



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



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FREE

“THE RIGHT THING TO DO”

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**WATCH OUT FOR
TYPHOON NEWSLETTER
JUNE EDITION 2019-2020 TERM**

**Inputs are due on
05 June 2020**





Department Officer's Comments & Department Committee Reports

From the Commander:

Comrades,

By now, all Districts have either had, or are making plans, for their Conventions and elections. Posts are also in the process of holding theirs. Executive Order 2 from National spells out the process to keep within the guidelines of National and Department Bylaws. Please keep within these rules so the elections will not be contested.

Bangkok has been cancelled, officially, as soon as the Council of Administration casts their votes. I will open and close a Convention, will terminate my term in office as the Department of Pacific Commander, and SVC Ken Stein will automatically assume the position, as will JVC Kevin Mitchell in the position of SVC. The remainder of elected positions will be voted in by the Council of Administration. Nominations for those anticipated vacant positions will be requested shortly. Also to be decided at some point is the location of next year's convention, and CofA in December. Of course, this is all assuming we will be able to have those events. I would not be surprised if later on this year, we find CofA in danger of being cancelled. While many of our countries may come out of local, in-country restrictions, it is easy to envision the international restrictions remaining in place for some time to come.

And if you haven't heard, Reno is also cancelled. For the first time ever, the VFW will not hold a National convention. I can guarantee next year's in Baltimore will be something special.

And with the cancellation of the Convention, the deadline for All-State to receive caps is no longer valid. Everyone has until June 30th to meet All-State and All-American requirements. Be sure to keep checking on the areas you are lacking. And a reminder; CSR's have now switched to the new website. Currently our great department is at 99.47%, only 62 more to reach 100%. We have 2 or 3 Districts and a half dozen Posts with a real possibility of making All-American. Keep your eye on the All-American Dashboard on the National website.

I will be asking our Editor Lenée to publish a June Around the Pacific/Typhoon, since we will not be holding convention. So, you will be receiving one more report from me prior to the end of my term.

And finally, stay safe and healthy. It's been a long tough year for our department, and the last thing we need is to pay respects to a fallen comrade due to Covid-19.

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

Yours in Comradeship,

Rick Farris
Commander
Department of Pacific Areas



From the Senior Vice Commander:

Hello Comrades,

For those of you who have conducted your conventions and elections, well done and congratulations to the new officers.

Despite the challenging times we are living in, our Department continues to meet our responsibilities and mission. I salute you.

You have proven that tough times never last, tough people do.

As you know the National and Department conventions have been cancelled due to the COVID-19 crisis.

The Department will change officers on 13 June, with Commander Farris completing his term on that date. We will follow the succession guidelines as outlined in National's Executive Guidance 2 and the Manual of Procedure and Bylaws.

Thanks to your commitment to recruiting and retaining members, our Department will be recognized as an All American Department. We have met the membership requirement which was modified by the National Commander to 98%. Our Department is at 99% and needs only 67 members to be at the 100% mark. Let's finish the final two months of the term in typical DPA can-do attitude and reach the 100% mark by the end of May.

Congratulations to Commander Farris and the entire Department for reaching this milestone.

I have attached the All State spread sheet. It is important that you review it carefully as this is the document we will be using to determine eligibility for All State recognition. If you notice a requirement that shows UNMET but you know it to be MET, please advise me immediately.

Thank you for your dedication, hard work, and support during this term. It is greatly appreciated. You have proven the saying: The true test of a person's character is how they stand during test of adversity.

Comrades, it has been a privilege to be your Senior Vice Commander for the 2019-20 term. I want to thank Junior Vice Commander Kevin Mitchell for all his support, and a special thanks to Rick Farris, our triple crown Commander for all he has done through the year.

With warmest best wishes, I remain in service to veterans,

Kenneth A. Stein
Senior Vice Commander
Department of Pacific Areas
Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States



DIST	POST	Membership	Legacy Life	Bonded	Inspection	Service Officer	Audits	C S R	VOD	PP	TA	Buddy Poppy	V M S	Action Corps Weekly or MAP or Adopt a Unit or Sponsor Scouting	Web site or FB page	Course of Instruction	Nat'l Home
1	9723	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	N/A	M
2	1054	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	N/A	M
	9555	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	N/A	M
	9612		M	M	M	M		M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	N/A	M
3	8180		M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	N/A	M
	9985		M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M		M	N/A	M
	10033			M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M			M	N/A	M
	10223		M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	N/A	M
	12147	M		M	M	M			M	M	M	M	M	M	M	N/A	M
4	9957	M		M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	N/A	M
5	9876		M	M	M	M			M	M	M	M	M	M	M	N/A	M
	9951	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	N/A	M
	10217		M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	N/A	M
	10249		M	M	M	M	M	M				M		M	M	N/A	
	11575	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	N/A	M
	12074	M	M	M	M	M			M	M	M	M	M		M	N/A	M
	12146	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	N/A	M
	12163		M	M	M	M		M	M	M	M	M	M		M	N/A	M
6	1509			M	M	M		M		M	M	M				N/A	M
	2917			M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M				N/A	M
	3457	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	N/A	M
7	124	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	N/A	M
	2485	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	N/A	M
	9892	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	N/A	M
	11447	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	N/A	M
	12130			M	M	M			M	M	M			M	M	N/A	M
TOTAL MET		14	20	26	26	26	19	22	24	25	25	25	21	20	24	0	25
TOTAL UNMET		12	6	0	0	0	7	4	2	1	1	1	5	6	2	0	1
TOTAL N/A		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	26	0

DIST	POST	Membership	Legacy Life	Bonded	Inspection	Service Officer	Audits	C S R	VOD	PP	TA	Buddy Poppy	V M S	Action Corps Weekly or MAP or Adopt a Unit or Sponsor Scouting	Web site or FB page	Course of Instruction	Nat'l Home
1			M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	N/A	M	N/A	N/A		M
2		M	M	M	M	M			M	M	M	N/A	M	N/A	N/A	M	M
3				M	M	M	M		M	M	M	N/A		N/A	N/A	M	M
4		M		M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	N/A	M	N/A	N/A	M	M
5		M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	M	N/A	M	N/A	N/A	M	M
6				M	M	M	M		M	M	M	N/A	M	N/A	N/A		M
7		M	M	M	M	M	M		M	M	M	N/A		N/A	N/A	M	M
TOTAL MET		4	4	7	7	7	6	3	7	7	7	0	5	0	0	5	7
TOTAL UNMET		3	3	0	0	0	1	4	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	2	0
TOTAL N/A		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	0	7	7	0	0

From the Junior Vice Commander:

Greetings Comrades,

A very interesting close has happened to the last quarter of this term with the COVID-19, so I hope everyone is doing well under the circumstances. The quarantines/lockdowns has had a major effect on how business is being conducted. Although our numbers were down for April because of COVID-19, overall our Department had an outstanding year with CSR's. Congratulations to our Comrades for making this happen. I know you did it because **it's the right thing to do!!**

As you may know April 30th was the last day for CSR's for the 2019-20 Term. Effective May 1st, all CSR inputs will be placed in the Solutions website at **vfwpacific.org**. The 2020-21 year for CSR Reporting has begun!! You will receive an email verification once your input is processed which is in moments. **Information to check your inputs will be forthcoming.** It is a new Program, so I ask for your patience because it is new to everyone.

For All State requirements, Department Commander Farris has waived the months of February – April for CSR's and I sent information pertaining to this via emails and Facebook post.

The Department had two entries for the National Community Post Award. Scoring is complete and the winning Post information was forwarded to National. That winner will be notified in several weeks with the official announcement coming next month.

The Annual Awards were due May 1st, however, Commander Farris has extended it to May 8th. Scoring will commence shortly thereafter and the winners will be announced next month.

In closing, it was an honor to serve as the Junior Vice Commander for this great Department and Commander Farris' Staff during the 2019-20 year. It is a shame that world events will prevent us from meeting in Bangkok. Hopefully the COVID-19 will be handled and we will be able to meet at the CofA. Continue to stay safe and all the best to you and yours!!! May God continue to bless us all and the USA...I love you all!!!

Yours in Comradeship and Service,

Kevin E. Mitchell
Junior Vice Commander
Department of Pacific Areas



CSR Reports as of 5 MAY 2020														
Post	Dist	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	Total
9723	1	13	17	19	16	20	15	10	12	15	15	21	16	189
1054	2	17	4	25	20	25	22	16	34	50	18	12	42	285
9555		48	19	20	26	15	22	26	11	19	24	17	3	250
9612		12	15	3	3	7	24	15	4	9	23	18	4	137
8180	3	38	5	7	13	7	6	18	7	4	9	4	1	119
9985		10	9	9	13	14	10	8	7	11	8	3	8	110
10033		4	5	4	3	4	4	5	5	3	5	3	7	52
10223		20	5	7	4	5	4	4	4	3	5	3	1	65
12147		18	15	7	7	6	9	11	6	0	4	3	2	88
9957	4	12	4	4	6	4	4	3	3	5	4	4	8	61
9876	5	2	1	13	12	4	10	13	3	9	9	17	0	93
9951		28	33	40	30	21	22	25	6	15	17	14	9	260
10217		28	32	26	35	43	35	53	43	45	38	34	23	435
10249		8	6	5	4	5	5	3	3	4	7	6	5	61
11575		3	6	5	4	9	16	13	17	3	3	8	5	92
12074		0	3	10	3	3	3	3	5	9	13	15	5	72
12146		7	7	3	11	12	15	2	15	12	11	9	20	124
12163		18	23	8	24	14	12	53	14	5	0	12	9	192
1509	6	3	3	17	5	8	15	3	3	3	1	3	3	67
2917		64	118	129	94	161	156	71	85	125	89	13	2	1107
3457		6	9	14	6	7	3	10	11	7	9	3	2	87
124	7	20	15	17	16	16	17	20	21	31	13	13	2	201
2485		120	111	119	97	107	121	107	104	107	102	63	25	1183
9892		87	83	65	85	85	87	85	85	96	62	77	81	978
11447		31	59	34	20	43	48	62	35	36	25	10	9	412
12130		0	0	0	2	2	6	0	0	1	2	0	5	18
Total		530	524	610	559	647	687	639	554	642	516	385	297	6538

From the Junior Past Department Commander:

Comrades,

The COVID-19 outbreak has been a difficult time for many of our members. Many of our countries in the DPA are severely impacted by the restrictions that have been put in place. We are in uncharted waters and we can expect our normal way of doing business to be dramatically changed in the future. I encourage all of you to try your best to react positively to the changes that will continue in the future. After all, this is the first time in our history that the VFW National Convention and the Department of Pacific Areas Convention have ever been cancelled. We just need to stay strong and continue to think of ways to adjust. The various Quarantines around the Pacific are still going to be with us for a while. Let's work together and help each other at the Posts/Districts levels.



Just a short update from the DPA Department Service Officer. I have still been receiving a large volume of calls and emails each day from our fellow veterans. Many of them are frightened and worried about how they will survive. Have you taken the time to reach out and contact those that may be restricted to the various "Stay At Home" policies? Last month the Department Commander encouraged all of us to reach out and do "Buddy Checks" on our older members. If they need food and the basic essentials - HELP THEM! The U.S. Embassies and VA Regional Offices in some of our countries are still closed to the public. Only a limited number of emergency essential employees are able to go to work. Some of the agencies are doing telework. If you need contacts – feel free to contact one of the ADSOs or myself as the DSO. The normal rating reviews and compensation exams are continuing but at a much slower pace. If you need assistance – please contact me or one of our ADSOs for help. I still have remote access to the VA Benefits Management System (VBMS) and will try to do follow-ups and updates. All I ask is that you have patience since my primary focus is ensuring that our veterans get through this crisis as smoothly as possible. You can reach me via email at dsodpa@vfwdeptpacific.org, by Face Book Messenger at MICHAELRAYVERVILLE, or by telephone at +63-918-249-1184. I will get back to you as soon as possible.

I want to say Thank You to all of my fellow comrades. I will be retiring from the DSO position on 12 June 2020. It has been my pleasure to assist all of veterans in need. I ask all of you to continue to "Get It Done"!

That's all for this month! Keep working hard and support Team DPA. Be safe and follow the rules of the various countries in which you reside. You can contact me anytime by email, F/B Messenger or the telephone numbers listed above if you have questions or you need help!

Yours in Comradeship and Service,

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



From the Certified National Recruiter:

Greeting Comrades of the Pacific,

Hopefully this Typhoon meets all in good Health and Virus free! This has been a challenging year that will not be forgotten but our true colors has shown through as the norm. As of today 4 May we stand at 99.47% only needing 63 to be greater than 100%. That is not bad since almost half of the year most of our Posts have been tied up with limitations because of the virus! So I thank you all for doing the recruiting job you do every day.

Speaking of recruiters as of today we have 126 Recruiters beating the bushes looking for new recruits and finding our lost members. So today I will list the Recruiters that have recruited 10 or more and they are:

Vernon Hill Post 9985, with 10, Warren Maxson Post 8180 with 10, William Russel Post 9612 with 10, Terrance Smith Post 8180 with 12, Michael Castro Post 1054 with 13, Michael O'Kelley Post 3457 with 17, Monica Conway Post 8180 with 19, David Gley Post 8180 with 24, Michael Verville, Post 11447 with 35, Cliff Wilsey Post 2485 with 39 and Larry Lyons Post 12147 with 73.

So from the comrades that have recruited one to the rest of the ten and above I want to thank each and every one of you for it takes a Team Pacific to make it happen and as Gomer Pyle would say Thank Ya, Thank Ya, Thank Ya.

Looking at All State, all the requirements now have to be met by 30 June. So there is some wiggle room to play with this. In All American right now we have 9 Posts that for sure have a good chance at making it this year.

One of the best recruiting tools that we have is during Election Years which we have this year. The amount of Members we have equals votes to our Congress and Senate members so don't forget to use that when talking to prospective recruits.

So in closing thank you all once again and remember to wash your hands often and keep your social distance.

Stay Safe!

Yours Always in Comradeship

Larry Lyons
Certified National Recruiter
Department of Pacific Areas



From the Quartermaster:

Comrades,

Last month I included the rate schedule and application for next year's Quartermaster Bonds. So far, only one Post has returned the application. Remember, the application must be included with payment for your QM to receive a bond for 2020-2021. This month I will attach the Canteen Manager's Bond Application and rates.

As in previous years, it is best for you to mail your Canteen Manager's Bond Application and check for amount of coverage you want directly to Tallman Insurance, 406 W. 34th Street, Kansas City, MO 64111. Your check stub is proof that you have the coverage.

Since readership of the *Typhoon* is spotty at best. I will email all Post and District Commanders and Quartermasters with the rates and application forms for QM and CM bonds.

Quartermasters, it is more important than ever this year to file your Election Reports using the VFW's Online Membership System. With some Posts and Districts not being able to hold meetings, Department and National need to know who is filling the leadership positions starting in June. Department has a new email system coming in June, so the emails from Election Reports may be critical.

Since we are not having a Department Convention this year, it will be necessary for QM's to mail me a check or do a bank-to-bank (ACH) transfer to pay for the premium of your QM Bond. My snail mail address is: PO Box 506680, Saipan, MP 96950. This is a US Post Office. Please email me directly for our Department Navy Federal account information.

When will we get back to normal? That's the big question on everyone's mind these days, and I've seen answers ranging from next week to never. I think the answer will be different for everyone based on where you live plus the level of risk that YOU determine is suitable for YOU. I hope we are able to have a Council of Administration meeting in December, but I wouldn't bet the house on it.

In the meantime, be well and be safe!

Yours in Comradeship,

Pete Callaghan
Quartermaster
Department of Pacific Areas





A.1 Employee/Volunteer Theft (Dishonesty Bond)

VFW APPLICATION FOR CLUB EMPLOYEES &**BINGO TO BE COMPLETED BY BONDED INDIVIDUAL**

TRAVELERS CASUALTY AND SURETY COMPANY OF AMERICA

Bond Term: October 1, 2020 to September 30, 2021

1. a) Name of Post _____ Post # _____
b) Post Address _____
2. a) Name of Person to be Bonded _____
3. Position to be Bonded _____ Bond Requested \$ _____
4. Number of Persons Bonded _____ 1 _____
5. Number of Locations _____ 1 _____
6. Post Annual Income _____
7. Has the post had any bond losses over the past three years? _____
If Yes, provide a description along with the date and amount of loss.
8. a) Have you ever been bankrupt or insolvent? _____
b) If yes, please give details in a separate confidential letter to the Insurance Company
9. a) Have you ever been convicted of a felony or misdemeanor? (Other than Traffic Violations) _____
b) If yes, explain _____

IF BOND IS NOT RENEWED, TERMINATED, OR CANCELLED AT EXPIRATION DATE OF 10-1-2020, THE POST HAS ONLY 90 DAYS TO SUBMIT A PROOF OF LOSS FOR PRIOR TERM, AFTER 90 DAYS PRIOR COVERAGE CEASES.

If this is a replacement for a current position bonded, please advise what person you are replacing

_____.

Signed this _____ day of _____, _____.
(day) (month) (year)

Signature: Person to be Bonded

Form # 4B

VFW CANTEEN MANAGERS AND CANTEEN EMPLOYEES BINGO MANAGERS, GAMING MANAGERS AND GAMING WORKERS RATE SCHEDULE

\$6.00 PER THOUSAND

\$ 1,000.----\$ 6.00
 \$ 2,000.----\$ 12.00
 \$ 3,000.----\$ 18.00
 \$ 4,000.----\$ 24.00
 \$ 5,000.----\$ 30.00
 \$ 6,000.----\$ 36.00
 \$ 7,000.----\$ 42.00
 \$ 8,000.----\$ 48.00
 \$ 9,000.----\$ 54.00
 \$10,000.----\$ 60.00
 \$11,000.----\$ 66.00
 \$12,000.----\$ 72.00
 \$13,000.----\$ 78.00
 \$14,000.----\$ 84.00
 \$15,000.----\$ 90.00
 \$16,000.----\$ 96.00
 \$17,000.----\$102.00
 \$18,000.----\$108.00
 \$19,000.----\$114.00
 \$20,000.----\$120.00
 \$21,000.----\$126.00
 \$22,000.----\$132.00
 \$23,000.----\$138.00
 \$24,000.----\$144.00
 \$25,000.----\$150.00

\$4.00 PER THOUSAND

\$26,000.----\$104.00
 \$27,000.----\$108.00
 \$28,000.----\$112.00
 \$29,000.----\$116.00
 \$30,000.----\$120.00
 \$31,000.----\$124.00
 \$32,000.----\$128.00
 \$33,000.----\$132.00
 \$34,000.----\$136.00
 \$35,000.----\$140.00
 \$36,000.----\$144.00
 \$37,000.----\$148.00
 \$38,000.----\$152.00
 \$39,000.----\$156.00
 \$40,000.----\$160.00
 \$41,000.----\$164.00
 \$42,000.----\$168.00
 \$43,000.----\$172.00
 \$44,000.----\$176.00
 \$45,000.----\$180.00
 \$46,000.----\$184.00
 \$47,000.----\$188.00
 \$48,000.----\$192.00
 \$49,000.----\$196.00
 \$50,000.----\$200.00

\$3.00 PER THOUSAND

\$ 51,000.----\$153.00
 \$ 52,000.----\$156.00
 \$ 53,000.----\$159.00
 \$ 54,000.----\$162.00
 \$ 55,000.----\$165.00
 \$ 56,000.----\$168.00
 \$ 57,000.----\$171.00
 \$ 58,000.----\$174.00
 \$ 59,000.----\$177.00
 \$ 60,000.----\$180.00
 \$ 61,000.----\$183.00
 \$ 62,000.----\$186.00
 \$ 63,000.----\$189.00
 \$ 64,000.----\$192.00
 \$ 65,000.----\$195.00
 \$ 66,000.----\$198.00
 \$ 67,000.----\$201.00
 \$ 68,000.----\$204.00
 \$ 69,000.----\$207.00
 \$ 70,000.----\$210.00
 \$ 71,000.----\$213.00
 \$ 72,000.----\$216.00
 \$ 73,000.----\$219.00
 \$ 74,000.----\$222.00
 \$ 75,000.----\$225.00
 \$ 80,000.----\$240.00
 \$ 85,000.----\$255.00
 \$ 90,000.----\$270.00
 \$ 95,000.----\$285.00
 \$100,000.----\$300.00

Form (9/12)

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	X	X	X	\$174/1,500	\$125/\$50,000 Pd. F*
District I	X	X	X	X	X	\$10.50/\$3,000 Pd. F*
1054	X	X	X	X	\$174/1,500	\$100/\$40,000(x2) Pd. F*
9555	X	X	X		\$58/500	\$67.50/\$19,000 Pd. F*
9612	X	X			\$58/500	\$100/\$40,000 Pd. F*
District II	X	X	X	X	X	\$10.50/\$3,000 Pd. F*
8180	X	X	X		\$116/1,000	\$65.00/\$26,000 Pd. F*
9985	X	X	X	X	\$116/1,000	\$65.00/\$26,000 Pd. F*
10033	X	X	X	X	\$58/500	\$52.50/\$15,000 Pd. F*
10223	X	X	X		\$174/1,500	\$100.00/\$40,000 Pd. F*
12147	X	X	X	X	\$58/500	\$14.00/\$4,000 Pd. F*
District III	X	X	X		X	\$14.00/\$4,000 Pd. F*
9957	X	X	X	X	\$58/500	\$70/\$20,000 Pd. F*
District IV	X	X	X	X	X	\$52.50/\$15,000 Pd. F*
9876	X	X	X	X	\$58/500	\$125/\$50,000 Pd. F*
9951	X	X	X		\$58/500	\$35.00/\$10,000 Pd. F*
10217	X	X	X	X	\$58/500	\$42.00/12,000 Pd. F*
10249	X	X	X	X	\$58/500	\$52.50/\$15,000 Pd. F*
11575	X	X	X	X	\$58/500	\$70/\$20,000 Pd. F*
12074	X	X	X	X	\$58/500	\$70.00/\$28,000 Pd. F*
12146	X	X	X	X	\$58/500	\$175/\$70,000 Pd. F*
12163	X	X	X		\$58/500	\$35.00/\$10,000 Pd. F*
District V	X	X	X		X	\$59.50/\$17,000 Pd. F*
1509	X	X	X	X	\$58/500	\$200/\$80,000 Pd. F*
2917	X	X	X		\$58/500	\$67.50/\$27,000 Pd. F*
3457	X	X	X	X	\$58/500	\$150/\$60,000 Pd. F*
District VI	X	X	X		X	\$10.50/\$3,000 Pd. F*
124	X	X	X		\$58/500	\$52.50/\$15,000 Pd. F*
2485	X	X	X		\$116/1,000	\$275/\$110,000 Pd. F*
9892	X	X	X	X	\$58/500	\$42/\$12,000(x2)Pd. F*
11447	X	X	X	X	\$58/500	\$31.50/\$9,000 Pd. F*
12130						\$17.50/\$5,000 F*
District VII	X	X	X		X	\$10.50/\$3,000 Pd. F*
*F = Bond application form received.						

From the Surgeon:

Damn the Torpedoes?

Just because you can leave the house, should you? Are you prepared for the 2nd wave?

Most countries & states implemented restrictive measures, such as lockdown, shelter in place, or stay at home orders to contain the Covid-19 pandemic.

This is found to be repugnant by many Americans, especially veterans, with a strong sense of personal freedom and our belief in human rights & civil liberties- the rights of freedom of association & assembly.

Additionally, lockdowns have been detrimental to our physical & mental health and to our economy.

So now, restrictions are being eased. But what about the history of pandemics?

Harvard epidemiologist Marc Lipsitch said, "A lot of the confusion is premised on the misunderstanding that if you control the epidemic once, then you're done,"

What can be learned from history? We have learned that pandemics come in waves. Consider just one example of the Spanish flu outbreak a century ago, when a small wave hit in early 1918, followed by a huge spike that fall and a third major wave in early 1919.

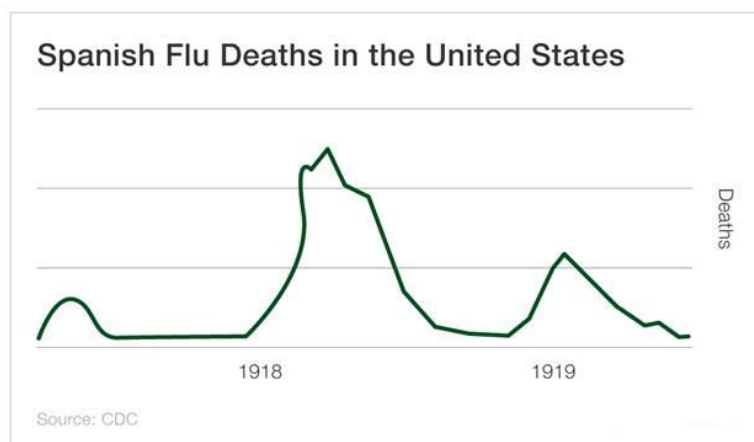
Studies suggest that social distancing measures had worked against the 1918 epidemic until they were hastily lifted by some cities in early celebrations. Instead of continuing to "flatten the curve," these cities soon experienced a second spike in cases.

Medical experts in countries around the world are expecting the same with Covid-19 as restrictions are being eased.

As VFW members in a particularly vulnerable demographic, we must be particularly cautious and diligent to maintain our health. Make it your number one mission to keep yourself, those you love and comrades & veterans safe. Prepare for subsequent waves of Covid-19.

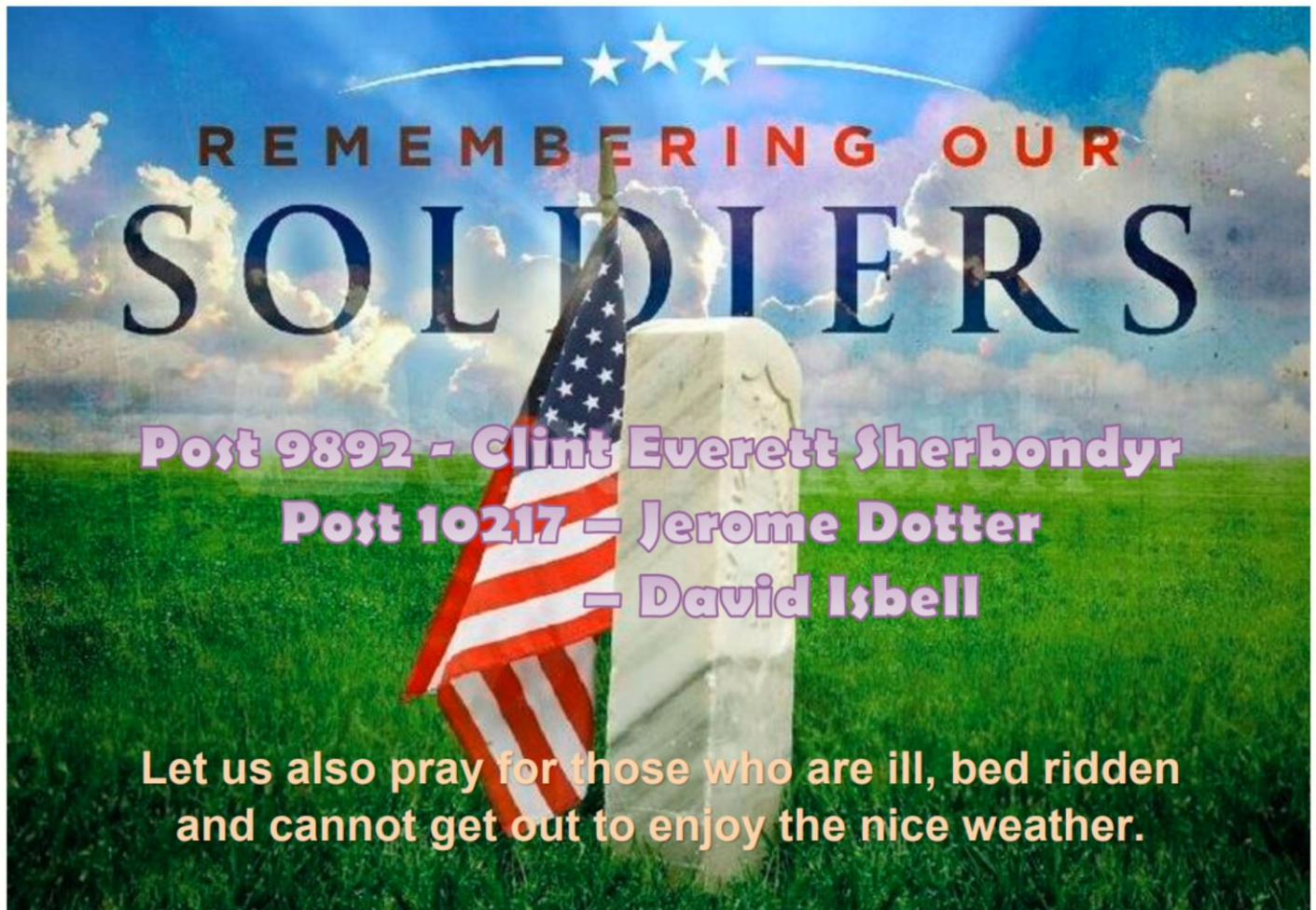
Yours in comradeship & well-being,

Brian J. Hamic
Surgeon
Department of Pacific Areas





From the Chaplain:



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. Email me at chapdpa@vfwdeptpacific.org or at davisronald738@gmail.com

Yours in Comradeship and Service to Veterans,

Ronald J. Davis
Chaplain
Department of Pacific Areas

From the National Home for Children Chairman:



VFW NATIONAL HOME FOR CHILDREN
Every child deserves a happy family

Comrades,

With the Restrictions on Movement, everyone being told to stay in Place. And now the notice that the DPA Conventions in Bangkok and the National Convention being cancelled because of this COVID-19 virus.

The National Home for the Children has also been affected and now more than ever they could use your donations. It does not matter if you are or are not going to make All State or even All American. It is doing what is right, so if you have not given yet **JUST DO IT.**

Donations to the National Home for Children is almost at 99%. I want to thank all that have made this donation this year and I would like to give a big BZ to Post 11447, they have a member that is give a donation of \$25.00 each month.

Visit the National Home BLOG site to see what else is happening. [Click here:](#)

National Home Donation Report

Report for District and Post as of 30 April 2020. 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	\$50.00	12074	Yes	\$50.00
9555	Yes	\$50.00	12146	Yes	\$50.00
9612	Yes	\$75.00	12163	Yes	\$50.00
District 3	Yes	\$50.00	District 6	Yes	\$50.00
8180	Yes	\$110.00	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	\$50.00
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	\$250.00
9876	Yes	\$50.00	12130	Yes	\$100.00
9951	Yes	\$50.00			
Post 12147 Project Pacific House		\$4,000.00	Yokosuka Scouts via Post 1054		\$1,500.00
Dist/Post Total	\$1,885.00	Special Projects	\$5,500.00	Grand Total	\$7,385.00
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 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 difficult times.

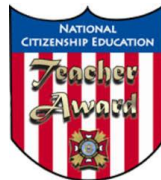
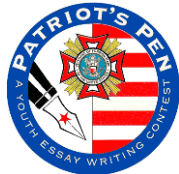
Yours in Comradeship,

Randell E. Himes

nhcdpa@vfwdeptpacific.org



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



Comrades,

With the current world situation, and most students home practicing social distancing, this is a perfect opportunity to give our youth a head start on writing, recording and refining their essays for the upcoming 2020-2021 Voice of Democracy and Patriot's Pen essay competition.

The **Voice of Democracy Scholarship Competition** provides high school freshmen, sophomores, juniors and seniors the opportunity to write and record a 3- to 5-minute essay on a patriotic theme, competing for awards at the local, district and department levels. The department winners compete for more than \$2 million in college scholarships and incentives. [Read the rules and eligibility requirements](#) and download the [2020-21 entry form application](#).

The 2020-21 **Voice of Democracy** theme is: ***Is This the Country the Founders Envisioned?***

The **Patriot's Pen Essay Contest** provides 6th, 7th and 8th grade students the opportunity to express their opinion on a patriotic theme and improve their writing skills while they compete for worthwhile awards and prizes. Awards can be given at the local, district and department levels. The department winners compete for \$55,000 in awards at the national level. [Read the rules and eligibility requirements](#) and download the [2020-21 entry form application](#).

The 2020-21 **Patriot's Pen** theme is: ***What is Patriotism to Me?***

[You can watch both the 2019-20 Voice of Democracy and Patriot's Pen winners deliver their essays.](#)

Let's not forget about the Smart / Maher VFW National Citizenship Education Teacher Award. [Review the rules and eligibility requirements](#) and nominate a teacher you know by submitting the [2020-21 nomination form](#).

Post chairmen; please share this report and the National Scholarship Programs Brochure with Schools, Teachers and Youth Leaders so they can [get acquainted with VFW's Programs](#).

Supporting These Programs is the Right Thing to Do!

Yours in Comradeship and Service,

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



From the Safety Chairman:



FIREARM SAFETY

Owning a gun in the United States is one of our fundamental rights! With that said, it's also a responsibility as a gun owner and your duty to yourself and those around you to always follow gun safety rules and ensure that you owning a firearm makes the world a safer place rather than a more dangerous one. Unfortunately, unintended discharges are a major safety concern. Fact shows people have lost their lives to mishaps involving privately owned weapons (POWs). When we look at the gun owners that are prone to mishaps with privately owned weapons, 100% were male and common factors in the mishaps were indiscipline, complacency, and alcohol related incidents:

- All too often an individual deliberately pointed a weapon at themselves or someone else believing it to be unloaded, which resulted in a tragedy. It is imperative that you always follow the basic standards of safe weapons handling, one of which is NEVER point a weapon at anything you don't intend to shoot.
- Not all weapons operate in the same manner. Proficiency with your weapon does not make you an expert on all weapons. If you are handling a new weapon, read the owner's manual carefully and take a class to get the proper training.
- Remember make no mistake, you should NEVER handle a weapon after or while consuming alcohol. Alcohol was a factor in over half of the POW mishaps. Additionally, POW mishaps commonly occur in social settings. If you see someone handling a weapon in any unsafe manner – especially while under the influence of alcohol – take action. You could save the life of a family member, a friend or even your own.

THINK About It... In addition to never mixing alcohol and weapons, you can manage your risk with privately owned weapons and avoid unwarranted mishaps if you always THINK weapons safety! Treat every weapon as if it is loaded. Handle every weapon with care. While in the Firing Range, Identify the target before you fire. Never point the muzzle at anything you don't intend to shoot. Keep the weapon on safe and your finger off the trigger until you intend to fire. The very most important prevention that a responsible gun owner would do is to safely secure their weapons and ammunitions out of reach of minors and it is a must to purchase safety locks.

Even the most experienced gun owners must always continue learning and adapting. Laws change, firearms change, and situations change. In short, being a responsible gun owner is not something you learn in an afternoon and never think about again. It's a lifestyle of always respecting the responsibility that you have been given. With a little situational awareness, and a lot of care and precaution, you can ensure that you can be a responsible gun owner.

Yours in Comradeship!

Alexander Fores
Safety, EMT, Law Enforcement and Fire Fighters Chairman
Department of Pacific Areas

From the Women's Veterans Chair:

I recently found out that the US. Department of Veterans Affairs has a Veteran of the Day. Of course, I focused on the women veterans that have been featured. If you would like to nominate a veteran or follow the blog visit <https://www.blogs.va.gov/VAntage/>.

Emma J. Breitbarth served in the Air Force from 1985 to 1989 as part of the 509 Bomb Wing at Whiteman Air Force Base, Missouri. Breitbarth now dedicates her time and service to providing career advising for Veterans with the Texas Veterans Commission (TVC) in Tyler, Texas; the East Texas Community Council and as a board member with Community Assisting Military Personnel and Veterans. The organization, located in Tyler, is a place for Veterans to go to find any information or resources they need. Breitbarth has received numerous awards for her service in the Veteran community, including the Disabled Veteran Outreach Program Specialist of the Year Award, the TVC Region III Veterans Employment Representative of the Quarter Award, the TVC Excellence Award and the TVC Outreach Excellence – North District Award.



Erin Rust enlisted in the Army at 17 after watching the hijacked planes hit the World Trade Center towers. Rust served as a wheeled vehicle mechanic with the 2nd Stryker Cavalry Regiment 3rd Squadron in Germany. While deployed with her unit to Iraq from August 2007 to October 2008, Rust quickly picked up a new role. Although a mechanic by trade; the Army needed female soldiers to perform physical searches of Iraqi women, so Rust spent more of her time with the Female Search Team. Following her deployment, she returned to Germany, then served a short time in the Army Reserve. Rust is now working for the US Park Service as a ranger at Dry Tortugas National Park. Rust plans to stay in federal law enforcement, then work on reducing plastic waste in the ocean.

Stacy Combs obtained her bachelor's degree in nursing from Texas Christian University in 2002. After completing her initial military training as an Army nurse, she held a variety of roles while on active duty between 2003 and 2009. Combs served as a clinical staff nurse at Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, D.C., from 2003 to 2005. Following that, she managed seven labor delivery recovery rooms, two operating rooms and four triage beds as charge nurse at Carl D. Darnall Army Medical Center in Fort Hood, Texas, from 2005 to 2007. Last, she served as head nurse in a mother baby unit, and, later, as a clinical staff nurse in a high-security medical and surgical unit. After leaving active duty, she continued to work as both an Army National Guard nurse and a civilian nurse at Camp Mabry and Fort Hood, Texas. Following a short period as a contracted nurse in San Antonio, Texas, she obtained her master's degree in nursing from Texas Tech University in 2015. She transitioned to philanthropic efforts and volunteer work in multiple overseas bases. Currently, she lives in Bethesda, Maryland, with her family and as an Air Force spouse.

Christy Myers served in the Air Force from June 17, 1994, to June 17, 1998, as a services apprentice as part of the 1st Services Squadron at Langley Air Force Base in Hampton, Virginia. She held various positions during her time in service: serving meals to the members on the flight lines and to those traveling in and out the base; planning trips for members' families so they could enjoy affordable entertainment while their loved ones deployed; a shift leader in charge of food quality at the main dining hall. Myers will be graduating in December 2020 with a bachelor's degree in social work. She says the discipline and diversity she experienced during her service have prepared her for her new career.

Heather Sandler came from a military family, with relatives in all branches of the Armed forces. She was a part of the Navy's move for integration while at Great Lakes for Boot Camp and on the aircraft carrier USS *Abraham Lincoln*, which was the first male-female integrated ship on the West Coast. Sandler worked in weapons assembly in the G-3 division during her first deployment, and built bombs for air raids against Al Qaida targets in Sudan and Afghanistan during her second. After shore duty at Naval Air Station Patuxent River, Maryland, Sandler transferred to USS *Harry Truman*. Sandler was in charge of the armaments system loading weapons onto F-18s as well as worked as a quality assurance officer, inspecting tools and aircraft for jobs and missions. While onboard the Truman, Sandler completed two deployments to the Persian Gulf and honorably discharged from the Navy in June 2005. She decided to go into social work and attended the University of Connecticut where she received her master's degree.

Stay safe and healthy out there.

STG1 (SW) Lauren Wanzer
Women's Veterans Chair



Letters of Intent – 2020-2021 VFW Year



**NATIONAL COUNCIL MEMBER
PETE CALLAGHAN**

Comrades,

I am announcing my intention to run for the position of National Council Member representing our great Department of Pacific Areas. It has been my privilege to have served as your Department Quartermaster for the last eight years. I have learned much about the budgeting process and about our Department's needs during those years, and now I would like to focus on the main source of our Department's income, VFW National Headquarters.

The Department of Pacific Areas has been an All-American Department for the last 14 years, and for 23 of the last 25 years! That represents a quarter century of excellence that may be unparalleled in the VFW. And yet, because of our geography, it often seems that we are an afterthought when it comes to allocating VFW's resources.

When I took over as Department QM in 2012, our Dept. Service Officer was receiving a scant \$2,036 a year from National while the Department had to subsidize the rest of the DSO budget. It was called a National Veterans Service Grant and amounted to \$169.66 per month. This in the largest physical Department in the VFW! The only reason our NVS Grant increased was because National used the guaranteed Service Officer grant to justify an increase in Annual and Life dues in 2014.

Part of the problem, I believe, is that we don't toot our own horn as loud and as often as we should; and we may not articulate our needs as well as we should. I hope to change this if given the opportunity.

If I am afforded the honor of representing you at the National level, I will dedicate my efforts to helping our Department get the attention and the funding we need to better accomplish our mission of helping veterans and their families who reside in our massive geographical area of responsibility.

I believe we need ADSO's in every District. This is our primary way of helping veterans get the benefits and services they've earned. I believe we can push the VA for faster reimbursements for VA related healthcare. I believe we can expand our reach in Japan, Australia, Oceania, the Philippines and Asian countries in places where we have veterans but no Posts. But we need the money to accomplish this goal.

So that is my promise to you, Comrades. I hope you will give me the opportunity to realize these goals for us, the Department of Pacific Areas. Thank you very much.

Yours in Comradeship,

Pete Callaghan

Candidate for National Council Member

LETTER OF INTENT
DEPARTMENT JUNIOR VICE COMMANDER
WARREN “Max” MAXSON



I would like to formally announce my intent to run for the office of Junior Vice Commander 2020-2021.

I am a 22-year Retired U.S. Air Force Veteran. I have been a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars since 2008. I joined while on Active Duty stationed at Osan Air Base, South Korea.

My VFW resume is as follows:

Post 10216 Commander 2015-2016 All State CDR

Lead the process of merging Post 10216 Songtan and Post 8180 Seoul to ensure the Department maintained the memberships.

Post 8180 Commander 2017-2018 All American CDR

2 Time DPA Chaplain 2016-2018

District III Commander 2018-2019 All American CDR

District III Adjutant 2019-2020

My Military Order of the Cooties resume is as follows:

Pup Tent 8 Seam Squirrel 2013-2015 All Star Seamy

Grand of the Pacific Commander 2019-2020

If elected, I pledge that I will put forth all my efforts in expanding the success of the Department of Pacific Areas.

Yours in Comradeship,

Warren “Max” Maxson
Candidate for Department JVC
Department of Pacific Areas

LETTER OF INTENT
DEPARTMENT JUDGE ADVOCATE
2020-2021
JOHN H. GILBERT



I am proud to announce my candidacy for the position as Department Judge Advocate for the 2020-2021 term. As a Gold Legacy Life member of VFW Post 2485 in Angeles City Philippines and past Department Commander I bring a long and varied background to this position. I believe I can best utilize my broad experience to benefit the Department as the Department Judge Advocate.

My accomplishments in a variety of positions and depth of knowledge in VFW policies and procedures provide the necessary basis for successful service in this position. My record in a range of elected and appointed positions at the Post, District and Department levels makes me uniquely qualified for the position of Department Judge Advocate. Please consider my previous experience:

Department Clark Veterans Cemetery Chairman	(2011-2015)	
Post 2485 Commander	(2012-2014)	(All American 2013-2014)
National Aide de Camp	(2011-2012)	
Department Chaplain	(2013-2014)	
District 7 Commander	(2014-2015)	(All State)
Department Junior Vice Commander	(2015-2016)	
Department Senior Vice Commander	(2016-2017)	
Department Commander	(2017-2018)	(All American)

If elected to serve as Department Judge Advocate I will strive to represent our Department in a positive light, and be responsive to the needs of our Command group and membership. My thanks to all for your past support and I ask that once again you place your confidence in me.

I look forward to seeing each of you at the upcoming 2020 Department Convention in Bangkok, Thailand in June.

Yours in Comradeship and Service to Veterans,

John H. Gilbert
Candidate for Department Judge Advocate
Department of Pacific Areas

LETTER OF INTENT
DEPARTMENT QUARTERMASTER
2020-2021
SHAWN WATSON



I am asking for your support in election to the honorable position of Quartermaster for the Department of Pacific Areas. I am Gold Legacy member of Post 2917, Agat Guam. Listed below are key positions I have held:

Post 10216 Korea

Commander (All American – 2010)

District III Korea

Commander (2010-2011)

Post 2917 Guam

Quartermaster (2014-2015)

Commander (2015-2018 All American 2018)

Quartermaster (2018 - Present)

District VI

Commander (2017-2018 All American)

Quartermaster (2018 – present)

Department

Safety Officer (2010-2011)

Commander (2013-2014 All American)

National

Council Member (2016- 2020)

Budget & Finance Committee (2016 -2020)

Aide de Camp

Century Recruiter

As list in the positions above, I have been involved as quartermaster in a couple Posts and on the National Budget and Finance Committee. These positions have given me experience at every level of our great organization. Now I humbly ask for your support for this important position as your Department Quartermaster.

I wish and hope that all our Comrades are safe from this Coronavirus and we get to meet up in Bangkok Thailand for our Department Convention.

Yours in Comradeship,

Shawn Watson

Candidate for Department Quartermaster

Department of Pacific Areas

LETTER OF INTENT
DEPARTMENT SURGEON
2020-2021
ALEXANDER B. FORES



Comrades,

The purpose of this letter is to announce my intent and desire to run for the position of Department of Pacific Areas Surgeon for the year 2020-2021. I believe I have the capacity to succeed and contribute to this position and will give my best effort in fulfilling the Mission of this organization. I have served the following positions:

- DPA Chairman, Safety/Emergency Medical Technician/Firefighter/Law Enforcement
- District VII Commander – All State and All American
- Post 124 Commander - All State and All American
- Silver Legacy and Life member
- Pup Ten 7 Cootie Member

If elected, I commit and will put forth all my efforts in expanding the success of the Department of Pacific Areas.

Yours in Comradeship,

Alexander B. Fores
Candidate for Department Surgeon
Department of Pacific Areas

See you in the next edition!