policy of the VFW is established in resolutions adopted by the delegates attending Department or National Conventions. Most such resolutions are originated at the Post level and passed through District and Department before being acted upon at a National level.



Also, a resolution may deal with a local problem, in which case it needs no action at a higher level other than the Post. If the issue concerns an area larger than that served by the Post, after Post approval the resolution should be presented before the District meeting. All resolutions of Department wide or National concern shall be acted upon at the Department Convention.

In discussing resolutions with National the biggest concern is preparing a resolution that makes sense.

Generally, all resolutions contain two separate parts; a statement of the problem to be solved, and the proposed solution to the problem. This is accomplished using "Whereas" clauses that outline the problem and a "Be It Resolved" section that is the proposed solution. Also, you can add further clauses to "Be It Resolved" section by indicating "Be It Further Resolved" etc. The resolution shown below has been correctly formatted as the "Whereas" clauses give the background and outlines the problem. With the "Resolved" section presenting a solution that makes sense and can stand-alone without the "Whereas" clauses having to give it meaning. This is considered the correct method of presenting a resolution.

Handling of Resolutions

Having discussed preparing a resolution the question now arises; how is it handled? The following is a guide to handling a resolution at various command levels:

• Post

- 1) Adopted resolution for the Post area or community is handled locally.
- 2) If adopted by the Post and concerns District area of responsibility it then would be presented at the District level for adoption.
- 3) The Post adopts a resolution that concerns comrades within the Department area it would be sent through channels to be resolved at the Department Convention.
- 4) If a Post adopts a resolution that is of National concern it must go through channels and be acted upon at the Department Convention.

• District

- 1) Adopted resolution that affects Posts within its area of responsibility is handled locally.
- 2) If resolution concerns areas outside, but within the Department area it shall be forwarded for action at the Department Convention.

3) The District adopts a resolution that is of National concern it shall be submitted to Department for action at the Department Convention.

- **Department**

Any resolution presented by a Post, District, Department officer, or Department Convention, shall be acted on at the Department Convention if it concerns matters within the Department's geographical area or of National concern. A resolution that is disapproved at the Department Convention or not acted upon will not be considered at the National Convention.

When submitting a resolution to the Department Convention you should make a notation on the bottom of the resolution page of the previous action taken; e.g., submitted by Post and, if applicable, by the District. Also, any unit submitting a resolution should write a cover letter with the resolution as an attachment thereto, ensuring delivery by mail or electronic (PDF signed copy) means to the Department Adjutant with copy to Judge Advocate no later than May 1st. This will give proper time for review and distribution to all Posts, Districts and those concerned prior to the Convention.

Comrades, if you have any questions on what has been presented please feel free to contact me at pdcmoses@vfwdeptpacific.org

Yours in Comradeship,

Robert "Mo" Moses
Judge Advocate
Department of Pacific Areas

From the Veterans Assistance Committee Chairman:

Comrades,

We had some movement this month. The Department of Pacific Areas Veteran's Assistance Committee (VAC) has awarded five (\$500) grants so far this year. We have \$3,500.00 left in the budget for the 2017-2018 year. Post & District Commanders are encouraged to promote this program! The application process is straight forward and easy to put together. All it takes is a one page Grant Application.

Any VFW Member can nominate a worthy veteran for a VAC Grant. We have a few more Districts/Posts who have notified us that they want to submit a nomination. 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 as a grant and will be awarded on a first-come first-served basis. We have less than 4 months to go! 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 Surgeon:

Department Surgeon focus on Tracking Your Health

In continuing my series of Veterans taking care of their health, this month I am focusing on **"Tracking Your Health"**. Often we find challenging to be able to find a central location to keep our information concerning our health from information with visits to our physicals, self-monitoring of blood pressure and our diet etc.

This can be done easily through the VA My Health at the following web site:

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

I encourage our veterans to log into the above web site and register. There are a host of areas which will help you to track your own health along with your physician. Each of us have our own areas of interest and the above sight gives everyone that. Below are some areas that are available for one to use:

Tracking Vitals on Line

- Blood Pressure, Heart Rate and Cholesterol are among the nine (9) vital signs you can record and track on line.

Health History

- Track you VA Health Records as well as your self-entered information including allergies and immunizations

Journals

- Record your daily activity and food intake

HealthLiving Assessment

- Learn your health age and identify health risks.

We should take charge of our Health and one method is through tracking our Health so that when we are with our physicians we will have accurate information that can assist in your visits to physicians and medical facilities. Allowing yourself and health providers a better picture will allow for a better health.

Other Web sites:

www.move.gov/move23

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

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

Live a Healthier Life and a Longer Life!

Yours in Comradeship,

Michael S. Napsey
Surgeon
Department of Pacific Areas



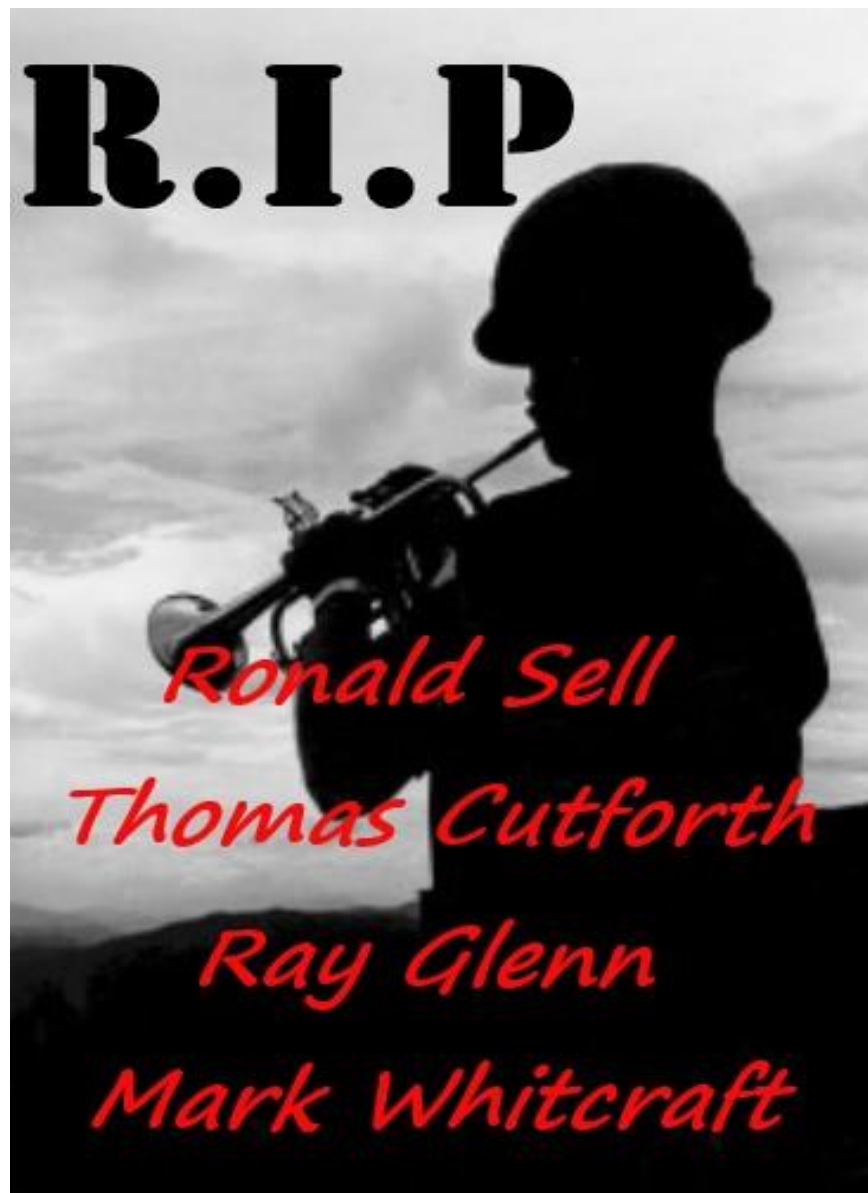


Note from the Chaplain:



Comrades,

We have lost 4 members this month, Ronald Sell, Thomas Cutforth, Ray Glenn, and Mark Whitcraft. 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



On a good note I would like to send a shout out to the 6 U.S. Army Soldiers who competed at the 2018 Olympics Pyeongchang, Korea, **Maj. Christopher Fogt, Sgt. Nick Cunningham, Sgt. Justin Olsen, Sgt. Emily Sweeney, Sgt. Taylor Morris, Sgt. Matt Mortenson** they competed in either of the following events Bobsled or the Luge. And Coached by **Capt. Michael Kohn and SGT. Shauana Rohbock** Great job and way to represent "Murica". USA, USA, USA... I also found time to foster relations with Russians during the Men's USA vs Russia Hockey. You can find my video on FB.



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.

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,

So Far good early response from Post / District filling up the DPA convention book with ads submitted to bobzaher@gmail.com, lets keep bbook Publisher Mrs. Lenee Zaher hard at work organizing and editing your art work. The deadline for submission this year, 01 May 2018, so we have now March and April approximately 60 days to go.

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

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

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

Not much change since last report POA&M remains on Schedule, February has included approximately 40 rooms reservations confirmed, the DPA website Convention Registration working as expected, we have noted a couple double entries and the correct Banquet dates are 13 and 14 respectively MOC on the 14th. Currently 58/31 registered for Banquets 34 VIP, 36 for AA lunches limited seating filling fast. As I had posted on the 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 >5X up to 8X "Big Man", please contact me via email holublouis@gmail.com Shirts are 1,000THB each, Our Friend of the Post "Delta Gulf" is offering transportation from and to the airports same as the CofA 2015 so as soon as you have your flight details and require transport arranged please email holublouis@gmail.com. Or len.Fernandez@cranewww.com . Are hopes being higher than reality in terms of getting in and out of Utapao Pattaya Airport, we do not anticipate new airlines or routs will be added before the convention in June so most will book and fly to Main BKK Suvarnabhumi airport.



Counting down to Banchang Thailand in June 2018

Yours in Comradeship,

Lou Holub
2018 Convention/Convention Book Chairman
Department of Pacific Areas

From the Inspector:

Comrades,

All inspections are complete other than two and they are scheduled to be completed before the end of March. A continued outstanding job by all. 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 March 2018
9957	in progress	Scheduled March 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 Legacy Life Membership Chairman:



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!



Okinawa District I - Home of the Rock Mitchell L. Farris ★ Robert E. Morgan ★ Dennis E. Provencher ★ Terry T. Shoemaker ★ Stanley E. Stewart ★ Jeffrey R. Ullmann ★ Kimball L. Wilson ★	Gloria A. Barker ★ Michael Castro ★ Ricky W. Farris ★ Randy W. Grant ★ Randall E. Himes ★ Nathan A. Hammtree ★	Japan District II - Land of the Rising Sun Francis A. Hunter ★ David Ingram ★ Michael D. Lutman ★ Sidney E. Malone ★ Matthew M. Maness ★ Kevin E. Mitchell ★ Robert W. Moses ★ Joseph F. Mortimer Jr ★	Terrence J. Noonan ★ William Rossi ★ William A. Russell ★ Allen W. Sanders ★ David D. Wykes ★
George E. Beck ★ Thomas E. Bergam ★ Jamaricus A. Brooks ★ Joseph E. Brown ★ Raymond A. Buck ★ Ronald W. Chinn ★ Robert F. Clifton ★ Ralph L. Connor, Jr ★	Korea District III - Land of the Morning Calm Gregory J. Cyr ★ Dora Conwell Lynwood ★ Daniel G. Delaney ★ Paul D. Erickson ★ Lon G. Garwood ★ Richard D. Hagaman ★ Billy T. Haney ★ Oscar F. Helton ★	Mike W. Higgins ★ Patrick J. Higgins ★ Ernest W. Lee ★ Alan R. Limb ★ Laurence L. Lyons ★ David L. Mahanes ★	Steven A. Rhoades ★ Casey E. Roberts ★ Jeffery D. Rowan ★ Cynthia E. Schmitz ★ Rockie P. St John ★ Kenneth P. Swierzewski ★ Stephen M. Tharp ★ David F. Thomas Jr ★ Mark B. Varney ★ Shawn M. Welsh ★ Dean W. Yoder ★
Taiwan District IV - Beautiful Island Orville D. Humfleet ★ Arthur E. Scholl ★ Merlie E. Porter ★	At Large Edward C. Geimer ★★ Kyle J. Reichert ★	286 Members <i>As of 07 March 2018</i>	
Martin D. Ballard ★ Frederick W. Berg, Sr ★ Jonathan P. Brazee ★ Al S. Briscoe ★ Roscoe C. Butler Jr ★ Michael C. Contoni ★ Michael H. Cooperman ★ Robert M. Deangel ★	Robert Engborg ★ Peter J. Evers ★ John P. Farrell Jr ★ Miles Floit ★ Al R. Fitchett ★ Thomas Friend ★ John W. Hampton ★ Richard C. Haugh ★	Thailand/Cambodia District V - Land of Smiles Louis S. Holub ★ Howard F. Holzworth ★ B.K. Hubbard ★ William J. Hudson ★ John E. Kelsch ★ Albert E. Kershaw ★ Homer B. Kemper ★	Eric D. Larsen ★ James D. Maughmer ★ Michael B. McManus ★ David E. Lipman ★ Delbert N. Marohl ★ Andrew E. Mayeaux Jr ★ Raymond D. Mendigorin ★ Donald L. Meurett ★ Daniel W. Morgan ★ Wendell P. Newman ★ Raymond J. Papp ★ Gary M. Paramski ★ James M. Picha ★ Joel E. Pierson ★ Hector Robertin ★
William J. Bartlett ★ William W. Bradford ★ Peter A. Callaghan ★ Matias A. Chargualaf ★	Guam/Saipan District VI - Where the USA Day Begins John H. Davis Jr ★ Barry A. Hirschbein ★ David L. Ehlers ★ Mark W. Franchino ★ Allen Jackson ★ Michael T. Johns ★ Gerald L. Kraus ★	Carl F. Lindlau ★ Barry L. Mead ★ Brian J. Merenda ★	George S. Quinata ★ Melissa Miller ★ Jesse F. Pangelinan ★ Edgar G. Tudor ★ Allen L. Turner ★ Shawn C. Watson ★ Robert Woodruff ★
John Q. Adams ★ Jose H G Agoot ★ Thomas G. Aldrich ★ Ernest N. Amecucci ★ Christopher Andrejcek ★ Donald P. Ballaro ★ Honorito A. Balos ★ Warren E. Bannister ★ Dale A. Barys ★ Gerald T. Brown ★ Walter T. Brown ★ Edward P. Brozowski ★ Carl D. Burke ★ Thomas R. Burnett ★ Ronald Burrus ★ Grady E. Byrd ★ Joseph L. Catacutan ★ Gerald F. Chaplin ★ Willis Clark Jr ★ Lee Cobb ★ James E. Collins ★ Michael T. Compton ★ Donald B. Conaty ★ Clifton S. Corey ★ Richard A. Corni ★ James E. Correll ★	Jonathan L. Crist ★ David T. Crowe ★ Richard Crutchfield ★ Thomas L. Darkus ★ Paul E. Davis ★ Walter O. Decker ★ Robert L. Delves ★ Michael D. Devore ★ Jack B. Dietz ★ Dennis L. Doty ★ Charles J. Dwyer ★ Thomas I. Elliott ★ Jesse G. Eredia ★ Randy L. Essary ★ R. Bob Farrow ★ Paul F. Flaherty ★ Alexander B. Fores ★ William A. Frees III ★ Thomas J. Gallagher ★ Donald Gamache ★ Paul T. Gasperson ★ Steven C. Gebhardt ★ Larry E. Geisler ★ John Gilbert ★ James W. Gillich Jr ★ Anthony P. Grimm ★	Philippines District VII - The Last Paradise William R. Grubbs ★ Micah N. Harcourt ★ Douglas D. Harriman ★ Carl A. Harris ★ Ronnie E. Harvey ★ Craig Higginbottom ★ Frank B. Hilliard IV ★ Charles C. Hoffman ★ James D. Hoggs ★ Walter E. Howard ★ Patrick H. Hruzek ★ John K. Hubert ★ John J. Istvan ★ Eddie L. Jernigan ★ Lowell E. Johnson ★ William Jones ★ Edward W. Kenny ★ Gregory L. Korder ★ Edgar J. LaBenne ★ Vernon C. Lask ★ Ralph F. Liebhaver ★ Gonzalo Y. Limson ★ William G. Lyon ★ Edward Lyons ★ Richard P. Malkovich ★	Norman Macon ★ Warren W. Marr ★ John A. Marsh ★ John Marshall, Jr ★ David T. Mason ★ John T. Mayberry ★ Neil J. McAuliffe Sr ★ Malcolm M. McCallum ★ Arthur D. McCoy ★ Carl E. McFadden ★ Buddy W. McGuire ★ Clayton L. McKelvie ★ Michael J. Melis ★ Peter Miller ★ Albert Mitchell ★ James E. Montgomery ★ Thomas B. Morado ★ Richard A. Moran, Sr ★ Paul O. Morgenthal ★ Michael S. Napsey ★ Guadalupe E. Nava ★ Eric D. Nelson ★ Cesar O. Noble ★ Yusuf A. Nuriddin ★ Refugio Palomino ★ Robert E. Parker ★ Dennis C. Patch ★ Benjamin N. Pennell, Sr ★ Edward L. Perdue ★ Jonathan N. Portis ★ Fortunato R. Poyaoan Jr ★ Gerald H. Prinz ★ Jerry C. Prowant ★ Lawrence A. Radel ★ Larry B. Rader ★ William J. Reedy ★ Alex R. Roese Jr ★ Eduardo Rubio Jr ★ Leon S. Sachkar ★ Emory C. Russell ★ Frank J. Sass ★ Kenneth W. Schaefer ★ Donald F. Scholoff ★ Donald Schulze ★ Raymond Shackelford Jr ★ Lyle A. Simshaw ★ Lawrence V. Senato ★ Scott Simms ★ Norman G. Smith ★ Charles R. Spain ★

★ - Gold

★ - Silver

★ - Bronze

■ - In Memoriam

★ - Deceased

Yours in Comradeship,

Bob Zaher
Legacy Life Membership Chairman

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 10,360 Life Members currently on board. This is an increase of 126 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:

Post	Total N/R Recruited	Total Awarded
124	21	4 (\$1600)
1054	10	1 (\$400)
2485	34	3 (Life Memberships)
3457	15	3 (\$1200)
9612	17	1 (\$400)
10223	15	3 (\$1200)
11447	21	4 (\$1600)
12146	21	4 (\$1600)
12147	27	5 (\$2000)

Congratulations to the above Posts. As a reminder, these funds must be used to support the Life Membership Program. Special KUDOs to the Commanders of Posts 2485 and 12147 for leading the Department.

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

Yours in Comradeship,

Cliff Wilsey
Life Membership Chairman



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



From the Legislative Committee Chairman:

Comrades,

Time to qualify for All-State is running out, but there is still time to get things done. As a reminder, one of our requirements for All-State and All-American is as follows:

Post participation in one or more of the following activities:

1. Support an ongoing "VFW Action Corps Weekly" registration drive reporting to the Department National Legislative Chairman.
OR
2. Hold a Deployment or Welcome Home event (Department will help fund via the Department Veterans & Military Support Chairman).
OR
3. Adopt a Unit, reporting to the Department Veterans & Military Support Chairman. to either



If it is difficult for your post to hold a Welcome Home Event or Adopt a Unit, then holding a VFW Action Corps Weekly is a simple and relatively easy task to accomplish. Once you complete the drive, please email me at the below email address.

Holding the drive is not merely a checkmark, though. The weekly is the best way that we, as VFW members, can keep track of legislative action that matters to the VFW and all vets. So even if your post has completed either of the second two requirements, I urge all posts to still hold their registration drive.

Here are some of the current legislative highlights concerning vets.

1. **VFW to Deliver Veterans' Voice to Congress:** More than 500 members of the VFW and its Auxiliary are arriving in the nation's capital the first weekend in March to urge their respective members of Congress to end sequestration and to continue improving the programs and services provided by the Department of Veterans Affairs. VFW National Commander Keith Harman is set to present the [VFW's legislative priorities](#) on Wednesday at 10 a.m. before a special joint hearing of the Senate and House Committees on Veterans' Affairs in room G-50 of the Dirksen Senate Office Building. Regarding the sequester, he said the two-year budget agreement will bring temporary funding stability, but it won't end the continued threat of sequestration on a military that is still at war with an all-volunteer force that is fighting with less training and overused equipment. "We need our troops to keep their heads in the fight instead of wondering about the well-being of their families back at home," he said. Harman will also call for the quick passage of the *Caring for Veterans Act of 2017*, and urge enhancements to other programs, such as expanding caregiver benefits to pre-9/11 families, increase gender-specific services and peer-to-peer support groups, end the so called "Widow's Tax," and extend toxic exposure presumptions for wherever Agent Orange was used, stored or transported, among many others. [Read more here.](#)
2. **Veterans Legislation Roundup:** During the week of Feb 26, the Senate passed three pieces of legislation supported by the VFW — [S.2372](#), the *Veterans Cemetery Benefit Correction Act*, [S. 2248](#), and [H.R. 3656](#). S.2372, which was introduced by Senate Committee of Veterans' Affairs Chairman Johnny Isakson (R-Ga.), requires the Department of the Interior to provide outer burial receptacles for veterans remains buried in cemeteries administered by the National Park Service (NPS). S.2248, which was introduced by Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs Ranking Member Jon Tester (D-Mont.), authorizes the VA to provide burial benefits for spouses and children of veterans who are buried in tribal cemeteries. H.R.3656, which was introduced by Representative Jim Banks (R-Ind.-3), expands VA headstones and markers eligibility for children of veterans. The bill will eliminate an inconsistency in the dates of eligibility, which results in certain spouses being eligible but not dependent children. H.R. 3656 will now head to the president's desk to be signed into law. The VFW thanks Senators Isakson and Tester and Representatives Banks for their steadfast dedication to veterans.

3. **Forever GI Bill Education Benefit Restoration:** VA recently updated their website on opportunities for veterans to potentially restore and utilize their education benefits. A provision was added to the Forever GI Bill to allow student veterans whose benefits were wasted at schools that abruptly closed to seek restoration of those benefits. Also added was an extension of benefits for students pursuing STEM degrees, full eligibility for Purple Heart recipients, removal of the expiration date for veterans who left service after January 2013, and many other provisions for veterans, families and survivors. The VFW strongly supported these additions and worked closely with Congress and our veterans' community partners on this legislation. Read more about eligibility or apply for benefits restoration.
4. **Learn More about Camp Lejeune Benefits:** VA issued a video regarding benefits available to veterans and their family members who suffer from conditions related to contaminated water at Camp Lejeune. The video is part of VA's outreach efforts on this issue and includes available options and contact information. The team of professional, highly trained VFW Service Officers can help you file claims related to Camp Lejeune water contamination. Watch the video or find an accredited service officer near you.

Comrades, this concludes my report on legislative matters concerning veterans. If you have any questions you may contact me at cortez79@hotmail.com.

Yours in Comradeship,

Jonathan Brazee
Legislative Chairman
Department of Pacific Areas

From the Roving Ambassador:

Hello Comrades,

Commander Gilbert has been mentioning in previous articles something the Department needs to do and I am sure we are stepping up to...getting membership up to speed!!! I am hoping we will climb from position number three nationally and show National that we can be number one! As we continue to move forward it appears that our Department is doing well in many Programs and I am confident that we will get the members required to make our Department 100% for the year.

I hope each of you and your families had a nice President's Day Holiday weekend. We also have members with the luck of the Irish in them so I would like to wish them a Happy St. Patrick's Day on the 17th. Have a Green Beer for the Department!!!

Speaking about the Department, I am flying into Bangkok on Saturday 9 June at 2310. If anyone is flying in about that time and we can drive down to Ban Chang together on the VFW Van. Seats will be available...HA!!!

Please be safe and all that you do and let's remember to check on each other. May god continue to bless you, your families, and the good ole USA!!!

Yours in Comradeship,

Kevin E. Mitchell
Roving Ambassador
Department of Pacific Areas
"Honoring our Past, Securing our Future"



From the National Home for Children Chairman:



VFW NATIONAL HOME FOR CHILDREN
Every child deserves a happy family

Comrades,

March has blown in with the wind, just a few more month left till the All State requirements are due to be cut off. I have made my first report to the SVC DPA Verville and we are still hurting with four (4) Districts and eleven (11) Posts that are needed to give the Department a 100% in donations to the National Home.

This report is as of February 28, 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	YES	\$50.00
District 4	No		District 7	YES	\$50.00
727 Merged with 9957	No		124	YES	\$150.00
			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 Americanism and Loyalty Day Chairman:

Comrades,

During the month of March, we will observe the National Vietnam War Veterans Day. This day honors a generation of men and women who served and sacrificed during the longest conflict in U.S. history. March 29 marks the anniversary of when combat forces departed South Vietnam in 1973, even though some troops remained until their final departure in 1975. According to Department of Veterans Affairs, there were 8.7 million Vietnam Era veterans, with 3.4 million deployed downrange. There were 47,434 combat deaths, 10,786 in-theater deaths, and 153,303 non-mortal wounds, which also include casualties from the ill-fated SS Mayaguez rescue attempt in 1975.



In 2017, U.S. Senators Pat Toomey, R-Pa., and Joe Donnelly, D-Ind., introduced legislation to honor Vietnam Veterans with a day on the anniversary of the withdrawal of military units from South Vietnam. President Donald Trump signed the Vietnam War Veterans Day Act on March 28, 2017, calling for U.S. flags to be flown on March 29 for those who served.

March is also National Women's History Month. The VFW and the Armed Forces joins the nation in an amplified celebration of women's contributions to this nation and our Military. The nation honors all women for their military and civil service, their support and strength, and their sacrifices to help ensure the freedom and liberty cherished by all Americans. The United States of America is proud of today's women in uniform and veterans who serve or served with distinction and are role models exemplifying the highest values.

I'd like to shine a light on some of the remarkable women who have helped shape our country to what it is today. These women have displayed strength, courage and dedication when serving our nation and they deserve to be remembered for their dedication to our country.

Cordelia E. Cook (an Army Nurse during WWII) was the first woman to receive both a Purple Heart and a Bronze Star for her actions during the war.

Loretta Walsh was the first enlisted woman in the Navy that had identical pay and benefits to men. Her actions have been documented to be a very important piece of naval history.

The last outstanding woman I'd like to recognize is currently a Major General that recently visited Camp Zama last year. Major General Nadja West became the first black surgeon general of the U.S. Army on December 11, 2015. In 2013, she became the first black female General in the Army's active component, and was Army Medicine's first African-American female two-star general.

Honoring our veterans and women in uniform assures that our country's history will never be forgotten. As the United States continues to grow and change, it is important to remember where we came from and the sacrifices that were made along the way. To our Vietnam War Veterans and Women in Uniform, we applaud you and thank you for everything you have done for our nation. We are truly grateful.

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 73% of DPA Posts conducted at least one community outreach event in February. Since July 2017 the monthly average is 72%. These figures are a slight increase from January. 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 February on the VFW DPA's Around the Pacific Facebook group page.

- VFW Post 9612 celebrated Black History Month at Camp Zama Japan.
- Several Post Chiang Mai VFW Post 12074 members attended the Chiang Mai Thailand Veterans Recognition day. Several members were in attendance, to represent the Post and its efforts last year. The Thailand Veterans of Chiang Mai, at the Chiang Mai Thailand Veteran War Office, recognized the post for their effort in supporting the Thailand Veterans of Chiang Mai organization and all the Thailand Veterans in the Northern Thailand Region. These were some of the projects Chiang Mai VFW Post 12074 sponsored last year for the Northern Thailand Veterans: Thailand Veterans Blankets and Jackets Distribution 2017; Coffee and Cookies at Thailand Veterans' Day 2018.
- Hill 180 Ceremony Osan Ab ROK, Sponsored by Post 8180.
- On Saturday 3 February. Members of VFW Post 12146 Ban Chang - Utapao attended the Thai Veterans Day Ceremonies held in Chanthaburi, Thailand. The ceremony was a very well-coordinated, and a humbling experience for those who attended this remembrance. The treatment and courtesies provided to our members in attendance were remarkable and great day was had by all.

Here is an event that was posted in February on an individual VFW Post's Facebook page.

- VFW Post 3457 Saipan: What better way to celebrate Valentine's Day than by showing love to the CHCC Volunteers Association? Yesterday our post donated \$1,000 to the selfless volunteers who provide warmth and love to patients at our island's only public hospital. Read more about it in this morning's Marianas Variety and Saipan Tribune!

Please remember to use #VFWPostPride as well as other hashtags to increase your visibility beyond the DPA.

I review the CSR inputs within the first few days of the month to come up with the Community Outreach participation percentages. Unfortunately, not all Posts have inputted the data prior to my review so the numbers might be low. I have also noticed that a large amount of Community Outreach CSR entries is not followed up with corresponding Facebook or website entries. Please post your accomplishments on your website and/or Facebook page too. If you post on your Facebook page please share it with the DPA Around The Pacific Facebook page to increase the visibility of the outstanding work your Post is doing.

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.

Quote of the month: "The most worth-while thing is to try to put happiness into the lives of others." – Lord Robert Baden-Powell; Founder of Scouting

Yours in Comradeship,

Jon Crist
Outreach Chairman
Department of Pacific Areas



Letter of Intent – 2018-2019 VFW Year

For Department Surgeon Michael S. Napsey



Comrades,

It has been a pleasure serving as your Department Surgeon for the past year. I am looking for your support again this year in running for the Department Surgeon for 2018-2019. This past year we have focused on health issues that our Comrades are experiencing and put a different focus of giving different tools for us to use to better manage our health issues using technology as a basis in providing health programs, self-assessment and way ahead in giving us a better quality of health and hopefully extending our life. We are expanding our Health Programs establishing links that will bring our Comrades in contact with health institutions who can better provide information to our veterans allowing them to make better choices concerning their health. We are moving ahead in our Department Health Program and would like to continue serving as your Department Surgeon for the upcoming year so we can put in place these tools for all of our Posts. Thank you for your support.

Yours in Comradeship and God Bless!

Michael S. Napsey
Department Surgeon
Department of Pacific Areas

See you in the next edition!