

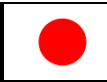


Typhoon Newsletter



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

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FREE

“THE RIGHT THING TO DO”

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RECRUITING VFW LIFE MEMBERS JUST GOT EASIER!

BECOME A LIFE MEMBER AND GET A \$50 STORE CREDIT!



With our Department of Pacific Areas Life Membership Incentive Program already and now with VFW National GO LIFE and get a \$50.00 credit at the VFW Store. Recruiting Life Members just got easier. Anyone signing up as a Life Member will get a \$50.00 VFW Supply Store Credit. When they place an order they will see a \$50.00 credit.

This is for anyone that goes Life: New, Reinstated, or completed Installment Plan or was Annual Member then going Life!

This promotion is from 1 September 2019 through 30 June 2020!



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



Department Officer's Comments & Department Committee Reports

From the Commander:

Comrades,

We are off to a great start for the year, already approaching 98% for the Department. It's so good to see most of the Posts kicking it in gear so early in the year. This will make the rest of the year much easier. Keep on plugging away at those memberships, especially Lifetimes. It really pays off in the future. The more lifetime members you have, the less you have to do in the coming years.

We have our first big deadline coming up shortly, for our Scholarship programs. If you are not submitting an entry, you must make a donation to National by October 31st. Plan ahead. You should have a pretty good idea on whether or not you will have one. I would much rather see my post donate now, and not take the chance of missing the date.

Our mid-term C of A is around the corner in Phnom Penh, Cambodia. The registration site is up on our website, as well as the hotel reservation information. I have already made mine, and I would encourage you to do so well in advance. We will be honored to have VFW IG Duane Sarmiento visiting us in Cambodia. I am really looking forward to seeing him, as well as the rest of you.

This is a big travel month for me and my staff. I travel to Taipei 6-13 October, and Alaska for Western conference at the end of the month. SVC Stein will be visiting Okinawa, While JVC Mitchell will get trained in KC, and then come back to visit District 5. For Vet Day, I tried to save Pete a bit of money, keeping myself here in Japan, and Kevin in Philippines. Ken, however will have to by a winter jacket and head to Korea and District 3.

Keep on working and Helping our Vets. As we all know, It's The Right Thing To Do!!

Yours in comradeship,

Rick Farris
Commander
VFW Department of Pacific Areas



From the Senior Vice Commander:

Hello Comrades,

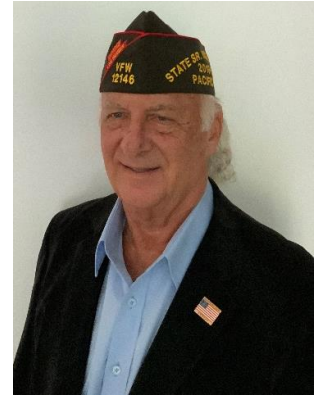
Welcome to October where on the 13th of this month the U.S. Navy will celebrate its 244th birthday. Happy Birthday shipmates.

Another important birthday happened on 29 September, the 120th birthday of the VFW. Happy birthday and remember NO ONE DOES MORE FOR VETERANS.

The updated MEMSTATS came out about two weeks ago and we already have two posts that have exceeded 100% in membership. We salute Baguio Post 124 for already attaining 100%, in fact they are almost at 109% and Banchang Utapao Post 12146 who are at 103%. We have 8 other posts that have already exceeded 95% in membership.

There are probably two key elements to consider if you want to guarantee your post will remain vibrant and continue to grow. One is to appoint a Post Service Officer that is dedicated and truly believes in helping veterans and their families. Second be a friendly post, ensure new members or those members who are not active are integrated into the post and have the feeling of belonging. You do this by communicating with them at the meetings, and by speaking with them at various post activities, and by staying in touch via phone or email. This is an absolute requirement for post officers and chairman and hopefully all members follow their lead.

Ask them to assist your post by helping veterans and our communities. Then ask them to join and get involved.



Department MemStats 30 September

Post	Dst	Life	New	Reinst	Cont	Total	Adjusted Prior Year*	Percent	Div	RS	City	State	N/R LM	Prior Annual	Retention	N/R %
9723	1	688	1	0	12	701	728	96.29%	3		OKINAWA	JAPAN		0	32	34.38%
0	1	688	1	0	12	701	728	96.29%	6				0	0	0.00%	0.14%
1054	2	777	1	0	2	780	797	97.86%	2		YOKOSUKA CITY	JAPAN		15	31	9.68%
9555	2	346	0	0	4	350	355	98.59%	4		YOKOTA AFB	JAPAN		1	10	40.00%
9612	2	500	2	0	3	505	543	93.00%	3		CAMP ZAMA	JAPAN		2	42	11.90%
0	2	1623	3	0	9	1635	1695	96.46%	4				18	0	0.00%	1.24%
8180	3	1625	8	0	19	1652	1901	86.90%	1		SONGTAN-SI	KOREA		1	264	7.58%
9985	3	206	2	0	9	217	288	75.34%	4		TONGDUCHON-UP	KOREA		0	77	9.09%
10033	3	489	0	1	3	493	528	93.37%	3		TAEGU	KOREA		1	32	15.63%
10223	3	340	3	1	5	349	425	82.11%	3		CAMP HUMPHREYS	KORE		5	99	9.09%
12147	3	198	9	0	2	209	277	75.45%	4		SEONGNAM	KOREA		6	82	6.10%
0	3	2858	22	2	38	2920	3419	85.40%	2				13	0	0.00%	1.08%

9957	4	336	0	0	0	336	340	98.82%	4	TAIPEI	TAIWAN			0	0	100.00%
0	4	336	0	0	0	336	340	98.82%	6			0		0	0	0.00%
9876	5	336	0	0	6	342	399	85.71%	3	PATTAYA CITY	THAILA			2	52	17.31%
9951	5	230	1	0	4	235	248	94.75%	4	BANGKOK	THAILAND			3	24	20.83%
10217	5	132	0	0	4	136	154	88.31%	6	KORAT AF BASE	THAIL			0	17	17.65%
10249	5	228	1	0	3	232	250	92.80%	4	UDORN	THAILAND			0	22	18.18%
11575	5	106	0	1	6	113	124	91.12%	7	PHNOM PENH	CAMBODIA			0	18	33.33%
12074	5	98	1	0	5	104	108	96.29%	8	CHIANG MAI	THAILAND			1	12	33.33%
12146	5	206	2	0	2	210	203	103.44%	5	BAN CHANG	RAYONG TH			8	11	36.36%
12163	5	49	0	0	1	50	59	84.74%	10	PERTH	WESTERN AUSTR			0	15	6.67%
0	5	1385	5	1	31	1422	1545	92.03%	4			14		0	0	0.00%
1509	6	271	0	0	3	274	299	91.63%	4	YIGO	GUAM			0	24	4.17%
2917	6	188	1	1	1	191	218	87.61%	5	AGAT	GU	0		35	8.57%	0.92%
3457	6	291	4	0	4	299	315	94.92%	4	SAIPAN	CNMI			3	27	22.22%
0	6	750	5	1	8	764	832	91.82%	6			3		0	0	0.00%
124	7	216	0	0	0	216	199	108.54%	5	BAGUIO CITY	PHILIPPI			12	0	100.00%
2485	7	1623	2	0	13	1638	1684	97.26%	1	ANGELES CITY	PHILIP			13	60	31.67%
9892	7	240	0	0	0	240	241	99.58%	5	BAUANG	LA UNION PHIL			0	3	0.00%
11447	7	514	0	0	17	531	532	99.81%	3	SUBIC BAY	PHILIPPIN			10	18	100.00%
12130	7	69	0	0	1	70	96	72.91%	8	CEBU	PHILIPPINES			0	22	4.55%
0	7	2662	2	0	31	2695	2752	97.92%	3			35		0	0	0.00%
15055	99	496	7	0	6	509	585	87.00%	3	PACIFIC AREAS	PI			0	0	0.00%
0	99	496	7	0	6	509	585	87.00%	6					0	0	0.00%
0	255	10798	45	4	135	10982	11896	92.31%				83		0	0	0.00%



JUST RECRUIT

SIGN UP ONE TODAY!

VFW National Commander Doc Schmitz has issued a new Commander's Challenge for October.



COMMANDER'S CHALLENGE

Commander-in-Chief Doc Schmitz has laid down a challenge to all VFW Posts for the month of October 2019!

This month, it's time to use the **TRICKS** of recruiting and retention to earn the **TREAT** of being entered into a \$1000 drawing for your Post!



For this month's Commander's Challenge, the top ten Posts in each Division with the highest increase in total membership percentage between October 1st and October 31st will be entered into a drawing for \$1000 to be deposited into the Post account!

Sign up new members, reinstate lapsed members, and collect dues from your Annual members who are coming up for renewal, and your Post could be one of those eligible for this incentive! Get that membership drive going and show our veterans that we *DARE TO CARE* about membership goals!

This contest will compare the Post's membership percentage on October 1st to the membership percentage on October 31st. Members processed through the Online Membership System before close of business will be processed that day; membership applications sent in via fax or mail will be processed when received.

Finally I hope you are all planning on attending the mid-year convention in Phnom Penh. The hotel committee has selected is an iconic hotel in the Cambodian Capital and is located right on the Mekong River. The staff are uniformly friendly, there is nearby shopping and other entertainment venues. I believe if you attend you will agree it's worth adding Phnom Penh to the convention rotation.

Have a great month.

Yours in Comradeship and Service to Veterans,

Kenneth A. Stein
Senior Vice Commander
Department of Pacific Areas

From the Junior Vice Commander:

Greetings Comrades,

First of all, I would like to thank our Posts for a very busy month! The CSR's reported in September was the highest total in more than a year and a half. Again I would like to salute our great Comrades for the tremendous work you are doing in our communities. Your hearts are in it because it's **the right thing to do!!**

Several Posts went back a month, two, or more to update past CSR's. I just happened to do a complete review and found them. Again, please let me know when you do this. It just makes both our lives better. My email is jvcdpa@vfwdeptpacific.org

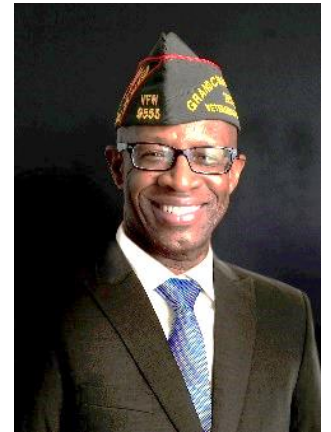
We have several Posts who have not ordered their Buddy Poppies yet, so if you have not please take care of it ASAP. The VOD/PP/Teacher's Award should be in full swing now and I hope our Post has reached out to the schools.

On September 21st, I had the honor of attending and speaking at the POW/MIA Recognition Day Ceremony at Cabanatuan American Memorial. It was the 2nd annual event and I know this great event will continue for years to come!! Special thanks to Post 2485 Commander James Collins for the invitation.

On September 26th, we lost a great Comrade in Jerry Prinz from Post 2485. For our newer members, Jerry was a very visible member at the Post, District, and Department levels. I had the pleasure of knowing and working with Jerry for over 20 years and was honored to eulogize him at Clark Cemetery on October 3^d. Jerry was a 30 year (CWO4) Navy retired. RIP Comrade for you will be missed!!!

As Commander Rick mentioned, I will be leaving for the National JVC Conference from October 9-13 and then I will continue to Thailand for a visit to District V Thailand and I am looking forward to both trips.

In closing, Comrades you made September a great month!! Remember not to scare the kids for Halloween...HA!! Wishing you all the best and please take care of yourselves and your families. May god bless you, your families, and the good ole USA!!! I love you all!!!



CSR Reports as of 1 October 2019

Post	Dist	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	Total
9723	1	13	17	19	16	20								85
1054	2	17	4	25	20	25								91
9555		48	19	20	26	15								128
9612		12	15	1	3	7								38
8180		38	5	7	13	7								70
9985	3	10	9	9	13	14								55
10033		4	5	4	2	4								19
10223		20	5	7	4	5								41
12147		18	15	3	2	6								44
9957	4	12	4	2	6	4								28
9876	5	2	1	13	12	4								32
9951		28	33	5	1	21								88
10217		28	32	26	35	41								162
10249		8	6	5	4	5								28
11575		0	3	7	11	9								30
12074		0	0	10	0	0								10

12146		7	7	3	11	12								40
12163		18	23	8	24	14								87
1509	6	0	3	17	5	8								33
2917		64	118	129	94	161								566
3457		6	9	14	6	7								42
124	7	20	15	17	16	0								68
2485		120	111	119	97	107								554
9892		25	64	64	49	74								276
11447		31	59	34	20	43								187
12130		0	0	0	2	2								4
Total		549	582	568	492	615	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2806

Yours in Comradeship and Service,

Kevin E. Mitchell
 Junior Vice Commander 2019-20
 Department of Pacific Areas
 "The Right Thing to Do"

From the Junior Past Department Commander:

Comrades,

Well we are into our fourth month of this year's term and the programs appear to moving ahead in fine fashion. The last check I did had the Department of Pacific Areas in 2nd place in the VFW National standings. A large part of that is due to the exceptional Life Membership Program that we have in the DPA. It is the life-blood of the Department and we need to continue to push Life Membership through the use of the various stipends that are available to our Posts. First, we have the Life Member Stipend Program which provides the Post a \$400 stipend for every 5, 10, or 15 Life Members recruited by a Post. This is determined by the Post size. The second program we have available is the Annual to Life Member Conversion Program which is a sharing program with the Post and the DPA. For each five Annual Members you convert to Life Members the DPA will pay \$50 each and the Post matches with a \$50 stipend for a \$100 total stipend to each member. The third and final incentive is the \$50 VFW Store Certificate for each New Life Member. So as you can see – the DPA is working hard to help provide incentives for recruiting Life Members.



Many of the other programs such as Voice Of Democracy/Patriots Pen/Teachers Awards (3 levels) have had their donation suspense dates moved up to 31 October 2019. Are you on track to meet this requirement? If not, you still have time to make your donation.

I am looking forward to seeing all of you in Cambodia from 6-8 December 2019. Registration is up and running – so make your plans now.

That's all for this month! Keep working hard and support Team DPA. You can contact me anytime by email or F/B Messenger if you have questions or you just need to talk.

Yours in Comradeship and Service,

Michael R. (Mike) Verville
 Junior Past Department Commander
 Department of Pacific Areas – 2019/2020

From the Judge Advocate:

Comrades,

In this month's Typhoon article let's go over how to become a Parliamentary Pro

101 "Robert Rules of Order"

1. Meeting Statistics:

- a. 80% of attendees not satisfied with their role or decisions reached.
- b. Agendas are covered only 50% of the time.
- c. Meetings last 50% longer than scheduled time.
- d. Less than 50% of meeting leaders use presentation aids.

To manage your meeting time - pay attention to the flow of work!

2. Communication Process:

1. Meeting PDCA Cycle:
 - a. Plan
 - b. Do
 - c. Check
 - d. Act

Conflict Occurs When:

- a. Our focus differ
- b. Our ways and methods differ
- c. Value differ
- d. Goal differ

Do not make it personal. Look for the source of the conflict and discuss the root of the matter.

3. Effective Meeting Management:

- a. Agenda Items in Order
- b. Call to Order
- c. Committee Report
- d. New Business
- e. Adjournment

The Presiding Officer does the following to call the meeting to order:

- a. Sounds the gavel and calls the group to order

What is a motion?

- a. Proposing a decision about group business

Who can make a motion?

- a. Member

What is the next step after a main motion is made?

- a. A second for the motion is requested

What if a motion is never seconded?

- a. The motion is not considered



What do you say if you are in favor of a motion?

- a. Aye or Yea or Yes

Which motion does not need a second?

- a. Motion made through committee report

What if a voice vote on a motion is close?

- a. A member calls for "division"

What has to be in the minutes?

- a. Motions, Amendments and Disposition

What is done if the minutes are correct?

- a. The presiding officer states the minutes are approved as read

What happens if the minutes are incorrect?

- a. Ask to make a correction or addition

4. The Minutes:

- a. The record of the proceedings of a deliberative assembly is usually called the Minutes, or the Record, of the Journal. In the meetings of ordinary societies, there is no object in reporting the debates; the duty of the secretary, in both cases, is mainly to record what is "done" by the assembly, and not what is said by the member.
- b. Generally the name is recorded of the mover, but not of the seconder, unless ordered by the assembly.
- c. When corrections to the minutes are made by the assembly, the corrections are made in the written text of the minutes being approved.
- d. The minutes of the meeting where they are corrected merely state that the minutes were approved "as corrected", without actually stating the details of those corrections.

5. The Minutes should show:

- a. Kind of meeting "regular" (or stated) or "special" or "adjourned regular" or "adjourned special"
- b. Name of the organization or assembly
- c. Date/time of meeting and place, when it is not always the same
- d. The fact of the presence of the regular chairman and secretary, of substitutes
- e. Whether the minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved, or approved as corrected
- f. All main motions (except such as were withdrawn) and motions that a main question again before the assembly, stating the wording as adopted or disposed of and the disposition
- g. Secondary motions not lost or withdraw where needed for clarity of the minutes
- h. Previous notice of motions
- i. Points of order and appeals, and reasons the chair gives for the ruling
- j. Time of adjournment

To find additional information on Becoming a Parliamentary Pro, please check out Parliamentary Procedure for Meetings.

Comrades, the above information is provided to assist with running a successful meeting in compliance with the National Association of Parliamentarians on Robert's Rules of Order. If you have any questions on what was presented please feel free to contact me at advdpa@vfwdeptpacific.org or pdcmoses@vfwdeptpacific.org.

Yours in Comradeship and Service,

Robert "Mo" Moses
Judge Advocate
Department of Pacific Areas

From the Legacy Life Membership Chairman:

Congratulations comrades, September was a good month we had 5 new Legacy Life Members and many upgraded Legacy Members. Our Department now stands at 327 Legacy 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!

Yours in Comradeship,

Bob Zaher
Legacy Chairman
Department of Pacific Areas

**LEAVE YOUR
LEGACY**



From the Quartermaster:

Comrades,

National has changed the way they ship Buddy Poppies to DPA addresses this year. They used to ship directly from the assembly centers, but this year the Poppies were sent to Kansas City so National can mail them from the VFW Store. They hope this will cut down on the number of boxes that are rejected and shipped back as undeliverable. But this is also causing poppies to be arriving late this year.

The entire system of ordering Buddy Poppies needs to be reexamined. National has one person who handles Poppy orders, and that person does not work for the VFW Store. So you order from one person, pay a different person, and have them shipped from a third location. I think Departments should have the option to "opt out" of this system and have Posts order Poppies directly from the VFW Store. Many Departments will balk at this because they have many more Posts than we do and they make money by charging the Posts more than the Department is charged. But for our Department, the "profit" is negligible, and I don't think Posts which are forced by award programs to purchase Poppies should have to pay a significant commission to the Department.

For those who are going to the C of A in Phnom Penh but have not yet signed up, you need to download the registration form from the Department website, fill it out, and email it to the committee. This is a change from past Conventions and Mid-terms, so don't be caught by surprise at the last minute.

National has a new form for requesting financial assistance from the Membership Department if you plan to hold a recruiting event. They can help with items like tents, booths, chair rental, or even renting a place to hold the event. This is different from MAP events or Adopt-a-Unit parties. If you plan to hold a recruiting event and want financial aid, send me an email and I'll provide the form and after-action report that they require.

Recruiting numbers look very good so far, so keep up the great work!

Yours in Comradeship,

Pete Callaghan
Quartermaster
Department of Pacific Areas



2019-2020 POST AND DISTRICT AUDITS/POPPIES/QM BONDS

AUDITS SUBMITTED	JUNE '19	SEP '19	DEC '19	MAR '20	BUDDY POPPIES ORDERED '19-'20	QM BOND ORDERED 2019-'20
9723	X				\$174/1,500	\$125/\$50,000 Pd. F*
District I	X				X	\$10.50/\$3,000 Pd. F*
1054	X				\$174/1,500	\$100/\$40,000(x2) Pd. F*
9555					\$58/500	\$67.50/\$19,000 Pd. F*
9612					\$58/500	\$100/\$40,000 Pd. F*
District II					X	\$10.50/\$3,000 Pd. F*
8180	X				\$116/1,000	\$65.00/\$26,000 Pd. F*
9985	X				\$116/1,000	\$65.00/\$26,000 Pd. F*
10033	X				\$58/500	\$52.50/\$15,000 Pd. F*
10223	X				\$174/1,500	\$65.00/\$26,000 Pd. F*
12147					\$58/500	\$14.00/\$4,000 Pd. F*
District III	X				X	\$14.00/\$4,000 Pd. F*
9957	X				\$58/500	\$70/\$20,000 Pd. F*
District IV	X				X	\$52.50/\$15,000 Pd. F*
9876					\$58/500	\$125/\$50,000 Pd. F*
9951	X				\$58/500	\$35.00/\$10,000 Pd. F*
10217	X				\$58/500	\$42.00/12,000 Pd. F*
10249	X				\$58/500	\$52.50/\$15,000 Pd. F*
11575	X	X				\$70/\$20,000 Pd. F*
12074	X					\$70.00/\$28,000 Pd. F*
12146	X				\$58/500	\$175/\$70,000 Pd. F*
12163	X				\$58/500	\$35.00/\$10,000 Pd. F*
District V	X				X	\$59.50/\$17,000 Pd. F*
1509					\$58/500	\$200/\$80,000 Pd. F*
2917	X				\$58/500	\$67.50/\$27,000 Pd. F*
3457	X				\$58/500	\$150/\$60,000 Pd. F*
District VI	X				X	\$10.50/\$3,000 Pd. F*
124	X				\$58/500	\$52.50/\$15,000 Pd. F*
2485	X	X			\$116/1,000	\$275/\$110,000 Pd. F*
9892	X				\$58/500	\$42/\$12,000(x2) Pd. F*
11447	X				\$58/500	\$31.50/\$9,000 Pd.
12130						\$17.50/\$5,000 F*
District VII					X	\$10.50/\$3,000 Pd. F*
*F = Bond application form received.						

From the Mid-Term C of A Chairman:

Commanders and Comrades,

Due to Hotel requirements, once you enter the registration page, please download the Excel form, fill it in "r" and email it to convention@vfwdeptacific.org. This will in turn distribute to Hotel, Chairman etc. We understand filling the form is "A CHANGE" from past registration however it's the way the Cambodiana new venue, new location does business. We are Happy to announce to date we have just under 30 registered delegates, I want to thank DPA Webmaster Shawn, District 5 Commander Randy and Post Commander Jack for outstanding team work getting the event registration initiated ahead of schedule.

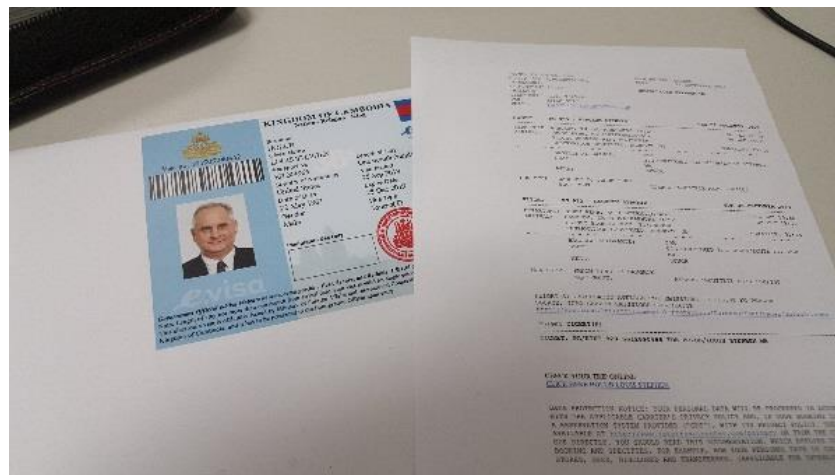


Commander Jack continues to coordinate weekly with Cambodiana Ms. Nelly, I phone con to ensure we remain in synch. VFW Superior room rates at \$85 night / single or double, expect a 2% accommodation tax, the 10% VAT is included in the negotiated rate. Expect two payments upon arrival, 1st at Hotel desk you will pay for Room and Airport transports. 2nd at the VFW table you will pay / purchase Saturday lunch, Saturday night Commanders Dinner, lunch \$20, dinner Buffet \$30 per person. Purchase your Friday social tickets \$20, CofA Shirt \$20 and make Friday Hospitality donation \$10/person recommended.

Upgraded rooms such as Mekong club, Junior & Executive suites are available at VFW rates and will be posted on the DPA Websites "Hotel Registration form", upgrades are at Delegates / guest expense.

Entry VISA is available on line (recommended) <https://www.evisa.gov.kh> \$36 or can be purchased upon arrival. We plan to include the CofA schedule and event locations in the November Typhoon but will post any updates on the DPA Face Book "Around the Pacific". Hoping to see you in Phnom Penh Cambodia 06 – 08 December 2019.

US Flag theme Polo Shirt, my airfare and Electronic Entry Visa.



Yours in Comradeship,

Lou Holub
Mid-Term C of A Chairman
Department of Pacific Areas

From the Surgeon:

Don't forget - Dementia

Forgetting where you put your car keys is not a major concern. Finding them but forgetting what they are used for is another story.

Dementia is an overall term for diseases and conditions characterized by a decline in memory, language, problem-solving and other thinking skills that affect a person's ability to perform everyday activities. Memory loss is an example. The estimated proportion of the general population aged 60 and over with dementia is between 5-8% and Alzheimer's is the most common cause of dementia.



Causes: Scientists believe that for most people, Alzheimer's disease is caused by a combination of genetic, lifestyle and environmental factors that affect the brain over time. At its core are problems with brain proteins that fail to function normally, disrupt the work of brain cells (neurons) and unleash a series of toxic events. Neurons are damaged, lose connections to each other and eventually die. The damage most often starts in the region of the brain that controls memory, but the process begins years before the first symptoms. The loss of neurons spreads in a somewhat predictable pattern to other regions of the brains. By the late stage of the disease, the brain has shrunk significantly.

Symptoms: An early sign of Alzheimer's is usually difficulty remembering recent events or conversations. As the disease progresses, memory impairments worsen and other symptoms develop. At first, a person with Alzheimer's disease may be aware of having difficulty with remembering things and organizing thoughts. A family member or friend may be more likely to notice how the symptoms worsen. Brain changes associated with Alzheimer's disease lead to growing trouble with memory, thinking & reasoning, making judgements & decisions, planning & performing similar tasks and changes in personality & behavior.

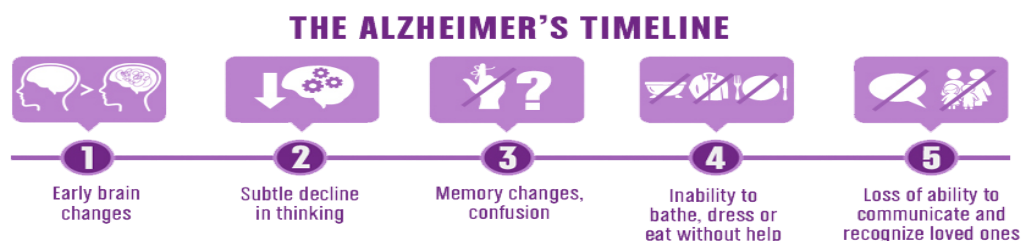
Prevention: There is no proven way to prevent it. But there's a lot you can do to delay the onset or lower your chance of getting it. As with the prevention of most diseases, diet and exercise are most important. Also, manage your numbers-keep blood sugar, blood pressure and cholesterol in check. Other contributors are prior head injuries and smoking.

An article in Neurology Journal reported in August that a blood test can identify the protein that builds up in the brains of people with Alzheimer's nearly 20 years before symptoms appear. Ask your doctor about it if you'd like to know if you are at risk.

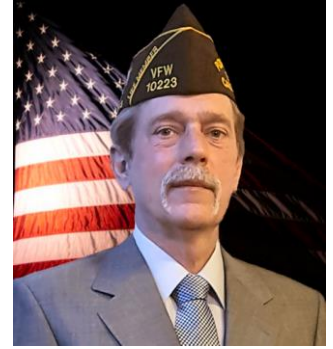
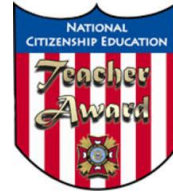
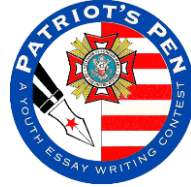
Article resources: Harvard Health, WebMD, Mayo Clinic

Yours in Comradeship & Well-Being,

Brian J. Hamic
Surgeon
Department of Pacific Areas



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



Comrades,

POST AND DISTRICT CHAIRMEN: Entries should be coming in for Voice of Democracy, Patriot's Pen and Smart/Maher Citizenship Education Teachers Award. **The deadline is 31 October 2019.** All Patriot's Pen essays and Voice of Democracy audio essays should be reviewed by the chairman several days before the judging, so that small errors such as too many words, an audio CD or USB drive that will not play on your equipment, a Voice of Democracy audio essay that is a bit too long/short, or a reference that inadvertently identifies them might be corrected by the student rather than the chairman eliminating them from the competition. Chairman should never forget that our priority is to increase the number of students participating, rather than eliminating them.

***Notice:** Qualifications state that both Voice of Democracy and Patriot's Pen programs are open to students who are enrolled in a public, private or parochial high school or home study program in the United States, its territories and possessions; or in an overseas U.S. military/civilian dependent school. However, VFW National Adjutant General and Programs Director agreed that as long as the student is a U.S. citizen, they can participate.

CHANGES TO ALL-STATE AND ALL-AMERICAN LEADERSHIP PROGRAMS: For National Citizenship Education Teacher Award each Post and District must submit an entry in all three categories (K-5, 6-8 & 9-12). Also, in lieu of an entry, any Post can donate \$75.00 while any District can donate \$100.00 each for Voice of Democracy, Patriot's Pen and each category of the National Citizenship Education Teacher Award (K-5, 6-8 & 9-12).

FOR DONATIONS: Donation deadline for the Posts is 31 October 2019. The new donations form can be found by going to: https://VFWPrograms.formstack.com/forms/vfw_programs_donation

***Notice:** Please forward me the receipt email you receive from VFW National to get credit.

I need to know who the DISTRICT CHAIRMANS are for the VOD / Patriot Pen / Teachers Award's program as soon as possible. Please send names and email addresses to vodppdpa@vfwdeptpacific.org.

Post Deadline: November the 9th

Post Level Judging:

For Patriot's Pen essays and Voice of Democracy audio essays, posts should have their judging done and winners forwarded to their district by November the 9th. Each post can forward one (1) essay for every 15 entries received; 1-15 essays – one (1) entry to district, 16-30 essays – two (2) entries, 31-45 essays – three (3) entries and so on for Patriot's Pen and Voice of Democracy. Refer to the student entry forms to review the complete rules and guidelines.

For Smart/Maher Citizenship Education Teachers Award, posts should have their judging completed and winners forwarded to their district by November the 7th. Each post can forward one (1) entry to district for each grade level; K-5, 6-8 and 9-12. Refer to the teacher entry form to review the complete rules and guidelines.

District Deadline: November the 16th**District Level Judging:**

For Patriot's Pen essays and Voice of Democracy audio essays, districts should have their judging completed and winners forwarded to department by November the 16th. Each district can forward one (1) essay each for Patriot's Pen and Voice of Democracy to department. Scan and email me your winning Patriot's Pen essay entry form along with the essay and scan your winning Voice of Democracy audio essay entry form along with a copy of the audio file. Maintain the original entry forms, essays and audio files to be brought to the CofA along with the student's head & shoulders photo.

For Smart/Maher Citizenship Education Teachers Award, districts should have their judging done and winners forwarded to department by November the 16th. Each district can forward one (1) entry to district for each grade level; K-5, 6-8 and 9-12. Scan and email me your winning Teachers Award entry form, essay, resume and other supporting documentation for each grade level. Maintain the original entry forms, essays, resumes and other supporting documentation to be brought to the CofA along with the teacher's head & shoulders photo.

Department Deadline November the 23rd**Department Level Judging:**

I will require each district to provide the contact information (email address) of who will represent your district as a judge. I will email all Patriot's Pen essays, Voice of Democracy audio essays and scoresheets to each judge. Each judge can score and fill out the score sheets prior to the CofA. Scan and email me each score sheet so I can tally up the scores.

For Smart/Maher Citizenship Education Teachers Award, I will evaluate depending on how many entry forms I receive for each Grade Level. If there is two (2) or more for any Grade Level, I will also be emailing the entry forms, resume sand other supporting documentation.

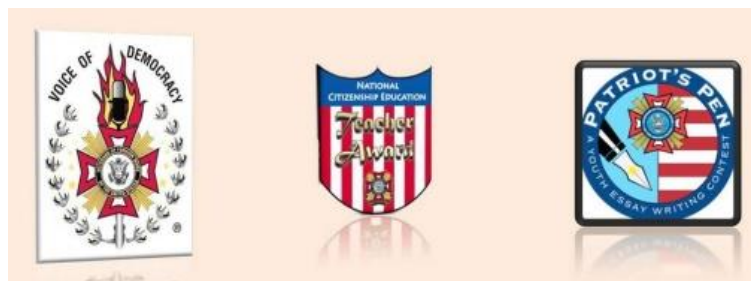
So, we do not overload the DPA mail server, request that everyone email all entry forms, essays, audio files, resume and other supporting documentation to my Gmail account at don.kelley@gmail.com.

If the district judges do not have the opportunity to score the entries prior to the CofA, they can do so on December the 6th between 8:00 and 10:00 AM.

I am looking forward to seeing everyone at the Department of Pacific Areas Mid-Term Council of Administration in Phnom Penh, Cambodia on December 6th, 7th and 8th. At that time, the Department will choose this year's Patriots Pen essay, Voice of Democracy audio essay and Smart/Maher Citizenship Education Teachers Award winners to be forwarded to VFW National.

Yours in Comradeship and Service,

Don Kelley
VOD / Patriot's Pen / Teacher's Award Chairman
Department of Pacific Areas
vodppdpa@vfwddeptpacific.org
Phone: +82-10-2442-8938



2019-20 VOD/PP/TEACHERS AWARD DEPARTMENT DASHBOARD					
Post/District	VOD	PP	Teachers Award		
			Elementary	Middle	High
District 1	UNMET	UNMET	UNMET	UNMET	UNMET
9723	UNMET	UNMET	UNMET	UNMET	UNMET
District 2	UNMET	UNMET	UNMET	UNMET	UNMET
1054	UNMET	UNMET	UNMET	UNMET	UNMET
9555	UNMET	UNMET	UNMET	UNMET	UNMET
9612	UNMET	UNMET	UNMET	UNMET	UNMET
District 3	UNMET	UNMET	UNMET	UNMET	UNMET
8180	UNMET	UNMET	UNMET	UNMET	UNMET
9985	MET/\$75.00	MET/\$75.00	MET/\$75.00	MET/\$75.00	MET/\$75.00
10033	UNMET	UNMET	UNMET	UNMET	UNMET
10223	UNMET	UNMET	UNMET	UNMET	UNMET
12147	UNMET	UNMET	UNMET	UNMET	UNMET
District 4	UNMET	UNMET	UNMET	UNMET	UNMET
9957	UNMET	UNMET	UNMET	UNMET	UNMET
District 5	UNMET	UNMET	UNMET	UNMET	UNMET
9876	MET/\$75.00	MET/\$75.00	MET/\$75.00	MET/\$75.00	MET/\$75.00
9951	MET/\$75.00	MET/\$75.00	MET/\$75.00	MET/\$75.00	MET/\$75.00
10217	MET/\$75.00	MET/\$75.00	MET/\$75.00	MET/\$75.00	MET/\$75.00
10249	UNMET	UNMET	UNMET	UNMET	UNMET
11575	MET/\$75.00	MET/\$75.00	MET/\$75.00	MET/\$75.00	MET/\$75.00
12074	UNMET	UNMET	UNMET	UNMET	UNMET
12146	UNMET	UNMET	UNMET	UNMET	UNMET
12163	UNMET	UNMET	UNMET	UNMET	UNMET
District 6	UNMET	UNMET	UNMET	UNMET	UNMET
1509	UNMET	UNMET	UNMET	UNMET	UNMET
2917	UNMET	UNMET	UNMET	UNMET	UNMET
3457	UNMET	UNMET	UNMET	UNMET	UNMET
District 7	UNMET	UNMET	UNMET	UNMET	UNMET
124	UNMET	UNMET	UNMET	UNMET	UNMET
2485	MET/\$75.00	MET/\$75.00	MET/\$75.00	MET/\$75.00	MET/\$75.00
9892	UNMET	UNMET	UNMET	UNMET	UNMET
11447	MET/\$75.00	MET/\$75.00	MET/\$75.00	MET/\$75.00	MET/\$75.00
12130	UNMET	UNMET	UNMET	UNMET	UNMET

From the Certified National Recruiter:

Good Morning Comrades,

It's October 1st and a Great Day to be a VFW Member! As most of you have seen VFW National has posted all its Life Members and the MEMSTATS are current everyday now. Some Congrats needs to go out already so early in the year. It looks like Post 124 will have company on the first day of National Publishing the updated MEMSTATS from now on for we now have 2 Posts that have rolled over into the New VFW Year already at 100% or more. So, my congratulations go out to Post 124 already at 108.54% and Post 12146 already at 103.44%. They have figured out that Life Membership is the way to go. So again, Congrats to both of your Post's.



Post 11447 and Post 9892 are currently right behind them at both only needing one more member to be at 100% I imagine by the time this is printed they will be there.

Currently we have 59 Comrades recruiting so far with Cliff Wilsey of Post 2485 leading the pack with 15 Recruits, Larry Lyons Post 12147 with 12 Recruits and Mike Verville of Post 11447 closing out the "TOP 3" with 9 Recruits I want to thank all who are recruiting right now and encourage all comrades to do their fair share of recruiting this year.

Some Facts on Recruiting?

What is the easiest way to recruit?

- #1 YOU have to ask them.
- #2 Explain how the VFW can help THEM.
- #3 Tell them about the VFW Programs.

How do you get a Comrade to renew their Membership?

- #1 Get them involved on the VFW.
- #2 Get them to your VFW Meetings.
- #3 Thank Them for their Service and Helping "Their" VFW Post.

Comrades for years we and I have also said it our greatest strength is in Membership.....well that is mostly correct however as SVC Ken has pointed out to me OUR Greatest Strength in the VFW is what we do for our Veterans! When we Take Care of our Veterans, Membership will fall right in line!

If I can be of any help or if you need recruiting material just email me at PDCLyons@VFWDeptPacific.org. I am only an email away.

Yours Always in Comradeship,

Larry Lyons
Certified National Recruiter
Department of Pacific Areas



From the Life Membership Chairman:

Comrades,

To date, the Department has 10,800 Life Members, which include 88 new Life Members. Life membership constitutes 98.29% of total membership, an all time high. **GO LIFE!**

For the 2019-2020 year, the Department will provide a free Life Membership or a \$400 stipend for Posts meeting the following criteria:

- A. Posts over 500 Members Each 10 N/R Life Members recruited
- B. Posts with 500 Members and under Each 5 N/R Life Members recruited
- C. Districts at 100%, a free Life Membership will be awarded.
- D. For Posts converting 5 Annual Members to Life Membership, DPA will send the Post \$250 (see DPA Membership Program for details).



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

<u>Post</u>	<u>Total N/R LM Recruited</u>	<u>Awards</u>
124	12	2 (\$800)
1054	15	1 (\$400)
2485	13	1 (\$400)
10223	5	1 (\$400)
11447	10	1 (\$400)
12146	8	1 (\$400)
12147	7	1 (\$400)

Last year will be tough to beat, but it can be done. Let's make it happen.

Yours in Comradeship,

Cliff Wilsey,
Life Membership Chairman
Department of Pacific Areas



From the National Home for Children Chairman:

Comrades,

Well, October is finally upon us. This month's report shows the Department's Donations slowing down a bit this year. It would be nice to see if we can get all the District and Post to get this year completed by the December CofA.

Again, I want to put out if you are making the Donation on BEHALF of your District or Post please mark the donations block as so and send me a copy of the email that you receive from the he National Home.

If any of District or Post are having any problems with making their donation to the National home please let me know so I can assist you.



From the National Home BLOG site to see more [Click here:](#)

National Home Donation Report

Report for District and Post as of 26 September 2019. This list has been confirmed by the National Home and by emails received with proof of Donation.

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	No	
District 2	Yes	\$50.00	11575	Yes	\$50.00
1054	Yes		12074	No	
9555	No		12146	No	
9612	No		12163	No	
District 3	No		District 6	No	
8180	Yes	\$10.00	1509	No	
9985	No		2917	No	
10033	No		3457	No	
10223	Yes	\$50.00	District 7	No	
12147	No	Pacific House	124	No	
District 4	No		2485	No	
9957	No		9892	No	
District 5	No		11447	Yes	\$125.00
9876	No		12130	No	
9951	Yes	\$50.00			
Post 12147 Project Pacific House			Post 1054 Annual Benefit Concert		
Dist/Post Total	\$535.00	Special Projects	\$0.00	Grand Total	\$535.00
Not Confirmed			Working on		

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 nhdpa@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 difficult times.

Yours in Comradeship,

Randell E. Himes
nhdpa@vfwdeptpacific.org



VFW NATIONAL HOME FOR CHILDREN
Every child deserves a happy family

From the Americanism and Loyalty Chairman:

Comrades,

Day of the Deployed: Day of the Deployed will be observed on 26 October 2019.

This day has been set aside to honor our deployed troops and their families for the bravery and sacrifice they are making for our country. Supporters of the military are urged to get personally involved in activities that send care packages, offer messages of encouragement and other morale-boosting activities to those currently deployed overseas and their families.



In 2006 then – governor of North Dakota John Hoeven was approached to have a day that honored the deployed servicemen and women. He initiated a move for a State of North Dakota proclamation that October 26th, the birthday of a deployed constituent, be recognized as Day Of The Deployed. It only took four years before most states had some form of recognition of the holiday. Day Of The Deployed is not treated like a state holiday with facility closures, it is celebrated much in the same fashion as POW/MIA day, with ceremonies by private and public institutions to honor those in uniform. Today, all 50 states recognize October 26 in some fashion.

U.S. Navy Birthday: Some may be surprised that the official birthday of the U.S. Navy is October 13, 1775. Back then, it was known as the Continental Navy. It was established to intercept ships sent to resupply British Army troops at or near the colonies.

The creation of this fleet was not without controversy. In fact, it hotly debated for 11 days in the Continental Congress. In the end, the debates were won by “navalists” who were in favor of a naval Fleet as another branch of defense for the new nation.

Ms. Veteran America: Ms. Veteran America may appear to be a beauty pageant in the same mold as Miss America or Miss World. But this contest is different in that it has a purpose far beyond the scope of the event itself, a private charitable organization called Final Salute, Inc. is the direct beneficiary of the contest in more ways than one.

The yearly pageant which will be held on October 13th in Hollywood, CA, is the culmination of regional contest. Ms. Veteran America has been operating since 2012.

The mission of this pageant is to support homeless women veterans and their children; the winner of the pageant is expected to perform 100 hours of community service including work that raises awareness of the Final Salute mission and efforts to end veteran homelessness.

To be eligible, a contestant must meet the following requirements:

- A woman who is either a Veteran or still serving
- Able to show documentation of an Honorable discharge
- A veteran or currently serving military member who has completed the initial military service obligation or was medically discharged
- In uniform for a minimum of 180 days
- In good health
- Actively involved in the local community as a volunteer
- Able to adhere to a code of conduct

Although a contestant must meet the requirements listed above, they do NOT include age, height or weight limitations!

The organizers of the completion to require all currently serving contestants to compete with the permission of the service member's unit.

As always, continue to show your loyalty within your community and your Posts.

Yours in Comradeship.

Tom Friend
Americanism and Loyalty Chairman
Department of Pacific Areas

From the Legislative Committee Chairman:

Contacting Your Federal Representatives

The VFW is heavily engaged in legislation that affects active duty and veterans, and members are often contacted to make their voices heard on various legislative actions. But living overseas, how do most of our members manage to do this?

Well, there are three ways to contact your representatives:

1. **Snail Mail.** You can find your representative's address by conducting an online search by their name or going to <https://www.house.gov/representatives/find-your-representative> and entering the zip code of your US address, or if you no longer have an address, by entering the zip code of your last known address. You can find your senator here: https://www.senate.gov/general/contact_information/senators_cfm.cfm.
2. **Calling:** You can find the phone numbers of your representatives by an online search.
3. **Email:** This one is a little trickier as you need to have either a zip code, for some reps, or a complete address, for others, for your email to go through. Each representative and senator has a website, and each has a contact email form on that site. If you need a full address and you no longer have one, you can use your last known address, or if nothing else, use the representative's local office address. An alternative URL to send an email is <https://democracy.io/#/>.



The VFW is only as strong as its membership, so when the call goes out, please respond by letting your reps know your opinions.

Here are some of the current legislative highlights concerning vets:

1. **Army Proposes Arlington Eligibility Changes:** The Department of the Army this week proposed changing the interment and inurnment eligibility criteria for Arlington National Cemetery. The recommendations, which involved more than two years of deliberation and 250,000 survey respondents, are in response to a congressional mandate that directs the Army to keep the cemetery functioning as an active burial ground well into the future – defined as 150 years. Given the current rate of burials, Arlington will be closed to future burials in three decades, so Army's challenge was to meet the needs of the existing veteran population while preserving space for future warriors. One recommendation changes eligibility from the current one day of service to two years, which matches VA cemetery requirements, but adds an additional requirement to having served in combat. Other recommendations, though differing for in-ground and above-ground, specifically link eligibility to having served in combat. "The service life of Arlington will be extended by restricting eligibility to those who have been to war or who are training for war," said VFW National Commander William J. "Doc" Schmitz. "The VFW understands there are many details that must still be ironed out, but at first glance it appears the Army has addressed VFW's

eligibility concerns and answered Congress' mandate to keep the cemetery functioning well into the future." As required by law, a public comment period will soon open on the Federal Register. [Read more.](#)

- 2. VA Health Care Trending in Right Direction:** The VFW this week released the results of its latest nationwide survey on the VA health care system from the veterans' point-of-view. Now in its seventh edition, the VFW created "Our Care" in the aftermath of the nationwide crisis in access to care and confidence that enveloped the VA in 2014, and the ensuing legislative corrective actions that followed. "The VFW prides itself on having the ability to take the pulse of veterans, especially in evaluating what works at the VA and what doesn't," said VFW National Commander William "Doc" Schmitz. "Veterans turn to VA for high-quality, individualized care, but there is always room for improvement, especially in the areas of access to quality care inside VA medical facilities and outside in the communities," he explained. This year's "Our Care" survey included care experience questions from past surveys, as well as logic-based questions on innovations unique to the recently passed MISSION Act, which improved upon its predecessor Choice Act in areas like community care consolidation as well as introducing a new urgent care benefit. Very noticeable was 74 percent of respondents reported seeing improvements at their local VA, compared to 64 percent in 2018, and 91 percent of respondents recommend VA care to other veterans compared to 80 percent last year. Also positive was learning that veterans who were offered community care still prefer to receive their care from the VA, that veterans who use community care facilities are reporting fewer billing problems, and that veterans have a positive opinion of the new urgent care benefit. VA health care is trending in the right direction, but the VFW wants the VA to continue the momentum. [Learn more and access the "Our Care 2019" report.](#)
- 3. Senate Calls for the Elimination of the Widow's Tax:** On Wednesday, Sen. Doug Jones (D-Ala.) called for a Motion to Instruct (MTI) vote on including the elimination of the Widow's Tax into the final version of the *National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020* (NDAA). With a vote of 94-0, the Senate unanimously voted to pass the MTI. This is a call to action and sends a message to the NDAA conference committee members that a permanent fix of the Widow's Tax is long overdue. While an MTI is a non-bonding show of support, the elimination of the Widow's Tax has never made it this far in the NDAA process in 20 years.
- 4. WWP Renews VFW Service Officer Grant:** The VFW is proud to announce that Wounded Warrior Project® has renewed a service officer grant in the amount of \$410,000 that will continue to help more transitioning military to receive their earned disability compensation benefits from the Department of Veterans Affairs. WWP has now provided grants totaling more than \$2.2 million to support VFW's Pre-Discharge Claims Program, an effort that last year enabled the VFW to file thousands of claims on behalf of transitioning military servicemen and women on two dozens of America's largest military installations. Collectively, VFW's nationwide cadre of 2,100 VA-accredited service officers helped more than 525,000 veterans to secure \$8.3 billion in earned disability benefits in fiscal year 2018. Membership in the VFW is not required to receive its free, professional claims assistance. "Connecting veterans with their benefits has been a cornerstone of the VFW's mission for more than a century, and our work with Wounded Warrior Project allows us to build on this legacy of service to others," said VFW National Commander William J. "Doc" Schmitz. If you are within 180 days of discharge from the military, you can contact a VFW Pre-Discharge representative for more information and to get the VA claims process underway. [Learn more.](#)

Comrades, this concludes my report on legislative matters concerning veterans. If you have any questions you may contact me at cortner79@hotmail.com.

Yours in Comradeship,

Jonathan Brazee
Legislative Chairman
Department of Pacific Areas



From the Safety Chairman:



Impairment Begins With the First Drink

Holidays can be a dangerous time on our roadways. With the upcoming St Patrick's and Halloween on the horizon – before taking that first drink – include a plan for a designated driver, a taxi or ride share, or an overnight stay at a friend's home. Just a single drink can cause a decline in visual function, mental judgment and motor skills, resulting in driver impairment.



In the 1980s, the United States saw a significant reduction in alcohol-involved crashes due to lowering the legal driving limit to 0.08 blood alcohol concentration, increasing the minimum legal drinking age to 21 and instituting educational campaigns about the dangers of drinking and driving.

However, for more than 20 years, drivers with alcohol concentrations at or above 0.08 have remained involved in about one-third of all traffic fatalities in the U.S. That's about 10,000 lives lost every year.

To reduce this toll, the National Safety Ad Council supports:

- A national campaign educating Americans on impairment beginning with the first drink
- Efforts by states to lower the legal limit for blood alcohol concentration in drivers

The legal alcohol concentration limit in all states is 0.08. Research shows that for the majority of drivers, driving performance has deteriorated significantly at this level.

However, the current U.S. culture regarding driving and alcohol is not supportive of lowering driving limits for all adult drivers. And despite drivers' views of drinking and driving as a very serious threat, more than one in eight drivers admit to driving in the past year when they thought they were close to or over the legal limit.

National Safety Ad Council knows more must be done to educate our fellow citizens about alcohol impairment, and we believe change can happen as people know more. A strategy grounded in human behavior theory is needed to change those beliefs and ultimately influence widespread change.

Alcohol Only One Cause of Impaired Driving

Drugs — including opioids, marijuana and some over-the-counter medicines — can impair driving by causing drowsiness, altering visual functions and affecting mental judgment and motor skills. Drivers should avoid driving while under the influence of any type drug, just as they would if they consumed alcohol.



Keep 1,500 Alive With .05

Alcohol is involved in about 10,000 crash fatalities each year.



Yours in Comradeship!

Alexander Fores
Safety, EMT, Law Enforcement and Fire Fighters Chairman

From the Clark Veterans Cemetery Chairman:

American Battle Monument Commission (ABMC) has complete control and authority for Clark Veterans Cemetery. ABMC has essential completed restoration of the cemetery grounds; the old flat grave markers are being replaced by upright grave stones providing uniformity throughout the cemetery; this project is approximately 95% complete. Clark Veterans Cemetery is now a dignified final resting place for fallen veterans. At the current average of 50 burials per year, it is projected that, CVC has enough space for the burial of Honorably Discharged US veterans for the next 47 years.



The Superintendent for Clark Veterans Cemetery is Timothy D. Pratt, pratt@abmc.gov. Tim has a very positive working relationship, with the local veteran's community and visits VFW Post 2485 at least weekly. Tim is also responsible for the Cabanatuan American Memorial, a World War 2 Prisoner of War Camp, in Nueva Ecija, Philippines.

Tim is assisted by Cemetery Associate, Charry Mae N. Ongtioco, ongtiococ@abmc.gov. Charry interfaces with the fallen veteran's family, ensures necessary documentation is in order, and coordinates with Clark Development Corporation for final approval for burial at CVC.

The processing procedure for approval of veteran's burial at CVC is working smoothly. Overall from time of death to actual burial at CVC takes about 1 week. Approximately 60% of the burials at CVC are urn burials, as long as the documents are correct, approval for urn burial at CVC is not a problem. Casket burial approvals are slightly more difficult. Clark Development Corporation must ensure that the veteran did not die of a communicable disease, which might infect the environment; therefore they scrutinize the death certificate thoroughly.

VFW Post 2485's Honor Guard is routinely available to Render Military Honors for fallen veterans at CVC, and in the local area, Tuesday through Thursday. CVC is closed for burials on the weekend. Monday is CVC scheduled training and administration day. However, exceptions can be arraigned in special circumstances.

ABMC officials schedule periodic meetings with the officers of VFW Post 2485 to discuss upcoming ceremonies, burial procedures, and equipment procurement.

VFW Post 2485 administers the Grave Digger Fund which has \$9,100 on hand. The Grave Digger Fund pays for indigent veteran burials. The indigent veteran burials cost approximately \$1500. Additionally, on a case by case basis the Grave Digger Fund supplements the veteran's burial expenses. Fortunately, thus far this year, there have been no indigent burials.

Yours in Comradeship & Service,

James. E. (Jim) Collins
Clark Cemetery Chairman
Department of Pacific Areas



From the Women's Veterans Chair:

The idea of: successfully going into space; colonizing other planets; exploring the unknown, was a science fiction topic to most Americans in the 1950's. After WWII, the distribution of capitalist and communist based economies led to the Cold War between U.S.A and U.S.S.R. The persistent competition of the "Space Race" led to the development of more sophisticated rocketry required for intercontinental ballistic missiles, freeze dried food, and Global Positioning System (GPS). October 4, 1957 the Russians launched the first satellite, Sputnik I into orbit and transmitted a beeping radio signal for 21 days. The remarkable accomplishment by Soviet Russia fueled U.S. efforts to be the first on the moon through Project Mercury, Gemini and Apollo. The goal became a reality 50 years ago on 20 July, 1969 when Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin made history as first men walking on the moon.



Credit can also be given to the Russians for sending the first and youngest woman into space. Cosmonaut and engineer Valentina Vladimirovna Tereshkova, went on a solo mission on the Vostok 6, 16 June 1963. 21 years later, Soviet cosmonaut Svetlana Savitskaya, who flew on the Soyuz T-5 and T-7 missions became the first woman to complete a spacewalk, or extravehicular activity (EVA), in July 1984.

The Space shuttle Challenger brought positive opportunities to women having 9 successful launches and landings while in service from 1983-1986. In June 1983, NASA astronaut Sally Ride became the first U.S. woman in space when she launched on the STS-7 mission becoming the third woman in space. NASA astronaut Kathryn D. Sullivan became the first American woman to do a spacewalk when she floated outside the space shuttle Challenger during mission STS-41-G on 11 October 1984. President Reagan in an effort to increase public interest introduced the "Teacher in Space Project". High School teacher Christa McAuliffe was selected among 110,000 applicants after thorough physical and psychological testing. 28 January 1986, 73 seconds after the 10th launch, cold weather resulted in the failure of critical system O-rings and total loss of the shuttle and 7 astronauts including the first civil astronaut.



Ellison S. Onizuka, Sharon Christa McAuliffe, Greg Jarvis, Judy Resnik (back row) Michael J. Smith, Dick Scobee and Ron McNair (front row)

NASA astronaut Eileen Collins (Colonel, USAF, Ret.) has logged over 6,751 hours in 30 different types of aircraft. After serving as an instructor pilot for T-38, C-141 and T-41 aircraft, Collins was selected for the astronaut program in January 1990. Colonel Collins was the first woman pilot of a space shuttle (STS-63), a role that required an astronaut to have at least 1,000 hours of experience piloting jet aircraft. She was also the first woman to command a space shuttle mission (STS-93) in July 1999, and went on to command STS-114 in July 2005. A veteran of 4 space flights, Collins logged over 872 hours in space.

NASA astronaut Peggy Whitson became an Astronaut Candidate in April 1996 after 6 years contributing to NASA's Johnson Space Center. Whitson was the first woman to command the International Space Station when she took the helm of the outpost in April 2008 during Expedition 16. On her next spaceflight in 2016, she became the first woman to command the space station twice when she took command of Expedition 51. Over the course of three tours of duty aboard the international Space Station Whitson performed 10 career spacewalks totaling over 60 hours. She holds the US record with a total of 665 days in space and for being the oldest woman in space, having returned from her final mission at the age of 57.

The future of the Space program continues to evolve, on 18 June 2018, President Donald Trump directed the Pentagon to begin planning for a Space Force. This would be a 6th independent military service branch to undertake missions and operations in the rapidly evolving space domain. The Department of Defense forwarded a Space Force proposal to Congress on 1 March 2019, calling for a service that would fall under the Air Force in the same way the Marine Corps falls under the Department of the Navy. On 29 August 2019, the Pentagon activated U.S. Space Command, a new U.S. combatant command led by Air Force Gen. John "Jay" Raymond, intended to serve as a precursor to U.S. Space Force. Congress has yet to authorize the establishment of a U.S. Space Force, if approved it will be the youngest branch following the Air Force, established in 1947.

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Project Mercury: (1958-1963) 1 man crew orbital flight; 6 had been sent into space. Reentry recovery was completed by Helicopters deployed from USN ship.

Project Gemini: (1961-1966) 2 man crew orbital flight, extravehicular activity rendezvous and docking. 10 pairs flew low earth orbit (LEO) missions, missions were long enough for a trip to the moon and back. Laid the ground work for the Apollo mission.

Project Apollo: (1961-1972) crewed lunar landing. Apollo 11 20 July, 1969 Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin made history as first men walking on the moon. 12 men walked on the moon over 6 spaceflights. Geological studies inc. knowledge of moon history, advances in avionics, telecommunications, computers, rocketry.

The U.S. Space Force would be the first new military service in more than 70 years, following the establishment of the U.S. Air Force in 1947.

The proposal also included the designation of a new position: undersecretary of the Air Force for space, a civilian position that would answer to the secretary of the Air Force and oversee U.S. Space Force. Officials estimated the creation of a new service would cost \$2 billion over five years, and require 15,000 personnel.

The Pentagon had a U.S. Space Command from 1985 to 2002, but it had a far more limited scope and was not a geographic combatant command.

Yours in Comradeship,

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Department of Pacific Areas

See you in the next edition!