

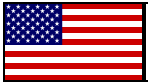


# Typhoon Newsletter



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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## THE BIG EVENT

2017-2018

Department and Grand of Pacific Areas

Convention and Scratch

10-14 June 2018 Banchang, Thailand



Host Post

Inputs for the July Typhoon  
Are due on 05 July 2018.



# Department Officer's Comments & Department Committee Reports

## From the Commander:

Greetings Comrades:

We are fast approaching the close of another outstanding year for the Department of Pacific Areas, and due to your efforts and dedication we have excelled in all areas. You can all be justifiably proud of our accomplishments, and for having well served our active duty, veterans, families and our communities. We have enhanced our solid reputation at VFW National Headquarters, and clearly shown the Department of Pacific Areas truly exemplifies, "VFW, No One Does More for Veterans".



Our membership challenges this year were obvious from the beginning, but we continue to move closer to 100% through your efforts. I thank you for the many recruiting drives, member events, and the personalized approach many of you have taken to renewing and lapsed members. The numbers attest to the hard work you have been doing, bringing us, as of 1 May, to needing 172 new and renewing members to reach our goal of 100%. We are closing fast on the objective.

Congratulations to the following three Districts and fourteen Posts for achieving All State status by 30 April 2018:

<u>Districts</u>	<u>Posts</u>	
District 5 Thailand / Cambodia / Australia	10223 Camp Humphreys	2917 Agat
District 6 Guam / Saipan CMNI	12147 Seongnam	3457 Saipan, CNMI
District 7 Philippines	10217 Korat	124 Baguio
	11575 Phnom Penh	2485 Angeles City
	12146 Banchang	9892 Bauang
	12163 Perth, WA	11447 Subic Bay
	1509 Yigo	12130 Cebu City

Outstanding effort and I'm sure several more will complete all requirements by the 30 June 2018 cut off. Many of these will be subsequently selected for designation as All American Districts and Posts by VFW National Headquarters.

Thank you for entrusting me with the leadership of the Department this past year. I have been truly honored to serve as your Department Commander, and your support and dedication to our goals and objectives has made it a truly gratifying experience. My thanks for all your efforts to support our VFW National and Department programs and goals, and proving again that Department of Pacific Areas is a high performing organization. We are very fortunate to have Mike Verville as our next Department Commander, and I know you will give him and his team the same level of support I have enjoyed.

See you in Banchang!

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 membership currently stands at 98.65% as of 5 May 2018. We have fourteen Posts and 3 Districts that are "Over the Top" in Membership. You can view the current numbers on the DPA Around The Pacific Face Book Page! We are currently 158 members from reaching 100%. Keep pushing your recruiting efforts NOW!

The DPA All-State Program has resulted in the selection of 14 Posts and 3 Districts as of 1 May 2018. These selectees will be receiving their award at the DPA Convention. Just a reminder – the All-State Program is not over until 30 June 2018! There are a few more Posts & Districts that have a chance to make All-State. Our major objective now should be our continued efforts for our Posts and Districts to make All-American. There are 3 additional requirements for All-American that are over and above the All-State requirements (e.g., (1) Be in the National Division "Top 50" for Posts and "Top 25"; (2) Achieve 5% new or reinstated members based on the Adjusted Prior Year Membership Total; and (3) Make the additional donations for the VOD/PP/Teacher's Award/VMS/National Home as outlined in the 2017-2018 VFW National Membership Program which is posted on the DPA Website). I will provide weekly updates on the DPA Around The Pacific Face Book Page.

The DPA New/Reinstated Life Memberships have topped 311 already this year. Our Legacy Life Membership is a leader among the Top VFW Departments.

As you read this - we will have less than 1 month to finish our work for this year! Please don't stop now! 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. The later you recruit this year – the harder it is to renew the same members next year!

If you need my help on any program - Please contact me at [mverville2005@gmail.com](mailto: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:***

**First, let me congratulate those Posts who have already qualified for All-State.  
WELL DONE!!!**

These last couple of months have been very busy with Posts and Districts making the last big push towards All-State and All-American qualification. We should have a very good number of eligible candidates by the time the deadline arrives. Those Posts and Districts that do win that all important distinction are to be commended. This is never the work of one member, but many.

Community Service Reports database has been closed out for the April 30 tally.

The winner of the Community Service award for Department of Pacific Areas has been announced.

### **Congratulations to Post 2485!!!!**

This award was not based solely on numbers, but also on valid and meaningful entries into the CSR database. There were a number of really good Posts this year, including 2917 and 1054, but realistically, Post 2485 just has it right. Again, well done.

I had the opportunity to visit Misawa AB, Japan earlier in April, with our ADSO, Mike Castro, and SVC of District 2, Mike Lutman. It was a very enjoyable trip, since I was stationed there 40 years ago. I believe we have laid the ground work there for a future Post, as there was one there many years ago. A member of that post passed away recently and we were given a convention book from the early 70's. Mike Lutman is in the process of scanning it, and submitting to the Dept. Historian.

CDR Gilbert visited Japan late last month, and saw all three Posts in action. He has been very involved with the Department, and I appreciate the chance to visit with him, at every opportunity.

I am really looking forward to seeing all of you at next month's convention in Ban Chang, Thailand. I have good memories of our last trip there. If you have the time, please consider spending an extra day, and getting a physical at Pattaya-Bangkok Hospital. I did two years ago, and it saved my life.

See you all in Ban Chang.



## CSR Reports as of 01MAY2018

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	13	14	153
1054	2	39	25	30	54	62	61	60	29	14	10	17	22	423
9555		22	20	22	25	24	19	18	17	21	24	27	13	252
9612		24	20	26	36	37	22	35	18	9	18	16	17	278
8180	3	31	13	34	25	51	38	17	16	4	16	22	14	281
9985		7	6	7	5	6	4	10	4	5	0	0	0	54
10033		3	10	3	8	3	3	4	3	3	4	3	0	47
10223		9	7	12	7	11	12	10	6	6	8	9	7	104
12147		7	3	4	4	21	6	7	3	3	5	4	4	71
9957	4	6	1	1	5	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	1	18
9876	5	36	17	28	24	21	24	27	30	20	15	27	15	284
9951		27	19	24	25	29	15	18	22	17	19	15	12	242
10217		12	8	26	13	18	20	5	15	26	25	32	19	219
10249		12	11	9	7	3	5	10	7	5	5	8	6	88
11575		3	3	13	5	4	3	3	7	5	6	7	3	62
12074		17	8	16	19	31	22	13	10	8	3	7	6	159
12146		20	19	20	17	17	13	16	15	8	21	8	13	187
12163		3	3	3	3	5	13	16	3	3	3	6	6	67
1509	6	10	14	3	10	4	5	4	3	3	3	5	4	68
2917		104	96	101	147	197	250	108	89	45	80	30	29	1276
3457		22	18	14	17	26	8	18	11	5	5	7	7	158
124	7	12	10	15	17	15	14	18	19	20	20	17	18	195
2485		121	117	86	153	207	246	221	173	147	132	143	110	1856
9892		24	7	11	7	10	12	10	18	43	49	65	25	281
11447		7	6	4	4	8	3	6	5	3	6	5	7	64
12130		4	10	6	7	5	5	3	3	4	5	6	7	65
<b>Total</b>		<b>591</b>	<b>475</b>	<b>521</b>	<b>651</b>	<b>822</b>	<b>837</b>	<b>667</b>	<b>535</b>	<b>434</b>	<b>489</b>	<b>493</b>	<b>372</b>	<b>6887</b>

Yours in Comradeship,

Rick Farris,  
Junior Vice Commander  
Department of Pacific Areas

## ***From the Junior Past Department Commander:***

Comrades,

At the time of this writing, the Department is only 171 members away from 100% in membership. We can do this, so please continue to recruit. Thanks for all of your hard work in recruiting and re-recruiting.

It has been an honor for me to serve the Department over the last 4 years in the Top 3 chairs and this year as the Junior Past Department Commander. I have been asked to run for the Department Judge Advocate for 2018-2019. It will be a big challenge, but will do my very best to serve as great as Comrade Wichmann has done over the last ten to fifteen years.

I really appreciate all of you and your service to our great organization as well as your service to our Veterans, Widows and Orphans. If you need any help or have any suggestions, please don't hesitate to contact me. You may email me at: [jpdmoses@vfwdeptpacific.org](mailto:jpdmoses@vfwdeptpacific.org).

I would like to share with you some information on Reporting and Communicating at the Post, District and Department level that have been shared by other JPDC. Hope this will help mentor our incoming officers on why we do what we do at the Post, District and Department.

### **Reporting – The Key to Success**

During the year the Department is on dependent upon the Posts to provide a variety of reports to them. These reports serve a purpose and often contribute to the Department need to fulfill its' reporting requirements to National. When you think about it, the number of reports may surprise you. They each contribute to the success we strive for at all levels. As Post leaders these reports help you in many ways. They provide you a means to prepare for the start of the new VFW year. They provide you a means to monitor, manage and document your operation and activities during the year.

#### **Community Activities Program Report - Post Program Chairman to DPA JVC**

Twice a year the DPA JVC submits the Department report to National. The data enables our organization to illustrate to other organizations and Congress our involvement within our communities.

#### **TAPS Report for Deceased Comrades - Post Chaplain\Quartermaster to DPA Chaplain\National HQ**

Our DPA Chaplain maintains a record of deceased comrades and they are honored in remembrance when we meet at our Department Convention. The loss of a comrade also needs to be reported to National HQ. This enables them to keep their membership records current. If they have incorrect records the Post MEMSTATS will be affected.

#### **Trustees Quarterly Audit Report – Quartermaster to DPA Quartermaster**

The report provides the Department a record of the Post and District financial operation. It with the Annual Inspection Report can provide information of where the Post may need to make adjustments and the Department with the District may be able to provide guidance or instruction to assist the Post.

#### **Inspection Report - Inspectors to DPA Inspector**

This report serves as a tool to identify areas of the Post or District operation that may require adjustment to comply with the National By-Laws and Manual of Procedure. It also provides an opportunity for the Post and Department to work together through the District to improve operation and their chances for a successful year.

#### **Election Report - Adjutant to DPA Adjutant**

It provides a listing of officers for the year to Department and National. This is important as it provides contact information. As an example, National needs to know where to send mail to the Post.



### **General Orders - Adjutant to DPA Adjutant**

Provides a listing of officers for the year to Department and when changes are made they need to be provided in an updated General Order. This is important as it provides contact information so the Department will know who they are working with.

### **History - Historians to DPA Historian**

Over the year's significant events and activities take place at your Post. These are all part of your history and contribute to the history of our Department. Some Posts submit articles that are published in the Around the Department newsletter. This is also a part of your history and can be submitted to Department. Entries from your Post minutes also are a source to document your history. A little time each month and by the end of the year you have compiled a surprisingly thorough accounting of your Post history. If you have a question please contact the Department Historian.

### **Impact of Communication**

Communication is a sharing of information or responding to an inquiry. As spread out as we are in our Department communicating by electronic means is critical to our success.

It also is an essential means of maintaining contact with members who have moved from the Pacific Areas and in some cases still reside in the community the Post is located in. This can be instrumental when it comes time to renew their annual membership dues. Why would a member renew their membership with an organization that does not "Reach Out" to them and share with them news from their Post? It also can be meaningful in generating interest of members to participate in Post activities. It can and has made a difference.

Communication has a variety of avenues to share information. Phone calls, email, website, newsletters, facebook and twitter. We have a great Department website, email system and Department calendar. Let the members know about the website and your Webpages. It provides access to what is happening in the Pacific Areas at all levels. Some Posts publish newsletters to share information with their members.

Besides having different avenues to share information, communication is bi-directional. Do you have an idea to make things better? Share it and possibly it could make a real difference in support of our goal to improve and be successful.

Information flow to our members is important. We are an organization of volunteer members and our success and team building is dependent on ensuring the entire membership is included in the communication of information of interest to us all. The VFW Team is not just the elected and appointed officers. It is each and every member of our elite organization. Each of them has a role in our success.

When a comrade, District or Post receives recognition by Commanders at any level for their dedication and contribution to the VFW and when they are selected for recognition through awards such as: Post/District Awards, All State and Outstanding Recognition Awards. National Awards presented at the Department and National Conventions and National appointments, the results should be published for the members to read.

This accomplishes two things. First, it provides recognition to the comrade or Post for their dedication. Secondly, it provides member awareness that through their dedication and contributions to our organization comrades and Posts can attain recognition and appreciation for their efforts. True it is not the intent to receive recognition for their contributions and many do not seek awards, but it is a means of the organization expressing their appreciation for dedicated support.

To have the opportunity to be a successful organization, we need to communicate.

Yours in Comradeship and Service,

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

## ***From the Adjutant:***

Greetings,

Gearing up for our Department Convention in June in Ban Chang, Thailand. This is busy time of year for Posts and Districts. I would like to remind all Posts that once you have completed your Post election, for the year 2018-2019, please use the VFW National online OMS to submit your report electronically to National. Post Quartermasters sign into the OMS and follow the procedures. Once you submit your election report this way, VFW National automatically sends me a copy.

Also, as you prepare for the upcoming year and complete your new Post and District General Orders, please forward a copy of those General Orders to me at: [adjdpa@vfwdeptpacific.org](mailto:adjdpa@vfwdeptpacific.org) I use the General Orders and Election Reports to complete the DPA MEMO ONE. I prefer to use the General Orders because there are times when the National data base (for the election report) is out of date and I have found that your Posts and District General Orders are much more accurate and the General Orders contain the other information that we place on the MEMO ONE.

The Department has accomplished much during the past year and we have a lot to do at our Convention. However, the Convention is also the time for camaraderie and sometimes "just hang out".

**Thank you ALL for your continuing support.**

Yours in Comradeship,

Jerry Chaplin  
Adjutant  
Department of Pacific Areas



## ***From the Veterans Assistance Committee Chairman:***

Comrades,

The Department of Pacific Areas Veteran's Assistance Committee (VAC) has awarded eleven (\$500) grants so far this year. We have \$500.00 left in the budget for the 2017 - 2018 year. We will have 3 weeks left when you read this article. If you have a needy veteran – please get in touch with me as soon as possible. There is money left in the budget to assist ONE more veteran this administrative 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.** 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 at the 2018 Department of Pacific Areas Annual Convention in June 2018. You may contact me any time day or night. My contact information is as follows: (1) Email - [mverville2005@gmail.com](mailto:mverville2005@gmail.com), (2) Telephone - +639182491184.

Yours in Comradeship,

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





## ***From the Quartermaster:***

Comrades,

How do you figure out your Post's delegate strength (and delegate fees) for the upcoming Department Convention? First, take your Post total membership number on May 31, 2018. You get this from National MEMSTATS, found on National's website. Divide that number by 30 and round up any fraction. For example, if your Post has 301 members on May 31, your initial delegate strength is 11. This means that your Post can cast 11 votes for any measure that comes up for a vote at the Convention.



But certain positions add to your Post's delegate strength. If your Post Commander is present for the voting (or Senior Vice in the Commander's place, or Junior Vice in the Commander's place), add 1 delegate vote. If your Post has a Department elected officer, add 1 delegate vote. If your Post has the Department Chief of Staff, Adjutant, or Inspector, add 1 delegate vote. Add 1 delegate vote if your Post has the National Council member or a Past Department Commander. Finally, add 1 delegate if your Post has the District Commander as a member.

If this sounds complicated, you are correct. There are a few caveats. If one person fills more than one of the above positions, that person only counts for 1 vote. Let's say the Department Surgeon is also your Post Commander. He only adds one extra delegate vote for your Post; not two. In addition, if any person occupying a position mentioned above decides to cast his vote apart from the Post, the Post loses that delegate vote and the person gets one vote alone. Once you have figured out your delegate count, multiply that figure by \$6.00 and that is your Post's delegate fees due before the voting begins. (If anyone who counts for an extra delegate vote decides to vote alone, he owes \$6.00 to the Department QM.)

Quick takes: 1) If your Post elected a new Quartermaster for the upcoming year, he will have access to National's Quartermaster Tools after July 1. So the outgoing QM needs to assist the new QM until that date. 2) Many Posts have By-Laws requiring dual signatures on Post checks as a safeguard. Be aware that most banks or establishments will cash any check with one signature, no matter what your By-Laws say. 3) Just a reminder that Quartermaster Bond rates are the same as last year, and that a QM Bond application must be filled out and returned with the bond dollar amount.

I hope to see many of you at the Department Convention!



## 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	X	X	X		\$58/500	\$65.00/\$26,000	Pd./F
District I	X	X	X		X	\$10.50/\$3,000	Pd./F
1054	X	X	X	X	\$174/1,500	\$100.00/\$40,000	Pd./F
9555	X	X	X	X	\$58/500	\$65.00/\$26,000.	Pd./F
9612	X	X	X	X	\$58/500	\$65.00/\$26,000.	Pd./F
District II	X	X	X		X	\$17.50/\$5,000.	Pd./F
8180	X	X	X	X	\$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	X	\$58/500	\$65.00/\$26,000.	Pd./F
40216	Post10216	merged	with	Post 8180	\$116/1,000	<del>\$65.00/\$26,000</del>	<del>Pd./F</del>
10223	X	X	X	X	\$174/1500	\$65.00/\$26,000	Pd./F
12147	X	X	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	<del>\$35.00/\$10,000</del>	<del>Pd.</del>
9957	X	X	X	X	\$58/500	\$75.00/\$30,000	Pd./F
District IV	X	X	X	X	X	\$35/\$10,000	Pd./F
9876	X	X	X	X	\$58/500	\$125.00/\$50,000.	Pd./F
9951	X	X	X	X	\$58/500	\$35.00/\$10,000.	Pd./F
10217	X	X	X	X	\$58/500	\$42.00/\$12,000.	Pd./F
10249	X	X	X	X	\$58/500	\$52.50/\$15,000	Pd./F
11575	X	X	X	X	\$58/500	\$10.50/\$3,000	Pd./F
12074	X	X	X	X	\$58/500	\$52.50/\$15,000	Pd./F
12146	X	X	X	X	\$58/500	\$70.00/\$20,000	Pd./F
12163	X	X	X	X	\$58/500	\$52.50/\$15,000	P/F
District V	X	X	X	X	X	\$52.50/\$15,000	Pd./F
1509	X	X	X	X	\$58/500	\$70.00/\$28,000	Pd./F
2917	X	X	X	X	\$232/2,000	\$65.00/\$26,000.	Pd./F
3457	X	X	X	X	\$58/500	\$65.00/\$26,000.	Pd./F
District VI	X	X	X	X	X	\$10.50/\$3,000	Pd./F
124	X	X	X	X	\$58/500	\$48.00/\$13,000.	Pd./F
2485	X	X	X	X	\$58/500	\$400.00/\$160,000.	Pd./F
9892	X	X	X	X	\$58/500	\$35.00/ \$10,000.	Pd./F
11447	X	X	X	X	\$58/500	\$35.00/\$10,000	Pd./F
12130	X	X	X	X	\$58/500	\$10.50/\$3,000	Pd./F
District VII	X	X	X	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 Surgeon:

### Department Surgeon focus on Diabetes 2

This month I am focusing on Diabetes 2 and selected this subject based on a Facebook post by our friend Former CINC and Adjutant John Hamilton who decided to post the horrific by products of Diabetes 2 which he presently is battling. Our Veterans are getting older and some will succumb to this disease and could have prevented it with good diet, exercise and limiting drinking. **I want to stress that you should first consult with your physician on your condition, medications and course of action you should take.** There is no cookie cutter plan for this, each person has their own unique situation. Below I have identified common drugs that are used to work with diabetes 2 and some facts that one can think about along with typical symptoms.



- Increased thirst
- Increased hunger (especially after eating)
- Dry mouth
- Frequent urination
- Unexplained weight loss (even though you are eating and feel hungry)
- Fatigue (weak, tired feeling)
- Blurred vision
- Li
- Headaches
- Loss of consciousness (rare)

**No Stand Out Drug:** No single drug to treat type 2 diabetes stands out from the pack when it comes to reducing the risks of heart disease, stroke or premature death based on recent research.

**Metformin:** Metformin is used with a proper diet and exercise program and possibly with other medications to control high blood sugar. It is used in patients with type 2 diabetes. Controlling high blood sugar helps prevent kidney damage, blindness, nerve problems, loss of limbs, and sexual function problems.

**Symptoms of Metformin:** Nausea, vomiting, stomach upset, diarrhea, weakness, or a metallic taste in the mouth may occur. If any of these effects persist or worsen, tell your doctor or pharmacist promptly. If stomach symptoms return later (after taking the same dose for several days or weeks), tell your doctor right away. Stomach symptoms that occur after the first days of your treatment may be signs of lactic acidosis.

**Chlorpropamide:** Chlorpropamide is used with a proper diet and exercise program to control high blood sugar in people with type 2 diabetes. It may also be used with other diabetes medications. Controlling high blood sugar helps prevent kidney damage, blindness, nerve problems, loss of limbs, and sexual function problems. Proper control of diabetes may also lessen your risk of an attack or stroke. Chlorpropamide belongs to the class of drugs known as sulfonylureas. It lowers blood sugar by causing the release of your body's natural insulin.

**By Products of Diabetes:** This can ruin your cardiovascular and renal systems. Metformin may encourage onset of dementia. Your Body will struggle constantly regulating the spiking and dropping of insulin.

<https://www.benefits.va.gov> Compensation Diabetes Mellitus (Type II)

<https://www.webmd.com/diabetes/preventive-type-2-diabetes>

Live a Healthier Life and a Longer Life

Yours in Comradship,

Michael S. Napsey  
Surgeon  
Department of the Pacific Areas



## Note from the Chaplain:



Comrades,

This past year we have lost a lot of our Brothers in the Department. 98 Comrades have changed their patrol location to that of the Heavens, where they will continue their mission of protecting us all. God Bless them and their families who miss them. The United States also lost a Great Woman, Wife, Mother, Grandmother and First Lady. FLOTUS Barbara Bush passed this month, but fear not, she had a Marine waiting at the Gates to guide her. "Gunny" R. Lee Emery has also passed this month, he will live forever in our hearts as "Gunny Hartman", and a true Marine. We will miss you "Gunny".



Comrades, saddens me to say but this will be my last input as your Department Chaplain. I will be moving into the position of District III Korea Commander. It has been my honor to serve the Greatest Department in the Veterans of Foreign Wars. I would like to thank each and every member of the Department for your support. God Bless you all.

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 [chapdpa@vfwdeptpacific.org](mailto:chapdpa@vfwdeptpacific.org). 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  
DPA Chaplain

**"Rest Easy, we'll take it from Here"**

## ***From the Convention / Convention Book Chairman:***

Commanders and Comrades,

April has come and gone we have now approximately 6 weeks until Convention in beautiful hot & raining Banchang Thailand. I had opportunity this past month to visit the Philippines and an absolute pleasure to visit to District 7 Post 2485 Angeles and in Subic, time was limited so I did not get a chance to visit our Comrades / Shipmates in San Antonio FRA but will get further north next trip.

We did have plenty of Comradery and SMB and most importantly I was able to follow up with Comrades Mr. & Mrs. Zaher to finalize details of convention book editing, publishing and transport. With this message our 01 May ad submittal deadline has passed, Comrade Bob Zaher has stated this year's efforts are at least equal to last year ad book and I believe we have all done the DPA proud in this annual fund raising effort. As Chairman I would like to thank all of our DPA Comrades who have participated and supported this effort, Big BZ and thank you to Mrs. Lenee Zaher our Convention Ad Book Editor!

If you have any question about the Convention / Convention book, please contact me at [holublouis@gmail.com](mailto:holublouis@gmail.com) or phone; +66817208124



### **DPA Convention 10 to 14 June 2018 Banchang Thailand; update**

Planning, organizing and registration remain on schedule, as of 02 May, 87 Comrades have registered which includes PCIC Edward Banas and two Taiwanese VA representative. We expect at opening ceremonies local Parliamentarian and Thai War Veterans "Fiends of BCU Post". As previously reported both VIP and AA lunches are sold out, we have now sold out the DPA Awards/Installation Banquet there are seats available for the GPA Awards/Installation Banquet so get your reservations in ASAP as I plan to finalize head count with hotel on the 15<sup>th</sup>. All double bed rooms are reserved but plenty of single bed X 2 rooms available. 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](mailto:holublouis@gmail.com) initial order was placed. Shirts are 1,000THB each.

Airport pick up / transportation request are being placed with "Delta Gulf", as soon as you have your Airport / flight details, arrival date / time and number of passengers please email [holublouis@gmail.com](mailto:holublouis@gmail.com). Or [len.Fernandez@craneww.com](mailto:Len.Fernandez@craneww.com). We currently have 14 airport pick-ups scheduled but only 2 departures booked, it's not too early to book departures, although can be done upon.

Counting down to Banchang Thailand in June 2018!

Yours in Comradeship,

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



## From the Legislative Committee Chairman:

Comrades,

The pace of action in Washington is high, and much of that concerns the military and vets. Here are some of the current legislative highlights concerning vets.



- 1. VFW Rallies Support for VA MISSION Act of 2018:** On May 3rd, the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs Chairman Phil Roe, M.D., introduced H.R. 5674, the *VA MISSION Act of 2018*, which is the culmination of hard work by members of the House and Senate Committees on Veterans' Affairs to consolidate and improve VA's Choice Program, improve VA's ability to hire high-quality health care professionals, expand caregiver benefits to pre-9/11 veterans, and establish a process to evaluate and improve VA buildings to better serve veterans. "VFW members around the country have made it clear that the VA health care system must be improved, not dismantled," said Keith Harman, national commander of the 1.7 million-member Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U.S. and its Auxiliary. "This agreement strikes a balance between improving access to VA doctors and leveraging the capabilities of the private sector when VA is unable to meet veterans' health care needs." The VFW calls on its members and supporters to [contact their members of Congress](#) and urge them to cosponsor and swiftly pass this important legislation. Read a [summary of the bill](#) or the [bill text](#).
- 2. Congress Hosts Panel Discussion on Women Veterans:** VFW National Legislative Service Associate Director Kayda Keleher participated in a panel discussion with the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs, alongside other VSOs, VA, congressional staff and researchers working to improve the quality of life for women veterans. The panel, which was moderated by Maj. Gen. (Ret.) Dee McWilliams, president of the Women in Military Service for America Memorial Foundation, discussed issues faced by women veterans regarding health care, benefits, transition from military service and social stigmas. [Learn more](#) about what the VFW is doing for women veterans.
- 3. World War I Memorials Update:** The U.S. World War I Centennial Commission and the Pritzker Military Museum and Library have announced the final 50 WW1 Memorials to be awarded grants and honored with the official national designation as "WW1 Centennial Memorials." All 100 memorials in all 100 cities have now been designated, including such national landmarks as Chicago's Soldier Field, the Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum, San Francisco's War Memorial Veterans Building and Opera House, Honolulu's "Natatorium," the National World War I Memorial at Pershing Park in Washington, D.C., plus many smaller, local community projects, to include several that were VFW-initiated. The newly designated memorials are in 37 different states, and each will receive a \$2,000 matching grant toward the restoration, conservation and maintenance of these local historical treasures. View the list [here](#).
- 4. DHA MSO/VSO Working Group:** On Wednesday, April 18, the VFW participated in the monthly Defense Health Agency (DHA) MSO/VSO Working Group led by DHA Deputy Director Guy Kiyokawa. The meeting provided updates on service treatment record processing and modernization, TRICARE implementation, and upcoming changes to the TRICARE Retiree Dental Program which is set to end on Dec. 31, 2018. Also discussed was the importance of ensuring that beneficiaries who pay their premiums and fees by credit card have contacted their new regional contractor to ensure that their payment information is correct. Beneficiaries who fail to authorize or update their payment information with their new TRICARE contractor before May 31, 2018, will lose coverage and must wait a full year to re-enroll. As of March, there were still approximately 44,000 beneficiaries who have failed to update their payment information. If you are unsure of your current payment authorization status, please contact your regional TRICARE contractor.

Comrades, this concludes my report on legislative matters concerning veterans. If you have any questions you may contact me at [corter79@hotmail.com](mailto:corter79@hotmail.com). I look forward to seeing those of you who are going to Ban Chang.

Yours in comradeship,

Jonathan Brazee  
Legislative Chairman  
Department of Pacific Areas

## ***From the Certified National Recruiter:***

Greeting Comrades,

We are now down to the nitty gritty folks. As today we only need 144 more members to renew or to recruit new ones. However if you look at the post's that have not made 100% yet and the number that they need to make 100% the total comes to 384. So surely we can come up with the required numbers to get Pacific back up to 100%. Let's give one more for the "Gipper" or in our case one more for Commander John!

We have grown since my last article so let's get to the point. We have added our newest post to our list of "Over the Top" Post's and Districts. We now have 14 Post's that are "Over the Top" and they are Post's 10223, 12147, 10217, 11575, 12146, 12163, 1509, 2917, 3457, 124, 2485, 9892, 11447 and leading the pack in percentages is Post 12146 with 127.77% Congrats to all. We have 3 District that is also "Over the Top" and that is Districts 5, 6 and 7 Congrats also to all in these Districts!

In individual recruiting efforts we have increased the numbers of recruiters to "139" in the Pacific Areas that are keeping us in 8th 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" We have a couple of new names to add to this list and they are George Beck: Post 10223 and Leon Ellison: Post 8180 along with William Russel: Post 9612, Ron Davis: Post 8180, Warren Maxson: Post 8180, Don Kelley: Post 10223, Larry Lyons: Post 12147, Michael O'Kelley: Post 3457: Cliff Wilsey: Post 2485, Mike Verville: Post 11447 and leading this group with 66 recruits thus far this year is some guy named Larry. I want to thank ALL the recruiters for it is definitely a TEAM PACIFIC effort to make this happen year after year.

In closing it has been a pleasure working with Commander John this year and I look forward to working with SVC Mike as he becomes Commander of our Pacific Area.

Let me know how I can help. I am only an email away. What do you need for next year? I can be reached at [PDCLyons@VFWDeptPacific.org](mailto:PDCLyons@VFWDeptPacific.org).

Yours Always in Comradeship,

Larry Lyons  
Certified National Recruiter  
Department of Pacific Areas



**I WANT YOU  
TO  
JOIN/RENEW!**

## From the Legacy Life Membership Chairman:

Comrades,

We have had 7 New Legacy Life Members this past month for a total of 295 Department Legacy Members. As Legacy Chairman I had set a goal of 300 Department Legacy Life Members for this year. Will need a little help before the end of June to reach the 300 level. I will have the Legacy Life Membership acceptance form available at our convention. Please stop by at our Legacy display.



**LEGACY LIFE MEMBERSHIP ACCEPTANCE FORM**

Life Member No. \_\_\_\_\_ Social Security No. \_\_\_\_\_

MEMBER NAME \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

CELL \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE SELECT ONE:

Yes, I wish to become a Legacy Life Member of the VFW!

I am purchasing a Memorial Legacy in the name of a deceased VFW Life Member.

MY NAME \_\_\_\_\_

Check  Visa  Master Card  Discover  Amex  Installment Plan

BRONZE (\$400)  \_\_\_\_\_

SILVER (\$800)  \_\_\_\_\_

GOLD (\$1200)  \_\_\_\_\_

Exp. Date (MM/YY) \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Upon My Demise: (See Terms and Conditions - Item No. 6)

Make a One-Time Endowment

Continue the Annual Endowment

Yours in Comradeship,

Bob Zaher  
Legacy Life Membership Chairman  
Triple Crown Commander

## From the Roving Ambassador:

Hello Comrades,

This is my last report of Department Commander Gilbert's term and I would like to thank the Commander for the opportunity to serve our great Comrades this year!!! As of this Report we have 82 members signed up for the Convention next month and I hope to see more of you then. Again, speaking about the Convention, 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.

It appears that the Department is closing in on 100% in Membership for the year and best wishes to our Posts and Districts as we make our final push!!! Congratulations to the Districts and Posts who are over 100% at this point. Also, across the board we are looking good in all Programs. Way to go Department!!!

Memorial Day is the last Monday of the Month. Let's remember the Comrades who made the ultimate sacrifice for our nation and keeping us free!!! In closing, please be safe in all you do and it's an honor to be a part of such a great Department!!! May God continue to bless you, your families, and the good ole USA!!! See many of you soon as the countdown continues!!!

Yours in Comradeship,

Kevin E. Mitchell  
Roving Ambassador  
"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,

Wow, has this year flown by. May is here and one month before DPA Convention. DPA has already made the cut off to be recognized at this year Thailand convention but you still have time to make the National cut off 30 June for All American requirements.

DPA Facebook page has this same report shows in RED the two (2) Districts and six (6) Posts that are still needing to make their donations to the National Home for Children and to give the Department a 100% participation this 2017-2018 year.

This report is as of April 27, 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		10217	YES	\$50.00
9723	No		10249	No	
District 2	YES	\$100.00	11575	YES	\$50.00
1054	YES	\$100.00	12074	YES	\$50.00
9555	YES	\$100.00	12146	YES	\$50.00
9612	YES	\$100.00	12163	YES	\$50.00
District 3	YES	\$50.00	District 6	YES	\$50.00
<small>40216-Merged-with</small>			1509	YES	\$50.00
8180	YES	\$50.00	2917	YES	\$50.00
9985	No		3457	YES	\$50.00
10033	YES	\$50.00	District 7	YES	\$50.00
10223	YES	\$50.00	124	YES	\$150.00
12147	YES	\$50.00	2485	YES	\$115.57
District 4	No		9892	YES	\$175.00
<small>727-Merged-with</small>			11447	YES	\$50.00
9957	No		12130	YES	\$50.00
District 5	YES	\$50.00			
9876	No		Post 12147 Project Pacific House		\$100.00
9951	No		Sub-Total		\$700.00
			Post 1054 Annual Benefit Concert		\$2,500.00
			Sub-Total		\$1,040.57
<b>Dist/Post Total</b>	<b>\$1,740.57</b>	<b>Special Projects</b>	<b>\$2,600.00</b>	<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$4,340.57</b>
<b>Not Confirmed</b>					

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](mailto: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  
[nhcdpa@vfwdeptpacific.org](mailto:nhcdpa@vfwdeptpacific.org)

## ***From the Americanism and Loyalty Day Chairman:***

Comrades,

May is a very busy month for Americanism and Loyalty. We start the month of on the 1<sup>st</sup> with Loyalty Day. Loyalty Day is a day set aside for the reaffirmation of loyalty to the United States and for recognizing the heritage of American freedom. Loyalty Day originally began as "Americanization Day" in 1921 as a counter to the Communists' May 1 celebration of the Russian Revolution. On May 1, 1930, 10,000 VFW members staged a rally at New York's Union Square to promote patriotism. Through a resolution adopted in 1949, May 1 evolved into Loyalty Day. Observances began on April 28, 1950, and culminated May 1, when more than five million people across the nation held rallies. In New York City, more than 100,000 people rallied for America. In 1958, Congress enacted Public Law 529 proclaiming Loyalty Day a permanent fixture on the nation's calendar. Please take a moment on this day to publicly acknowledge the members of our armed forces who are displaying the ultimate in loyalty and service to protect our freedoms, liberty and way of life.



On 8 May we recognize the Victory in Europe Day (V-E Day). Victory in Europe Day (commonly known as V-E Day), marks the formal acceptance by the Allies of World War II of Nazi Germany's unconditional surrender of its armed forces, therefore marking the end of World War II. The act of military surrender was signed on May 7 in Reims, France and on May 8 in Berlin, Germany. If you have a WWII veteran and/or spouse in your community, ask them to speak at a Post meeting or event about what they recall about this historic day. If they are unable to speak at an event, ask if a member can share their recollection with others.

Armed Forces Day is the third Saturday in May. This year it fall on 19 May, 2018. Armed Forces Day is a day to pay tribute to those who defend America's freedoms every day. Led by the effort of President Harry S. Truman to establish a single day for Americans to thank the nation's military members for their service to our country, Armed Forces Day was created on August 31, 1949, following the unification of the armed forces under the U.S. Department of Defense. First observed on May 20, 1950, the day was designed to replace separate Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force and Coast Guard Days, but the separate days are still observed, particularly within their respective services.

We will close out May with Memorial Day. Memorial Day is a day that for remembering all those who died while serving in the country's armed forces. The holiday, which is observed every year on the last Monday of May, originated as Decoration Day after the Civil War. While this holiday commonly marks the unofficial beginning of summer, it is also a time for a more serious and respectful occasion. Many people visit cemeteries and memorials, particularly to honor those who have died in military service. Many volunteers place an American flag on each grave in national cemeteries.

Yours in Comradeship,

William Russell  
Americanism and Loyalty Chairman  
Department of Pacific Areas



## From the Outreach Program Chairman:

Comrades,

For those of you who are reading this report for the first time, 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.



I would like to congratulate Post 2485 Angeles City on their selection as 2017-2018 Outstanding Community Service Post for the Department. Month in and month out your Post, as others, put in a tremendous amount of work supporting your local community.

Unfortunately, I was unable to conduct a review the CSR event inputs for April so I do not have the percentage of DPA Post that conducted at least one community outreach event for the month. The reason is that when the Department JVC stated that he would be closing the CSRs on April 30<sup>th</sup> to close out the year I didn't realize that the data would not be viewable in early May. As the percentages were extremely consistent over the past months I suspect that 72% of DPA Posts would have conducted at least one event in April with the monthly average since July 2017 being 71%.

Here are the community outreach events that were posted in April on the VFW DPA's Around the Pacific Facebook group page. The number of posts posted was a marked increase over any previous month!

- Post 12146 Banchang Utapao's Post member Mike Mosley assisted with a charitable rice donation from Pattaya International Ladies Group. The group donated a four-month supply of rice to Ann's Home for Abandoned and Orphaned children.
- Post 12146 Banchang Utapao's CDR Ken Stein and SVC Jack Farrell visit the home of the Thailand Veterans Association (Banchang) to offer assistance with refurbishment efforts for their new post home.
- VFW Post 9612 Camp Zama hosted a game booth at the Military Children's Day event, and an evening BBQ and potluck at the Post.
- District 5 (Thailand Cambodia Australia) participated in ANZAC Day ceremonies at the War Memorial in Kanchanaburi. The District Posts had individual wreaths presented in honor of those many individuals that died working on the Death Railroad.
- VFW Post 12163 Perth participated in Perth's ANZAC Day March. Special thanks were given to SVC McNamara for her laying the wreath at Kings Park War Memorial representing the Post and later again at the service with Shenton Park and Mount Lawley.
- Post 1509 Yigo Guam participated in an ANZAC Day Remembrance ceremony.
- Post 8180 Osan and USO Volunteers served 372 personnel and dependents to include ROK Military at the Osan AB BBQ.
- VFW Post 9892 La Union along with the Lions Club and Rotary Club conducted a Meet & Great Pool Tournament at Enzo Restro.
- VFW Post 9892 La Union and Ocean Deep donated and installed a basketball backboard and rim to the B Flores Foundation School in La Union, Philippines.

Quote of the month: "We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give." - Winston Churchill

Yours in Comradeship,

Jon Crist  
Outreach Chairman  
Department of Pacific Areas



# ***Letters of Intent – 2018-2019 VFW Year***

## **LETTER OF INTENT DEPARTMENT 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

**LETTER OF INTENT**  
**DEPARTMENT QUARTERMASTER**  
**PETER CALLAGHAN**

Comrades of the Pacific Areas,

It has been an honor serving as your Quartermaster, and I am asking your support to remain in the position. For those of you who have been active in the Department for a few years, you may remember the time when the Department needed to hold fundraisers (other than the Convention Book) to meet our obligations. Past Commander Barry Hirshbein was the last Commander to hold a raffle in order to keep us afloat.

I took the reigns as Quartermaster at the end of Barry's year as Commander. And I am happy to say that since then, we have not needed to hold any annual fundraisers to pay the bills. The Department has enough money to meet our obligations, and at the same time we have established a Veterans Assistance Fund, a Disaster Relief Fund, and other programs that help fund the core missions of the VFW and the Department (Life Member Stipend Fund, for one).

We have moved our banking procedures into the 21<sup>st</sup> Century and we have a healthy investment fund which has earned over \$7,000 interest since I moved our investment money there six years ago. This year we donated \$1,000 to National's appeal for disasters caused by hurricanes and fires. And we have since replaced that money into our own Disaster Fund.

Our Department Service Officer now has the funding to support ADSO's in Japan and Thailand, as well as being able to meet his obligations in the Philippines. Our JVC has the funds to attend the National Home open house along with all the other Department's JVC's. Our Commander now attends the Western Conference meetings, from where National officers are groomed. And our visibility there has helped us, for the first time, have representation with the National leadership. Congratulations "Doc" Higgins.

All of this does not come about by magic. It takes planning, budgeting, and the discipline to stick within the budget to keep us solvent and moving ahead. I hope you think that I've served you well, and that you will lend your support to allow me to continue to do so. Thank you.

Yours in Comradeship,

Peter Callaghan



**LETTER OF INTENT  
JUDGE ADVOCATE  
ROBERT MOSES**



Comrades of the great Department of the Pacific Areas this letter will express my intention to seek-election as your Department Judge Advocate at the Department Convention in June 2018. Having been a life member since 2006 of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, I have had the privilege to serve in positions at all levels of the organization which includes National, Department, District and Post levels. Additionally I have held MOC positions in the Grand and Pup Tents.

The following are some notable positions held; National Home Chairman, VOD/PP/Teacher of the Year Chairman, All American Department Commander, All State District Quartermaster, District Commander, Commander Post 9555. I have also been appointed to various National Committees throughout the years, which has provided experience for a better understanding of the VFW.

The Department Judge Advocate's duties are depicted in National By-Laws to provide legal assistance to the Commander, Council-of-Administration and Department Convention. I have had numerous mentors from the post, district to the department, that have shared their experience in dealing with various levels of the VFW organization from National down through to the grassroots level of posts. With this knowledge I hope to be able to provide Post and District with any and all bylaws issues and concerns, as well as canteen by-laws, thus reviewing, rendering suggestions and forwarding the documents to the Department Commander and National for appropriate action. Whenever called upon I promise to give my legal rulings honestly in an unbiased manner and in accordance with effective By-Laws and other legal documents.

Comrades, I have made this decision to run for the Department Judge Advocate position with complete dedication to the principles of this great organization. I'm solely obligated to serving the comrades of the Department of the Pacific Areas and if elected as your Judge Advocate will render judgments by showing no prejudice or impartiality in a manner proper for the Good of the Order of the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

I would appreciate your support at election time in June.

THANKS!!

Yours in comradeship,

Robert Mo Moses

**LETTER OF INTENT  
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





**LETTER OF INTENT**  
**DEPARTMENT SURGEON**



Brian J. Hamic

I am writing to officially notify all of my DPA Comrades of my candidacy and desire to serve as Surgeon, Department of Pacific Areas. I am a retired soldier and a life member of the VFW. This past year, I served as Adjutant and Public Affairs Officer for Post 10223 in Korea.

I am a strong believer in the VFW's Mission and I have committed myself to ensuring that my performance in each position I hold leads to success in helping to meet my Post, District, Department and the VFW's goals.

All of us having survived decades of 'Mission first', 'Push through the pain', 'Suck it up', and 'No pain-no gain', are now beginning to understand the importance of early recognition of warning signs and symptoms of illness- and the need to actually do something about it before it becomes chronic. This requires awareness.

If elected Surgeon, I pledge to seek counsel with our Surgeon General, network with District & Post surgeons and source informative and practical information that I will pass along to each of you monthly in the Typhoon and on our Official Communications FB page. I also vow to continue to fully support and assist our DPA Commander, other officers and all the members of our Department throughout the 2018-2019 year.

I humbly request your votes, hope for your support and look forward to seeing you in Ban Chang in June!

Yours in Comradeship and Well-Being,

Brian J. Hamic

