

# THE PACIFIC TIMES

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF PACIFIC AREAS



No One Does More for Veterans  
EXCELLENCE in all we DO

Volume XXVI, Number 2

September/October 2022

FREE

## PATRIOT DAY & POW/MIA DAY



**Patriot Day**, holiday observed in the United States on **September 11** to commemorate the lives of those who died in the 2001 terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center in New York City and the Pentagon in Virginia and those who perished when the hijacked United Airlines Flight 93 crashed in Pennsylvania. The holiday also recognizes those who died attempting to rescue people

trapped by the attacks.

By a joint resolution of the U.S. Congress on Dec. 18, 2001, September 11 was designated as Patriot Day. The resolution calls for the president of the United States to issue a yearly proclamation requesting that all U.S. flags be flown at half-staff. Further, Americans are asked to honor the dead with a moment of silence beginning at 8:46 AM, Eastern Standard Time, the time that the first airplane struck the World Trade Center, and to respect the ceremonies of remembrance when they are conducted.

### National POW/MIA Recognition Day

The **third Friday in September** is recognized as POW/MIA Day, a time to remember the sacrifices of prisoners of war (POW) and servicemembers who are missing in action (MIA). Until 1979, there was no formal recognition day set aside for these important men and women in uniform. POW/MIA Day will be observed on Friday, September 16, 2022.

**investigate** **recover** **identify** **returned**

National **POW/MIA** Recognition Day  
September 16, 2022 | #theirsacrifice | www.dpaa.mil



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# COMMANDER'S CALL

Comrades,

The National Convention in Kansas City went well. Good to see old friends and meet new ones. Let's all take a minute to congratulate Past Department Commander Kevin "Boss Daddy" Mitchell for leading the Department to yet another year of All American statue. He took the challenge head on and never missed a step. Thank you for your leadership and all the mentoring you have given me over the years, and hopefully the years to come. Congrats.



Comrades, lets kick start the year off right. We all know what needs to be done. Every year we have the same basics we ALL need to knock out for the year. Quartermasters knock out any of the donations that are required. Why wait until May 2023 to complete when you can complete everything in 5 minutes. CSRs, again nothing new here, at your Post meeting the JVC will know where you are sitting on CSRs for that month. The JVC can collect CSR info from the members get online and enter them right there while at the meeting. Membership is always what we have to chase. SVCs set up recruiting drives, go online and get your Post information out to as many people as you can. Contact annuals and ask them (Don't REMIND them, cause that tends to push them away) ask them if they are interested in another year. If they say NO, then RE-recruit them. Don't take NO for an answer. Commanders you should be leading the way in recruiting or reinstating. You will feel more proud when you put on the All American and All State Caps, when you know you earned them. So, all that being said, this leads me to the challenges I posted to the DPA 2.0 page.

Below are FOUR challenges for all you commanders and officers, are you ready for the challenge? We can't say we are the leaders if we are not leading by example. I said it at the convention this year is about YOU. I would love to place an All State Cap on every Commander. And you have the tools this year to do it. Now the QM might not be happy when he has to purchase all the caps. HA. Good luck to you all.

Yours in Comradeship

Warren "Max" Maxson  
Commander  
Veterans of Foreign Wars  
Department of Pacific Areas  
**EXCELLENCE in all we DO**

"A LITTLE PROGRESS EACH  
DAY ADDS UP TO BIG  
RESULTS."

SATYA NANI



Commander

Warren Maxson





## CDR'S CHALLENGE TO ALL POST'S

### COMMANDERS CHALLENGE NO. 1



\$100 US Dollars to  
the first 3 Post CDRs  
to reach 100% before  
the Mid Term CofA

**Crisp right out of MY pocket**

### COMMANDERS CHALLENGE NO. 2

**TO ALL 25 POST COMMANDERS  
I CHALLENGE YOU TO  
RECRUIT/REINSTATE OR SIGN UP  
FIVE MEMBERS PRIOR TO THE  
MID TERM COFA IN DEC**

**\*\*\*LEAD FROM THE FRONT COMMANDERS\*\*\***

**COMMANDERS CHALLENGE NO. 3**

**To ALL District Commanders  
I challenge you 7 to  
Recruit/Reinstate or sign up  
FIVE new Life Members**

**COMMANDERS CHALLENGE NO. 4**

**TO ALL DEPARTMENT COUNCIL/OFFICERS  
I CHALLENGE YOU TO  
RECRUIT/REINSTATE OR SIGN UP  
FIVE NEW LIFE MEMBERS PRIOR TO  
THE MID TERM COFA IN DEC**

**REMEMBER THE MISSION IS NOT TO WIN  
ALL AMERICAN OR ALL STATE THE MISSION  
IS TO KEEP OUR VOICE HEARD IN D.C.  
NUMBERS MATTER MORE THEN A HAT**



## MEET THE NEW VFW NATIONAL COMMANDER

**KANSAS CITY, Mo.** — Timothy M. Borland, of Benson, Arizona, was elected today as the new national commander of the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW), a congressionally chartered veterans service organization comprised of more than 1 million eligible veterans and military service members from all six branches of the armed forces.

“My slogan this year is ‘Every Veteran Counts,’” said Borland. “It’s our service to country, and courage to defend that country that makes us veterans. Every veteran from every war and conflict is important.”

Borland’s election as the VFW’s 114th Commander-in-Chief occurred at the conclusion of the organization’s 123rd national convention in Kansas City, Missouri. The gathering was the first full national convention since 2019. During his acceptance speech, Borland urged the members both attending in person and watching via live-streaming video, to welcome the new generation of veterans eligible for membership in the VFW, noting the significance of his election.



“There’s a new wave of veterans that have returned home from the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan and they’re ready, willing and waiting to join our ranks. One of those veterans is standing right here behind this podium,” said Borland, referring to himself. “I am an Iraq War veteran and very proud to be the first as your Commander-in-Chief.”

VFW membership eligibility requires honorable service in a war or expedition on foreign soil or in hostile waters. Borland served in the U.S. Army from 1979 to 2007, last serving with the 101st Airborne Division. He earned his VFW eligibility with service in Operation Iraqi Freedom and in defense of the Republic of Korea. In recognition of his military service and contributions during deployment, he received numerous decorations, to include four Meritorious Service Medals, four Army Commendation Medals, eight Army Achievement Medals, seven Good Conduct Medals, two National Defense Service Medals, the Army Reserve Components Achievement Medal, the Iraq Campaign Medal, the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, the Korea Defense Service Medal, and four Overseas Service Ribbons. Among his many awards and achievements, he also earned the Drill Sergeant Identification Badge, and a Bachelor of Business Administration and Master of Business Administration from Touro University in Cypress, California.

Borland’s remarks struck a balance between embracing younger members taking leadership roles in the organization and honoring service and faithfulness of long-standing members of the VFW.

“It’s time for a new generation, but not forgetting the old. It’s time to pass the torch, but at the same time, remember and appreciate the torch being passed, and by whom,” said Borland. “You see comrades, brothers and sisters, every veteran in this room counts and so do the ones we still need to seek.”

He became a Life member of the VFW in 2000. He currently maintains his Gold Legacy Life membership at VFW Post 9972 in Sierra Vista, Arizona, 35 miles from his home in Benson, where he resides with his wife, Shannon. Borland has received 19 consecutive Century Awards for recruiting 100 or more comrades into the VFW. He has served in elected and appointed positions at the Post, District and Department levels, culminating with his election as the VFW Department of Arizona commander from 2011 to 2012, in which he earned the distinction of All-American commander status and received the distinguished Triple Crown Award. On the national level, Borland has served on several committees, including the National Council of Administration from 2012 to 2016, Vice Chairman of the National Legislative Committee from 2017 to 2018, Chairman of the National Programs Committee from 2018 to 2019, National Security and Foreign Affairs Committee, Bylaws and Resolution Committee, Time and Place Committee, and numerous other committees. Borland is also a member of AMVETS, the American Legion, and is a life member of Disabled American Veterans.

“We will continue to recruit and mentor others to recruit,” said Borland. “Draw upon each other for ideas to help develop new strategies, new tactics, and unique ways of doing membership and programs.”

“So, put your recruiting and retention plans to work!” exclaimed Borland. [Read](#) Borland’s acceptance speech.

# SENIOR VICE COMMANDER

Greetings Comrades! It was great to see everyone in person at the Department Convention last June and I would like to thank everyone for your faith and confidence by electing me as your Senior Vice Commander for FY2022-2023. As you all know Membership is our life blood of our VFW Organization and I'm truly confident that every Posts in our Department are doing their best effort in recruiting and just like recently our National Recruiter Larry Lyons and District 3 Korea, held a membership drive and it was a great success and I urged everyone to do the same. As we start this new VFW Fiscal Year, please get all your District and Post requirements done as soon as you can i.e., Post Inspections, VMS, VOD/PP/TA and other requirements and it's not too early to start working on your All State and All-American Requirements.

On the VFW Legacy Life Membership Program, here's a quick explanation on how the Program works, it enables VFW Life members to leave a lasting impression on our great organization. There are (3) Three prestigious levels of Legacy Life membership that are available: Gold, Silver, and Bronze. Each level offers generous benefits reserved exclusively for Legacy Life members. Once your Legacy Life membership begins, an annual endowment in your name will be made to your Post, Department, and our VFW National Organization. You will feel confident knowing your contributions to our organization are not only helping today's veterans but the veterans of tomorrow. Not everyone is aware of this other Legacy Program that you can also purchase a Memorial Legacy in the name of a deceased VFW Annual or Life member to help future generations know and remember their sacrifice and contributions. We take pride in knowing you're not only helping today's veterans, but the veterans of tomorrow. Join the prestigious ranks of VFW Legacy Life members now!

Just recently our DPA Commander Warren Maxson made some Membership Challenges for all District and Posts to make 100% in membership before the CofA (Council of Administration) Meeting in Thailand, so let's get on it and "Take the Challenge" help us make our DPA Commander's Membership challenge a success. Let us all work together and let us all have a great year and just like our DPA Commander's Motto this year "Excellence in All we do". Yours In Comradeship and Service!

Alexander Fores  
Senior Vice Commander  
Department of Pacific Areas  
**EXCELLENCE in all we DO**

*PUSH YOURSELF,  
BECAUSE NO ONE ELSE  
IS GOING TO DO IT  
FOR YOU.*

SUCCESS.com



Senior Vice Commander

Alex Fores

# JUNIOR VICE COMMANDER

Comrades,

Greetings and I hope this newsletter find all ya'll doing well. Now I'm fix'n to say a few things that might put a burr under some folk's saddle, but it is what it is and feel free to throw a horseshoe at me as needed (no road apples please).

I am amazed at how much we do in our communities. The Comrades of the Department of the Pacific Areas have hearts as big as Mount Rushmore, are as generous as they are kind and will do almost anything to serve their community. Selfless and so very giving. That said, we don't do well in some areas of our CSR submissions, and this negates our passion and our perceived impact on our communities. More on that shortly.

Another area of complexity, as I am learning every day, is the way the system is set up and how agile it is in response to our needs. The entry process seems fairly straight forward but may require some adjustments to help codify what a community service entry really is. Along those lines, if you have feedback for me on how to improve the current system, I'd be obliged if you could send it to me. I'll wrap that up with my thoughts, confer with my chain of command and take them with me to the JVC training in October. I look forward to addressing entry and review issues at the table. I'll be sure to let you know how that goes.

So, time to saddle up. Our entries need work. Specifically, content and alignment. By content I mean more than a two-word entry. "RAO support" isn't helpful. Some more are:

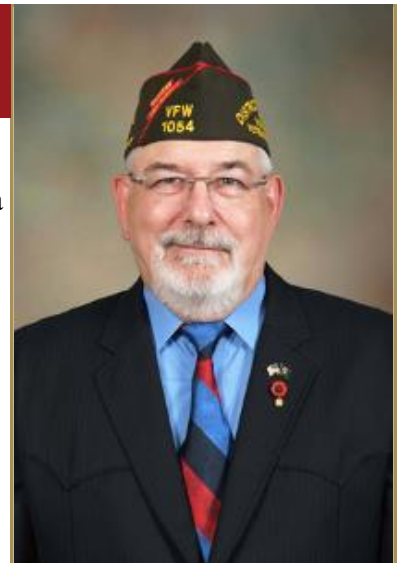
- AA Meetings at Post (if not attended by Community members, it is Post business)
- Volunteer at RAO (Needs information on what was done, and if possible, with how many veterans. It is also VETERANS SUPPORT and not just COMMUNITY SERVICE, OTHER).
- Veterans Support Luncheon (if it is just Post members, then it is not a Community Service event).
- Any entry that starts with POST (unless it includes community involvement).

The idea is to quantify the activity if it is, if only plainly stated, a Post event.

I have sent emails asking submitters to submit entries with supporting data but have gotten only a few responses (and THANK YOU for those). As such, those entries that do not receive any support in the way of a return email will be deleted. I can't set them aside for future improvement, that capability does not exist (yet). I can make the corrections and additions as needed FOR WHAT HAS ALREADY BEEN SUBMITTED, I just need the information in a timely manner. Speaking of submissions....

What we are looking for are good solid submissions that support the community. If it is something you do monthly AND it includes the community, then use a template for making the submission and just update numbers. You don't need names of who is doing what, just that post members did the event and it included X community members.

**EXAMPLE:** Conducted local Veterans Support Luncheon discussing mutual support efforts, counseling and material needs. Event was attended by 2 local (Non-US) Veterans / Community leaders.



Department of Pacific Areas

Junior Vice Commander

**Michael Lutman**

**The "C" in CSR is for community, which means there are usually community members, active duty or Veterans involved in your activity. If it is just a post related task (attending a meeting, executing specific duties, etc.) it is most likely not a Community SERVICE-related task.**



## JUNIOR VICE COMMANDER

**EXMAPLE:** Held Recruiting Table during Community Safety Fair, providing safety information to the local public (approximately 20 persons stopped by), provided membership and benefits information to eligible Veterans (and if accomplished) recruited X new members.

**EXAMPLE:** Held AA Meeting at the Post attended by X community members.

**EXMAPLE:** Supported base National Night Out with VFW Safety coloring books/ crayons for kids and Child ID Kits for parents. Provided VFW membership and benefits information. Recruited two new Life Members and contacted approximately 70 community members.

**EXAMPLE:** Provided food and clothing to one local community member in need.

**EXAMPLE:** Volunteered time and service at local RAO providing information and referrals to military retirees, their dependents and surviving spouses to include support for taxes, death/survivor benefits, pay, legal issues, generalized living information, benefits, medical, etc. Assisted 2 Veterans.

**EXAMPLE:** Taught English class to X local community members.

Again, whatever template you use just punctuate the entry with impact on the community; number of community members / Veterans (in the case of Veterans support). Oh...and don't forget to enter your post number, number of members and hours/miles and donations.

Finally, please be sure to take time and select the most appropriate submission category. I see a lot of Veterans support entries simply marked COMMUNITY SERVICE, OTHER. If in doubt, send me an email and I'll be more than glad to help you craft your entry.

By the way, have any of the Posts out there (that don't have one yet) considered starting an Auxiliary? Think about it. If they, the supporting Auxiliary members of your Post, who have probably a lot more contact in the community, come together to do things IN the community, is that not a CSR worthy entry? The Post sponsors the Auxiliary and IF the post is present at the event and provides support, it is, in fact, a community support activity. Just saying.

Quick shout out to all our hard-working Chairpersons running all the awesome programs we support. Make sure you keep them in your communications regarding submissions. Communication is key to keep our status boards and such up to date. Keeping them in the loop is the first big step.

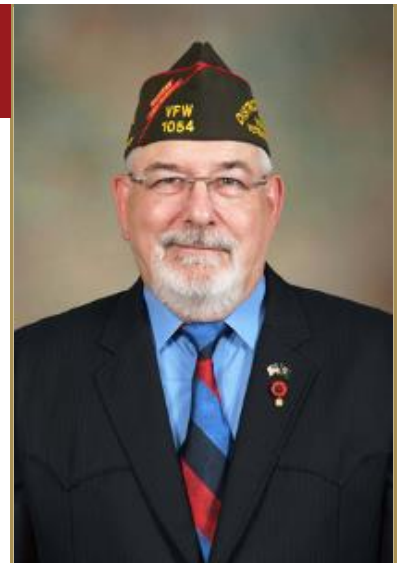
Post Commanders, District Commanders, please ensure you have a plan in place to grade your programs / award submissions and get them submitted in time to the appropriate chairperson or committee. As we used to say (and probably still do) Prior Planning Prevents (beep) Poor Performance.

I appreciate all y'all and I'm obliged to you for all you do. Let's keep putting our best foot forward, support each other as best we can and make sure we demonstrate Excellence In All We Do.

YICS and LOTCS,

Mike Lutman  
Junior Vice Commander

**“EXCELLENCE in all we DO”**



Department of Pacific Areas

Junior Vice Commander

**Michael Lutman**

To See The DCPA's Award Programs, [CLICK HERE](#). Please note, some of these may be out of date do the recent installations of 2022-2023 officers. Check back occasionally or ask the Award Chairman.



## In the SPOTLIGHT

In the VFW, we know our veterans are #StillServing and rising to meet the challenges of this uncertain time. We want you to share your stories and maybe even inspire others across our Department to do the same. Click here to tell us your story. [pacifictimes@vfwpacific.org](mailto:pacifictimes@vfwpacific.org)



Post 12146, Ban Chang - Utapao Thailand All State/All American DPA Quartermaster of the Year Dan Morgan delivers milk supplement to Khun Cheluwy, the wife of Post Home neighbor Kuhn Uthai who suffers from medical issues. We wish the best for them. The Post Community Service Program continues to help veterans, family members and our local community.

Your feedback is important to us. Please submit your Letters to the Editor or Suggestions by clicking [pacifictimes@vfwpacific.org](mailto:pacifictimes@vfwpacific.org)

# In the SPOTLIGHT



Post Cdr Melvin Stanton, presenting a Post award via zoom to Immediate Past Post Cdr Kim Osbourn-Burleson in achieving All-State/All-American for FY 2021-2022.

Post Cdr, Melvin Stanton, creating history with DPA District VII Commander, James Collins. The first active DPA District VII Commander to visit VFW Post 12130 since it has been chartered in 2013



Post Cdr Melvin Stanton presenting Sr. Vice Cdr In Chief, Duane Sarmiento and DPA District VII Cdr, James Collins with Post coins.



VFW Sr. Vice Commander, Duane Sarmiento, swearing in newly elected officers, Post 12130 Jr. Vice Commander Marshal Dils and Trustee 1 Year Jag Montecillo

Pictured from left to right: DPA District VII Cdr. James Collins, Sr. Vice Cdr. In Chief Duane Sarmiento, Post 12130's Jr. Vice Cdr. Marshal Dils, Trustee 1 Year Jag Montecillo, Post Cdr. Melvin Stanton and Comrade Chuck Hayes



# DPA ADJUTANT/QUARTERMASTER

Comrades,

There have been lots of questions on the status of the Buddy Poppy orders from the past two years. I have been working with National to resolve this issue. By this time, the Poppy's should be on their way to you.

Everyone should have received the Bond's by now. Please review and ensure the following are correct. The amount, Post name, number and location, and that I have signed the Bond. Let me know if there are any corrections.

Now let's talk about audits a bit. Post/District trustees should be reviewing the audits monthly/quarterly. There are a few things that are needed to complete a proper audit; the two big items are the QM report of Audit and the bank statement. You cannot complete a proper audit without these documents. As an elected trustee it is your duty to ensure that the Quartermaster is handling and reporting the money correctly. Another document that you need is the minutes from the meeting. This is where the Post members authorize the money being spent that is not included in your by-laws. While this is just a high level view on the roles of the trustee, should you have any questions or would like to read more on this role. There is a document on the vfw.org website that goes in depth on the roles and responsibilities of a trustee.

Many have asked me about the All-State dashboard. When you complete an item for the dashboard you will need to contact the chairman for that area. If you are unsure of the chairman, the information can be found in the All-State Program.

Remember Every Veteran Counts!

Shawn Watson  
Adjutant/Quartermaster  
**EXCELLENCE in all we DO**



Adjutant / Quartermaster

**Shawn Watson**

**9 out of 10 times  
when I lose something...  
it's because I put  
it in a safe place.**



# Veterans Crisis Line



**DIAL 988** then  
**PRESS 1**

## 24/7, confidential crisis support for **Veterans and their loved ones**

If you're a Veteran in crisis or concerned about one, reach caring, trained responders 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

When you call the Veterans Crisis Line, here is what you can expect:

- A qualified responder will answer your call, ready to listen and help.
- The responder will ask a few questions, such as whether you or the Veteran you're concerned about may be in immediate danger or at risk for suicide.
- The conversation is free and confidential, and you decide how much information to share.
- Support doesn't end with your conversation. Our responders can connect you with the resources you need.

You don't have to be enrolled in VA benefits or health care to connect.



Scan the QR code to download  
**Veterans Crisis Line** resources.

You're not alone—  
the **Veterans Crisis Line** is here for you.



Dial 988  
then Press 1



Chat online at  
[www.veteranscrisisline.net](http://www.veteranscrisisline.net)



Text  
838255



U.S. Department  
of Veterans Affairs

# JUDGE ADVOCATE

Greetings Comrades

**National Bylaws:** An overview of the approved changes to our National Bylaws was sent out to all District Commanders in August. The Digital 2023 Podium Edition is now available for download on the National website. You can currently download the digital version for free [here](#).

The hard copy version will be available soon and can be purchased for \$7.25 through the VFW Store at <https://www.vfwstore.org/products/22690>

**Election Reports:** Problems making changes to your election report? You can contact Kissha Hood at National for assistance [khoo@vfw.org](mailto:khoo@vfw.org)

**Bylaws:** When submitting your bylaws for final approval, please submit or include a word version. This will allow National to make any necessary changes. Also remember that wherever your Bylaws or subsequent amendments are found to be in conflict with the present or any future Department or National Bylaws the latter shall prevail and be binding as though written herein.

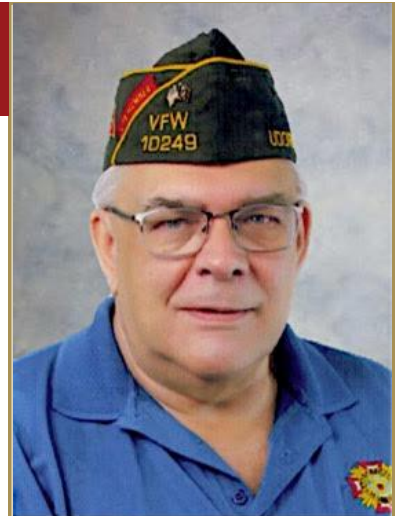
## Buddy Poppy policy and procedures:

- 1) If you do not receive your order within 8 weeks of placing it with your Department, please contact National Headquarters to report that you have not received the order.
- 2) If you do not report a missing order 3 months after the 8-week processing time, the order will NOT be replaced free of charge and you will have to resubmit your order.

Contact: [BuddyPoppy@vfw.org](mailto:BuddyPoppy@vfw.org) or 816.756.3390, ext. 6722 for any questions or concerns.

Delbert "Bert" Marohl  
Judge Advocate

**George Orwell, author of "1984",  
reading "2022"**



Judge Advocate

**Delbert "Bert" Marohl**

PODIUM EDITION

**2023**

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS  
OF THE UNITED STATES



CONGRESSIONAL CHARTER  
BYLAWS  
MANUAL OF PROCEDURE  
RITUAL

As amended July 19, 2022  
Effective August 20, 2022

# MEDAL OF HONOR RECIPIENTS

## STAFF SERGEANT EDWARD KANESHIRO UNITED STATES ARMY

For conspicuous gallantry at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty.

Staff Sergeant Edward N. Kaneshiro distinguished himself by acts of gallantry and intrepidity above and beyond the call of duty while serving as an Infantry Squad Leader with Troop C, 1st Squadron, 9th Cavalry, 1st Cavalry Division near Phu Huu 2, Kim Son Valley, Republic of Vietnam, on 1 December 1966. .

Not knowing that the village was heavily fortified with a fully bunkered and concealed trench system and garrisoned by North Vietnamese troops in vastly superior force, two squads of the platoon had deployed to its center, while Staff Sergeant Kaneshiro and his squad scouted the more open terrain to the east of the village.



Sensing the opportunity to ambush the Infantry squads, the entrenched enemy force erupted with machine gun and small arms fire against the two squads at the center of the village, killing the platoon leader and the point man, wounding four others, then successfully suppressing the surviving soldiers.

Staff Sergeant Kaneshiro moved with his men to the sounds of the fire.

Swiftly reading the situation, seeing that the fire from the trench had to be stopped if anyone was to survive, he first deployed his men to cover, then crawled forward to attack the enemy force alone.

He began by throwing grenades from the parapet while flattened to the ground, successfully throwing the first grenade through the aperture of the bunker, eliminating the machine gunner who had opened the action.

With five grenades remaining and his rifle to sustain his assault, Staff Sergeant Kaneshiro jumped into the trench to sweep its length where it fronted the two pinned squads.

Over the distance of about 35 meters, he worked the ditch alone, destroying one enemy group with rifle fire and two others with grenades.

By the end of his sweep, the able-bodied survivors of the two squads were again standing and preparing to move the dead and wounded.

Staff Sergeant Kaneshiro's actions enabled the orderly extrication and reorganization of the platoon which ultimately led to a successful withdrawal from the village.

Staff Sergeant Kaneshiro's conspicuous gallantry and uncommon heroism under fire were in keeping with the highest traditions of the military service and reflect great credit upon himself, his unit, and the United States Army.



# IMMEDIATE PAST DPA COMMANDER

Greetings Comrades,

Currently, it looks like the DPA is off to another great start! Now that the pandemic is behind us, our senior Commanders will be able to visit our Districts for the first time in three years. This will allow Districts to speak directly to senior leadership with the hopes of providing good ideas, showing off the great things you are doing to benefit your veterans and communities.

Now that travel is allowed, we hope to see as many of you as possible in Ban Chang, Thailand for the Council of Administrations December 10-12. Memstats is up and running so you can see how your Posts are doing with the hopes each of you achieve 100% in membership for the term. Also look at the information provided for your Posts to qualify for All State with the hopes you can attain All American.

Wishing all the best as we move into Commander Max and the "Excellence in All We Do" term. Take care of yourselves, your families, and continue to do the great things you do in your communities. May god bless America!!!

In Comradeship and Service,

Kevin E. Mitchell  
Immediate Past Department Commander  
Department of Pacific Areas  
**EXCELLENCE in all we DO**



Department of Pacific Areas

Immediate Past DPA Cdr

Kevin Mitchell



# COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION (COFA)

## COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION 09 – 11 DECEMBER 2022 Banchang Palace Hotel (BC Palace), Banchang Thailand

Commanders and Comrades,

After returning from stateside holiday visit to VFW National Convention I am back in Thailand and have visited the Midyear Hotel awaiting final quotations after which information will be updated via DPA website and FB page. The plan is registration 01 October to 15 Nov 2022. 2<sup>nd</sup> Pacific Times updates in November issue.

Room rates are very reasonable. Superior and deluxe rooms are 800 to 900 THB (\$25 to \$35) a night based on current exchange rates. There is a tax and VAT charge. **To receive the VFW rate you will need to book your room directly with the Hotel. A link will be provided on the DPA website. You can also click this link: <https://www.bcphotel.com/contact.php>**

Note: all rooms are located floor 3 to 7 serviced by the two elevators, the 4 suites have been reserved for VIP, the meetings and Commanders Dinner are planned on the 8<sup>th</sup> floor big conference room an international Buffet with Thai flavors to be finalized in September. Commanders visit, Saturday lunch in Hotel Lobby restaurant (TBD), evening cocktails pool side, Hospitality at local venue (TBD) requesting donation of \$20 per person. Sunday scratch location TBD.

Airport transfers will be booked / reserved directly with Delta Gulf ([dggs@deltagolftbu.com](mailto:dggs@deltagolftbu.com)), when you register on the DPA website Local “van service by Friend of Post Delta Golf” will be provide to & from local venues, Understand few not so local establishments will provide vans to and from their eating and drinking establishments and Thailand has transport app called “Bolt” for door to door pick & drop reasonably priced reaching as far – near as Pattaya Beach – Rayong city shopping malls etc. Bolt drivers take cash exchange available at hotel.

Tentatively (to be updated via Website <https://vfwpacific.org/di/vfw/v2/default.asp?pid=125777>) The Buffet lunch \$20, Commanders International Buffet (TBD) \$30 per person. Airport transfers from 40 to \$50. Slightly higher for group -15PAX Van. Room booking includes breakfast buffet, Internet access and swimming pool. Rooms equipped with tea/coffee making facilities and TV. Preliminary discussions with WEBMASTER Augie to “GO LIVE” with registrations by 01 Oct (possibly sooner), Social ticket, Hospitality donations and Shirt sales will be included on the DPA Registration website.

Enquiry about golf outings, venues are available, info to follow.



(Tentative schedule next page)

# COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION (COFA)

## COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION 09 – 11 DECEMBER 2022 Banchang Palace Hotel (BC Palace), Banchang Thailand

Date time	Agenda & Remarks
<b>Wed-Thurs</b>	<b>07 &amp; 08 Dec Early Check In, Post members meet greet &amp; assist as required</b>
	<i>For Early Arrivals Golfing or other activities can be arranged, added cost</i>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>09 Dec Mid Year Opens</b>
07:00 to 10:00	American Breakfast Lobby restaurant (included with room)
08:00 -10:00	Register for Meeting <a href="#">Ground level Lobby</a>
08:00 to 12:00	DPA / Business, Committee meeting, VoD/PP /Teach, Public Service Awards Selection etc. <a href="#">Lobby Restaurant Meeting room</a>
12:00 p.m.	Lunch Buffet, <a href="#">Hotel restaurant</a>
<b>14:00 to 17:00</b>	<b><a href="#">Cooties Social</a></b>
18:00	Hospitality in town
18:00	Transport every hour travel to Post Home Banchang, Beaver bar, ONE, MS Sports etc. (Finnigan's - PHALLA Rib will provide separate transport)
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>10 Dec COFA</b>
7:00	American Breakfast Lobby restaurant (included with room)
08:00 to 09:00	Register for Meeting <a href="#">8th floor lobby</a>
09:00 to 12:00	Opening Ceremonies, Business Session <a href="#">8th Floor big meeting room</a>
12:00	Lunch Buffet (Western style) <a href="#">Hotel Restaurant</a>
13:30	Business Session cont.; <a href="#">8th Floor big meeting room</a>
16:00 to 18:30	<a href="#">Pool side</a> Hospitality
16:00 to 19:00	RPC staff prepares for Dinner at <a href="#">8th Floor big meeting room</a>
19:00 to 22:00	CMDR Dinner at <a href="#">8th Floor big meeting room</a>
18:00	Transport every hour travel to BC street Beaver, ONE, MC Sports etc.
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>10 Dec Grand</b>
7:00	American Breakfast Lobby restaurant (included with room)
08:00 to 12:00	<b><a href="#">Grand Scratch (TBD)</a></b>
12:00	Check out
13:00	For stragglers transport will be available to Post Home Banchang, Beaver, One, MC Sports etc.
	<b>ALL CHANGES MUST BE MADE THROUGH THE DEPARTMENT ADJUTANT</b>

Lou Holub  
DPA Mid-Term COFA Chairman  
[cofamidyear@vfwpacific.org](mailto:cofamidyear@vfwpacific.org)



# CHIEF OF STAFF

From the desk of the Chief-of-Staff, PDC Rick Farris,

Now is the time to begin your qualifications for All-State and All-American. Ensure you review all of your goals, and create an anticipated timeline for completion. The more planning you do now will make it much easier down the road. Get as much done now as you can prior to the CofA. It will go a long way in showing Cdr. Maxson you are putting in the effort, particularly in the recruiting areas.

There seems to be a lot of conflict in some Posts and Districts. Never lose sight of why we are here, and why the VFW exists. Helping our Veterans is what we do, and do not let personal feelings or agendas interfere in getting our mission done. This kind of conflict only hurts our reputation and yours. "Do not let petty jealousies.....". Take this to heart, and keep our Department strong.

I am really looking forward to Ban Chang, and seeing everyone. Travel restrictions and work interfered with attending Convention, but I WILL be at CofA. It has been two long. I cannot believe it will have been three years since I have seen everyone. ZOOM may be a good filler, but nothing can take the place of shaking a comrade's hand. See you all in December.

Rick Farris  
DPA Chief of Staff, 2022-23  
PDC 2019-2020



Chief of Staff

Rick Farris



# EVERYTHING WE DO, WE DO FOR VETERANS.®



Learn more or join at [vfw.org](http://vfw.org).

## VFW URGES US NAVY TO HONOR HERO

With the [advocacy of the VFW](#) and the USS Telesforo Trinidad Campaign, a future warship will be named after a Medal of Honor recipient and Filipino, a first for the Navy.

Fireman [Telesforo De La Cruz Trinidad](#), who died in 1968 at age 77, has maintained the distinction of being the only Filipino in the U.S. Navy to be awarded the Medal of Honor.

In January 1915, Trinidad exhibited heroism aboard the USS San Diego when he helped crew members get to safety after the ship's boilers exploded. The citation of his award reads:

*“For extraordinary heroism in the line of his profession at the time of the boiler explosion on board the U.S.S. San Diego, 21 January 1915. Trinidad was driven out of fireroom No. 2 by the explosion, but at once returned and picked up R.E. Daly, fireman, second class, whom he saw to be injured, and proceeded to bring him out. While coming into No. 4 fireroom, Trinidad was just in time to catch the explosion in No. 3 fireroom, but without consideration for his own safety, passed Daly on and then assisted in rescuing another injured man from No. 3 fireroom. Trinidad was himself burned about the face by the blast from the explosion in No. 3 fireroom.”*

The recognition, the nation's highest military award, was given in 1915 when the medal could still be awarded for non-combat valor.

The USS Telesforo Trinidad (DDG-139) is planned to be a new guided-missile destroyer. It will add to the Navy's planned 355-ship fleet expected in 2034. As of June, the building of the Trinidad was not yet underway. The planned commissioning date has not been determined.

On Thursday, U.S. Secretary of the Navy Carlos Del Toro released a [statement](#) about the naming of the new ship.

“Since being sworn in as Secretary, I have wanted to honor his heroic actions by naming a ship after him,” Del Toro said. “This ship and her future crew will be a critical piece in strengthening our maritime superiority while also emphasizing the rich culture and history of our naval heritage.”



According to Del Toro, Trinidad's ship is a future Arleigh Burke-class guided missile destroyer. The destroyers are the backbone of the U.S. Navy's surface fleet, he said.

Asian American advocates in the U.S. and the Philippines have [long pushed](#) for such an honor. Some made a case that it would also recognize the hundreds of thousands of other Filipinos and Filipino Americans who have served in the U.S. Navy since 1901.

## NATIONAL COUNCIL MEMBER

Comrades,

While there have been no changes to the way VA's Foreign Medical Program (FMP) conducts business, I can assure you that the problems you have been experiencing are being brought to the highest level that I can think of to affect changes. In late June, then VFW Commander-in-Chief, Fritz Mihelcic, visited Saipan to meet with Congressman Gregorio Sablan, a member of the Congressional Committee for Veterans Affairs. They spoke for more than half an hour about the slow response time and slow repayments from FMP.

Later this month (August), the Deputy Secretary of Veterans Affairs, Donald Remy, will also be visiting Saipan, and I am one of a small group of veterans who will be meeting him for a round table discussion. You can be assured I will bring up the problems with FMP. Change comes slowly in the massive bureaucracy that is the VA, but if we keep addressing the problems, some day they will get the message.

Our new Commander-in-Chief, Tim Borland, was elected from the Western Conference. Our Conference gets to elect the National JVCiC every four years, the next opportunity coming in 2024. Two comrades are running for the position, and both have visited our Department in the past. Bert Key from Oregon attended our Department Convention in Angeles City this past June; and Tim Peters from Montana came to our mid-term just before the COVID lockdown. Peters also plans on attending our mid-term this December in Ban Chang.

You may question why we should care about who gets elected at the National level. It's a legitimate question. Frankly, when our Conference has the Commander-In-Chief, our entire Conference gets a few perks that others don't. Our delegates to the National Convention are usually housed in the same hotel as the National officers. We ordinarily get a few more selections for delegates than the other Conferences. Finally, the boss knows who put him there, and our concerns have a better chance of being addressed and solved when we hold the top spot. So when a Department as remote as the Pacific Areas can bend the ears of National leaders, we have a much better chance of being heard.

This year marks my 25<sup>th</sup> as a member of the VFW. Over the years, I have come to appreciate all that we stand for, the friendships that I otherwise would not have had, and the level of dedication and uniqueness that each Post brings to the organization. The Post is where it all happens. It's where we recruit, where we first interact with new members, where we plan and carry out our community involvement, and where we find our leaders of tomorrow. Each of you should be proud to be a member of the finest group of combat veterans in America!

Yours In Comradeship,

Pete Callaghan  
National Council Member



National Council Member

**Peter Callaghan**



# CHAPLAIN'S CORNER / TAPS REPORT

Comrades July and August allowed us to enter into the new VFW year with pride and ambition, I traveled to the VFW National Convention and was proud to support our DPA Commanders (incoming & outgoing) the DPA delegation over 15 strong and very well received in all of Hospitality rooms where of courses we shared “Holy Water”. I met and prayed with our VFW National Chaplain who provided encouragement while trying to grasp the complexity and challenges of the Pacific Areas, our dialogue will continue. I am extremely proud VFW National along with fellow Veterans organization and “much Prayer” which persuaded or Representatives to finally acknowledge the “toxic exposure impact related to burn pits”, Veterans have suffered for too long due to toxic herbicide & burns pits. Thank you Lord for guiding the Law makers to succeed with the PACT ACT.

As we continue into 2022-2023 we all have high hopes of Post, District & Department success establishing “plans of action”, membership targets and objectives (AS-AA programs), Commanders don’t forget your Chaplains their Ministry and ensure to review the past years deceased numbers and impacts the short fall may have on your post member number and activities the dearly departed may have managed. As life progresses check in on the widows, orphans, other Comrades and friends who may be grieving the loss and Pray the Lord may comfort all. Buddy checks are Gods work!

Continue to Email TAPS reports to: [chapdpa@vfwpacific.org](mailto:chapdpa@vfwpacific.org) which is linked to my personal Gmail account.

Let us remember the following comrades who passed away since our previous report:

Yours in Comradeship

Louis S. Holub  
Chaplain DPA

Post	Name	Date of Death
2485	Robert L. Delves Jr.	27-May-22
	Albert L. Hopkins Jr.	06-May-22
9876	Paul E. Berisford	29-May-22
12146	Paul V. Hensel	22-Apr-22
	Ronnie W. Williams	03-Jun-22
	Barry P. Moshinsky	19-Jun-22
9951	Daniel James Arquette	29-Jun-22
	Richard Alfred King	12-Jul-22



Chaplain

**Lou Holub**

Continue to Email TAPS reports to:  
[chapdpa@vfwpacific.org](mailto:chapdpa@vfwpacific.org)  
which is linked to my personal Gmail account.

Let us bow our heads in prayer to All Mighty God. Remember our fallen comrades and pray for those still missing in action. Pray for them and their families that they may be reunited. Amen



# DEFENSE POW/MIA ACCOUNTING AGENCY

## MIA Update 15 August 2022:

The Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency announced one burial update and two new identifications for service members who have been missing and unaccounted-for from World War II and Korea. Returning home for burial with full military honors are:

- **Army Pfc. David N. Owens, 27**, of Green Hills, North Carolina, was assigned to Company E, 2nd Battalion, 12th Infantry Regiment, 4th Infantry Division. He was reported missing in action on Nov. 22, 1944, when his unit was engaged in battle with German forces near Hürtgen, Germany. He was declared killed in action on Nov. 23, 1945. Owens will be buried in Arlington National Cemetery in Arlington, Virginia, on a date yet to be determined. [Read about Owens.](#)
- **Army Sgt. Charles Garrigus, 24**, was assigned to Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 32nd Infantry Regiment, 7th Infantry Division. He was reported missing in action on Dec. 1, 1950, during battle with enemy forces near the Chosin Reservoir, North Korea. Following the war, his remains could not be recovered and there is no evidence that he was a prisoner of war. Interment services are pending. [Read about Garrigus.](#)
- **Army Cpl. Tommie T. Hanks, 27**, was assigned to Company E, 2nd Battalion, 24th Infantry Regiment, 25th Infantry Division. On Nov. 26, 1950, he was reported missing in action while his unit was attempting to withdraw from east Ch'ongch'on River near Anju, North Korea. Following the war, his remains could not be recovered and there is no evidence that he was a prisoner of war. Interment services are pending. [Read about Hanks.](#)



[The Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency](#)

# DEPARTMENT INSPECTOR

Greetings Comrades,

District Commanders please review Commander Max's 2022-2023 inspection program by visiting the DPA Website. Click programs then under programs click Inspection. There you will find forms, instructions, and general information.

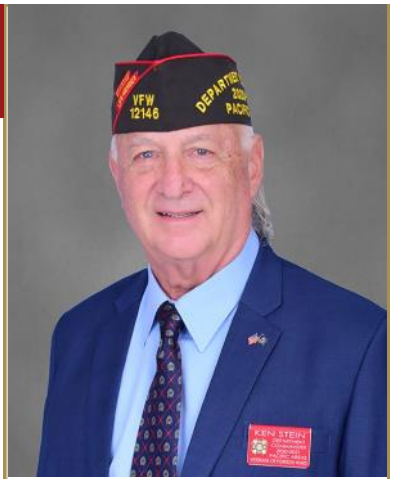
As a reminder please comply with the following:

- \*\* No later than 1 July each District Commander shall appoint an Inspector and if required an Assistant Inspector or Inspectors.
- \*\* Inspectors should be thoroughly familiar with all VFW National and Department Programs, Policies, Bylaws, and Ritual.
- \*\* Inspectors should have experience as a District or Department Commander, quartermaster, or trustee.
- \*\* Each District Commander shall provide the Department Inspector the names and contact information for all appointed Inspectors. Submit electronically to [inspdpa@vfwpacific.org](mailto:inspdpa@vfwpacific.org).
- \*\* The Department Inspector will be the approving authority for all inspector appointments.
- \*\* All assessments (inspections) shall be accomplished no earlier than 1 October and completed no later than 30 April.

Yours in comradeship and service to veterans,



Kenneth A. Stein  
Inspector  
Department of Pacific Areas  
**EXCELLENCE in all we DO**



Ken Stein



I was there. I saw your sons and your husbands, your brothers and your sweethearts. I saw how they worked, played, fought, and lived. I saw some of them die. I saw more courage, more good humor in the face of discomfort, more love in an era of hate and more devotion to duty than could exist under tyranny.

— Bob Hope —

AZ QUOTES





# POW/MIA RECOGNITION DAY POSTERS

## THEIR *Sacrifice* | OUR *Pledge*



**investigate**



**recover**



**identify**



**returned**



**National**  
**POW/MIA** Recognition Day

September 16, 2022 | [#theirsacrifice](https://www.theirsacrifice.com) | [www.dpaa.mil](http://www.dpaa.mil)

[Order Posters Here](#)



## DEPARTMENT SURGEON

I hope this finds each of you and your families well and in good health. For this edition of the Pacific Times. I wanted to focus on the latest infectious disease that has been sprung upon us. That would be Monkey Pox.

The following information is provided to give you an understanding of this virus and the risks associated with it and how to minimize those risks.

In early August, the United States declared the ongoing monkeypox outbreak a public health emergency. Just two weeks earlier, the World Health Organization (WHO) declared monkeypox a “public health emergency of international concern”—a designation currently only used to describe [COVID-19](#) and polio. Public health officials around the world and in the United States are increasingly urging the public to watch for warning signs.

Monkeypox is a rare disease caused by infection with the monkeypox virus. It usually occurs in Central and West Africa. But for reasons not yet known, the virus is behaving in ways never before seen. Since early May, monkeypox cases have been reported in countries that don’t normally see it. Before this, monkeypox was also not known to spread easily among people or to infect large groups at once. Now, it appears to spread through close contact.

Further complicating matters is that, so far, the vast majority of monkeypox cases this year have been in young men, primarily in men who have sex with men, putting health care experts in the difficult situation of needing to warn specific populations without creating a stigma and/or making incorrect assumptions about who is most at risk in their messaging to the broader community.

“We should be vigilant and not let our guard down, but we also should not panic,” says [Marwan Azar, MD](#), a Yale Medicine infectious diseases specialist. “As noted by the CDC, the risk for most people remains low.”

On the other hand, this outbreak is much more widespread than we initially thought, and it’s hard to say where this is going, he adds. “We need to address it by diagnosing and controlling it as much as possible,” he says.

We talked more with Dr. Azar about what we know so far about this monkeypox outbreak.

[Monkeypox: What You Need to Know About the Recent Outbreaks](#)

I truly hope the information I provide is found useful. For those of you that don’t know, there is an updated Facebook [DPA Surgeons Group](#) on which I post regularly. And as always, if there is a topic that you would like to be addressed or are seeking additional information. Don’t hesitate to reach out.

Yours in Service to Veterans

Jack Farrell  
Pacific Areas Surgeon



Surgeon

Jack Farrell



## The Five Signs of Suffering: Know the Symptoms and Ask for Help

The suicides of Kate Spade and Anthony Bourdain are poignant reminders that friends, neighbors, coworkers, and even family members may be suffering emotionally and don't recognize the symptoms or won't ask for help.

**Check out these five signs that may mean that someone close to you is in emotional pain and may need help:**



**Their personality changes.** You may notice sudden or gradual changes in the way that someone typically behaves. He or she may behave in ways that don't seem to fit the person's values, or the person may just seem different.



**They seem uncharacteristically angry, anxious, agitated, or moody.** You may notice the person has more frequent problems controlling his or her temper and seems irritable or unable to calm down. People in more extreme situations like this may be unable to sleep or may explode in anger at minor problems.



**They withdraw or isolate themselves from other people.** Someone who used to be socially engaged may pull away from family and friends and stop taking part in activities they used to enjoy. In more severe cases the person may start failing to make it to work or school.



**They stop taking care of themselves and may engage in risky behavior.** You may notice a change in the person's level of personal care or an act of poor judgment on his or her part.



**They seem overcome with hopelessness and overwhelmed by their circumstances.** That person may be suffering from extreme or prolonged grief, or feelings of worthlessness or guilt. People in this position may say that the world would be a better place without them.

**If you recognize that someone in your life is suffering,  
CONNECT, REACH OUT, INSPIRE HOPE, and OFFER HELP!**

Showing compassion and caring to help find a solution when a person may not have the will or drive to help themselves can go a long way.

<https://vfw.org/assistance/mental-wellness>



# DEPARTMENT SERVICE OFFICER (DSO)

## The PACT Act is Law

What you should do if you are a veteran that MIGHT be included in this law. This law extends VA Health Care Eligibility for Veterans with Toxic exposures and Veterans of the Vietnam, Gulf War and Post 9-11 (post September 11, 2001 eras) It also expands eligibility for Veterans exposed to toxic substances and their survivors.

Veterans and their survivors should apply for [PACT Act](#) related benefits NOW. It is probable that VA will not begin adjudicating these applications until Jan 2023 but applications will be considered in relation to dates received and there may be a time limit on how long applications may be considered. This is a 150-page LAW and how the VA will deal with it may take some time.

Veterans may apply directly to the VA. It is not necessary to have a representative to file a claim. However, the VFW has trained representatives through the VFW Service Officers who keep abreast of the changes and are being trained in dealing with PACT Act claims as the regulations are written. The VFW suggests you file a claim with the aid of your post service officers, the Department Service Officer [dsoadmin@vfwpacific.org](mailto:dsoadmin@vfwpacific.org), or one of our assistants.

Whether you apply directly with the VA or with a VFW service Officer there will never be a charge for processing your claim. Neither the VA nor the VFW will ever charge a fee of any kind to process or aid in your application.

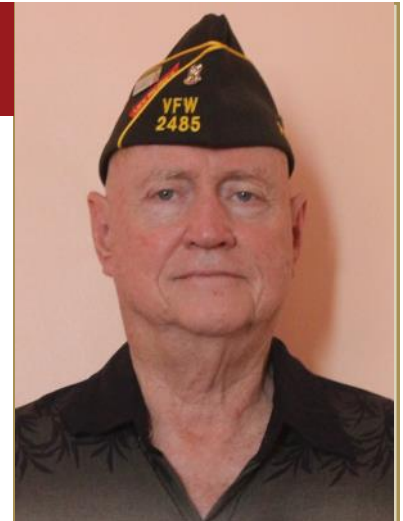
### Tips to Avoid [PACT Act Scams](#) (This copied directly from the VA)

- Scammers are taking advantage of new opportunities to commit fraud. There's been an increase in PACT Act-related [phishing \(email\)](#), vishing (phone), and [social media scams](#) targeting Veterans to access their PACT Act benefits or submit claims on their behalf.
- Veterans should be cautious of anyone who guarantees a lucrative financial benefit or service. To report suspected fraudulent activity, please contact at <mailto:vaoighotline@va.gov> or call 1-800-488-8244.

### Protect yourself against new scams with these tips:

- Do not provide personal, benefits, medical, or financial details online or over the phone. Federal agencies will not contact you unless you make a request.
- Do not click on online ads or engage with social media that seem suspicious.
- Check for "https://" at the start of website addresses.
- Enable multi-factor authentication on all accounts.
- Work with Veteran service providers you already know.
- (VFW, American Legion, etc.)
- Submit any suspected fraud to [ReportFraud.ftc.gov](https://www.fraud.ftc.gov).

John Dibble  
DSO Department of Pacific Areas



DSO Pacific Areas

John Dibble



VA U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

**PACT Act**

Information

Click on the above icons for more info

## THE LIGHTER SIDE



Woman: "Do you drink beer?"

Man: "Yes."

Woman: "How many beers a day?"

Man: "Usually about three"

Woman: "How much do you pay per beer?"

Man: "Five dollars, which includes a tip." (This is where it gets scary!)

Woman: "And how long have you been drinking?"

Man: "About 20 years, I suppose."

Woman: "So a beer costs \$5 and you have three beers a day, which puts your spending each month at \$450. In one year that would be approximately \$5,400, correct?"

Man: "Correct."

Woman: "If in one year you spend \$5,400, not accounting for inflation, the past twenty years puts your spending at \$108,000, correct?"

Man: "Correct."

Woman: "Do you know that if you didn't drink so much beer, that money could have been put in a step-up interest savings account and, after accounting for compound interest for the past 20 years, you could've by now bought an airplane?"

Man: "Do you drink beer?"

Woman: "No."

Man: "Where's your airplane?"

## VMS/MAP CHAIRMAN

The VFW offers a wide range of assistance programs aimed at helping service members and veterans of every generation. As a veteran, you understand better than most what struggles and hurdles today's service members and veterans face. Here are some of the assistance programs offered by the VFW:

**VFW's "Sport Clips Help A Hero Scholarship"** provides service members and veterans with the financial assistance they need to complete their educational goals without incurring excessive student loan debt. It's just another way for us to say "thank you" to those who fought for our freedoms. [Apply Today](#).

**Unmet Needs** provides grants (not loans) and referrals to other organizations to active-duty service members, veterans, and their immediate families to assist with basic life needs. [Unmet Needs Application](#). If you would like to make a donations to the Un met Needs go to [Unmet Needs Donation Form](#).

**Military Assistance Program (MAP)** provides financial assistance to VFW Posts/ Depts. and Auxiliaries who sponsor events with their local military community. These funds are meant to build relationships and provide information on VFW programs and services. Requesting MAP funds is easy and all done online. Please take the time to view the [MAP Grant Procedures](#), [MAP Grant Application](#), and [MAP Grant Report](#).

**Adopt-a-Unit** VFW Posts work with unit commanders and senior enlisted personnel to develop supportive relationships with units before, during and after deployments. We offer a vast network of free resources and a variety of direct support for military members and their families. Adopting-a-Unit is easy, and all done online. Please take the time to view the [Adopt-a-Unit Application](#) and [Adopt-a-Unit Report](#).

**Student Veterans of America (SVA)** provides extra opportunities student veterans might not know about. Learn more through the following link [Little-Known Facts](#).

**Don't think of your donation as just an All-American/ALL-State requirement, but as a means in keeping these programs alive at helping service members and veterans of every generation.**

**Need to make your Post or District Veterans & Military Support Program donation?** Donations made toward VMS to fulfill the 2022-2023 All-American/All-State requirement will only be accepted through the following link [VMS-Donate Today](#). Do not donate through the Department or by any other means. All-American requirement is \$100.00 for Posts. All-State requirement is \$50.00 for Districts and \$75.00 for Posts.

Please email me a copy of all MAP functions, Adopt-a-Unit and VMS donations at [mapdps@vfwpacific.org](mailto:mapdps@vfwpacific.org).

Don Kelley  
[mapdpa@vfwpacific.org](mailto:mapdpa@vfwpacific.org)  
Veterans & Military Support (VMS) Chairman  
Military Assistance Program (MAP) Chairman



Department of Pacific Areas

VMS/MAP Chairman

Donald Kelley

**VETERANS  
& MILITARY  
SUPPORT**



MILITARY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM



# VFW COMMEMORATIVE TRIBUTE DATES

## COMMEMORATIVE TRIBUTES

Posts should arrange special ceremonies and all Commanders shall alert comrades to their obligations for appropriate commemoration of the following outstanding action dates in U.S. history:

### THE DATES

- January 27 - Signing of the Vietnam Peace Accord in 1973.
- February 15 - Sinking of U.S.S. Maine, 1898.
- February 28 - Liberation of Kuwait—Operation Desert Storm 1991.
- March 24 - Start of Kosovo Campaign 1999.
- March 29 - National Vietnam Veterans Memorial Day.
- March 31 - End of Operation Restore Hope—Somalia 1995.
- May 1 - Loyalty Day, annually.
- May 8 - VE Day: German unconditional surrender signed, 1945.
- May 30 - Memorial Day.
- June 6 - D Day: Allied invasion of Europe, 1944.
- June 14 - Flag Day.
- July 4 - Independence Day.
- July 27 - Signing of the Korean Armistice in 1953.
- August 31 - End of Operation Iraqi Freedom 2010.
- September 2 - VJ Day: Japan surrendered, 1945, ending World War II fighting.
- September 11 - Patriot Day.
- September - 3rd Friday - POW/MIA Recognition Day.
- October 7 - Start of Operation Enduring Freedom - Afghanistan 2001.
- October 18 - Recognition of Women in Military Service.
- October 23 – Beirut Bombing.
- November 11 - Signing World War I Armistice, 1918. Veterans Day.
- December 7 - Pearl Harbor Day, since 1941.



# NATIONAL HOME CHAIRMAN

Comrades, by the time you are reading this it will be September and we will be 1/4<sup>th</sup> of the way through the new year. Donations to the National Home so far is 1 District and 7 Posts.

As always if you are having any problems just let me know so I can try and work on it with the NH.

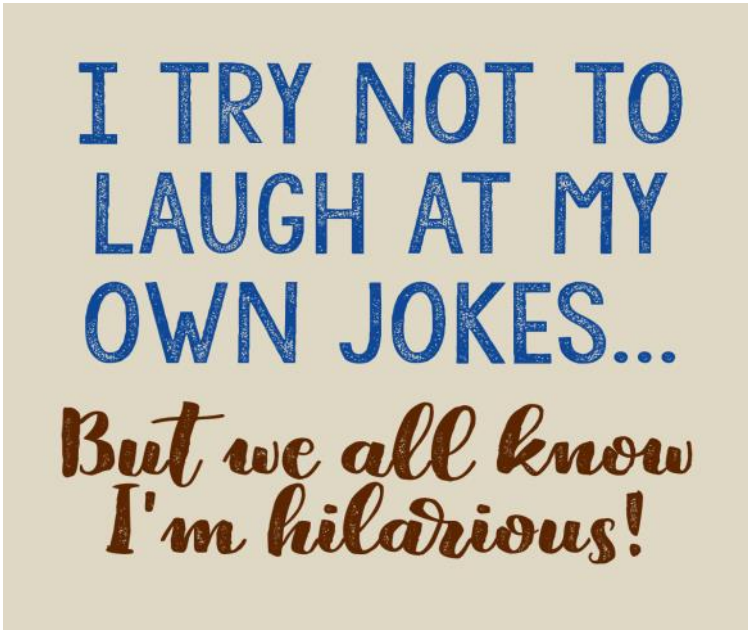
## National Home Donation Report as of 10 Aug 2022

District / Post	Reported	District / Post Donated	District / Post	Reported	District / Post Donated
District 1	Yes	\$50.00	10217	Yes	\$50.00
9723	Yes	\$50.00	10249	Yes / No	\$0.00
District 2	Yes / No	\$0.00	11575	Yes / No	\$0.00
1054	Yes / No	\$0.00	12074	Yes	\$100.00
9555	Yes / No	\$0.00	12146	Yes / No	\$0.00
9612	Yes	\$200.00	12163	Yes / No	\$0.00
District 3	Yes / No	\$0.00	District 6	Yes / No	\$0.00
8180	Yes / No	\$0.00	1509	Yes / No	\$0.00
9985	Yes / No	\$0.00	2917	Yes / No	\$0.00
10033	Yes / No	\$0.00	3457	Yes / No	\$0.00
10223	Yes / No	\$0.00	District 7	Yes / No	\$0.00
12147	Yes / No	\$0.00	124	Yes / No	\$0.00
District 4	Yes / No	\$0.00	2485	Yes / No	\$0.00
9957	Yes / No	\$0.00	9892	Yes / No	\$0.00
District 5	Yes / No	\$0.00	11447	Yes	\$50.00
9876	Yes	\$100.00	12130	Yes / No	\$0.00
9951	Yes	\$50.00			
<b>Dist/Post</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$650.00</b>	<b>Grand</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>\$650.00</b>
Not Confirmed			Working on		

If any District or Post are having problems, please let me know so I can contact the National Home and try to get it resolved.

Yours in Comradeship,

Randell E. Himes  
[nhdpa@vfwpacific.org](mailto:nhdpa@vfwpacific.org)  
[rehimes@gmail.com](mailto:rehimes@gmail.com)



National Home Chairman

Randell Himes

Please report any and all donations that you make to the National Home to me so they can be recorded and tracked. Email them to:

[nhdpa@vfwpacific.org](mailto:nhdpa@vfwpacific.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.*

Visit their website [here](#)





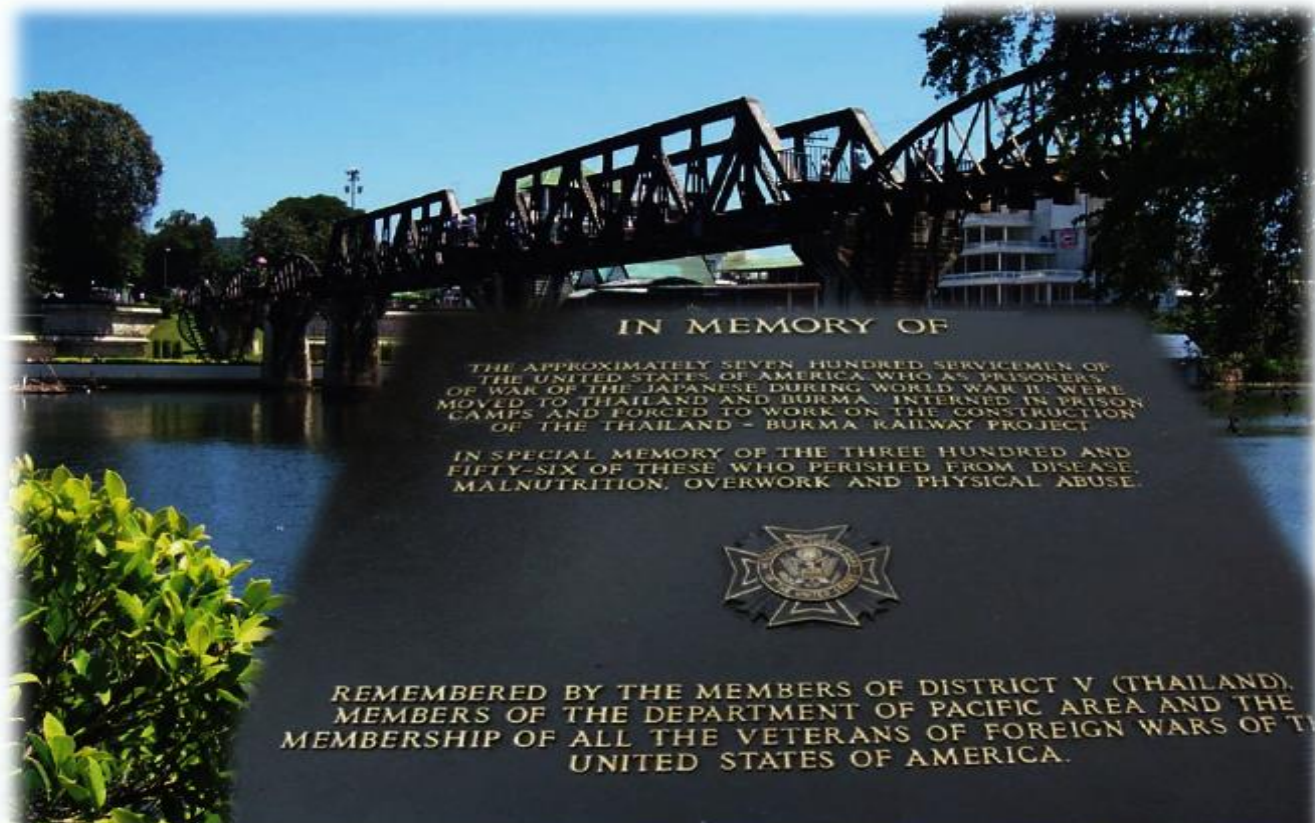
## DISTRICT 5 HISTORY

# VFW District V

Death Railway Memorial Dedication

14 September 1997

Leon "Dick" Vileo Commander



### VFW Remembers 'Death Railway' Victims in Thailand

A decade-long struggle for recognition culminated Sept. 14 when U.S. Ambassador to Thailand William Itoh dedicated a plaque to honor the 668 American POWs used as slave labor by the Japanese during construction of the Kwai River Bridge, near Kanchanaburi.

The "Death Railway" from Thailand to Burma (now Myanmar) was built by POWs from seven nations. Remains of the 356 Americans who died from disease, malnutrition, overwork and physical abuse during construction of the bridge were returned to the U.S. after the war.



VFW District 5 Commander Leon Vileo and U.S. Ambassador to Thailand William Itoh dedicate the U.S. POW memorial at the River Kwai on Sept. 14, 1997.



# VOP/PP/TA CHAIRMAN

Comrades,

I am still in need of the youth programs chair names for Districts 2, 5, 6, and 7; please get them to me as soon as possible.

**All-State:** Posts must participate in VoD and PP by submitting at least one entry do their respective District Chairmen or make a \$75 donation to VMS programs. Districts must participate in VoD and PP by submitting at least one entry do their respective District Chairmen or make a \$100 donation to VMS programs. Please send the donation receipts to the me.

**All-American:** Posts and Districts need to meet the All-State criteria as well as participate in the Teachers Award. Posts can make a \$75 donation to VMS programs and Districts can make a \$100 donation to VMS programs in lieu of entry. Please send the donation receipts to the DPA Chairman. Department must submit one entry for all three programs to qualify.

As soon as I have the new donation link, I will get it out to all of you.

This year's topics are: VoD – *“Why is the Veteran Important”* and PP – *“My Pledge to our Veterans”*. Please get these out to schools, homeschools, and youth centers so that children can start working on them now. I also want to encourage you to work with the schools more to try and get them more involved with the program. One way is to get some teachers to help with the voting as it suggests in the VoD/PP Chairman's guide.

**Deadlines:** 31 October to the Post and 21 November to me from the Districts. This gives three weeks for Post and District level. If there is any doubt if a submission may not be valid, please get with me ASAP so we can check and give a youth plenty of time to fix it before it is too late. The last thing I want to do is invalidate an entry.

Please go to the DPA page, the documents are at the bottom of the page. <https://vfwpacific.org/di/vfw/v2/default.asp?pid=120296>, please let me and Augie know if you have any issues with it.

Yours in comradeship and service,

David Gley



VoD, PP, TA Chairman  
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Phone: +82-10-2724-7176

**I STOOD WAVING TO MY  
NEIGHBOR FOR 10  
MINUTES THIS MORNING  
BEFORE REALIZING SHE  
WAS CLEANING HER  
WINDOWS**



Department of Pacific Areas

VOD/PP/TA Chairman

David Gley



## UPCOMING COMMEMORATIVE DATES



"a date which will live in infamy"



Armistice Day is commemorated every year on 11 November to mark the armistice signed between the Allies of World War I and Germany at Compiègne, France at 5:45 am for the cessation of hostilities on the Western Front of World War I, which took effect at the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month of 1918. Now known as Veterans Day

Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day, also referred to as Pearl Harbor Day, is observed annually in the United States on December 7, to remember and honor the 2,403 US citizens killed in the Japanese surprise attack on Pearl Harbor in Hawaii on December 7, 1941 leading to the United States declaring war on Japan the following day thus entering World War II.

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**ONE**  
**SOURCE**

**ONE SOURCE CONNECTING YOU  
TO YOUR BEST MILLIFE.**

## DPA WEBSITE SPONSORS



### Notice

**Districts, to offset the costs of our website and newsletter please find at least one Sponsor of \$100 for a year. Congratulations to District 5 for going above and beyond!!**

We ask each District to submit at least one DPA Website Sponsor. Each Sponsor must donate a minimum of \$100. The term is one year and their Logo will be included on our Sponsor Website page and here in our Bi-Monthly newsletter. Contact the Webmaster at [webdpa@vfwpacific.org](mailto:webdpa@vfwpacific.org) or The Pacific Times Editor at [pacifictimes@vfwpacific.org](mailto:pacifictimes@vfwpacific.org) for information on how to submit your Sponsors.