



# 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 April Typhoon  
Are due on 05 April 2020

### DPA Membership Goal: 100%



**No Excuse...**  
**Just Recruit...**



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

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

Comrades,

Membership has taken a nice bump since I last reported to you, and we are now at 98.3%, 202 new members from 100%. Well done, and keep them coming. We are in second place nationally behind only Maryland. Two Posts have joined the others at 100%, Posts 2485 and more recently, 9957, Taiwan. And that makes District 4 the second District at 100%.

We are in a truly difficult period for our great department. With all of the corona virus restrictions on travel, our summer Convention is in jeopardy. My staff and I are looking into several options to hold the Convention as normal as possible. We may have lost the primary hotel, complicating the issue. Depending on the changes between now and convention, here are a few of the options we are considering, dependent on the travel restrictions:



Should travel restrictions remain the same, or improve:

1. Remain in Thailand. Our chairman is actively pursuing another venue in District 5. At present, only District 3 would be unable to attend unless restrictions are lifted. This is assuming we can find another hotel.
2. Shift to another District. Should another venue in Thailand not be located, we may shift to, most likely, District 6 or 7, again, assuming a hotel can be located. Again District 3 would be unable to attend, restrictions dependent.

Should travel restrictions worsen, I.E. Districts 1, 2, 4, and/or 5 be added to the list of restricted countries:

In this case, we will look into the possibility of a massive video teleconference. All Districts will meet in an assigned location within their respective countries, conducting DPA business remotely via Video Teleconference. My concern here would be elections and swearing in of the new Commander.

Convention is three months away, and things are guaranteed to change multiple times. I'm sure most have seen the news reports. I have seen some having it peak in April, and some saying mid-summer. But we are actively seeking a solution. I would suggest holding off on purchasing tickets until a decision is made. I anticipate making a final determination by April 30.

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,

Since our last newsletter we had some sad news. We lost a great American, and an outstanding leader and mentor in our Department. I'm referring to Past National Council Member, Past Department Commander, Past District 7 Commander, and Past Post 2485 Commander Bob Zaher.

RIP Bob.

Comrades, your hard work in recruiting new members, converting annual members to life, as well as ensuring annual members renew their membership, has resulted in our Department being only 227 members short of reaching our goal of 100% in membership. Currently we are at 98.09%.

We can accomplish our goal with a formulated plan of action and a commitment to getting the job done. I have full confidence in your abilities and dedication.

The latest MEMSTATS can be found at the bottom of this report.

We assisted a homeless veteran in Cambodia last month with a Veterans Assistance Grant. The next step is to get this Veteran suffering from PTSD back to the U.S. in order for him to receive the treatment he earned. The U.S. Embassy in Phnom Penh is working on an airline ticket to get him back to the U.S. Great work by the leadership and members at Post 11575 Phnom Penh.

To ensure our information is current regarding your All State status please check with your District Commander who has a spread sheet of MET and UNMET requirements. Also you can always email me directly if you have a question or concern. The way to ensure you are receiving credit for your donations or for completion of other requirements is to notify the Department Chairman with a copy to me.

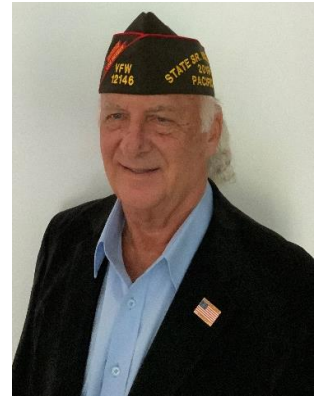
For All American Status please check the All American Dashboard on the National website, [www.vfw.org](http://www.vfw.org) <<http://www.vfw.org>>.

Please take care and look out for each other, it's our responsibility, our job, and our privilege. During the current health crisis involving COVID-19, take extra precautions and continue to keep an eye on your fellow Vets.

Best regards.

Yours in comradeship and service to veterans,

Kenneth A. Stein  
Senior Vice Commander  
Department of Pacific Areas



## MEMSTAT

Post	Dst	Life	New	Reinst	Cont	Total	Adjusted Prior Year*	Percent	Div	RS	City	State	N/R LM	Prior Annual	Retention	N/R %	
9723	1	696	1	0	20	717	728	98.48%	3		OKINAWA	JAPAN		5	32	68.75%	0.82%
0	1	696	1	0	20	717	728	98.48%	6				5	0	0.00%	0.82%	
1054	2	789	3	0	10	802	797	100.62%	2		YOKOSUKA CITY	JAPAN		26	31	35.48%	3.64%
9555	2	347	1	1	8	357	355	100.56%	4		YOKOTA AFB	JAPAN		1	10	80.00%	0.85%
9612	2	511	4	0	7	522	543	96.13%	3		CAMP ZAMA	JAPAN		12	42	23.81%	2.95%
0	2	1647	8	1	25	1681	1695	99.17%	4				39	0	0.00%	2.83%	
8180	3	1637	26	55	94	1812	1901	95.31%	1		SONGTAN-SI	KOREA		4	264	31.44%	4.47%
9985	3	208	42	1	26	277	288	96.18%	4		TONGDUCHON-UP	KOREA		2	77	28.57%	15.63%
10033	3	491	12	1	9	513	528	97.15%	3		TAEGU	KOREA		2	32	37.50%	2.84%
10223	3	352	15	2	12	381	425	89.64%	3		CAMP HUMPHREYS	KORE		16	99	17.17%	7.76%
12147	3	210	55	0	21	286	277	103.24%	4		SEONGNAM	KOREA		13	82	34.15%	24.55%
0	3	2898	150	59	162	3269	3419	95.61%	2				37	0	0.00%	7.20%	
9957	4	336	0	0	0	336	340	98.82%	4		TAIPEI	TAIWAN		0	0	100.00%	0.00%
0	4	336	0	0	0	336	340	98.82%	6				0	0	0.00%	0.00%	
9876	5	348	1	0	20	369	399	92.48%	3		PATTAYA CITY	THAILA		9	52	50.00%	2.51%
9951	5	236	6	0	17	259	248	104.43%	4		BANGKOK	THAILAND		5	24	75.00%	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	1	1	13	123	124	99.19%	7		PHNOM PENH	CAMBODIA		2	18	72.22%	3.23%
12074	5	99	5	0	8	112	108	103.70%	8		CHIANG MAI	THAILAND		1	12	66.67%	5.56%
12146	5	214	3	2	4	223	203	109.85%	5		BAN CHANG	RAYONG TH		14	11	63.64%	9.36%
12163	5	50	0	0	1	51	59	86.44%	10		PERTH	WESTERN AUSTR		0	15	13.33%	0.00%
0	5	1426	18	3	88	1535	1545	99.35%	4				33	0	0.00%	3.50%	
1509	6	273	2	1	7	283	299	94.64%	4		YIGO	GUAM		2	24	20.83%	1.67%
2917	6	193	8	1	5	207	218	94.95%	5		AGAT	GU	5	35	22.86%	6.42%	
3457	6	305	5	0	13	323	315	102.53%	4		SAIPAN	CNMI		16	27	55.56%	6.67%
0	6	771	15	2	25	813	832	97.71%	6				23	0	0.00%	4.81%	
124	7	225	0	0	0	225	199	113.06%	5		BAGUIO CITY	PHILIPPI		20	0	100.00%	10.05%
2485	7	1643	10	0	32	1685	1684	100.05%	1		ANGELES CITY	PHILIP		26	60	70.00%	2.14%
9892	7	241	0	0	1	242	241	100.41%	5		BAUANG	LA UNION PHIL		1	3	33.33%	0.41%
11447	7	541	0	0	13	554	532	104.13%	3		SUBIC BAY	PHILIPPIN		33	18	100.00%	6.20%
12130	7	71	1	0	5	77	96	80.20%	8		CEBU	PHILIPPINES		2	22	22.73%	3.13%
0	7	2721	11	0	51	2783	2752	101.12%	3				82	0	0.00%	3.38%	
15055	99	502	14	0	24	540	585	92.30%	3		PACIFIC AREAS	PI	4	0	0.00%	3.08%	
0	99	502	14	0	24	540	585	92.30%	6				4	0	0.00%	3.08%	
0	255	10997	217	65	395	11674	11896	98.13%					223	0	0.00%	4.25%	



## From the Junior Vice Commander:

Hello Comrades,

The month of February was another strong month for CSR's and thanks to all for your continued work in our communities. Looking over some of the activities the Department has done throughout the year only proves your commitment to our Veterans, families, communities and because **it's the right thing to do!!!**

Reminder it is time for our Post Commanders to start focusing on our annual Awards Program. Categories are on the DPA Website under "DPA Forms". **District Commanders should review all Packages prior to them being submitted to me no later than May 1st.** Please remember this year for the Outstanding Post Award, we will have four (4) Divisions ranked by Membership size so I hope this will give incentives to Posts to submit a Package. Please do not, REPEAT, do not get confused with the Community Post Service Award because it is completely different!!!

I would like to thank the Comrades of Post 2485 for selecting me to give the eulogy for departed Comrade Robert William Zaher on February 25th. We all know Bob's contributions to his Post, District, and our Department was truly amazing!! He was a one of a kind who will be sorely missed!!!

In closing, for those you celebrate I would like to wish you a nice and safe St. Patrick's Day. I am sure the beer will be **GREEN!!!** Our government is doing everything possible with the Coronavirus as far as providing information, protecting our citizens and treating the affected, so if you must travel, please be safe but do not panic!!! All the best to you and your families and communities. May God continue to bless to good ole USA...I love you all!!!!

Yours in Comradeship,

Kevin E. Mitchell  
Junior Vice Commander 2019-20  
Department of Pacific Areas  
"It's The Right Thing to Do"  
[jvcdpa@vfwdeptpacific.org](mailto:jvcdpa@vfwdeptpacific.org)



CSR Reports as of 4 March 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			152
1054	2	17	4	25	20	25	22	16	34	50	18			231
9555		48	19	20	26	15	22	26	11	19	24			230
9612		12	15	3	3	7	24	15	4	9	23			115
8180	3	38	5	7	13	7	6	18	7	4	9			114
9985		10	9	9	13	14	10	8	7	11	8			99
10033		4	5	4	3	4	4	5	5	3	5			42
10223		20	5	7	4	5	4	4	4	3	5			61
12147		18	15	7	7	6	9	11	6	0	4			83
9957	4	12	4	4	6	4	4	3	3	5	4			49
9876	5	2	1	13	12	4	10	13	3	9	9			76

<b>9951</b>		28	33	40	30	21	22	25	6	15	17			<b>237</b>
<b>10217</b>		28	32	26	35	43	35	53	43	45	38			<b>378</b>
<b>10249</b>		8	6	5	4	5	5	3	3	4	7			<b>50</b>
<b>11575</b>		3	6	5	4	9	16	13	17	3	3			<b>79</b>
<b>12074</b>		0	3	10	3	3	3	3	5	9	13			<b>52</b>
<b>12146</b>		7	7	3	11	12	15	2	15	12	11			<b>95</b>
<b>12163</b>		18	23	8	24	14	12	53	14	5	0			<b>171</b>
<b>1509</b>	<b>6</b>	3	3	17	5	8	15	3	3	3	1			<b>61</b>
<b>2917</b>		64	118	129	94	161	156	71	85	125	89			<b>1092</b>
<b>3457</b>		6	9	14	6	7	3	10	11	7	9			<b>82</b>
<b>124</b>	<b>7</b>	20	15	17	16	16	17	20	21	31	13			<b>186</b>
<b>2485</b>		120	111	119	97	107	121	107	104	107	102			<b>1095</b>
<b>9892</b>		87	83	65	85	85	87	85	85	96	62			<b>820</b>
<b>11447</b>		31	59	34	20	43	48	62	35	36	25			<b>393</b>
<b>12130</b>		0	0	0	2	2	6	0	0	1	2			<b>13</b>
<b>Total</b>		<b>530</b>	<b>524</b>	<b>610</b>	<b>559</b>	<b>647</b>	<b>687</b>	<b>639</b>	<b>554</b>	<b>642</b>	<b>516</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5908</b>

## From the Junior Past Department Commander:

Comrades,

Way to go DPA Team! Membership continues to move forward at a steady pace. The remainder of the year gets tougher. The DPA is once again among the leaders (2<sup>nd</sup> Place) at VFW National with 98.19%. The last 2% is the most difficult – but our DPA Team has always been up to the task and I am sure they will Get It Done because it is the Right Thing to Do.

We lost a great friend and comrade in February with the death of Past National Councilman and Past Department Commander Robert W. “Bob” Zaher. He was a mentor to many of us – but most of all he was my friend! I wish Lenae and her family condolences from myself and my wife Minda. My 9-year-old grand baby Mikki was always excited to see Lolo Bob and the morning of the funeral asked me: “Papu – is Lolo Bob in Heaven with God?” I told her yes! She said tell him good bye and ask him to say Hi to God!” Some times Our Children are smarter than the adults. May you Rest In Peace my friend and continue to watch over all of us.



We are less than 3 months out from the DPA Convention. The Online Registration is up and running. Let's make this one of the best DPA Conventions in history when we get to Bangkok!

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

Yours in Comradeship and Service,

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

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

Commander and Comrades,

Well, the response to the Convention and Convention Book is slightly slower than normal. We are hoping to hear from everyone soon. I had sent out a contract and sign up document to help keep your contacts organized. I would like to remind the Posts and District regarding the Convention Book that the deadline for submission will be 1 May 2020. So, we only have about 60 days to complete the task at hand. If you have any questions or concerns regarding the convention book, please contact me at new email [cbcdpa@vfwpacific.org](mailto:cbcdpa@vfwpacific.org) or [vfwdistrict5deptac@gmail.com](mailto:vfwdistrict5deptac@gmail.com)



### ***The following are the Book Ad Prices:***

1 Page, Color	\$200	½ Page, Color	\$100.00
Business Cards	\$10.00	Booster Ads	\$2.00

### **DPA Convention 13 – 17 June 2020 in Bangkok Thailand:**

As some of our Comrade might have found out that the registration page is being maintained on the new DPA website. The website menus are currently off, but the registration activity is fully functional. To access the registration page, you will need a login – go to the upper right corner select LOGIN. Select Members Only -- Please use your VFW Post number for Member ID# and password. If you are a guest of a VFW Member; please use Guest / Guest. In the comments section, indicate the guest you will be accompanying. Follow the links and enter your information. If you don't have the flight information, but still want your registration to be submitted – this is not a problem. The system will allow for information to be added at a later date without affecting the first entry. You may send your flight details new email [convention@vfwpacific.org](mailto:convention@vfwpacific.org) or [vfwdistrict5deptac@gmail.com](mailto:vfwdistrict5deptac@gmail.com); which will then be added to the original form.

***Convention shirts are at the Embroidery shop, getting the finishing touches.  
Here is an example of the shirt designs.***



Front



Right



Left

We are hoping for a big turnout in Bangkok, as we have not hosted a Department Convention in over 9 years. The hotel will have a new venue for guests and completion date is scheduled for 1 April. If you need any considerations for the hotel or VFW Convention staff; please put in the comments section of your registration or contact me at the below email address.

Yours in Comradeship,

Randy Riggs  
2020 Convention / Convention Book Chairman  
[convention@vfwpacific.org](mailto:convention@vfwpacific.org)  
Department of Pacific Areas

## ***From the Outreach Chairman:***

Comrades:

Our Outreach efforts continue to grow thanks to the initiative of our members. This month I would like to highlight an Outreach event arranged and conducted by Department ADSO Mike Castro. Mike met with 15 Veterans who are members of the Student Veterans of America Tokyo Chapter, attending Temple University Tokyo, Japan. He acquainted them with VFW programs and services, the benefits of VFW membership, and assisted a number of them with VA benefits issues and actions. When planning Outreach events always include your Service Officer, he will be the focus of attention.



We have again been asked to participate in a Veterans Outreach event sponsored by Manila Elks Veterans Affairs Committee at their Lodge in Makati, Metro Manila in March. The first of these events in August of last year was very successful, and we are hopeful the upcoming event we be even better attended. Several of us will be going to assist and highlight VFW programs and services for Veterans. This has worked out well for us, as we have no Post in the Metro Manila area or southern Luzon.

The US Embassies in some of our host nations sponsor US citizen services Outreach events periodically in those areas with US resident populations, and not located near the Embassy or a Consulate. We have been usually successful in gaining approval to participate and assist in these events. In most cases Embassy personnel are pleased to have our participation, to assist with Veterans services questions and providing general information.

If I can be of assistance in the planning or conduct of Outreach Events, please contact me at [pdcgilbert@vfwdeptpacific.org](mailto:pdcgilbert@vfwdeptpacific.org) or [johngphil@gmail.com](mailto:johngphil@gmail.com)

Yours in Comradeship & Service,

John Gilbert  
Outreach Chairman  
Department of Pacific Areas

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

Comrades,

Post elections are only a month away. When it comes to choosing someone to handle your Post's assets, please choose a comrade who is not afraid to ask questions, who will protect your money and property as if it were his own, and one who is open and straightforward in dealing with your assets. Spending is easy. Spending wisely takes thought and planning.

My good and sorely missed friend, Bob Zaher, once told me, "Never put a broke guy in charge of the money." The temptations are too plentiful. Wise words from a wise man.



The Department's finances are running slightly behind last year. At the end of February we have about \$3,000 less than we had at the end of February, 2019. And last year overall we had close to a \$1,000 deficit in spending vs. income. So this may require some adjustments as the year progresses. We MAY have to exclude paying for ground transportation to the Department Convention. Of course, that is our Commander's call, and he will be informed of our progress as we get closer to the Convention.

We could also consider stopping Life Member stipends once the budgeted amount of \$20,000 is reached. Through February, we have paid out \$11,250 (including annual to Life payouts), so there is still a long way to go.



Our Mid-Term C of A went over budget as the cost of airfare rises every year. That's the reason for our current deficit. And it looks like the convention meeting rooms in June are going to cost more than usual. But I am keeping a close eye on spending and hopefully things will even out as we go along. But hope is not a plan; that's why I am mentioning possible alternatives now.

There are still a few Post which have not submitted ANY Quarterly audits for this VFW year – six, to be exact – so District Commanders, please give a nudge to the recalcitrant Posts in your District.

The response to last month's request to get hat sizes for potential All State Commanders and Quartermasters was spectacularly underwhelming. There was only one update to all the unknowns on the hat size chart. So here's the deal. If you are on track to make All State this year and you would like to receive your hat at the Convention, please check the chart below and update your hat size. I would appreciate it. Thanks.

We are doing a great job recruiting new and returned members this year. Keep up the good work, and let's hit 100% in April.

Yours in Comradeship,

Pete Callaghan  
Quartermaster  
Department of Pacific Areas

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

AUDITS SUBMITTED	JUNE '19	SEP '19	DEC '19	MAR '20	BUDDY POPPIES ORDERED '19-'20	QM BOND ORDERED 2019-'20
9723	X	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		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	X	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	X	X		X	\$10.50/\$3,000 Pd. F*
*F = Bond application form received.						

## HAT SIZES

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 ¼	--	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 ½	--	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 ¼	--	7 ¼
Post 11447	Donald Robbins	Mike Verville	7 ½	--	
Post 12130	Yusuf Nurridin	Robert Stone	7 1/8	--	



*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. Yours in Comradeship and Service to Veterans. Email me at [chapdpa@vfwdeptpacific.org](mailto:chapdpa@vfwdeptpacific.org) or at [davisronald738@gmail.com](mailto:davisronald738@gmail.com)

Ronald J. Davis  
Chaplain  
Department of Pacific Areas

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

Comrades,

In this month's issue I will discuss policy and procedures that pertain to delegates to District Convention meetings and the Department Convention. Also, will render a heads up on office reelection installation prior to the Department Convention and end my article with notice concerning election reports.

### **Delegates for Conventions & Meetings**

The following are some questions with answers and comments that concern delegates to both the District Convention / meetings and Department Convention ~



Question: How many members can one delegate or alternate represent for a Post in the District election?

Answer: Delegate strength shall be one for every thirty members or fraction thereof in good standing in a Post.

Comments:

The below references will explain the answer.

Refer to National Manual Sec. 222 – Delegates, paragraph (a), where the Post delegates and alternates to the District shall be elected at a regular meeting of the Post held not less than thirty (30) days prior to the District Convention with one delegate and alternate for each thirty members or fraction thereof in good standing in the Post at the time of the election. The District QM shall verify the delegate strength of each Post using the month-end membership report immediately prior to the convening of the convention.

Refer to National By-Laws, Sec. 421 – Voting, and you will see each delegate shall have one vote only and may vote his share of delegate strength at a District Convention or meeting. E.g., if the prior month ending Post membership was 195 members then the Post delegate strength would be  $195 \div 30 = 7$  delegate strength. The Post then elects its delegates at a regular meeting at least thirty (30) days prior to the District Convention and writes a letter signed by the Post Commander indicating names of delegates (1 to 7 names) and alternates as deemed necessary. The letter is then submitted to the District Adjutant in a timely manner and updated when necessary during the ensuing year. If only one delegate is present at a meeting / convention they may cast one vote with delegate strength of 7. Should more delegates be present they would cast pro-rata share of the total voting strength.

Note: For the purpose of Sec. 421 the Post Commander shall be considered a delegate.

Question: Can one delegate vote the entire Post delegate strength?

Answer: Yes, see the above references and comment hereto.

Comment:

Refer to National By-Law, Sec. 421 – Voting, where it states; "The delegate or delegates of a Post present at a District Convention or meeting shall be entitled to vote the full delegate strength to which the Post is entitled".

Question: If I'm the only Post member at a District Convention or meeting, can I vote?

Answer: Yes, as long as, a signed delegate letter has been submitted to the District indicating that you are a delegate or alternate.

Question: Can a Post Commander at the Department Convention vote a pro rata share of the Post delegate strength?

Answer: Yes, a Post Commander has the option to vote as a delegate rather than Post Commander, but not both.



Comment:

Refer to National By-Laws, 521 – Voting. The Post Commander, or the SVC or JVC Commander functioning in his place as a member of the Convention, may at his option, choose to vote as a delegate rather than as a Post Commander.

Question: Are there any differences between policy and procedures concerning delegates for District Convention / meetings and a Department Convention?

Answer: There is not much difference in the National By-Laws and Manual, Sec. 222, paragraphs (a) and (b), as the policy and procedure are similar indicating both requiring Posts to elect delegates and alternates not less than thirty (30) days prior to convention, with one delegate and alternate for each thirty members or fraction thereof in good standing in the Post at the time of election.

Comment:

The only difference is that Department By-Laws, Section 403 – Delegates, does indicate Posts in attendance at a Department Convention shall pay a Per Capita Tax (delegate registration fee) of \$6 per authorized vote (delegate strength based on 30 members) prior to voting. This tax will be submitted with a delegate letter prior to or at the Convention.

Heads Up – Post Installation This is a reminder to Posts that current policy pursuant to National By-Laws and Manual of Procedure indicates that an officer-elect needs to be installed prior to the Department Convention. Please review the following section from the Manual of Procedures:

Sec. 217-- Nomination, Election, Installation and Term of Office. (Manual)

Installation of Officers. The Post Commander-elect will select the installing officer who holds or has held a rank at least as high as that of Post Commander. Post officers shall be installed in their respective offices prior to the convening of the Department Convention, but shall not assume their duties until the Department Commander is installed. The installation may be conducted publicly at an open meeting.

An officer-elect who may be absent for good and sufficient reason or cause may be installed at any regular or special meeting prior to the Department convention. If not then installed, the office will automatically become vacant.

Comment:

In the aforementioned paragraph an officer-elect if not installed prior to the Convention will have to go through the process again of nomination, election and be duly installed at a regular or special meeting.

#### Election Reports

Report of Elections 2019-2020 should be submitted in a timely manner as follows:

Posts – June 1st National and copy to Department and District.

Districts – Prior to convening of the Department Convention and National.

Department – Prior to convening the National Convention.

This concludes my article for this month and if you have any questions concerning the by-laws and procedures please feel free to contact me at: [advdpa@vfwdeptpacific.org](mailto:advdpa@vfwdeptpacific.org)

Yours in Comradeship,

Robert “Mo” Moses  
Judge Advocate  
Department of Pacific Areas

## ***From the Surgeon:***

### **Wash, Bow-Wai-Wave or Salute & Stay Informed**

**If efforts to contain COVID-19 are successful, our chances of being infected at all will be low. If efforts to contain the virus fail, most of the world's population could be infected eventually. COVID-19 could infect between 40% and 70% of the population worldwide in the coming year, according to Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health epidemiologist.**



Additionally, indications are that people with diabetes and other chronic medical conditions, such as cardiovascular disease (CVD), will have a worse prognosis if they become infected with COVID-19. There is also evidence that diabetes may increase risk for infection from COVID-19 two- to threefold, independently of other medical problems, such as CVD. So, what can we do?

The best defense is to wash your hands frequently with soap and water. Use alcohol-based sanitizer when soap & water is not available. Do not touch your face, nose or eyes with unclean hands.

Avoid non-essential large gatherings & give yourself 3-6 feet of personal space. COVID-19 is primarily spread through respiratory droplets, which means to become infected, people generally must be within six feet of someone who is contagious and come into contact with these droplets.

Avoid unnecessary contact with others and do not shake hands. Here in the Department of Pacific Areas we have many alternatives - Bow, Wai, Wave, or Salute!

Clean all common-use areas and items- think door knobs, elevator buttons, light switches, faucet handles and other shared surfaces.

What about masks? Masks do help to stop the spread of infection so they can help if someone who is actively sick wears them. However, when it comes to COVID-19, it is unclear how effective protective masks are. Currently the CDC does not recommend masks for healthy individuals.

Stay informed with reliable sources:

- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) [www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html)
- World Health Organization (WHO) [www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019](https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019)
- Travel tips and advisories U.S. Department of State travel advisory map <https://travelmaps.state.gov/TSGMap>
- CDC's Coronavirus Disease 2019 Information for Travel [www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/index.html](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/index.html)

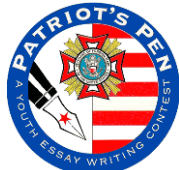
Stay healthy and I hope we can get this under wraps by our June convention.

Yours in comradeship & well-being,

Brian J. Hamic  
DPA 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 30<sup>th</sup>, for overseas Posts and Districts.** There are only 2 Posts remaining 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](https://VFWPrograms.formstack.com/forms/vfwprogramsdonation2019_20). Post donation is \$75.00 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 who still need to make their donations:

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

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

Have you heard the Department of Pacific Areas 2019-2020 Voice of Democracy winner yet? Listen to Sienna Bertamini's winning Audio Essay on "What Makes America Great" by following this link: [Listen to the VOD winning audio essay](#).

Did you read the Department of Pacific Areas 2019-2020 Patriot's Pen winner yet? Read Camillah Mariano's winning Essay on "What Makes America Great" by following this link: [Read the PP winning essay](#)

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@vfwdeptpacific.org](mailto:vodppdpa@vfwdeptpacific.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	MET/\$100.00	MET/\$100.00	MET/\$100.00
9723	MET/9	MET/16	MET/\$75.00	MET/\$75.00	MET/\$75.00
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	MET/\$75.00	MET/1	MET/\$75.00
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 10,995 Life Members, an increase of 34 over last month. This includes 223 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:

<b>Post</b>	<b>Total N/R LM Recruited</b>	<b>Awards</b>
124	20	4 (\$1600)
1054	26	2 (\$800)
2485	26	2 (1 Life Paid) 1 (\$400)
3457	16	3 (\$1200)
9612	12	1 (\$400)
9876	9	1 (\$400)
9951	5	1 (\$400)
10223	16	3 (\$1200)
11447	33	3 (\$1200)
12146	14	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 \$500 for converting five (10) 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 Americanism and Loyalty Chairman:***

Comrades,

**Women's History Month** – March is Women's History Month and well over 200,000 women serve on active duty in the U.S. military and the number of women that are retired or are veterans raise that number much higher! The contribution of women to military history cannot be ignored. While Women's History Month isn't a time to focus exclusively on the contributions of women in the military service, the contributions of female veterans are certainly an important part of American history.



There are many observances which happen as base-level events and as community-wide observations. Overall, the U.S. military makes a serious effort to raise the awareness level of this most important occasion by paying respect to women who have made history whether serving in the military or not.

**National Medal of Honor Day** – National Medal of Honor Day is observed every year on March 25 and is dedicated to Medal of Honor Recipients. Each branch of the U.S. military awards the Medal of Honor to those who have distinguished themselves "conspicuously by gallantry and intrepidity" above and beyond the call of duty!

The Army Medal of Honor was created in 1862 thanks to a resolution introduced by the Senate Committee on Military Affairs, Senator Henry Wilson. In 1915, Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard members were authorized to receive the Medal of Honor, and by the mid-1960s the United States Air Force introduced its version of the "Medal".

The Medal of Honor is awarded only to military members; it is awarded by Congress and is also known as the Congressional Medal of Honor. National Medal of Honor Day is a time to remember the sacrifices of men and women in uniform who have earned this highest of military honors.

**Hug A G.I. Day** – March 4<sup>th</sup> is recognized by many as Hug A G.I. Day. This FUN, one day recognition of troops serving all over the world didn't get its start with a Congressional charter, a House Resolution, or a Presidential proclamation.

This holiday was started by a private citizen and has since made national headlines and become a part of the informal national holiday calendar.

The person responsible for making March 4<sup>th</sup> a special day to remember those in uniform comes courtesy of Adrienne Sioux Koopersmith, the self proclaimed "Premier Eventologist" of America.

One day out of 365 is recognized as "Hug A G.I. Day" but why stop at one day? Give a G.I. a hug no matter what day it is!!

Yours in Comradeship,

Tom Friend  
Americanism and Loyalty Chairman  
Department of Pacific Areas



## ***From the Safety Chairman:***



### **WORK SAFETY: RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

As a worker, you have a legal right to:

- A safe and healthful workplace
- Any information your employer has about any exposure you may have had to hazards such as toxic chemicals or noise. You also have a right to any medical records your employer has concerning you.
- To ask your employer to correct dangerous conditions.
- To file a complaint about workplace hazards: Call OSHA at 207-626-9160
- To participate in enforcement inspections.
- To not be discriminated against for exercising your health and safety rights. Your employer may not fire you, threaten you, harass you, or treat you differently for exercising your health and safety rights.
- To refuse work that puts you in immediate danger of serious harm. Before you refuse unsafe work, request that your employer eliminate the hazard and make it clear that you will accept an alternate assignment. The OSHA regulation only protects you if the danger can be proven to exist; if you refuse to work because you believe a condition is hazardous, but are proved wrong, OSHA does not protect you.
- To information on hazards in your workplace; chemicals used in your workplace; tests your employer has done to measure chemical, noise and radiation levels; and what to do if you or other employees are involved in an incident or are exposed to other toxic substances.
- To information from your employer about OSHA standards, worker injuries and illnesses, job hazards and workers' rights.
- To training from your employer
  - on chemicals you are exposed to during your work and information on how to protect yourself from harm.
  - on other health and safety hazards and standards that your employer must follow.

**As a worker, it is your responsibility to:**

- Read the workplace safety and health poster at the jobsite.
- Comply with all applicable OSHA and safety standards.
- Follow all lawful employer safety and health rules and regulations, and wear or use required protective equipment while working.
- Report hazardous conditions to the employer
- Report any job-related injury or illness to the employer, and seek treatment promptly.

Yours in Comradeship!

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

## From the National Home for Children Chairman:

Comrades,

March has come in with a big Bang here in Japan. With just a few more month to go we will be at the DPA Convention in Bangkok Thailand. Hope to see everyone there.

The following District and Post have yet to make the Donation to the National Home for Children. District 6, and Post 10033, 10249, 1509, 2917 and 124. If any of you have made the Donation please let me know as this is coming from the report that I receive in from the NH. Reminder if you have made the Donation on a personal Credit Card and did not check the Box "THIS GIFT IS FROM AN ORGANIZATION"

You will then need to type in your District or Post number. This way the NH will give credit and not to the person submitting the 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. Comrades, I cannot assist you if you do not let me know.

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 25 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
<b>Dist/Post Total</b>	<b>\$1,560.00</b>	<b>Special Projects</b>	<b>\$5,500.00</b>	<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$7,060.00</b>
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](mailto:nhcdpa@vfwdeptpacific.org)

*The VFW National Home for Children serves as a living memorial to America's Veterans by helping our nation's veteran and military families during difficult times.*

Yours in Comradeship,

Randell E. Himes  
[nhcdpa@vfwdeptpacific.org](mailto:nhcdpa@vfwdeptpacific.org)



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





## From the Women's Veterans Chair:

Since 1981, the United States has recognized the contributions of women during March. It started as a weeklong celebration that was expanded to an entire month in 1987 after a petition by the National Women's History Project. International Women's Day, March 8 is recognized in the United Kingdom, USA, and Australia, who since 2000, also celebrate Women's accomplishments during March. Canada began recognizing influential Women on the 18<sup>th</sup> of October in commemoration of the Persons Case (18OCT1928) which established gender equality when running for political positions; expanding to a month-long program occurred in 1992. In the spirit of living in the 7<sup>th</sup> Fleet Area of Operations, I conducted some interviews of Active Duty and Retired Naval Veterans. I was interested in why they joined, and what they have experienced that really impacted their career or motivated them to stay in the Armed Forces. As an Active Duty member of the VFW, I wanted to see if other countries had Veterans organizations and if it was something they were a member.



Master Seaman Andrea Chabassol, 9 years in Royal Canadian Navy (RCN). Her grandfather served in WWII and was motivated to join out of familial pride and patriotism. An event that Master Seaman Chabassol participated in that she was most proud was Nanook 2012. Simulated scenarios at 2 locations, the Hudson Bay and the Western Arctic, N 12 was a joint operation event with over 1250 participants from the Canadian Army, Navy, Air Force and Special Operations as well as international participants from the Royal Danish Navy and US Coast Guard. She is a Canadian Legion Member.



LT Cassy Van Rythoven, 19 years in Royal Australian Navy (RAN). In early 2000, LT Rythoven was looking for a job straight away, the promise of travel and patriotic duty sent her to the RAN. While conducting a nine month counter-terrorism and maritime security operation in the Middle East onboard the HMAS Warramunga (FFH 152) they had a record seizure of over 30 tons of hashish and two tons of heroin worth an estimated AU\$2 billion. She is aware of The Returned and Services League, Australia (RSL) but, is not a member.



LCDR Kathleen H. Wilson (RET), 21 years in US Navy Reserves (USNR). Her father was an HMC at Guadalcanal and thought joining the Navy would be fun. "Best time of my Life". While onboard the USNS Merci, she was proud to serve during the 2008 Pacific Partnership Cruise to Mindanao, Philippines. Their mission was to provide essential medical services to the local population. Former Fleet Reserve Association annual member.



PO3 Tomoko Sasaki Yokoo, 10 years in Japanese Maritime Self-Defense Force (JMSDF). Her motivation for joining was for a better salary with the option to go abroad and travel. PO3 Yokoo's favorite duty station was in Okinawa supporting the fleet because of friends made but, really enjoyed doing Public Relations in Kobe, Japan. Was unaware of Suikokai or Kaikosha (1877), originally established for retired Navy and Army Officers.

### Works Cited:

<https://www.canada.ca/en/departement-national-defence/services/operations/military-operations/current-operations/operation-nanook.html>;  
<https://navaltoday.com/2018/07/09/australian-frigate-home-after-seizing-over-33-tons-of-narcotics/>;  
<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kaikosha>  
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Edwards\\_v\\_Canada\\_\(AG\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Edwards_v_Canada_(AG)); [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Women%27s\\_History\\_Month](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Women%27s_History_Month)

STG1 (SW) Lauren Wanzer  
 Women's Veterans Chair  
 Department of Pacific Areas

## *From the Roving Ambassador:*

Comrade Commander and Comrades of the Department of Pacific Areas,

First I wish to convey my heartfelt condolences to the family and friends for the recent passing of Bob Zaher who is now serving with the Supreme Commander.

I had either visited with and/or attended meetings during February 2020 to include the following:

VFW Post 1924 Fallbrook District 1 California  
VFW Post 1513 Escondido District 1 California  
VFW Post 7041 Vista District 1 California  
American Legion Post 775 Fallbrook District 22 California  
American Legion Post 149 Escondido District 22 California  
American Legion Post 365 Vista District 22 California  
American Legion Post 24 Tombstone Arizona  
AMVETS Post 1775 La Mesa District 1 California

08-09 Feb 2020 participated in the North County Veterans Stand Down which is a four-day event (I attended two days due to work) that enables homeless veterans to receive much-needed services in a safe, friendly, drug-free, and secure environment held at Green Oak Ranch in Vista, California every year. We grow a little every year and we had 579 Veterans and their families at the Stand Down this year. During their stay at the Stand Down, veterans, their families and their pets will receive lodging, food, clothing, and a variety of services to help them both physically and mentally. It is our goal to show respect and help give our homeless veterans the confidence and the services needed that will help rebuild their lives, get them off the streets, and into permanent housing.



Yours in comradeship and service,

Joe Mortimer  
Roving Ambassador  
Department of Pacific Areas



## ***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 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

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***See you in the next edition!***