



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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Inputs for the March Typhoon
Are due on 05 March 2020





Department Officer's Comments & Department Committee Reports

From the Commander:

Comrades,

We had a rather slow month of memberships, only gaining .6% for the month, to date we are at 96.64%, needing 399 to hit our goal of 100%. Judging by the numbers, there are quite a few Posts that haven't moved the membership numbers much at all. As Doc has said, "I need you to motivate your troops ... not for me, not for you, but for our organization. You gotta get off your duff – you gotta get out there and recruit." So, enough of the waiting game. Get out and find those new members we need to keep our great organization going. We should be able to be among the first to hit our number.

On the plus side, we now have 10 Posts at our greater than 100%, and joined by the first District to hit it, District 7. Nice job, and thank you! But I need all of you to keep it going. Don't stop!! There are always the years where some Districts and Posts pick up the slack, and this may be a year The Department will need all it can get from everyone.

At 100%: Posts 1054, 9555, 12147, 9951, 12074, 12146, 3457, 124, 9892, 11447, and District 7. Posts 10217 and 2485 should be joining this list shortly.

I had a good trip to Bangkok last month, previewing the venue for our Convention in June. Thanks to Cdr. Riggs for the hospitality. D5 is working hard to make this a memorial event, and I hope to see many of you there. The registration page will be up sometime this month.

February will be a busy month for me, as I head to Post 11447 for their VFW Beach Bash, and Washington, DC for the VOD Awards and Legislative Conference. I still have Districts to visit, and I will get to you. I anticipate hitting D6 in April, and D3 in May. I am still trying to fit in the D7 convention.

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,

The mission of the VFW is to foster camaraderie among United States veterans of overseas conflicts, part of that camaraderie is to look out for each other. We don't have to assign labels; e.g., PTSD or TBI, but we do have to pay attention to our comrades and if you notice something is just not right about one of our brothers or sisters, enquire and see if you can sit down and just have a general chat. We all have certain similar experiences and often one of our members is just looking to talk to someone who will understand. My message here is simply let's look out for each other and if something doesn't look right, it's probably not and probably is time to take a moment and chat with our brother or sister.



My primary responsibility this term is Department Membership Chairman. We are doing ok, not great, but I know we will finish great because that is the legacy of our Department. Currently we have ten Posts and one district over 100% and 10 Posts over 95%. So as you can see a lot of the heavy lifting is being done by a few posts and most of the shortfalls are comprised of only a few posts. Please check the MEMSTATS file at the end of this article to see where you stand.

Another area of responsibility for me is All American and All State recognition. The All American Dashboard is available on vfw.org and you should be checking that regularly and comparing it to what you know you have accomplished. When the dashboard is not consistent with what you know to be a completed requirement ensure your post adjutant is aware and has reported it up the chain.

For All State status check with your District CDR. A few days ago I sent him the latest information I have on MET and UNMET requirements for All State. Suggest you go over that data with your District CDR.

Now is the time to take notice of your shortfalls for All American, All State, and Membership Statistics. Then suggest you enact an action plan to meet all membership and program requirements.

I continue to stand by to assist, all you need to do is contact me.

Yours in comradeship and service to veterans,

Kenneth A. Stein
Senior Vice Commander
Department of Pacific Areas



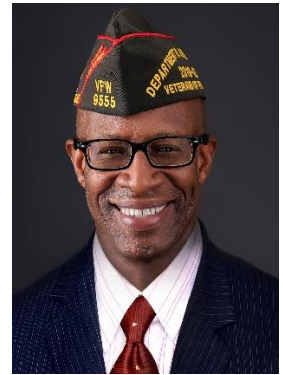
MEMSTAT

Dst	Post	Life	New	Reinst	Cont	Total	Adjusted Prior Year*	Percent	Div	RS	State	N/R LM	Prior Annual	Reten tion	N/R %		
	9723	1	694	1	0	20	715	728	98.21%	3	OKINAWA	JAPAN		3	32	68.75%	0.55%
D1	0	1	694	1	0	20	715	728	98.21%	6			3	0	0.00%	0.55%	
	1054	2	789	3	0	9	801	797	100.50%	2	YOKOSUKA CITY	JAPAN		26	31	32.26%	3.64%
	9555	2	347	1	1	8	357	355	100.56%	4	YOKOTA AFB	JAPAN		1	10	80.00%	0.85%
	9612	2	507	3	0	7	517	543	95.21%	3	CAMP ZAMA	JAPAN		8	42	23.81%	2.03%
D2	0	2	1643	7	1	24	1675	1695	98.82%	4			35	0	0.00%	2.54%	
	8180	3	1637	21	54	91	1803	1901	94.84%	1	SONGTAN-SI	KOREA		4	264	30.30%	4.16%
	9985	3	208	17	1	26	252	288	87.50%	4	TONGDUCHON-UP	KOREA		2	77	28.57%	6.94%
	10033	3	490	11	1	9	511	528	96.78%	3	TAEGU	KOREA		1	32	37.50%	2.46%
	10223	3	350	15	2	11	378	425	88.94%	3	CAMP HUMPHREYS	KORE		14	99	16.16%	7.29%
	12147	3	210	55	0	21	286	277	103.24%	4	SEONGNAM	KOREA		13	82	34.15%	24.55%
D3	0	3	2895	119	58	158	3230	3419	94.47%	2			34	0	0.00%	6.17%	
	9957	4	336	0	0	0	336	340	98.82%	4	TAIPEI	TAIWAN		0	0	100.00%	0.00%
D4	0	4	336	0	0	0	336	340	98.82%	6			0	0	0.00%	0.00%	
	9876	5	347	1	0	19	367	399	91.97%	3	PATTAYA CITY	THAILA		8	52	48.08%	2.26%
	9951	5	236	6	0	16	258	248	104.03%	4	BANGKOK	THAILAND		5	24	70.83%	4.44%
	10217	5	140	1	0	12	153	154	99.35%	6	KORAT AF BASE	THAIL		1	17	100.00%	1.30%
	10249	5	231	1	0	13	245	250	98.00%	4	UDORN	THAILAND		1	22	72.73%	0.80%
	11575	5	108	0	1	13	122	124	98.38%	7	PHNOM PENH	CAMBODIA		2	18	72.22%	2.42%
	12074	5	99	5	0	8	112	108	103.70%	8	CHIANG MAI	THAILAND		1	12	66.67%	5.56%
	12146	5	214	2	2	4	222	203	109.35%	5	BAN CHANG	RAYONG TH		14	11	63.64%	8.87%
	12163	5	50	0	0	1	51	59	86.44%	10	PERTH	WESTERN AUSTR		0	15	13.33%	0.00%
D5	0	5	1425	16	3	86	1530	1545	99.02%	4			32	0	0.00%	3.30%	
	1509	6	273	2	1	7	283	299	94.64%	4	YIGO	GUAM		2	24	20.83%	1.67%
	2917	6	193	8	1	4	206	218	94.49%	5	AGAT	GU	5	35	17.14%	6.42%	
	3457	6	303	5	0	13	321	315	101.90%	4	SAIPAN	CNMI		14	27	55.56%	6.03%
D6	0	6	769	15	2	24	810	832	97.35%	6			21	0	0.00%	4.57%	
	124	7	225	0	0	0	225	199	113.06%	5	BAGUIO CITY	PHILIPPI		20	0	100.00%	10.05%
	2485	7	1641	10	0	31	1682	1684	99.88%	1	ANGELES CITY	PHILIP		24	60	68.33%	2.02%
	9892	7	241	0	0	1	242	241	100.41%	5	BAUANG	LA UNION PHIL		1	3	33.33%	0.41%
	11447	7	539	0	0	13	552	532	103.75%	3	SUBIC BAY	PHILIPPIN		31	18	100.00%	5.83%
	12130	7	71	0	0	4	75	96	78.12%	8	CEBU	PHILIPPINE S		2	22	18.18%	2.08%
D7	0	7	2717	10	0	49	2776	2752	100.87%	3			78	0	0.00%	3.20%	
	15055	99	500	14	0	23	537	585	91.79%	3	PACIFIC AREAS	PI	3	0	0.00%	2.91%	
	0	99	500	14	0	23	537	585	91.79%	6			3	0	0.00%	2.91%	
	0	255	10979	182	64	384	11609	11896	97.58%				206	0	0.00%	3.80%	

From the Junior Vice Commander:

Greetings Comrades,

In January, the Department had another fantastic month with CSR's. Many thanks to our Post Commanders for the leadership you have shown throughout the year and our Comrades for their continued outstanding work within our communities. The Department leadership appreciates your efforts and we know you do it because **"it's the right thing to do!"**



However, as of February 4th, we have four Posts who did not submit CSR's for the month of January. I ask if you forgot to submit, please do so as soon as you can and send me an email at jvcdpa@vfwdeptpacific.org so I can go in and give your Post credit for your service on my next Report. Also, if you have gone into previous months to update actions, again please send me an email because I cannot help you if I do not know!!! I did receive a few emails from Post requesting I review inputs, so I took it upon myself to go into each Post to see if any updates were made and there were many. So please let me know because I like to work **smarter not harder** and it is a lot of work to go through each Post. Finally, because we still have some Post with less than three (3) entries on prior months, I ask the Post Commander or JVC to confirm whether it is true or not. **Many thanks!!!**

As mentioned last month, it is not too early Post Commanders to start looking at your outstanding performers for the year!! Really hope our Committee receive some great Packages for review because **competition is always good!!!** I will provide further updates in next month's Typhoon. All Packages will be submitted to jvcdpa@vfwdeptpacific.org

In closing, I would like to wish everyone a Happy Valentine's Day on the 14th with hopes you do not forget to surprise your Spouse, significant other, and love ones. Remember to check on our Comrades who maybe in distress and keep them and their families in our prayers. Continue the great work we do in our communities and give our families some time because it is them who continue to sacrifice to allow us to continue to serve! May god bless you and the good ole USA!! I love you all!!!

Yours in Comradeship and Service,

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

CSR Reports as of 4 February 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				137
1054	2	17	4	25	20	25	22	16	34	50				213
9555		48	19	20	26	15	22	26	11	19				206
9612		12	15	3	3	7	24	15	4	9				92
8180	3	38	5	7	13	7	6	18	7	4				105
9985		10	9	9	13	14	10	8	7	11				91
10033		4	5	4	3	4	4	5	5	3				37
10223		20	5	7	4	5	4	4	4	3				56
12147		18	15	7	7	6	9	11	6	0				79
9957	4	12	4	4	6	4	4	3	3	5				45

9876		2	1	13	12	4	10	13	3	0				58
9951		28	33	40	30	21	22	25	6	0				205
10217		28	32	26	35	43	35	53	43	42				337
10249	5	8	6	5	4	5	5	3	3	4				43
11575		3	6	5	4	9	16	13	17	3				76
12074		0	3	10	3	3	3	3	5	9				39
12146		7	7	3	11	12	15	2	15	12				84
12163		18	23	8	24	14	12	53	14	5				171
1509	6	3	3	17	5	8	15	3	3	3				60
2917		64	118	129	94	161	156	71	85	125				1003
3457		6	9	14	6	7	3	10	11	7				73
124	7	20	15	17	16	16	17	20	21	31				173
2485		120	111	119	97	107	121	107	104	107				993
9892		87	83	65	85	85	87	85	85	96				758
11447		31	59	34	20	43	48	62	35	36				368
12130		0	0	0	2	2	6	0	0	0				10
Total		617	607	610	559	647	691	536	466	599	0	0	0	5332

From the Adjutant:

Greetings,

As a reminder for Posts over the next couple months, if your Post has not already done so, as requirements are completed for All-American and All-State, remember to update the National All-American Dashboard and also to send your confirmation of completion to the appropriate Department Chairman.

I have been receiving a few emails with completion of required items and that is no problem, continue to do so, as I will forward your email to the appropriate DPA Chairman and/or update the All-American Dashboard.

Also, over the next few months, keep in mind as we approach the month of April for Post elections, to send me your Post General Order, as soon as possible, so I can start working on the DPA MEMO ONE. This is especially helpful so I can get the MEMO ONE completed as the DPA Quartermaster uses the Post Quartermaster information to order Buddy Poppies for that year.

The Posts do not need to send me election reports, as National automatically sends me election reports, once the Post Quartermaster accomplishes the election report online through the National OMS.

Thank you.

Jerry Chaplin
Adjutant
Department of Pacific Areas



From the Quartermaster:

Comrades,

Posts/Districts which complete their All-State requirements by April 15 will be recognized at our annual convention in Bangkok this coming June. With that in mind, I've attached a list of all currently know Post and District Commanders as well as Post and District Quartermasters taken from the most recent DPA Memo 1 published by our Adjutant. I know a few of these names are incorrect. That means your Post has not submitted an updated Election Report to National.

If the information for your Post or District is correct, no action is needed. But if there is a position with the wrong name or a missing hat size, PLEASE email me with the correct name and/or hat size. Receiving recognition for a job well done in front of your peers is a worthy endeavor, so please help make sure that those earning this honor are suitably thanked.

There is still time to take advantage of the VFW Foundation's \$1,000 Community Service Grant. If there is a non-profit organization in your community which could use a \$1,000 boost, while giving recognition and credit to the VFW, go the VFW Foundation page and fill out the 2-page application. Send the application to Jason Couch jcouch@vfw.org and it should be approved within days.

Yours in Comradeship,

Pete Callaghan
Quartermaster
Department of Pacific Areas



Post/District	Commander	Quartermaster	CDR hat size--QM hat size
District I	Paul Zackeroff	Tom Quinn	7 ½ -- 7 3/8
Post 9723	same	same	same
District II	William Russell	Robert Moses	7 ¼ -- 7 ¼
Post 1054	Mike Lutman	Ricky Farris	7 ½ -- 7 3/8
Post 9555	Anthony Cohns	Caleb Whitaker	7 ¼ -- 7 3/8
Post 9612	David Vorpahl	David Ingram	-- 7 1/8
District III	Jeffrey Birkle	George Beck	7 1/8 -- 7 3/8
Post 8180	David Gley	Ron Davis	-- 7 ¼
Post 9985	Thomas Dix	Jeffery Birkle	-- 7 1/8
Post 10033	Ken Swierzewski	Richard Hagaman	-- 7 ¼
Post 10223	Michael Mouw	Chris Winstead	-- 7 ½
Post 12147	Larry Lyons	Rick Kinneman	7 1/8 --
District IV	Scott Ellinger	Cleve Stanton	7 ¼ -- 7 ½
Post 9957	same	same	
District V	Randy Riggs	Lou Holub	7 ½ -- 7 1/8
Post 9876	Emmanuel Guarnuccio	Donald Delomba	
Post 9951	Randy Riggs	Jerome Karwaki	7 1/2 -- 6 7/8
Post 10217	Edward Sostack	Joel Pierson	7 5/8 -- 7 ¼
Post 10249	Miles Floit	Delbert Marohl	--
Post 11575	John Muller	Roy Day	7 ½ -- 7 ½
Post 10274	Carl Manchester	Roscoe Butler	-- 7 3/8
Post 12146	Lou Holub	Daniel Morgan	-- 7 1/2
Post 12163	Cherish McNamara	Jason Bitner	-- 7
District VI	Mike O'Kelley	Shawn Watson	6 7/8 -- 7 3/8
Post 1509	Lonnie Clark	Heather Hack	7 ½ --
Post 2917	Brian Merenda	Shawn Watson	-- 7 3/8
Post 3457	Clifford Spencer	Mariano Fajardo	-- 7 1/8

District VII	Wayne St. Onge	Norman Smith	-- 7 ½
Post 124	Joseph Bandao	Fortunato Poyaoan	--
Post 2485	James Collins	Norman Smith	7 -- 7 ½
Post 9892	Robert Reyes	Charles Spain	7 1/4 -- 7 ¼
Post 11447	Donald Robbins	Mike Verville	7 ½ --
Post 12130	Yusuf Nurridin	Robert Stone	7 1/8 --

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		\$174/1,500	\$125/\$50,000 Pd. F*
District I	X	X			X	\$10.50/\$3,000 Pd. F*
1054	X	X	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		X	\$10.50/\$3,000 Pd. F*
8180	X	X	X		\$116/1,000	\$65.00/\$26,000 Pd. F*
9985	X	X			\$116/1,000	\$65.00/\$26,000 Pd. F*
10033	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					\$58/500	\$14.00/\$4,000 Pd. F*
District III	X	X			X	\$14.00/\$4,000 Pd. F*
9957	X	X	X		\$58/500	\$70/\$20,000 Pd. F*
District IV	X	X	X		X	\$52.50/\$15,000 Pd. F*
9876					\$58/500	\$125/\$50,000 Pd. F*
9951	X	X	X		\$58/500	\$35.00/\$10,000 Pd. F*
10217	X	X	X		\$58/500	\$42.00/12,000 Pd. F*
10249	X	X	X		\$58/500	\$52.50/\$15,000 Pd. F*
11575	X	X	X			\$70/\$20,000 Pd. F*
12074	X				\$58/500	\$70.00/\$28,000 Pd. F*
12146	X	X	X		\$58/500	\$175/\$70,000 Pd. F*
12163	X				\$58/500	\$35.00/\$10,000 Pd. F*
District V	X	X	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	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		\$58/500	\$42/\$12,000(x2)Pd. F*
11447	X	X	X		\$58/500	\$31.50/\$9,000 Pd. F*
12130						\$17.50/\$5,000 F*
District VII					X	\$10.50/\$3,000 Pd. F*
*F = Bond application form received.						



From the Chaplain:



**REMEMBERING OUR
SOLDIERS**

Post 12074 - Martin Ballard

Post 12146 - Dayton Robinette

Let us also pray for those who are ill, bed ridden and cannot get out to enjoy the nice weather.

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

Ronald J. Davis
Chaplain
Department of Pacific Areas



From the Judge Advocate:

Comrades,

Over the next two months it will be time to consider nominations and election of officers for both Posts and Districts for 2020-21 term of office. So, in this month's issue I will present questions and render answers on some by-laws and parliamentary procedures concerning the forthcoming elections.

NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS

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

Question: When do nominations commence and for how long?

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Question: Who is eligible to vote at election time?

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

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

Answer: There are two ways to decide a tie which are; 1) the units by-laws specify that in event of a tie vote, the candidates or their nominator or designated representative shall determine the result by lot or coin, or 2) if the by-laws are silent, a motion can be adopted in advance of vote stating in the event of a tie vote for a final choice, the candidates or their representatives or nominator shall decide the result by lot, or toss of the coin. (Note: At conventions normally Rules of Order for the convention will state the second choice and shall be voted at start of the convention.)

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

If you have any questions concerning by-laws and procedures during your upcoming elections you may contact me at advdpa@vfwdeptpacific.org.

Yours in Comradeship,

Robert "Mo" Moses
Judge Advocate
Department of Pacific Areas



From the Surgeon:**Prepare to Panic...Or Not**

Leave your car at home; apply mosquito repellent; avoid snakes; but most importantly, remember to wash your hands frequently.

As the Novel Coronavirus spreads throughout the world, posing a particularly significant threat to those of us in Department of Pacific Areas, I'd like to share a few statistics for consideration:



	Cases	Deaths
Automobile accidents	20-50 million injured or disabled yearly	1.25 million annually
Mosquitos (malaria/dengue)	590 million yearly	825,000 annually
Snake bites	5.4 million yearly	138,000 annually
Seasonal flu	5 million yearly	600,000 annually
NCoronavirus (As of 5 Feb)	21 thousand to date	427 (As of 5 Feb)

I don't provide the above stats to downplay the severity of nCoV, but to allow you to put the risk of infection into perspective. While the new coronavirus ravages much of China and world leaders rush to close their borders to protect citizens from the outbreak, the flu has quietly killed 10,000 in the U.S. alone so far this influenza season. Experts agree that unless you were at ground zero in Wuhan China, the seasonal flu currently poses a much higher risk. Three things you can do to help prevent flu and nCoV infection follow:

Wash your hands frequently- Wash your hands frequently with an alcohol-based hand rub or soap and water. Washing your hands with an alcohol-based hand rub or soap and water kills the virus if it is on your hands.

Avoid touching eyes, nose and mouth- Hands touch many surfaces which can be contaminated with the virus. If you touch your eyes, nose or mouth with your contaminated hands, you can transfer the virus from the surface to yourself.

Maintain social distancing- Maintain at least 1 meter (3 feet) distance between yourself and other people, particularly those who are coughing, sneezing and have a fever. When someone who is infected with a respiratory disease, like nCoV, coughs or sneezes they project small droplets containing the virus. If you are too close, you can breathe in the virus.

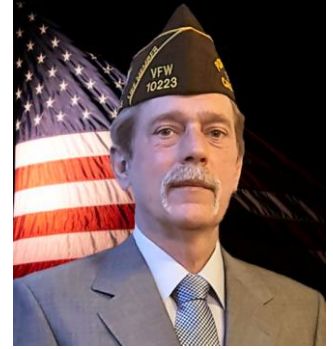
In conclusion, I'd like to reiterate the importance of driving carefully, using insect repellent, avoiding snakes and protecting yourself from the flu by getting a vaccine. Oh, and also beware of falling coconuts (140 deaths annually), lightning with 24,000 deaths annually, tripping and falling at home (6,000 deaths annually) and finally, be sure to dodge flying champagne corks at weddings. Of the nearly two dozen champagne-accident fatalities a year, more than a third occur at weddings.

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,

VFW National has extended the donation deadline for Voice of Democracy, Patriot's Pen and Smart/Maher National Citizenship Education Teacher Award till June 30th, for overseas Posts and Districts. There are still 4 Posts and 1 District who need to donate to qualify for All-State and All-American. To make your donation go to: https://VFWPrograms.formstack.com/forms/vfwprogramsdonation2019_20. Post donation is \$75.00 and District donation is \$100.00 each for Voice of Democracy, Patriot's Pen and each category of the Smart/Maher National Citizenship Education Teacher Award (K-5, 6-8 & 9-12).

If we do not take advantage of this opportunity, we might not see it next year. Please take the opportunity and make your donations to qualify for All-State and All-American soon.

Here are the Posts and the District who still need to make their donations:

District 1 - Elementary School \$100, Middle School \$100 and High School \$100 - Total \$300

Post 9723 - Elementary School \$75, Middle School \$75 and High School \$75 - Total \$225

Post 10249 - VOD \$75, PP \$75, Elementary School \$75, Middle School \$75 and High School \$75 - Total \$375

Post 2917 - Elementary School \$75 and High School \$75 - Total \$150

Post 12130 - VOD \$75, PP \$75, Elementary School \$75, Middle School \$75 and High School \$75 - Total \$375

Comrades, whether you spent hours judging essays or made a donation, remember that your contribution has fostered patriotism and helped to further the education of our youth and future leaders.

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@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	MET/1	MET/1	UNMET	UNMET	UNMET
9723	MET/9	MET/16	UNMET	UNMET	UNMET
District 2	MET/1	MET/1	MET/1	MET/\$100.00	MET/1
1054	MET/\$75.00	MET/73	MET/\$75.00	MET/\$75.00	MET/1
9555	MET/8	MET/\$75.00	MET/\$75.00	MET/\$75.00	MET/\$75.00
9612	MET/13	MET/82	MET/1	MET/\$75.00	MET/\$75.00
District 3	MET/1	MET/1	MET/1	MET/1	MET/1
8180	MET/4	MET/1	MET/1	MET/\$75.00	MET/\$75.00
9985	MET/\$75.00	MET/\$75.00	MET/\$75.00	MET/\$75.00	MET/\$75.00
10033	MET/1	MET/1	MET/1	MET/1	MET/1
10223	MET/10	MET/23	MET/2	MET/2	MET/1
12147	MET/\$75.00	MET/\$75.00	MET/\$75.00	MET/\$75.00	MET/\$75.00
District 4	MET/1	MET/1	MET/\$100.00	MET/1	MET/\$100.00
9957	MET/5	MET/20	MET/\$75.00	MET/1	MET/\$75.00
District 5	MET/1	MET/1	MET/\$100.00	MET/1	MET/1
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	MET/\$75.00	MET/\$75.00	MET/\$75.00	MET/\$75.00	MET/\$75.00
12146	MET/1	MET/1	MET/\$75.00	MET/1	MET/1
12163	MET/\$75.00	MET/\$75.00	MET/\$75.00	MET/\$75.00	MET/\$75.00
District 6	MET/1	MET/1	MET/1	MET/1	MET/1
1509	MET/\$75.00	MET/67	MET/\$75.00	MET/2	MET/\$75.00
2917	MET/18	MET/87	UNMET	MET/1	UNMET
3457	MET/1	MET/19	MET/2	MET/1	MET/1
District 7	MET/\$100.00	MET/\$100.00	MET/\$100.00	MET/\$100.00	MET/\$100.00
124	MET/\$75.00	MET/\$75.00	MET/\$75.00	MET/\$75.00	MET/\$75.00
2485	MET/\$75.00	MET/\$75.00	MET/\$75.00	MET/\$75.00	MET/\$75.00
9892	MET/\$75.00	MET/\$75.00	MET/\$75.00	MET/\$75.00	MET/\$75.00
11447	MET/\$75.00	MET/\$75.00	MET/\$75.00	MET/\$75.00	MET/\$75.00
12130	UNMET	UNMET	UNMET	UNMET	UNMET

From the Life Membership Chairman:

Comrades,

To date, the Department has 10,961 Life Members, an increase of 33 over last month. This includes 191 new Life Members as we move onward and upward. **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	20	4 (\$1600)
1054	26	2 (\$800)
2485	22	2 (1 Life Paid) 1 (\$400)
3457	14	2 (\$800)
9876	8	1 (\$400)
9951	5	1 (\$400)
10223	13	2 (\$800)
11447	26	2 (\$800)
12146	13	2 (\$800)
12147	13	2 (\$800)

In addition, Post 2485 has received \$750 for converting ten (15) Annual Members to Life and Post 11447 received \$250 for converting five (5) Annual Members to Life.

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 Legislative Committee Chairman:

The 2020 election season is now fully upon us. It is imperative that all VFW members participate, not just in November, but as various states hold their primaries. The primaries are for everyone, not just for the presidential candidates. These are also to determine who runs for local, state, and national offices.

The only way we can ensure that our veterans and active duty Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, Marines, and Coastguardsmen are supported is to ensure we elect representatives who understand their duties to those who've served in uniform.

You can find out state-by-state registration cut-off dates for the primaries here:

<https://www.businessinsider.com/how-to-register-to-vote-when-to-register-deadlines>

You can find state-by-state registrations dates for the general election here:

<https://www.vote.org/voter-registration-deadlines/>

Please pass these out at your post meetings and make sure all members register to vote to make their voices heard.

Here are some of the current legislative highlights concerning vets:

- 1. Senate Advances VFW-Supported Mental Health Bill:** On Wednesday, January 29, the Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs held a markup to discuss and advance the VFW-supported [S.785, Commander John Scott Hannon Veterans Mental Health Care Improvement Act of 2019](#), which would improve VA mental health care programs and services for veterans. The bill would also establish two grant programs, one to enable nongovernment entities to provide supportive mental health care services and another to expand telehealth programs such as [Project ATLAS](#). The committee also advanced legislation to improve health care for women veterans, expand transportation grants for veterans who live in rural areas, expand veterans preference for reserve component members, and confirm Judge Grant Jaquith to the Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims. The bills and Judge Jaquith's nomination now await consideration by the full Senate. [Watch the markup](#), which begins at the 21:45 minute mark.
- 2. New Navy Aircraft Carrier to be Named After Doris "Dorie" Miller:** On Monday, January 20, the Navy announced that it will be naming a new aircraft carrier after Mess Attendant 3rd Class Doris Miller. Miller was the first black service member to receive the Navy Cross for valor. On Dec. 7, 1941, during the attack on Pearl Harbor, Miller got his mortally wounded officer to a safer location and manned a machine gun to fire at the Japanese aircraft until he was ordered to leave, even though he had never been trained to operate the machine gun. Miller continued his service in the Navy after the Pearl Harbor attack, he died when the carrier he was serving on was sunk by a Japanese torpedo. [Read more.](#)
- 3. House Approves VA Dental Pilot Program:** On Monday, January 13, the House approved H. J. Res. 80, which would provide congressional approval of the VA Innovation Center's programs to expand access to dental care through pro bono services at community dental clinics. This legislation is now being considered in the Senate.

Comrades, this concludes my report on legislative matters concerning veterans. If you have any questions you may contact me at corter79@hotmail.com.

Yours in Comradeship,

Jonathan Brazee
Legislative Chairman
Department of Pacific Areas



From the Americanism and Loyalty Chairman:

Comrades,

National Salute To Veterans Patients - The week of February 14 is reserved each year as the National Salute to Veterans Patients. The Purpose of the National Salute to Veterans Patients Program is to pay tribute and express appreciation to Veterans, to increase community awareness of the role of the VA medical center and to encourage citizens to visit hospitalized Veterans.

During this time, you have the opportunity to say thank-you to a special group of men and women, the more than 9 million Veterans of the U.S. armed services who are cared for in Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) medical centers, outpatient clinics, domiciliaries, and nursing homes. During the National Salute, VA invites individuals, Veterans groups, military personnel, civic organizations, businesses. Schools, local media, celebrities and sports stars to participate in a variety of activities at the VA medical centers. The activities and events include special ward visits and valentine distributions; photo opportunities, school essay contest, special recreation activities and Veteran recognition programs.

The week also provides an opportunity for the community to become acquainted with the Volunteer opportunities within the medical center.

Presidents Day – Presidents Day falls on Monday, February 17th, and this year will be the 27th annual celebration. The observance of George Washington’s Birthday, February 22nd, 1732, is always the third Monday in February.

The federal holiday is officially recognized as Washington’s Birthday, though the Federal government has never legally changed the holiday to President’s Day. However, where it gets complicated is at the state and local level, as they do not need to abide by Federal holidays. 24 U.S. states recognize President’s Day, 9 recognize Washington’s Birthday and some states do not observe either.

It is up to you as to how you chose to honor this day. As a day to recognize Washington and Lincoln’s birthday or even all American Presidents!!

United States Coast Guard Reserve Birthday - February 19 is the official birthday of the United States Coast Guard Reserve. Set-up in the late 1930s as a “civilian reserve” operation, it was non-military in nature. The Coast Guard Reserve Act of 1939 was the earliest incarnation. The Reserve soon evolved into something much greater than the original authors of the law had envisioned.

The “regular” Coast Guard was founded in 1790. It wasn’t until much later that the Auxiliary and Reserve operations would be added to this branch of military service.

Yours in Comradeship,

Tom Friend
Americanism and Loyalty Chairman
Department of Pacific Areas



From the National Home for Children Chairman:



VFW NATIONAL HOME FOR CHILDREN
Every child deserves a happy family



Comrades,

Well here we are at the beginning of February, so we have 5 more month to go for years this term.

Currently the Donations from the National Home for Children is a little off course we have 1 District and 5 Post that have yet to make their yearly donation.

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. I have only heard from one Post that they were have a problem. Comrades, I cannot assist you if you do not let me know that you are having difficulties in making the donations.

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

National Home Donation Report

Report for District and Post as of 28 January 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	No	
8180	Yes	\$110.00	1509	No	
9985	Yes	\$50.00	2917	No	
10033	No		3457	Yes	\$50.00
10223	Yes	\$50.00	District 7	Yes	\$50.00
12147	Yes	Pacific House	124	No	
District 4	Yes	\$50.00	2485	Yes	\$50.00
9957	Yes	\$50.00	9892	Yes	\$50.00
District 5	Yes	\$50.00	11447	Yes	\$225.00
9876	Yes	\$50.00	12130	Yes	\$50.00
9951	Yes	\$50.00			
Post 12147 Project Pacific House		\$4,000.00	Yokosuka Scouts via Post 1054		\$1,500.00
Dist/Post Total	\$1,560.00	Special Projects	\$5,500.00	Grand Total	\$7,060.00
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 Women's Veterans Chair:

This month, the focus is on the Army. Women have been making an impact and receiving accolades from the beginning of our Nation's history. The Medal of Honor (MOH), our highest award was given to Dr. Mary Walker for her service as a surgeon during the War Between the States. President Andrew Johnson presented the award for her service as a surgeon to the soldiers on the front lines as well as her service while incarcerated in a POW prison in the south. A section of the citation follows: "...faithfully served as contract surgeon in the service of the United States, and has devoted herself with much patriotic zeal to the sick and wounded soldiers, both in the field and hospitals, to the detriment of her own health, and has endured hardships as a prisoner of war four months in a southern prison while acting as contract surgeon...." In 1917, Dr. Walker's MOH along with 900 others, was rescinded. She refused to return the medal and fifty-eight years after her death, U.S. Congress posthumously reinstated her medal, and it was restored by President Carter on June 10, 1977.



Medal of Honor



1860s



WWII



Present Day



Distinguished Service Cross



Silver Star

The second highest award in the Army, established in 1918, the Distinguished Service Cross was created to award acts of heroism that are notable and involve risk of life so extraordinary to set the individual apart from their comrades. Beatrice M. MacDonald was the first of six female nurses to receive this medal for valor while serving during air raids of WWI. Nurse Helen Grace McClelland worked alongside MacDonald and provided the necessary care to MacDonald after she was seriously wounded by a German bomb, consequently losing her right eye. Jane Jeffery, an American Red Cross nurse serving a French military hospital and Army nurses Eva Parmelee, Isabelle Stambaugh and civilian Emma Sloan were also wounded in air raids but continued to care for others.

Virginia Hall was the only female to earn this award during WWII. A member of the U.K.'s clandestine organization Special Operations Executive (SOE), she was the first female agent residing in France. In 15 months, she built the Heckler network in Lyon. She provided: supplies, money, weapons, safe houses, medical assistance to wounded agents and pilots and organized resistance movements. Hall left France to avoid capture but returned in March 1944 to continue her mission of resistance support through training and providing supplies.

The Silver Star, third highest in prestige was first awarded to four nurses for bravery during the battle of Anzio, WWII. While the Army evacuation hospital was under German shellfire, 1st Lt. Mary Roberts, 2d Lt. Elaine Roe, 2d Lt. Rita Virginia Rourke, and 2d Lt. Ellen Ainsworth kept the hospital running as long as possible before finally evacuating 42 patients by flashlight. 60 years later, Sergeant Leigh Ann Hester of the Kentucky National Guard received the Silver Star for actions performed in combat. Hester's 617th Military Police Company was assigned to support a supply convoy near Bagdad which required clearing improvised explosive devices. After coming under attack by insurgents, Hester directed her team to safety, mounted a counter attack resulting in 27 insurgents dead, six wounded and one captured with no fatalities to Hester's unit. Spec. Monica Brown an Army medic, became the first female soldier to receive the Silver Star for combat in Afghanistan in 2008. While under gun fire, Spec. Brown was directly responsible for the medical treatment of five wounded soldiers in her unit after a roadside bomb went off near their convoy of Humvees. It wasn't until 2013 when the Pentagon officially allowed women to serve in combat roles but, sometimes the front lines are blurry.

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<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/>; <https://www.militarytimes.com/off-duty/military-culture/2019/06/14/this-sergeant-became-the-first-woman-in-the-us-army-to-earn-a-silver-star-for-combat-valor/>; http://www.nbcnews.com/id/23547346/ns/us_news-military/t/female-medic-earns-silver-star-afghan-war/#.XjfTybBS_5U

STG1 (SW) Lauren Wanzer
 Women's Veterans Chair



Letters of Intent – 2020-2021 VFW Year



Warren “Max” Maxson

Letter of Intent to run for the office of Junior Vice Commander Department of the Pacific Areas

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 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!