



# Typhoon Newsletter

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



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



Volume XXII – Number 07

February 2019

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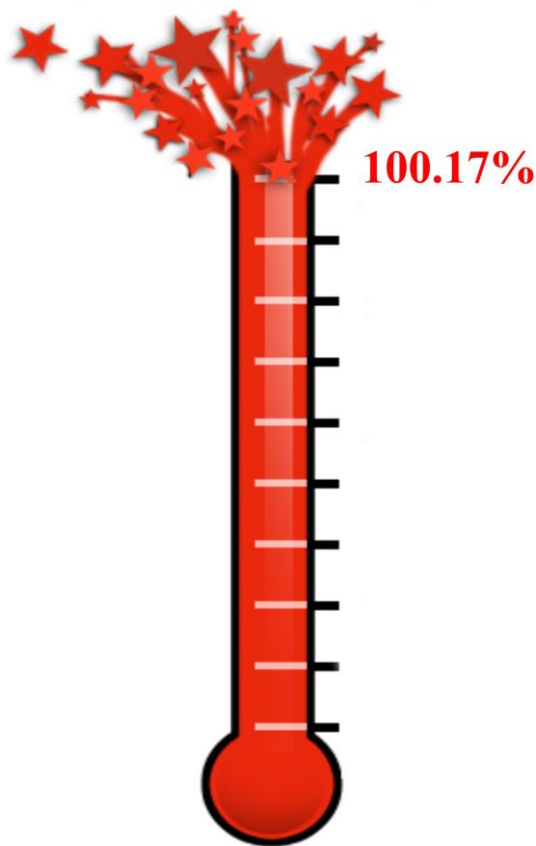
## “GET IT DONE”

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Inputs for the March Typhoon  
Are due on 05 March 2019.

### Department Membership OVER-THE-TOP



“GET IT DONE”  
Thank You Comrades



# ***Department Officer's Comments & Department Committee Reports***

## ***From the Commander:***

Comrades,

The Department of Pacific Areas is ranked #4 in the VFW National organization and as of 10 February 2019 we are "Over-The-Top" with 11,768 members (+20 members). Our Membership Percentage is 100.17%. I want to send my Congratulations and Big Thank You out to all the recruiters for all their hard work this year! However, our work is not quite finished yet since we have 12 Posts who are in the running for All-American and an additional 8 who are on track for All-State.



We had a great program year! All five of our major DPA Programs (Voice Of Democracy/Patriots Pen/Teacher's Award/Veterans & Military Support/National Home) have successfully completed all of our All-American requirements. I encourage you all to please stay on top of your Community Service Reports! Finally, we need to complete our Scout Of The Year Nomination. We currently have 2 Posts that informed me that they will have nominations.

The DPA Convention will be held from 9-13 June 2019 in Saipan. Online Registration will open on the DPA Website by the middle of February 2019. Let's help the Convention Committee get their work done by registering as early as possible. The VFW National Convention will be held in Orlando, Florida from 23-27 July 2019. The Convention Housing will open on 21 February. I encourage all of our comrades who will be attending this year's convention to get their online registrations in as early as possible. Rooms sell out very fast!

Now is the time of year to start thinking about our DPA Awards Program. Each year it amazes me when I see dedicated comrades work their tails off and never receive recognition for all they do. Leaders have the responsibility to recognize their top performers. There are nine categories that we recognize at the Post Level. Let's try and submit your best this year! I will be adding a DPA Commander's Award at the District Level this year! There is no special nomination package for this award – the only criteria is that you do your job to the best of your ability – I will be watching!

You can contact me anytime by email or F/B Messenger if you have questions or you just need to talk with me. Have a safe and prosperous New Year! Please keep working hard and let's continue to "GET IT DONE".

Team DPA Rocks!

Yours in Comradeship and Service,

Michael R. (Mike) Verville  
Commander  
Department of Pacific Areas – 2018/2019

## ***"GET IT DONE"***

## ***From the Senior Vice Commander:***

Comrades,

I just returned from a visit to District 6 in Guam and Saipan. It was a real pleasure to visit there as SVC for the first time. Many thanks go out to Shawn Watson for all of the hospitality, and Post 1509 and 2917 for contributing to a great trip. The D6 meeting in Guam was followed by three days in Saipan, looking things over for the upcoming Convention in June. Let me assure all of you, Saipan is ready for our Convention. The Fiesta hotel is a very nice place. I had a regular room and it was big and comfortable. The beach bar I'm sure, will be a popular place to hang out until the Post canteen opens. Post 3457 has their canteen ready to go for our arrival. I anticipate everyone having a great time.



On the membership front, as of February 4<sup>th</sup>, we are at 99.78%, just 25 away from the magic 100% mark. I would expect us to hit that in the next two weeks.

On the Veteran's Assistance front, 13 Vets have now been assisted with VAC Grants. I have enough funding for 7 more requests.

With the near completion of most Posts and Districts membership requirements, now is the time to turn your focus to All-State and All-American requirements. The DPA A/S Program is listed below. Ensure you have verified with the respective DPA Chairman that you have completed this item. I will be getting the list from them.

VFW Nat'l now has a dashboard for keeping track of All-American status, and it is now running pretty good. Track your progress for A/A there.

I will be visiting District 4 soon, and am looking forward to meeting its members.

Until next month.

Rick Farris,  
Senior Vice Commander  
Dept. of Pacific Areas  
[svcdpa@vfwdeptpacific.org](mailto:svcdpa@vfwdeptpacific.org)

### **All State Program Department of Pacific Areas 2018-2019**

**The All State Program recognizes yearly those high performing Districts and Posts within the Department for their support of Department and National Programs.**

**Districts and Posts meeting all requirements by 30 April will be recognized at the DPA Convention in June 2019. Those not meeting all requirements until after 30 April have until 30 June to meet all requirements, and will be recognized at the Department C of A in December 2019.**

#### **All-State District Commander**

- The District Quartermaster and all Post Quartermasters must be bonded in accordance with the National By-Laws.
- District and all Posts within the District must have successfully passed the current year Department inspection.
- The District and all the Posts within the District must have an appointed Service Officer.
- The District must be **100% plus five (5)** in membership by end of June 2019 as posted in National MEMSTATS (or end of April 2019 for recognition at the Department Convention.)
- Districts must increase their Legacy Life members equal to the number of Posts within the District. A Legacy upgrade counts the same as a new Legacy Life member. Districts need to report their new or upgraded Legacy members to the Department Legacy Chairman.
- All Posts and the District must have submitted all quarterly audits, including June, Sept., and Dec. 2018 and March 2019 to the Department Quartermaster.

- The District must have conducted at least one (1) Course of Instruction for Post and District Officers. The Course of Instruction or Lesson Plan with content must be submitted to the Department SVC for judging.
- All Posts must be current in monthly Department community service reports (CSR) input. **Every Post in the District must have at least three (3) CSR's each month (May 2018 – April 2019).**
- Participate in the VOD, Patriots Pen and Teacher's Award (all three levels) programs by submitting at least one entry to Department for judging **or provide a \$100 donation to VFW National Programs Directorate.**
- All Posts within the District must participate in the Buddy Poppy program by purchasing a minimum 500 Buddy Poppies.
- District must donate a minimum of \$50 to National Veterans and Military Support Program and report that donation to the Department National Veterans & Military Support Chairman.
- District must donate a minimum of \$50 to the National Home and report that donation to the Department National Home Chairman.

#### All-State Post Commander

- Post must be **100% plus one (1)** in membership by end of June 2019 as posted in National MEMSTATS (or end of April 2019 for recognition at the Department Convention.)
- Post must increase their Legacy Life Membership by one new member or make a Legacy Life upgrade. Post must also notify the Department Legacy Chairman.
- Post Quartermaster must be bonded.
- Post must have successfully completed Department inspection.
- Post must have an appointed Service Officer.
- Post must have all quarterly QM Audit reports – June, Sept., and Dec. 2018 plus Mar. 2019 on file with the Department Quartermaster.
- Post must be current in monthly Department Community Service Reports (CSR.) (May 2018 – April 2019) by submitting at least three (3) CSR's per month.
- Post participation in the VOD, Patriot Pen and Teacher's Award by submitting at least one entry in each category to District for judging or **provide a \$50 donation per program to VFW National Programs Directorate.**
- Post participation in Buddy Poppy program by purchasing 500 Buddy Poppies. The Post must report their Buddy Poppy purchase to the Department Buddy Poppy Chairman.
- Conduct a fundraiser and make Post donation (minimum \$50) to Veterans & Military Support program. This is also a National All American requirement. Please report donation (date and amount) to the Department National Veterans & Military Support Chairman to receive dual credit for All State.
- Post donation (minimum \$50) to the National Home. The Post must also report their donation (date and amount) to the Department National Home Chairman.
- Post participation in one or more of the following activities, and reported to the Department Chairman;
  1. Support an ongoing "VFW Action Corps Weekly" Registration Drive and report it 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 and report it to the Department VMS Chairman.
- Post must have an active Post website or a Post Facebook page. Report location information or weblink to DPA SVC.

#### Judging

All Districts/Posts that meet the minimum criteria as stated above by 30 April 2019 will be considered for All-State recognition at the Department Convention. All Districts/Posts meeting the minimum criteria by 30 June 2019 will be considered for recognition for All State as stated below:

#### Awards for Districts/Posts named All State by 30 April 2019

- District Commanders: All-State Caps and Awards/Installation banquet tickets paid by DPA for winner and a guest.
- Post Commanders: Airfare paid to and from convention from home District. Receive All-State Cap and Awards/Installation banquet tickets paid by DPA for winner and one guest. Post Commanders residing in the country hosting the Convention will receive a \$300 stipend if attending the Convention.
- All State Quartermasters will receive All State Cap and \$300 stipend if attending the Department Convention.



**Awards for Additional Districts/Posts named All State by 30 June 2019**

- District Commanders: All-State Caps and C of A 2019 banquet tickets paid by DPA for winner and a guest. If no longer a District Commander, airfare to and from the C of A 2019 will be paid. A Past District Commander residing in-country will receive a \$200 stipend to attend the C of A.
- Post Commanders: Airfare paid to and from the C of A 2019 from home District. Receive All-State Cap and C of A banquet tickets paid by DPA for winner and one guest.
- All State Quartermasters will receive All State Cap and \$200 stipend if attending the C of A 2019.

**NOTE: All State District/Post Commanders must attend all DPA business meetings (other than Committee Meetings.) Airfare awards are not transferrable.**

**MEMSTATS as of FEB 4, 2019**

Post	Dst	Life	New	Reins	Cont	Total	Adjusted	Percent	Div	City	State	N/R	Prior	Retention	N/R %
9723	1	735	2	3	20	760	709	107.19%	2	OKINAWA	JAPAN	4	34	58.82%	1.27%
0	1	735	2	3	20	760	709	107.19%	6			4		1.27%	
1054	2	777	1	8	8	794	772	102.84%	1	YOKOSUKA	JAPAN	10	32	40.63%	2.46%
9555	2	361	1	0	4	366	361	101.38%	2	YOKOTA A	JAPAN	1	24	12.50%	0.55%
9612	2	508	16	2	19	545	522	104.40%	2	CAMP ZAM	JAPAN	22	48	45.83%	7.66%
0	2	1646	18	10	31	1705	1655	103.02%	4			33		3.69%	
8180	3	1657	74	36	52	1819	2024	89.87%	1	SONGTAN	KOREA	19	392	10.71%	6.37%
9985	3	210	34	3	24	271	273	99.26%	3	TONGDUC	KOREA	2	72	30.56%	14.29%
10033	3	497	6	1	12	516	551	93.64%	2	TAEGU	KOREA	1	50	30.00%	1.45%
10223	3	316	57	1	10	384	354	108.47%	3	CAMP HUM	KORE	27	94	20.21%	24.01%
12147	3	189	55	2	7	253	236	107.20%	4	SEONGNAI	KOREA	16	74	16.22%	30.93%
0	3	2869	226	43	105	3243	3438	94.32%	2			65		9.71%	
9957	4	391	0	0	0	391	359	108.91%	2	TAIPEI	TAIWAN	0	11	90.91%	0.00%
0	4	391	0	0	0	391	359	108.91%	6			0		0.00%	
9876	5	353	8	2	20	383	402	95.27%	2	PATTAYA C	THAILA	4	45	51.11%	3.48%
9951	5	226	4	1	10	241	248	97.17%	3	BANGKOK	THAILAND	4	25	48.00%	3.63%
10217	5	140	3	0	8	151	142	106.33%	6	KORAT AF	THAIL	1	16	56.25%	2.82%
10249	5	235	3	0	17	255	251	101.59%	3	UDORN	THAILAND	2	29	86.21%	1.99%
11575	5	106	4	0	14	124	121	102.47%	6	PHNOM PE	CAMBODI	0	21	76.19%	3.31%
12074	5	95	2	0	8	105	106	99.05%	7	CHIANG M	THAILAND	3	14	57.14%	4.72%
12146	5	187	2	1	6	196	163	120.24%	5	BAN CHAN	RAYONG 1	18	14	42.86%	12.88%
12163	5	42	1	0	3	46	42	109.52%	10	PERTH	WESTERN	6	10	40.00%	16.67%
0	5	1384	27	4	86	1501	1475	101.76%	4			38		4.68%	
1509	6	332	0	0	7	339	358	94.69%	2	YIGO	GUAM	2	32	28.13%	0.56%
2917	6	197	5	0	9	211	233	90.55%	4	AGAT	GU	46		23.91%	4.29%
3457	6	281	5	1	10	297	284	104.57%	3	SAIPAN	CNMI	26	39	43.59%	11.27%
0	6	810	10	1	26	847	875	96.80%	6			33	%	5.03%	
124	7	195	0	0	0	195	177	110.16%	5	BAGUIO C	PHILIPPI	21	1	100.00%	11.86%
2485	7	1627	15	1	34	1677	1665	100.72%	1	ANGELES C	PHILIP	25	75	60.00%	2.46%
9892	7	240	0	0	0	240	233	103.00%	4	BAUANG	LA UNION	2	4	25.00%	0.86%
11447	7	518	6	3	8	535	483	110.76%	2	SUBIC BAY	PHILIPPIN	32	21	100.00%	8.49%
12130	7	71	0	0	8	79	117	67.52%	6	CEBU	PHILIPPIN	4	50	20.00%	3.42%
0	7	2651	21	4	50	2726	2675	101.90%	3			84	%	4.07%	
15055	99	519	9	2	20	550	562	97.86%	2	PACIFIC AF	PI	10	%	3.74%	
0	99	519	9	2	20	550	562	97.86%	6			10	%	3.74%	
0	255	11005	313	67	338	11723	11748	99.78%				267	%	5.51%	

## From the Junior Vice Commander:

Greetings Comrades,

It's almost Valentine's Day so if you have a special Valentine besides the VFW don't forget that special day on 14 February.

We are now fully into the awards season, so I would ask all Post Commanders to nominate those worthy individuals who help make your Post successful. There are two categories; i.e., the Outstanding Award Program which includes nine awards, all of which are due from your Post to your District Commander on 15 March. The other award is the National Outstanding Community Service Post which is due to your District Commander on 25 March.



Program information has been sent to the webmaster, but if it is not on our website your district commander has a copy and of course you can contact me and I will forward you any information you may need.

Community Service Reports continue to provide a snapshot of the types of community service your Post is performing, how many man-hours are spent, and how much money is dedicated to various projects. Please ensure your reports are submitted by the 5th of each month so they can be reflected in the Typhoon and committee reports

Please note the current CSR totals at the end of this article.

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

Kenneth A. Stein  
Junior Vice Commander  
Department of Pacific Areas

**CSR Reports as of 01 February 2019**

Post	Dist	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	Total
9723	1	13	13	11	15	14	15	10	12	14	0	0	0	117
1054	2	16	9	17	10	8	10	31	19	8	0	0	0	128
9555		24	18	16	18	17	16	19	15	14	0	0	0	157
9612		10	11	7	7	33	61	32	23	17	0	0	0	201
8180	3	18	18	28	22	29	11	22	5	4	0	0	0	157
9985		18	12	7	12	8	7	10	11	10	0	0	0	95
10033		3	4	3	4	0	3	5	3	3	0	0	0	28
10223		8	15	10	8	11	8	9	2	6	0	0	0	77
12147		4	3	8	6	7	10	15	15	8	0	0	0	76
9957	4	5	0	0	2	1	8	1	0	1	0	0	0	18
9876	5	13	29	52	15	23	18	11	6	12	0	0	0	179
9951		20	21	21	25	22	31	21	13	16	0	0	0	190
10217		17	31	27	31	20	22	28	31	27	0	0	0	234
10249		10	6	8	9	6	6	10	8	4	0	0	0	67

11575		3	3	3	4	3	4	3	3	3	0	0	0	29
12074		8	10	12	11	17	11	10	8	9	0	0	0	96
12146		11	24	20	36	23	28	31	22	27	0	0	0	222
12163		15	14	16	16	11	14	13	5	13	0	0	0	117
1509	6	7	3	4	3	3	8	3	3	0	0	0	0	34
2917		50	8	11	12	13	21	4	7	9	0	0	0	135
3457		9	6	7	3	8	7	25	19	6	0	0	0	90
124	7	17	10	8	16	22	20	16	13	4	0	0	0	126
2485		141	128	134	122	110	142	128	122	127	0	0	0	1154
9892		60	64	4	65	33	51	37	41	41	0	0	0	396
11447		8	5	4	10	10	3	5	11	3	0	0	0	59
12130		2	0	5	6	3	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	20
Total		510	465	443	488	455	539	499	417	386	0	0	0	4202

## From the Junior Past Department Commander:

Comrades,

Our exceptional year continues, thanks to your commitment and continuing efforts to actualize the goals of our great organization. Department membership is beyond expectations, as we close on 100% and may well reach a long time Department total of 12,000 members this year. Our level of participation in National programs is a model for other departments, and we are mission complete, or nearly so, for all programs.

A few things to consider as finish out a great year:

- Committee Chairman have done an excellent job tracking program requirements, but if you aspire to All State or All American status continue to check all requirements and meet the final audit and CSR deadlines.
- Post and District elections will be coming up soon and we need to ensure that our incoming Officers understand their duties and are prepared to assume office. Following the elections, please submit your Election Reports and General Orders in a timely manner.
- Ensure your DPA award packets are completed and submitted in a timely manner, and recommend those most deserving of recognition.

If I can be of assistance, please contact me at [pdcgilbert@vfwdeptpacific.org](mailto:pdcgilbert@vfwdeptpacific.org)

Yours in Comradeship & Service,

John Gilbert  
Junior Past Department Commander  
Department of Pacific Areas

**Get It Done!**



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

Comrades,

The Department's Life Member stipend program, which started just 3 ½ years ago, has been successful beyond imagination. As our Posts continue to take advantage of the (now) two different stipend options - \$400 or a paid new Life Member and \$250 for converting annual to Life members – our Department Life Membership numbers continue to grow at a record pace. This obviously makes recruiting easier in succeeding years for Posts and the Department.



But with the good news, also comes a note of caution. Our original annual budget for this program was a modest \$6,000. Because of your hard work, every year the annual budget has almost doubled. This year we budgeted \$17,000 to cover both programs. As of Jan. 31, 2019, the Department has awarded \$15,185 back to Posts for recruiting and converting new Life members. We will easily exceed \$20,000 this VFW year as more Posts get closer to qualifying for first time and additional stipends. This has now become the Department's second largest annual budget expense item behind our Department Convention.

I am not complaining; far from it. These programs solidify our Department membership for years to come. But as QM I am concerned about the price tag which keeps growing. And I have an idea to keep these programs viable in the future. The only true fund-raiser the Department has is the annual Convention Book. If every Post were to purchase 2 ads in the Convention Book instead of one, that's an extra \$5,400 to award stipends. Thirteen additional stipends means 65 new Life Members for our Posts and Department.

Surely every Post has a member who knows a VFW-friendly business which would like to see their business advertised in our Convention Book. Just like recruiting new members, you won't know unless you ask. As we go around Saipan asking businesses to support our book, they are surprised at how little we charge for a full page color ad. Many periodicals charge upward of \$1,000 for the same coverage. So please do what you can to help your Post and your Department to keep those stipends coming.

Speaking of the Department Convention, a few questions have come up that I'd like to address. Unlike the Convention here in 2004, Saipan no longer controls its own immigration. We are now completely under US control. USCIS approves who can visit. There is a Visa Waiver program for citizens of Japan, South Korea, Taiwan and Australia. Here is a link to the USCIS Visa Waiver information page: <https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/us-visas/tourism-visit/visa-waiver-program.html>

You'll notice that the traveler must have an ESTA (Electronic System for Travel Authorization) approved electronically on the passport. It costs \$14 and you can follow the link on the page above to obtain one. Travelers from other countries must obtain a Tourist (B) Visa. Start early because it may take a month or two to receive it.

The deadline for submitting Convention Book ads is May 1. If you wish to pay for the ad via a bank transfer, you will receive a written receipt at the Convention.

The Convention registration page should be available sometime in March. We want to include several extra-curricular activities along with the times and cost for each. The historical tour of Saipan will be free, donated by a tour company that we work with closely every year. We hope to offer options for golf, diving, submarine tour, and other free-time activities at a reduced cost for our members and guests.

Yours in Comradeship,

Pete Callaghan  
Quartermaster  
Department of Pacific Areas



## 2018-2019 POST AND DISTRICT AUDITS/POPPIES/QM BONDS

AUDITS SUBMITTED	JUNE '18	SEP '18	DEC '18	MAR '19	BUDDY POPPIES ORDERED '18-'19	QM BOND ORDERED 2018-'19
9723	X	X			\$116/1,000	\$100/\$40,000 Pd F*
District I	X	X			X	\$10.50/\$3,000 Pd F*
1054	X	X	X		\$174/1,500	\$125/\$50,000 Pd F*
9555	X	X	X		\$58/500	\$75/\$30,000 Pd F*
9612	X	X			\$58/500	\$65/\$26,000 Pd F*
District II	X	X	X		X	\$17.50/\$5,000 Pd F*
8180	X		X		\$116/1,000	\$70/\$28,000 Pd F*
9985	X	X	X		\$58/500	\$65/\$26,000 Pd F*
10033	X	X	X		\$58/500	\$70/\$28,000 Pd F*
10223	X	X	X		\$58/500	\$100/\$40,000 Pd F*
12147	X	X			\$58/500	\$35/\$10,000 Pd F*
District III	X	X			X	\$17.50/\$5,000 Pd F*
9957	X	X			\$58/500	\$75/\$30,000 Pd F*
District IV	X	X			X	\$52.50/\$15,000 F*
9876	X	X	X		\$58/500	\$125/\$50,000 Pd F*
9951	X	X	X		\$58/500	\$35/\$10,000 Pd F*
10217	X	X	X		\$58/500	\$42/\$12,000 Pd F*
10249	X	X	X		\$58/500	\$52.50/\$15,000 Pd F*
11575	X	X			\$58/500	\$17.50/\$5,000 Pd F*
12074	X	X			\$58/500	\$42/\$12,000 Pd F*
12146	X	X	X		\$58/500	\$125/\$50,000 Pd F*
12163	X	X			\$58/500	\$10.50/\$3,000 Pd F*
District V	X				X	\$59.50/\$17,000 Pd F*
1509					\$58/500	\$175/\$70,000 Pd F*
2917	X	X			\$58/500	\$65/\$26,000 Pd F*
3457	X	X	X		\$58/500	\$65/\$26,000 Pd F*
District VI	X				X	\$10.50/\$3,000 F*
124	X	X	X		\$58/500	\$49/\$14,000 Pd F*
2485	X	X			\$58/500	\$400/\$160,000 Pd F*
9892	X	X	X		\$58/500	\$42/\$12,000 Pd F*
11447	X	X	X		\$58/500	\$31.50/\$9,000 Pd F*
12130	X	X	X		\$58/500	\$17.50/\$5,000 Pd F*
District VII					X	\$10.50/\$3,000
*F = Bond application form received.						

## ***From the Judge Advocate:***

Comrades,

As the next few months will be nominations and election time of officers for both Posts and Districts, in this month's issue I will present a short 101 course offering questions and answers on some by-laws and parliamentary procedures concerning the forthcoming elections. If you're wondering why these questions and answers are being presented at the start of February and not March, well, after reviewing when Posts hold their meetings it was found that the majority of meetings are held prior to the tenth of each month. So, with the Typhoon not published until the tenth of the month or later, it would be appropriate to present this information in advance.

### **101 NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS**

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

Question: When do nominations commence and for how long?

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



Question: Who is eligible to vote at election time?

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Answer: There are two ways to decide a tie which are:

1) the units by-laws specify that in event of a tie vote, the candidates or their nominator or designated representative shall determine the result by lot or coin, or

2) if the by-laws are silent, a motion can be adopted in advance of vote stating in the event of a tie vote for a final choice, the candidates or their representatives or nominator shall decide the result by lot, or toss of the coin. (Note: At conventions normally Rules of Order for the convention will state the second choice and shall be voted at start of the convention.)

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

If you have any questions concerning by-laws and procedures during your upcoming elections you may contact me at [advdpa@vfwdeftpacific.org](mailto:advdpa@vfwdeftpacific.org)

THE JUDGE'S SAYING AT ELECTION TIME:

**"Let every man vote according to his own standards,  
by what he has himself perceived, not  
by what others tell him"**

Yours in Comradeship and Service,

Robert Mo Moses  
Judge Advocate  
Department of Pacific Areas

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

Comrades,

Presidents Day is an American holiday celebrated on the third Monday in February; Presidents Day 2019 occurs on Monday, February 18. Originally established in 1885 in recognition of President George Washington, the holiday became popularly known as Presidents Day after it was moved as part of 1971's Uniform Monday Holiday Act, an attempt to create more three-day weekends for the nation's workers. While several states still have individual holidays honoring the birthdays of Washington, Abraham Lincoln and other figures, Presidents Day is now popularly viewed as a day to celebrate all U.S. presidents, past and present.



In its modern form, Presidents Day is used by many patriotic and historical groups as a date for staging celebrations, reenactments and other events. A number of states also require that their public schools spend the days leading up to Presidents Day teaching students about the accomplishments of the presidents, often with a focus on the lives of Washington and Lincoln.

February is also African American History Month, and the United States reflects upon and celebrates the tremendous contributions of African-Americans to the nation. During this observance the military reflects on the contributions of African American Soldiers.

African Americans have defended the nation since the Revolutionary War. They continue to serve the military with great honor and distinction and built a legacy of courage and professionalism. This legacy inspired current and past generations and will continue to do so in the future.

The Nation stands on the tradition of sacrifice by African-American Soldiers: The slaves who joined the Continental Army in exchange for the promise of freedom; The Louisiana Free Men of Color who fought in the Battle of New Orleans in the War of 1812; The 54th Massachusetts Infantry Regiment of the Union Army; The Buffalo Soldiers; The Harlem Hell Fighters of New York's 369th Infantry Regiment in WWI; The Tuskegee Airmen; the "Triple Nickels"; The all-black airborne unit in WWII; The brave drivers of the "Red Ball Express," who brought supplies to Allied Forces after D-Day; and The "Black Panthers" of the 761st Tank Battalion in WWII.

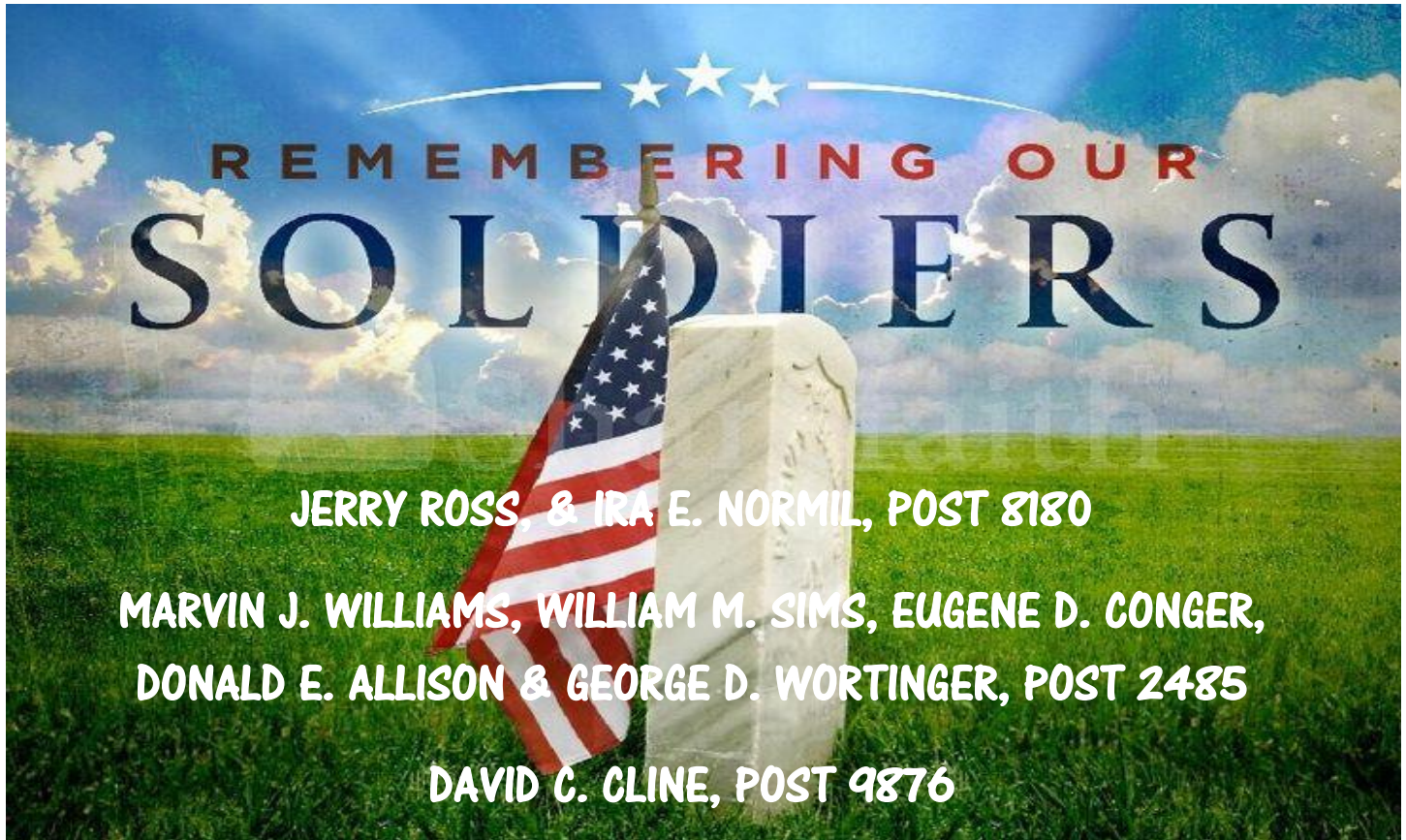
Yours in Comradeship,

William Russell  
Americanism and Loyalty Chairman  
Department of Pacific Areas





*From the Chaplain:*



Let us also pray for those who ill and cannot get out to enjoy the Holiday Season.

Those involved in reporting member deaths, please utilize the Taps Report form available on the Department website, (Forms tab). This will ensure accurate record keeping and submission of required information. Yours in Comradeship and Service to Veterans. Email me at [chapdpa@vfwdeptpacific.org](mailto:chapdpa@vfwdeptpacific.org) or at [davisronald738@gmail.com](mailto:davisronald738@gmail.com)

NEED THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION WHEN REPORTING:

FULL NAME and NICKNAME IF KNOWN, POST NUMBER, PUP TENT NUMBER, BRANCH OF SERVICE.

**I WOULD LIKE TO WISH YOU ALL A HAPPY HOLIDAY SEASON. HOPE TO SEE YOU ALL AGAIN NEXT YEAR.**

Ronald J. Davis  
Chaplain  
Department of Pacific Areas



## From the Surgeon:

### Refill It and Enjoy 2019

Is your glass half-empty or half-full? How you answer this age-old question about positive thinking may reflect your outlook on life, your attitude toward yourself, and whether you're optimistic or pessimistic — and it may even affect your health.

Health benefits that positive thinking may provide include:

- Lower rates of depression
- Lower levels of distress
- Greater resistance to the common cold
- Better psychological and physical well-being
- Better cardiovascular health and reduced risk of death from cardiovascular disease
- Better coping skills during hardships and times of stress.

Researchers continue to explore the effects of optimism and positive thinking on health and have found that one of the most positive effects is increased life span.

A 30-year study of 447 people at the Mayo Clinic found that optimists had around a 50 percent lower risk of early death than pessimists. The study's conclusion? "Mind and body are linked and attitude has an impact on the final outcome -- death."

This was further compounded by a Yale study that asked 660 elderly people whether they agreed that we become less useful as we age. Those who didn't agree, and therefore had the most positive attitude about aging, lived an average of 7.5 years longer than those with the most negative attitudes, who did agree that we become less useful as we age.

It was also shown in a Dutch study that examined the attitudes and longevity of 999 people over the age of 65. The study reported a "protective relationship" between optimism and mortality. People with a positive attitude, quite simply, lived longer. They even had a 77 percent lower risk of heart disease than pessimists.

If you tend to be pessimistic, don't despair - In next month's report, I will explain how you can learn and practice positive thinking skills. Meanwhile, if you can't decide whether your glass is half empty or half full, remember this:

**"Your glass is refillable...so refill it and enjoy 2019."**

*Article resources: Mayo Clinic*

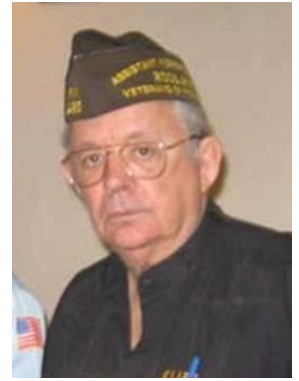
Yours in Comradeship & Well-Being,

Brian J. Hamic  
Surgeon  
Department of Pacific Areas



### An AED in Every Post Home?

**District & Post Surgeons:** Please report your progress on acquiring an AED for your Post Home/Canteen to [surgdpa@vfwdeptpacific.org](mailto:surgdpa@vfwdeptpacific.org)



## From the Legacy Life Membership Chairman:

Comrades,

The chart below is our current Department Legacy Life Membership. What this fail to show is Post members who have upgraded from Bronze to Silver to Gold. We have had a small number of our members who have transfer out of the Pacific Areas. Commanders it's your leadership that makes this National Program work which will help your Post and its future members. Comrades please consider becoming a Legacy Life Member of your Post, you would be leaving a Legacy and helping the financial future of your Post forever.



## DEPARTMENT OF PACIFIC AREAS 314 LEGACY LIFE MEMBERS

*As of 10 February 2019*

**DISTRICT I - OKINAWA - 8**  
Post 9723 - 8

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

**DISTRICT III - KOREA - 42**  
Post 8180 - 18  
Post 9985 - 6  
Post 10033 - 7  
Post 10223 - 8  
Post 12147 - 3

**DISTRICT IV - TAIWAN - 2**  
Post 9957 - 2

**DISTRICT V - THAILAND/CAMBODIA - 55**  
Post 9876 - 5  
Post 9951 - 6  
Post 10217 - 7  
Post 10249 - 6  
Post 11575 - 2  
Post 12074 - 8  
Post 12146 - 19  
Post 12163 - 2

**DISTRICT VI - GUAM/SAIPAN - 22**  
Post 1509 - 4  
Post 2917 - 12  
Post 3457 - 6

**DISTRICT VII - PHILIPPINES - 164**  
Post 124 - 8  
Post 2485 - 129  
Post 9892 - 7  
Post 11447 - 12  
Post 12130 - 8

**MEMBER AT LARGE - 2**  
Post 15055 - 2



## LEAVE A LASTING LEGACY FOR VETERANS

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

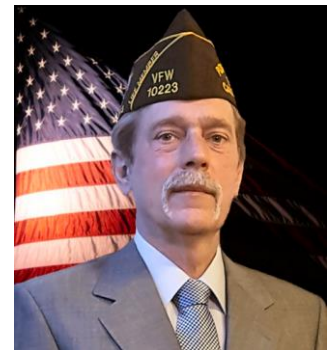
MEMBER INCENTIVES	BRONZE \$400	SILVER \$800	GOLD \$1200
Plated Engraved Life Member Card			
Lapel Pin			
Hat Pin			
Distinctive Emblem & Supply Line for Legacy Life Members			
Framed Certificate for Legacy Life Membership			
Recognition on Internet & Convention Program			
Recognition at Kiosks at Memorial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

Yours in Comradeship,

Bob Zaher  
Legacy Chairman



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



Comrades,

Thank you again for the opportunity and your confidence in allowing me to serve as the Department of Pacific Areas Voice of Democracy, Patriot's Pen and Teachers Award Chairman. The Department reached 100% with either participants or donations to National for all three VFW programs.

This year's DPA Voice of Democracy, Patriot's Pen and Teachers Award entries were as follows:

Patriot's Pen; entries submitted from 12 Posts and 6 Districts. Total student entries were 155.

Voice of Democracy; entries submitted from 10 Posts and 7 Districts. Total student entries were 47.

Teachers Award; entries submitted from 5 Posts and 3 Districts. Total teacher entries were 5.

This year's DPA Voice of Democracy, Patriot's Pen and Teachers Award winners are:

Patriot's Pen winner is Javon M. Major, Home Schooled, from Okinawa, Japan, District 1, Post 9723. To read Javon's essay, go to: <http://vfwdeptpacific.org/Youth/PP2019.pdf>

Voice of Democracy winner is Amaya R. Peruccio from Zama Middle-High School, Camp Zama, Japan, District 2, Post 9612. To listen to Amaya's essay, go to: <http://vfwdeptpacific.org/Youth/VOD2019.mp3>

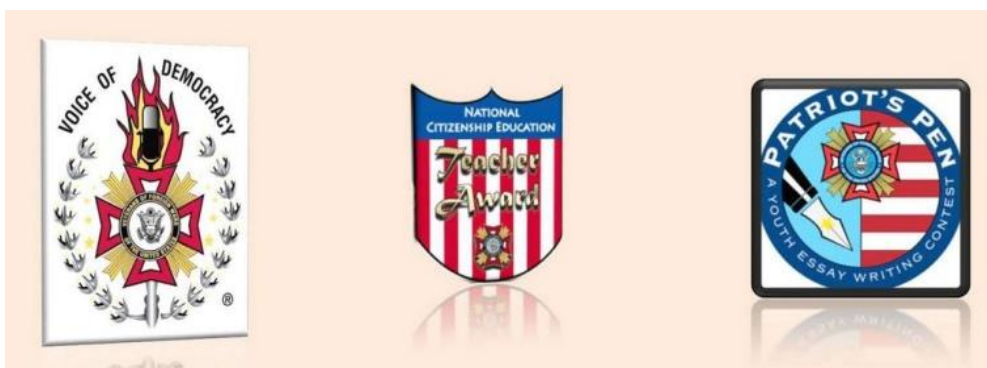
Teachers Award K-5<sup>th</sup> grade winner is Sandra Anderson from John O Arnn Elementary School, Sagamihara, Japan, District 2, Post 9612.

Teachers Award 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade winner is Andrea Petz, from Seoul American Middle-High School, USAG Yongsan, South Korea, District 3, Post 12147.

Teachers Award 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade winner is Gregory J. Cyr from Humphreys High School, USAG Humphreys, South Korea, District 3, Post 10223.

I would like to thank all the Post and District chairmen who facilitated and cooperated in this year's Voice of Democracy, Patriot's Pen and Teachers Award programs. See everyone in Saipan.

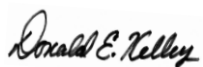
***"Make It Happen & Get It Done"***



## 2018-19 VOD/PP/TEACHERS AWARD DEPARTMENT REPORT

Post/District	VOD	PP	Teachers Award
9723	3	5	\$50 Donation to National
District 1	1	1	\$100 Donation to National
1054	9	28	1
9555	1	8	\$50 Donation to National
9612	16	1	2
District 2	1	1	2
8180	\$50 Donation to National	11	\$50 Donation to National
9985	\$50 Donation to National	\$50 Donation to National	\$50 Donation to National
10033	\$50 Donation to National	\$50 Donation to National	\$50 Donation to National
10223	8	22	1
12147	\$50 Donation to National	19	1
District 3	1	1	2
9957	4	1	\$50 Donation to National
District 4	1	1	\$100 Donation to National
9876	\$50 Donation to National	\$50 Donation to National	\$50 Donation to National
9951	\$50 Donation to National	\$50 Donation to National	\$50 Donation to National
10217	\$50 Donation to National	\$50 Donation to National	\$50 Donation to National
10249	\$50 Donation to National	\$50 Donation to National	\$50 Donation to National
11575	\$50 Donation to National	\$50 Donation to National	\$50 Donation to National
12074	\$50 Donation to National	\$50 Donation to National	\$50 Donation to National
12146	1	1	\$50 Donation to National
12163	\$50 Donation to National	\$50 Donation to National	\$50 Donation to National
District 5	1	1	\$100 Donation to National
1509	2	15	1
2917	\$100 Donation to National	39	\$100 Donation to National
3457	2	5	\$50 Donation to National
District 6	1	1	1
124	\$50 Donation to National	\$50 Donation to National	\$50 Donation to National
2485	1	\$50 Donation to National	\$50 Donation to National
9892	\$50 Donation to National	\$50 Donation to National	\$50 Donation to National
11447	\$50 Donation to National	\$50 Donation to National	\$50 Donation to National
12130	\$50 Donation to National	\$50 Donation to National	\$50 Donation to National
District 7	1	\$100 Donation to National	\$100 Donation to National

Yours in comradeship and service,



Don Kelley

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

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

Phone: +82-10-2442-8938



## From the National Home for Children Chairman:



**VFW NATIONAL HOME FOR CHILDREN**  
*Every child deserves a happy family*



Comrades,

I would like to thank the all of the District and Post of the Department. The donations to the National Home for Children are at a 100% for 2018-2019 year.

February is now upon us and, with just five short months to go before the DPA Convention.

This report is as of January 30, 2019 as received in from the National Home and Post Quartermasters.

District / Post	Reported	District / Post Donated	District / Post	Reported	District / Post Donated
District 1	Yes	\$50.00	10217	Yes	\$50.00
9723	Yes	\$50.00	10249	Yes	\$50.00
District 2	Yes	\$200.00	11575	Yes	\$50.00
1054	Yes	\$50.00	12074	Yes	\$50.00
9555	Yes	\$50.00	12146	Yes	\$50.00
9612	Yes	\$50.00	12163	Yes	\$50.00
District 3	Yes	\$50.00	District 6	Yes	\$50.00
8180	Yes	\$50.00	1509	Yes	\$50.00
9985	Yes	\$50.00	2917	Yes	\$50.00
10033	Yes	\$50.00	3457	Yes	\$50.00
10223	Yes	\$50.00	District 7	Yes	\$100.00
12147	Yes	Pacific House	124	Yes	\$50.00
District 4	Yes	\$50.00	2485	Yes	\$50.00
9957	Yes	\$50.00	9892	Yes	\$50.00
District 5	Yes	\$50.00	11447	Yes	\$275.00
9876	Yes	\$50.00	12130	Yes	\$50.00
9951	Yes	\$50.00			
Post 12147 Project Pacific House		\$4,000.00	Post 1054 Annual Benefit Concert		\$2,500.00
<b>Dist/Post Total</b>	<b>\$2,025.00</b>	<b>Special Projects</b>	<b>\$6,500.00</b>	<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$8,525.00</b>
Not Confirmed			Working on		

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.

Comrades, the National Home is requesting Donations to help cover the cost of last week's sever weather. The Arctic blast of this magnitude has many impacts, but the biggest is yet to come – the next electric and gas bill!

Can you make a special gift to help them overcome the unexpected utility costs because of this unprecedented Arctic blast? [Donate to Arctic Blast](#), we can never forget that within our homes are the families of our nation's war heroes.

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

## ***From the Legislative Committee Chairman:***

Comrades,

Just a reminder, time is getting close in which to get your post's All-State requirements done, and 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 Blue Water Navy Vet Wins Federal Appeals Court Ruling:** The U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit reversed a decade-old ruling Wednesday that potentially paves the way for the return of earned disability benefits for some 90,000 so-called Blue Water Navy veterans from the Vietnam War. The VFW-supported case, [\*Procopio v. Wilkie\*](#), had VA Secretary Robert Wilkie being sued by Navy veteran Alfred Procopio, who was denied service connection for prostate cancer and diabetes mellitus because he never stepped foot on dry land or served within Vietnam's inland waterways. Procopio, a Life member of VFW Post 6587 in Spring Lake Park, Minn., was assigned aboard the aircraft carrier USS Intrepid, which was stationed inside Vietnam's 12-mile territorial waters. Both of his illnesses are listed among the VA's [14 presumptive diseases](#) associated with exposure to Agent Orange. The Appeals Court focused on the intent of the 1991 Agent Orange Act, which was to grant a presumption of service connection for certain diseases to veterans who "served in the Republic of Vietnam." At issue was whether service within territorial waters constituted service "in the Republic of Vietnam." By a 9-2 decision, the Appeals Court ruled it did. "Although very pleased with the ruling, the VFW isn't quite ready to celebrate," said VFW National Commander B.J. Lawrence. "That's because the VA can always appeal the ruling and Congress has yet to pass a Blue Water Navy bill. But, it is very encouraging to now have a court of law support Blue Water Navy veterans along with the court of public opinion. We need to get this done and reinforce to tens of thousands of veterans that our nation does have your back when you come home from war. The VFW now calls on VA to make Blue Water Navy veterans whole as soon as possible, and we stand ready to assist VA in doing so."
2. **Concurrent Receipt Legislation Reintroduced:** Congressman Gus Bilirakis and Senator Jon Tester reintroduced the VFW-supported Retired Pay Restoration Act, to ensure full concurrent receipt of military retirement pay and VA disability compensation. Presently, concurrent receipt of these benefits applies only to those with a 50 percent VA disability rating or higher. The VFW continues to advocate for the end of this offset for all military retirees regardless of their VA disability rating. Learn more. 5.

3. **Repeal of SBP/DIC Offset Reintroduced:** The VFW-supported H.R. 553, Military Surviving Spouses Equity Act, which would repeal the requirement for surviving spouses to offset Survivor Benefit Plan (SBP) benefits with Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (DIC) was reintroduced this past week. SBP and DIC are different benefits, which are earned for different reasons. The full repeal of this unj.
4. **Burn Pit Legislation Introduced:** Representatives Tulsi Gabbard and Brian Mast, along with Senators Amy Klobuchar and Dan Sullivan, introduced the VFW-supported Burn Pit Accountability Act to help add service members and veterans to the burn pit registry. The bipartisan bill would improve how DOD and VA track, treat, and prevent the harmful impacts of burn pits. Learn more about the bill.
5. **Space-A Travel Opens to 100% Disabled Vets:** A new change contained in the 2019 defense bill now allows 100 percent disabled veterans to travel Space-Available aboard military and military-contract flights within the continental United States, Alaska, Hawaii and U.S. territories. According to an article in Military.com, the disabled veterans must possess a Defense Department ID Card (DD Form 2765) in order to not only fly Space-A but to access military installations. The rule change halfway accomplishes Resolution 419 from the 112th VFW National Convention; only halfway because dependents are not eligible to accompany them. The article also states disabled vets have limited destinations, whereas other Category 6 travelers (military retirees) have worldwide eligibility. That discrepancy will be addressed.

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

Yours in Comradeship,

Jonathan Brazee  
Legislative Chairman  
Department of Pacific Areas

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## *From the Roving Ambassador:*

Hello Comrades,

I am staying busy. As Roving Ambassador, I attended D2 Meeting on 26 January and will be appear at D7 Meeting on 7 February. Always great to stop in to say hello to our Comrades. My move from Colorado Springs to Angeles City is just about complete. All is well.

I was sadden to hear Comrade Thomas Darkus passed away on/about 2 February. Tom was a long serving member of this Department. He served as Department Chaplain for about five years, was D7 and Post 9892 Commander. We lost a great Comrade and I like many of us who knew him I will miss him!!!

Again, I look forward to serving this Department during the closing Term and I am here to assist in any way possible. Please feel free to contact me at [pgcmitchell@vfwdeptpacific.org](mailto:pgcmitchell@vfwdeptpacific.org) if I can be of any help.

In closing, please continue to take care of yourselves and your families. 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  
"Get it Done"

