

THE PACIFIC TIMES

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF PACIFIC AREAS



No one does more for Veterans
EVERY Veteran is a HERO

2021 National Publications Winner
Department Publication Bronze Award.

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FREE

Nominations and Elections 2022-2023



We are now in the nomination and election season for all posts and districts in the VFW for the 2022-2023 term.

Nominations are opened at the post general membership meeting in March and remain open until elections at the post general membership meeting in April. Section 216 & 217 of the National Bylaws and Manual of Procedure provides guidance.

District nominations are opened at the meeting prior to the District Convention and remain open until the election during the District Convention. Section 416 & 417 of the National Bylaws & Manual of Procedure provides guidance.

In April posts will be electing those officers as well as the delegates for districts and department conventions. It is important to carefully consider your nominations and elect worthy leaders for all officer and delegate positions. Remember, you are electing the leaders of your post or district and they set the tone for your organization. It is also helpful to elect a Commander who is familiar with the chain of command within our organization and if possible, someone who is known at the Department level to be an honest, thoughtful, and dedicated comrade.

The process of electing delegates is laid out in the National Bylaws and Manual of Procedure, as well as in your District and Department Bylaws. If you have questions or are unsure of the process, go to the District or Department JAG and they will provide answers or get you an answer as required.

To quote from Sec 222 of the Manual of Procedure: Delegates and alternates for the District Convention and Meetings, Department and National Conventions shall be elected at a regular meeting in April. Delegate strength shall be based on members in good standing as of March 31st. The National Bylaws Section 222 further directs that Delegate strength shall be one for every thirty members or fraction thereof in good standing. Delegates and alternates shall be elected in accordance with the Manual of Procedure. Delegates elected under this section shall not be considered instructed and may exercise full authority in the duty to be performed.



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your **VOTE**
is your **VOICE**

COMMANDER'S CALL

Greetings Comrades,

I am very proud to say the State of the Department is still in fantastic shape as we move from the coldest part of winter in some of our Districts to the transition to early Spring in the next few weeks. We are doing very well or completed most Programs and many of our Posts are still in great position for All American and All State.

The DPA continues to be solidly in third place in Membership within National. As of February 27th, we have 11,837 members or 97.64% of last year's total. Currently, we need 285 members to reach 100%. At the present, we have eight Post who have reached 100% and 12 more with less than 15 members to reach the mark! As some of our Districts are seeing restrictions of the pandemic hopefully coming to an end, I really want to thank our Posts and membership for holding recruiting drives to reach out for new members. It is also outstanding to see them posted on the DPA FB page along with their Post FB page. As the weather will start getting better soon, I hope to see more recruiting efforts as we seek to make our organization stronger in numbers to ensure our voice is being heard in Washington DC!!

As I mentioned in my Jan-Feb 2022 Article, let's do it for the Gipper...and in this case the Gipper is in honor of our DPA Vietnam Veterans past and present!!!

Just as a reminder, the National Commander in Chief's Membership Grant Initiative Program is still in effect so please remember if you recruit a member your Post can receive up to \$30 for each member. Many Posts should be receiving their Grants from the January timeframe. For February's recruitment, you should receive your Grant by the end of March. Let's take advantage of this Program while National can fund it.

Planning for the DPA Convention is going very well. Again, the dates are Sunday June 12th to Thursday, June 16th. NOTE: Thursday will be a travel day! The Convention will be held at the Oasis Hotel in Angeles City, Philippines. We are hoping to have registration on the DPA Website up and ready to go within the next few weeks. The District Commanders will be notified to spread the word and it will be posted on our DPA FB page. For our Comrades who need assistance with the computer, please seek out another Comrade who can ensure you are registered. Comrades of Robert W. Zaher Post 2485 and D7 are working hard to ensure you will enjoy the Convention. After the two and a half years of what we have been through, I believe everyone would agree...WE NEED IT!!!

Once the registration page is up and running, I would like to encourage our members to sign up as soon as you can to help the Committee to assist with any requirements you may have and so we have solid numbers for hotel rooms, dinners, etc. The date to close the registration will be around the mid part of May but that is only tentative. I am very excited at the potential Convention Shirts we will have, and a decision is coming shortly on the design.

Comrades, with all the proposed changes to VA I would like to encourage you to go on Youtube because they have been posting some outstanding videos that can help answer some if not all of your questions on how some of the changes may or may not affect you! So please give it a look!



Commander

Kevin Mitchell



COMMANDER'S CALL

March is a very important month for our Posts because you will be holding your nominations for the 2022-23 Term. My best wishes to all the nominees and I hope if a Comrade is being nominated for a position for the first time, they will be mentored and informed on their duties as outlined in the MOP.

I have been seeing plenty of emails and messages in which Comrades are asking who a Committee Chairman is. The DPA General Order (GO) from June 2021 is posted on the DPA website vfwpacific.org. Once you sign in the GO is one of the first links you will come across. Please refer to it for all Committee Chairpersons. As I mentioned at the Incoming C of A, I believe they are the finest ever assembled in our Department's history...but that's my opinion! But please reach out to them for any questions or concerns. I am confident that they have your best interest at heart!

In closing, I would like to thank you our Comrades for the tireless work you are doing on behalf of our Comrades, our families, and our communities. Please do not forget, we still want to promote camaraderie among our members. The Department Convention will go a long way in that area. Please take care of yourselves and remember...I LOVE YOU ALL!!!

In Comradeship and Service,

Kevin E. Mitchell
Commander
Department of Pacific Areas
EVERY Veteran is a HERO
Remembering our DPA Vietnam Veterans Past and Present



Commander

Kevin Mitchell



UPCOMING COMMEMORATIVE DATES



1 May Loyalty Day - Loyalty Day originally began as "Americanization Day" in 1921 as a counter to the Communists' May 1 celebration of the Russian Revolution. On 1 May 1930, 10,000 VFW members staged a rally at New York's Union Square to promote patriotism. Through a resolution adopted in 1949, May 1 evolved into Loyalty Day. Observances began in 1950 on April 28 and climaxed May 1 when more than five million people across the nation held rallies. In New York City, more than 100,000 people rallied for America. In 1958 Congress enacted Public Law 529 proclaiming Loyalty Day a permanent fixture on the nation's calendar.



May 8 V-E Day - On May 8, 1945 - known as Victory in Europe Day or V-E Day - celebrations erupted around the world to mark the end of World War II in Europe. The war had been raging for almost five years when U.S. and Allied forces landed on the beaches of Normandy, France, on June 6, 1944. The invasion signaled the beginning of the end for Adolf Hitler and Nazi Germany. In less than a year,



31 May 2021 Memorial Day - Memorial Day is an American holiday, observed on the last Monday of May, honoring the men and women who died while serving in the U.S. military. Originally known as Decoration Day, it originated in the years following the Civil War and became an official federal holiday in 1971. Many Americans observe Memorial Day by visiting cemeteries or memorials, holding family gatherings and participating in parades. Unofficially, it marks the beginning of the summer season.



6 June 1944 D-Day - On 6 June 1944, more than 160,000 Allied troops landed along a 50-mile stretch of heavily-fortified French coastline, to fight Nazi Germany on the beaches of Normandy, France. Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower called the operation a crusade in which, "we will accept nothing less than full victory." More than 5,000 Ships and 13,000 aircraft supported the D-Day invasion, and by day's end, the Allies gained a foot-hold in Continental Europe.



14 June Flag Day - Flag Day is celebrated by Americans on June 14 each year and commemorates the adoption of the Stars and Stripes as the official flag of the United States. Many Americans celebrate Flag Day by displaying the Red, White and Blue in front of homes and businesses. Some communities, schools and veterans' organizations hold Flag Day parades, essay contests, ceremonies and picnics.

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



On 12/25/21, Comrades from the Ban-chang Utapao VFW Post 12146, Brian Bowman, Don Meurett, [Howard Holzworth](#), Dan Morgan, Terry Hebron, Lionel Seeram and his son Donald, Sid Cameron and his wife Sara, and of course Scott Thomas from Pat-taya American Legion TH02 as Santa visited Anne's House in Banchang, Thailand. Santa delivered gift bags and pizza to all 32 children at the home. It was a great afternoon seeing the excitement and smiles on the faces of all of the Children.

Your feedback is important to us. Please submit your Letters to the Editor or Suggestions by clicking pacifictimes@vfwpacific.org

In the SPOTLIGHT



On 01/20/22, Banchang Utapao VFW Post 12146, provided Adult absorbent briefs to the Banchang community outreach Nurse that assists the areas handicapped and emotionally challenged within the community. Post Commander Holzworth and SVC Cilley provided them with 30 cases of adult absorbent briefs. The funding was provided through the StillServing Project grant that the Post received and Utapao Alumni group.

QM Morgan visited with Post Member Charles Cooksley a long term resident at the Baan Rakjong Care Home in Muang District Chonburi and delivered adult sanitary items from the Post's StillServing Project grant that the Post received. Due to Covid restrictions the visit with Comrade Cooksley was limited in time and distance.



Continuing the Post's Still Serving Program and Community Outreach, Post Commander Holzworth and QM Morgan distributed "Milk Supplement" packages to the wife of Khun Utai, Post Home's next door neighbor, suffering from a severe stroke.

In the SPOTLIGHT



Commander Kozlesky and District1 Jr Vice Larry Wilson presented DISTRICT1/Post 9723 Coin to Technical Sergeant Jesus CINTRON President of Air Force Sergeants Association on 16 Feb 2022.

Commander Kozlesky presented a brief relating to the VFW Mission/Vision and Core Values . Comrades Larry Wilson/John Bowers and Jeff Runnfeldt were in attendance.



Due to an outbreak of COVID 19 virus in a local Home for displaced and abandoned children which tested positive for the virus and have been moved outside the main facility.

Post 12146 was notified of the need for basic food items to replace ones left behind.

Quick action by the Post Community Service Officer and several members of the Post and the Utapao Alumni Association arranged for the purchase of basic foods needs and dropped them off to a safe location for further distribution, ensuring more then 20 children will have food available during their isolation.

In the SPOTLIGHT



Lin VVA - DPA CDR Mitchell presents a DPA Vietnam Coin to Comrade Linus Travers of Robert W. Zaher Post 2485.



Post 12130 - DPA CDR Mitchell is presented a Post 12130 Coin by Post Commander Kimberly Osbourne-Burelson at D7 Meeting.



Immediate Past Department Commander Ken Stein presents DPA webmaster and Pacific Times Editor Alan "Augie" Augustine with a certificate from VFW National stating The Pacific Times is the recipient of The Bronze Award for the 2021 National Publication Contest. Also attending the ceremony was Assistant DPA Webmaster Comrade Dan Morgan.

SENIOR VICE COMMANDER

Comrades,

By the time you have read this many of the below stats will have changed. Everyone has been doing great work as always and the Commander appreciates it. When I wrote this we were sitting at 97.21% and needed 337 to reach 100%. We are in the home stretch for the 2021-2022 year. Keep chugging along; the year does not close out until June 30 2022. I have complete confidence you can push the Department to 100%. Remember 100% all starts with you and the Post.

DPA MEM STATS FEB 5TH 0824HRS JKT
11785 AS OF TODAY... 12122 GOAL

Some Posts and Districts will meet Department All State requirements by 15 April and those Posts and Districts will be announced at the June Convention. Just because you have not met the requirements by April **DOES NOT** mean you are out of it. Again you are still in the running until June 30th. You can do it, never quit...

Fingers crossed we can all be face to face in Angeles this coming June. Again when I wrote this things were looking positive, but we have all become used to the countries changing rules on a dime. We all need to see each other again, you worked hard and deserve it the rewards of your efforts.

Below was a copy of my records for Post and District All State. I wrote this 6 Feb at 0805hrs JKT. So if you read this and it doesn't match yours please keep an eye on the DPA FB page. The most current update will be on there.

DPA ALL STATE POST

POSTS	MBRSHIP	LEGACY	QM BOND	INSPECTION	SO	AUDITS	CSR	VOD/PP	BP	VMS	NH	FB	ACTION C W	MAP	ADOPT	SCOUTS
9723																
1054																
9555																
9612																
8180																
9985																
10033																
10223																
9957																
9876																
9951																
10217																
10249																
11575																
12074																
12146																
12163																
1509																
2917																
3457																
124																
2485																
9892																
11447																
12130																

The YELLOW area requires ONLY ONE to be classed as MET

If you have done a MAP, Adopted a Unit, Sponsored a Scout Troop please send me an email showing me so I can mark your Post as MET.



Senior Vice Commander

Warren "Max" Maxson



SENIOR VICE COMMANDER

DPA ALL STATE DISTRICT

DISTRICT	QM	BOND	INSPECTION	SO	MBRSH	P	LEGACY	LM	AUDITS	TRAINING	VOD/PP	VMS	NAT	HM	CSR
1															
2															
3															
4															
5															
6															
7															

PS: The Commander is dedicating his year to the Veterans of the Vietnam War. So I thought I would add some pics. If you have pics you would like added from your tour or tours in Vietnam feel free to send them to me with a note/description and I will get it put in the PT.

ENGINEERS OF THE VIETNAM WAR



Warren "Max" Maxson
Senior Vice Commander
Department of Pacific Areas
EVERY Veteran is a HERO



Senior Vice Commander

Warren "Max" Maxson



REMEMBERING THOSE WHO HAVE SERVED

As we get older and we experience the loss of old friends, we begin to realize that maybe we ten-foot tall, bullet-proof Army aviators (and crew) won't live forever. We aren't so bulletproof anymore. We ponder... if I were gone tomorrow, "Did I say what I wanted to my Brothers?" The answer is "No!" Hence, the following random thoughts:

When people ask me if I miss flying, I always say something like, "Yes, I miss the flying because when you are flying, you are totally focused on the task at hand. It's like nothing else you will ever do (almost)." But then I always say, "However, I miss the unit and the guys even more than I miss the flying."

Why, you might ask? They were a bunch of aggressive, wiseass, cocky, insulting, sarcastic bastards in smelly flight suits! They drank too much, they chased women, they flew when they shouldn't, they laughed too loud and thought they owned the sky, the bar, and generally thought they could do everything better than the next guy. Nothing was funnier than trying to screw with a buddy and see how pissed off they would get. They flew helicopters that leaked, that bled RPM, that broke, that couldn't hover, that burned fuel too fast, that never had all the radios and instruments working, and with systems that were archaic next to today's new generation aircraft.



But a little closer look might show that every guy in the room was sneaky smart and damned competent and brutally handsome in his own way! They hated to lose or fail to accomplish the mission and seldom did. They were the laziest guys on the planet until challenged and then they would do anything to win.

I miss the call signs, nicknames and the stories behind them. I miss getting lit up in an O' or NCO' Club full of my buddies and watching the incredible, unbelievable things that were happening. I miss the crew chiefs waiting as you got to your ship for a Zero-Dark:30 preflight. I miss pulling an armful of pitch, nosing it over and climbing into a new dawn. I miss going straight up and straight down. I miss the tension of wondering what today's 12 hours of combat flying would bring. I miss the craps table in the corner of the O-Club and letting it ALL ride because money was meaningless. I miss listening to BS stories while drinking and laughing until my eyes watered. I miss three man lifts. I miss naps on the platoon hootch porch with a room full of aviators working up new tricks to torment the sleeper. I miss rolling in hot and watching my rockets hit EXACTLY where I was aiming.

Finally, I miss hearing In-Coming! called out at the bar and seeing and hearing a room full of men hit the deck with drinks spilling and chairs being knocked over as they rolled in the beer and kicked their legs in the air—followed closely by a Not Politically Correct Tap Dancing and Singing spectacle that couldn't help but make you grin and order another round.

I am a lucky guy and have lived a great life!

We box out bad memories from various missions and events most of the time but never the hallowed memories of our fallen comrades. We are often amazed at how good war stories never let truth interfere and how they get better with age. We are lucky bastards to be able to walk into a reunion or a bar and have men we respect and love shout our names, our call signs, and know that this is truly where we belong.

We are ARMY AVIATORS and CREW MEMBERS. We are Few and we are Proud to have been one of the first combat helicopter FLIGHTS CREWS the world ever saw.

I am Privileged and Proud to call you Brothers. Clear Right! Clear Left! Pullin' Pitch!

(originally by Paul Cotter and penned by J. C. Pennington) <https://cherrieswriter.com/category/categories/a-vietnam-war-story/>

JUNIOR VICE COMMANDER

Greetings Comrades

We are on our way to the leg of our journey to our upcoming Department Convention in June 12-16, 2022, in Angeles City, Philippines and I know everyone are anxious in getting all your District, Posts Membership requirements for All State and All American. It's high time to send those Award nomination packages in as well, so I would like to ask all Posts to submit their Nomination Packets to their District Commanders by 30 March 2022 and in turn District Commanders to send all Award packets to the Department by 15 April 2022 to be voted on by the DPA Awards Committee. Let us all recognized our hard working, hard charging Outstanding Post Commanders, Quartermasters, Adjutants, Members, Non-members, and Community Partners who had helped make your mission successful.

Community Service Reports shows how we as a VFW Organization dedicate our time and money in providing community service to our local communities, helping our fellow veterans that are in need, their widows, and their orphans. Attached is the current DPA CSR Posts Rankings as of 22 February 2022. If you want to check and verify your CSR status login to VFW.ORG and check to see Membership Links and Click on the All-American Dashboard and you should be able to see your District and Post CSR statistics as well as Reports and all other requirements for All American. I know that all Posts are trying their best to meet their CSR requirements and I urged everyone to work hard and help their Posts JVCs in getting their CSR Reports in on time and you still have enough time to report your community activities to meet your CSR Requirements for the current Fiscal Year.

I look forward seeing everyone face to face if not via Zoom depending upon the local Covid-19 Protocols for this upcoming Department Convention and I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for allowing me to serve as your Department Junior Vice Commander. Yours in Comradeship and Service!

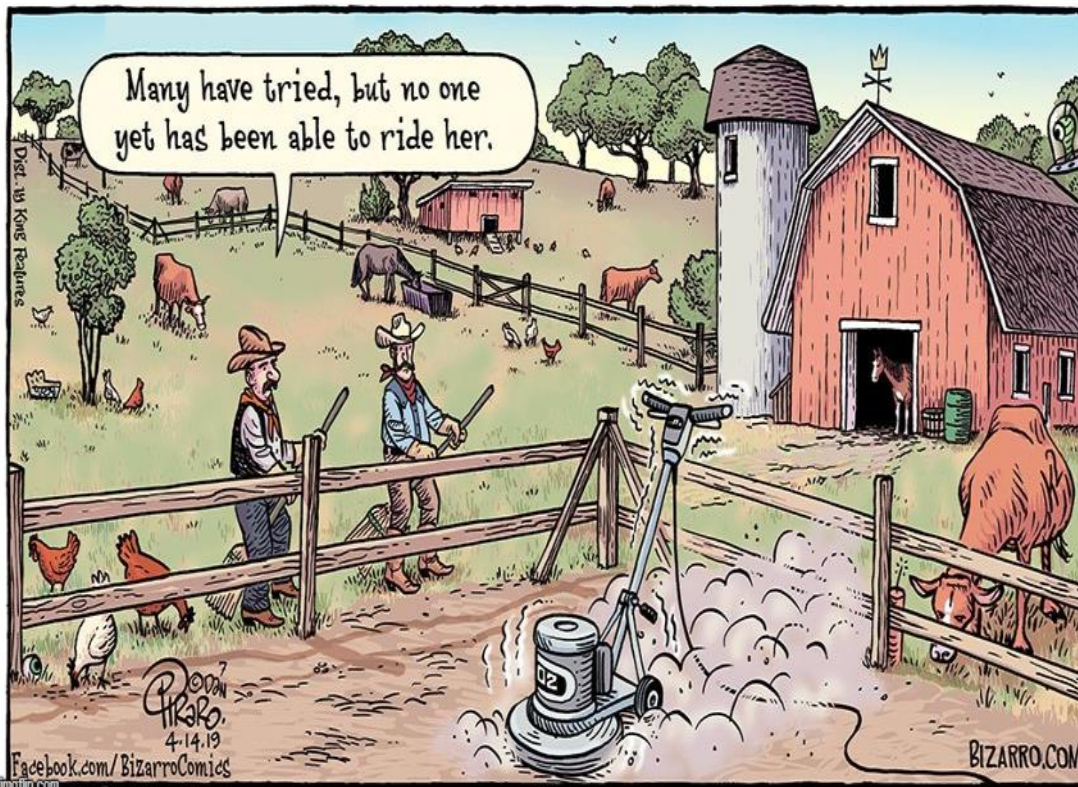


Junior Vice Commander

Alex Fores

Success Evolve Career Retain
Jobs Professional Program Skills
Incentive TRAINING & DEVELOPMENT
Strategy In-House Task
Knowledge Win-Win Trainers
Employees Retain Career
Goals Innovation Qualifications
Essential Competent Learn

Click on the icon above to go to our new **Training and Tutorial** page under **Resources** on the DPA Website



JUNIOR VICE COMMANDER

Community Service Rankings Post 2021-2022 Pacific Areas

Post/Aux	Volunteer Hours	Value of Hours	Dollars Donated	Total
2917	12283	\$ 334097.6	\$ 54078.08	\$ 388175.68
124	4064.5	\$ 110554.4	\$ 75169.1	\$ 185723.5
12146	1885.5	\$ 51285.6	\$ 74209.64	\$ 125495.24
9876	1498.1	\$ 40748.32	\$ 36412.77	\$ 77161.09
10217	1587.01	\$ 43166.67	\$ 26732.72	\$ 69899.39
1054	2006.5	\$ 54576.8	\$ 8896.64	\$ 63473.44
2485	1591.5	\$ 43288.8	\$ 20170.84	\$ 63459.64
9892	1341.5	\$ 36488.8	\$ 8492.77	\$ 44981.57
8180	1026	\$ 27907.2	\$ 11905.7	\$ 39812.9
10223	950	\$ 25840	\$ 6754.2	\$ 32594.2
9951	803	\$ 21841.6	\$ 3795.84	\$ 25637.44
1509	374.5	\$ 10186.4	\$ 15448.8	\$ 25635.2
11447	657	\$ 17870.4	\$ 7685.38	\$ 25555.78
9612	753.05	\$ 20482.96	\$ 4604.16	\$ 25087.12
9985	340	\$ 9248	\$ 8195.74	\$ 17443.74
3457	421.5	\$ 11464.8	\$ 3996.54	\$ 15461.34
10249	386	\$ 10499.2	\$ 4519.65	\$ 15018.85
12163	518.66	\$ 14107.55	\$ 896.02	\$ 15003.57
12130	177.75	\$ 4834.8	\$ 8530.45	\$ 13365.25
9723	422	\$ 11478.4	\$ 1726.34	\$ 13204.74
9555	355	\$ 9656	\$ 1196.08	\$ 10852.08
12074	280	\$ 7616	\$ 2640.95	\$ 10256.95
9957	228	\$ 6201.6	\$ 2319.1	\$ 8520.7
11575	181	\$ 4923.2	\$ 3034.76	\$ 7957.96
10033	70	\$ 1904	\$ 509.08	\$ 2413.08

Yours in Comradeship and Service!

Alexander B. Fores
Junior Vice Commander
Department of Pacific Areas
EVERY Veteran is a HERO



Junior Vice Commander

Alex Fores



Click on the icon above to go to our new **Training and Tutorial** page under **Resources** on the DPA Website

2021-22 Dedicated to our DPA



Vietnam Veterans Past and Present

The veterans of World War II were welcomed home as heroes. The veterans of the Korean War received a warm homecoming. The veterans of the Vietnam War returned to a cold shoulder and a country on the verge of tearing itself apart.

Infantryman Steven A. Wowwk spent six months in Vietnam—January to June 1969—and was wounded twice in battle. He was sent home due to the severity of his second injury, and found a surprisingly hostile environment.

Wowwk said he and other wounded soldiers were being transported to a Boston hospital on a bus. As he looked out the window to the streets of Boston, he offered a peace sign to the pedestrians. One person responded to his gesture with a middle finger.



A group of amputee Vietnam veterans talk together at a hospital in San Francisco, California, 1967. Bill Ray/Time & Life Pictures/Getty Images

The anger Wowwk experienced was part of a larger antipathy brewing in the U.S. As the Vietnam War dragged on from 1955 to 1975, many Americans felt fatigued and angry—regardless of their opinion of the war.

Many Vietnam veterans claim that most people treated them with indifference and seemed uncomfortable listening to their stories from battle. Some people, however, saw returning soldiers as dangerous, violent symbols of an increasingly futile and terrible war—much like the individual Wowwk encountered.

The vast majority of men coming home from Vietnam, however, had no choice in participating in the war and were deeply scarred from what they witnessed overseas. Still, communities had a hard time supporting their returning soldiers through such a long, aimless war. Jerry Lembke, a Vietnam veteran and sociologist, once said that communities struggled to welcome one son home when another family's son down the street just got sent off.

Multiple societal factors all converged in the 1970s to create a perfect storm that made it especially hard for veterans to reintegrate into civilian life. Veteran homelessness had been an issue in America since World War I, but it grew exponentially after Vietnam.

Vietnam veterans received little emotional support from their communities, as their neighbors generally did not want to think about the war anymore. For the thousands of veterans battling PTSD, anxiety and depression, this lack of understanding took a toll.

On top of that, the 1970s was the height of deinstitutionalization—when the majority of mental hospitals in the U.S. were closing. They were slowly being replaced by more healthy, ethical mental health centers, but these centers didn't make up for the deficit in mental health care.

GI benefits were more sparse in the 70s economy, and some veterans struggled to find careers that suited their skills—especially if they were injured. To distract from looming mental illness and career difficulties, some fell into addiction. From there, The Churn pulled them under.

Of all the veterans who have experienced homelessness from World War II to the present, half of them are Vietnam veterans. Today, there is much more emphasis on protecting our veterans because of the epidemic of homelessness in the wake of Vietnam.

While Vietnam veterans came home to an indifferent-to-hostile society, the biggest catalysts for homelessness were the lack of mental health care, addiction treatment and job training. Several of the root causes of homelessness were abundant among veterans at this time, and there were few resources to address them.

2021-22 Dedicated to our DPA



Vietnam Veterans Past and Present

"They had the guts to brave incoming mortars, sniper and ground- to-air fire, and other wartime hardships and dangers to visit the firebases earned them the unarguable respect and admiration of the troops!"
- Donut Dollies

During World War II numerous teams of three female Red Cross volunteers operated clubmobiles equipped with a kitchen area with a stove for heating water for coffee and a built-in donut-making machine. These clubmobiles traveled with the rear echelon units, but each day their teams ventured out to different operating areas to visit Soldiers, play Victrola records, pass out sundry items, and serve hot coffee and fresh-made donuts to the troops.

Female Red Cross workers answered the call to duty again during the Korean War. In its early stages, they earned the endearing nickname, "Donut Dollies," turning out up to 20,000 donuts a day for American Soldiers disembarking troop ships in Pusan.

The Donut Dollies were most visible to troops serving in Vietnam. Between February 1962 and March 1973, they logged over 2,000,000 miles by jeep, deuce-and-a-half, and helicopter, visiting combat troops at remote fire bases from An Khe to Yen Giang (there's no "Z" in Vietnamese). And they didn't pass out a single donut during this war.



Instead, usually traveling at least in pairs and dressed in their signature pale blue outfits, this time they brought smiles, songs, games, and a touch of back home to the guys who were in the bush counting the days down from 365.

Over 600 Donut Dollies responded to the somewhat opaque Red Cross's ads seeking "qualified young women who were willing to serve one year overseas." They had to be at least 21, have a college education, and have that "girl next door" look. Among the understated requirements: "the job requires a capacity for hard work under less than ideal conditions."

After only two weeks of training in Washington, D.C. as Red Cross recreation workers, the women packed off for Vietnam where they set up recreation centers before the USO and Special Services arrived and wrote up and conducted recreation programs in the field for troops who couldn't visit the centers.

They also visited hospitals to hand out activity books and spent time in evac hospitals with the wounded. As one Donut Dolly put it, "Our job was to smile and be bubbly for an entire year— no matter what the situation."

No one appreciated the presence of the Donut Dollies more than the troops on the remote firebases. Minutes spent talking about home or sports or music or wives and girlfriends with a fresh-faced American girl with a ponytail wearing a tinge of lipstick and a splash of perfume was a terrific morale boost.

And the fact that these young women had the guts to brave incoming mortars, sniper and ground- to-air fire, and other wartime hardships and dangers to visit the firebases earned them the unarguable respect and admiration of the troops. And that's exactly how Vietnam veterans remember the Red Cross Donut Dollies nearly forty years later— with unarguable appreciation, respect, and admiration.

2021-22 Dedicated to our DPA



Vietnam Veterans Past and Present



Vietnam veterans hold a silent march down Pennsylvania Avenue past the White House here on April 22, 1971. Bettmann Archive/Getty Images

the increased risk for addiction and homelessness, but Solutions for Change works to ensure they find a support network that has learned from the mistakes of the past. We don't want any veteran to be left behind—and if they are ready to change their life, we are ready to guide them out of The Churn.

“The society really was ill-prepared to give these guys what they deserved,” says Christian Appy, professor of History at the University of Massachusetts Amherst and author of three books on Vietnam. “They were not necessarily looking for a parade, but they were certainly looking for basic human support and help in readjusting to civilian life after this really brutal war.”

Part of the reason was economic. While the economy

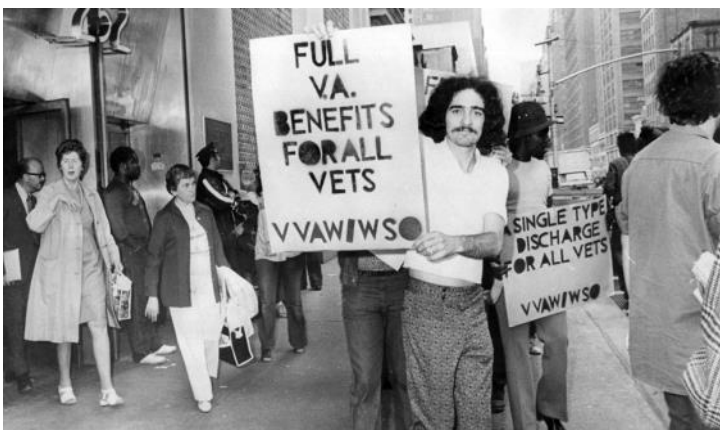
Solutions for Change has learned from the shortcomings of the past to build a program that solves the root causes of homelessness. We also believe in offering empathy and kindness to all—especially those who sacrifice so much to serve our country.

There are about 37,000 veterans experiencing homelessness on any given day in 2020. Those at greatest risk are usually between the ages of 46 to 55 and lack family or community to turn to. We at Solutions for Change are dedicated to being a community veterans can always turn to. Solutions for Change offers career training, access to healthcare, shelter and a community that values and validates the experiences of all.

Some veterans continue to return home with PTSD and



Vietnam veterans hold a silent march down Pennsylvania Avenue past the White House here on April 22, 1971. Bettmann Archive/Getty Images



Protestors demonstrate for full benefits for all US veterans, including Vietnam War veterans in July, 1974. Jerry Engel/New York Post Archives/NYP Holdings, Inc./Getty Images

after World War II was one of the most robust in American history, during and after Vietnam the nation was in a death spiral of stagflation and economic malaise. And as more and more wartime atrocities came to light, there was a national implication of guilt and shame placed on Vietnam veterans as participants in and avatars of a brutal, unsuccessful war. In popular culture, the stereotype of the broken, homeless Vietnam vet began to take hold thanks to films like *The Deer Hunter* (1978), *Coming Home* (1978) and *First Blood* (1982).

To learn more about Solutions Academy head over to solutionsforchange.org/our-work.

2021-22 Dedicated to our DPA

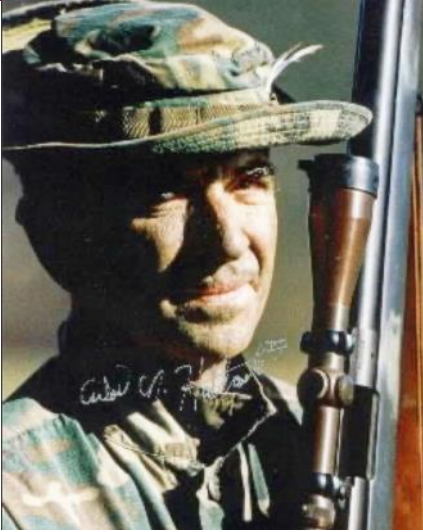


Vietnam Veterans Past and Present



FIGMO: acronym for “Finally I got my orders.” Especially in “figmo chart,” a short-timer’s calendar, usually a drawing of an undraped female form, with numbered sections which are filled in, one each day, as the short-timer keeps track of days to go.

REMEMBERING THOSE WHO HAVE SERVED



Long before Chris Kyle penned “American Sniper,” Carlos Hathcock was already a legend. He taught himself to shoot as a boy, just like Alvin York and Audie Murphy before him. He had dreamed of being a U.S. Marine his whole life and enlisted in 1959 at just 17 years old. Hathcock was an excellent sharpshooter by then, winning the Wimbledon Cup shooting championship in 1965, the year before he would deploy to Vietnam and change the face of American warfare forever.

He deployed in 1966 as a military policeman, but immediately volunteered for combat and was soon transferred to the 1st Marine Division Sniper Platoon, stationed at Hill 55, South of Da Nang. This is where Hathcock would earn the nickname “White Feather” — because he always wore a white feather on his bush hat, daring the North Vietnamese to spot him — and where he would achieve his status as the Vietnam War’s deadliest sniper in missions that sound like they were pulled from the pages of Marvel comics.

White Feather vs. The General

Early morning and early evening were Hathcock’s favorite times to strike. This was important when he volunteered for a mission he knew nothing about. “First light and last light are the best times,” he said. “In the morning, they’re going out after a good night’s rest, smoking, laughing. When they come back in the evenings, they’re tired, lollygagging, not paying attention to detail.”

He observed this first hand, at arms reach, when trying to dispatch a North Vietnamese Army General officer. For four days and three nights, he low crawled inch by inch, a move he called “worming,” without food or sleep, more than 1500 yards to get close to the general. This was the only time he ever removed the feather from his cap.

“Over a time period like that you could forget the strategy, forget the rules and end up dead,” he said. “I didn’t want anyone dead, so I took the mission myself, figuring I was better than the rest of them, because I was training them.”

Hathcock moved to a tree line near the NVA encampment.

“There were two twin .51s next to me,” he said. “I started worming on my side to keep my slug trail thin. I could have tripped the patrols that came by.” The general stepped out onto a porch and yawned. The general’s aide stepped in front of him and by the time he moved away, the general was down, the bullet went through his heart. Hathcock was 700 yards away.

“I had to get away. When I made the shot, everyone ran to the tree line because that’s where the cover was.” The soldiers searched for the sniper for three days as he made his way back. They never even saw him.

“Carlos became part of the environment,” said Edward Land, Hathcock’s commanding officer. “He totally integrated himself into the environment. He had the patience, drive, and courage to do the job. He felt very strongly that he was saving Marine lives.” With 93 confirmed kills — his longest was at 2500 yards — and an estimated 300 more, for Hathcock, it really wasn’t about the killing.

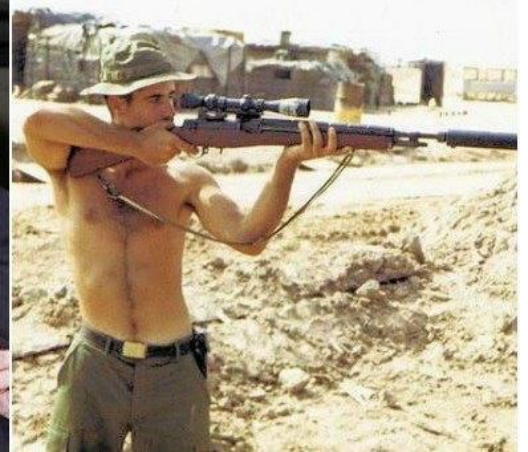
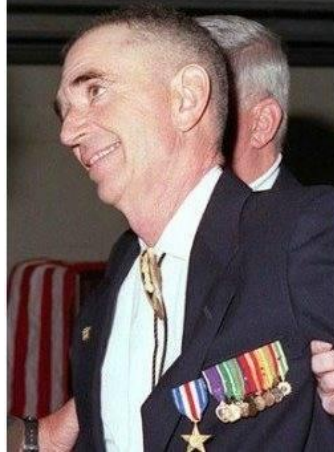
“I really didn’t like the killing,” he once told a reporter. “You’d have to be crazy to enjoy running around the woods, killing people. But if I didn’t get the enemy, they were going to kill the kids over there.” Saving American lives is something Hathcock took to heart.

“The Best Shot I Ever Made”

“She was a bad woman,” Carlos Hathcock once said of the woman known as ‘Apache.’ “Normally kill squads would just kill a Marine and take his shoes or whatever, but the Apache was very sadistic. She would do anything to cause pain.” This was the trademark of the female Viet Cong platoon leader. She captured Americans in the area around Carlos Hathcock’s unit and then tortured them without mercy.

REMEMBERING THOSE WHO HAVE SERVED

"I was in her backyard, she was in mine. I didn't like that," Hathcock said. "It was personal, very personal. She'd been torturing Marines before I got there." In November of 1966, she captured a Marine Private and tortured him within earshot of his own unit. "She tortured him all afternoon, half the next day," Hathcock recalls. "I was by the wire... He walked out, died right by the wire. "Apache skinned the private, cut off his eyelids, removed his fingernails, and then castrated him before letting him go. Hathcock attempted to save him, but he was too late. Carlos Hathcock had enough. He set out to kill Apache before she could kill any more Marines. One day, he and his spotter got a chance. The observed an NVA sniper platoon on the move. At 700 yards in, one of them stepped off the trail and Hathcock took what he calls the best shot he ever made.



700 yards in, one of them stepped off the trail and Hathcock took what he calls the best shot he ever made.

"We were in the midst of switching rifles. We saw them," he remembered. "I saw a group coming, five of them. I saw her squat to pee, that's how I knew it was her. They tried to get her to stop, but she didn't stop. I stopped her. I put one extra in her for good measure."

White Feather vs. The Cobra

"If I hadn't gotten him just then," Hathcock remembers, "he would have gotten me." Many American snipers had a bounty on their heads. These were usually worth one or two thousand dollars. The reward for the sniper with the white feather in his bush cap, however, was worth \$30,000. Like a sequel to *Enemy at The Gates*, Hathcock became such a thorn in the side of the NVA that they eventually sent their own best sniper to kill him. He was known as the Cobra and would become Hathcock's most famous encounter in the course of the war.

"He was doing bad things," Hathcock said. "He was sent to get me, which I didn't really appreciate. He killed a gunny outside my hooch. I watched him die. I vowed I would get him some way or another." That was the plan. The Cobra would kill many Marines around Hill 55 in an attempt to draw Hathcock out of his base.

"I got my partner, we went out we trailed him. He was very cagey, very smart. He was close to being as good as I was... But no way, ain't no way ain't nobody that good." In an interview filmed in the 1990s, He discussed how close he and his partner came to being a victim of the Cobra.

"I fell over a rotted tree. I made a mistake and he made a shot. He hit my partner's canteen. We thought he'd been hit because we felt the warmth running over his leg. But he'd just shot his canteen dead." Eventually the team of Hathcock and his partner, John Burke, and the Cobra had switched places.

"We worked around to where he was," Hathcock said. "I took his old spot, he took my old spot, which was bad news for him because he was facing the sun and glinted off the lens of his scope, I saw the glint and shot the glint." White Feather had shot the Cobra just moments before the Cobra would have taken his own shot. "I was just quicker on the trigger otherwise he would have killed me," Hathcock said. "I shot right straight through his scope, didn't touch the sides." With a wry smile, he added: "And it didn't do his eyesight no good either."

1969, a vehicle Hathcock was riding in struck a landmine and knocked the Marine unconscious. He came to and pulled seven of his fellow Marines from the burning wreckage. He left Vietnam with burns over 40 percent of his body. He received the Silver Star for this action in 1996. After the mine ended his sniping career, he established the Marine Sniper School at Quantico, teaching Marines how to "get into the bubble," a state of complete concentration. He was in intense pain as he taught at Quantico, suffering from Multiple Sclerosis, the disease that would ultimately kill him — something the NVA could never accomplish.

<https://www.military.com/marine-corps-birthday/carlos-hathcock-famous-marine-corps-sniper.html>

IMMEDIATE PAST DPA COMMANDER

Hello Comrades,

Things are starting to look promising for an in-person Department Convention in Angeles City 12-16 June. Many of us are starting to look into travel arrangements, hope you are able to attend. It's time to get back to camaraderie as we know it.

As we head into the final four months of this term, a big BZ to CDR Mitchell and his Every Veteran is a Hero team for the outstanding work they are doing. We are looking good membership wise, but we can do better. Let's ask our annual members to upgrade to life or to renew early. Let's contact those lapsed members who might now be ready to renew and become involved with our posts.

It takes an enthusiastic phone call from the Post Commander or one of the other officers to let the lapsed member know the benefits of rejoining and tell them what the post has been doing to assist veterans, their families, and the community.

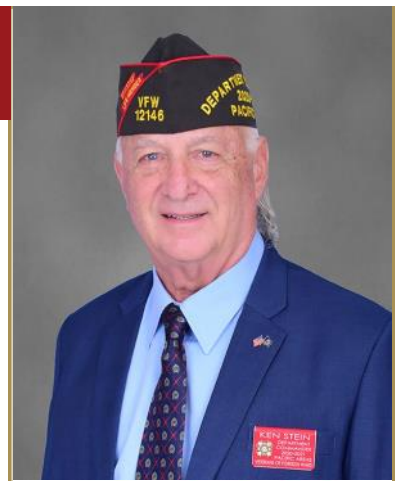
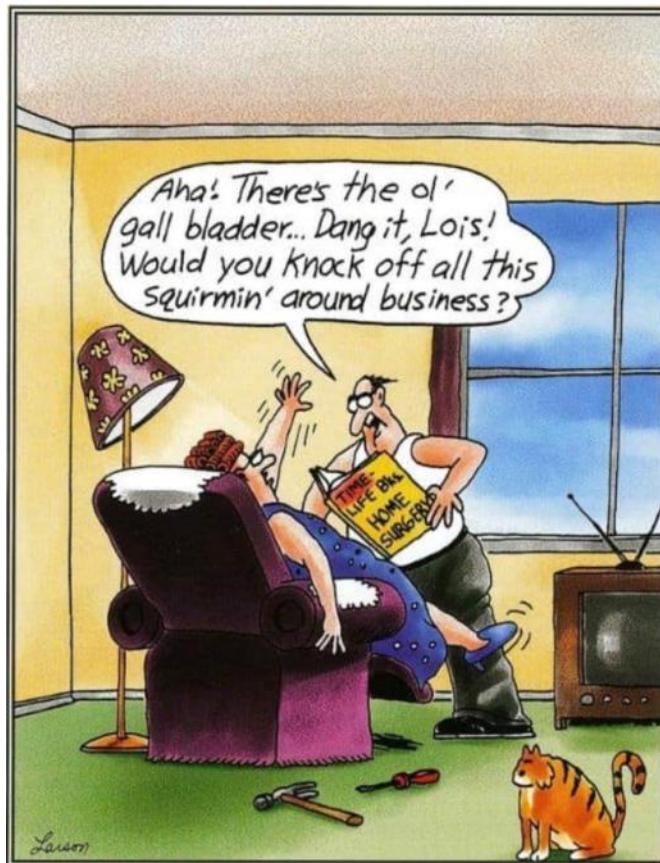
Speaking of the community, where possible set up a recruiting table, if that is not possible, wear your VFW gear when out and about, it's amazing how many vets will come up to you and say, "I didn't know there was a VFW here". Once that happens invite them to a meeting and most importantly when they attend the meeting make sure the post Commander greets the potential new member, ensure the recruiter or other member introduces them to the various comrades. Don't let them sit off by themselves. Sell your post, sell the VFW, we have a lot to be proud of.

So keep up the good work and let's kick it in high gear and make the final four months of CDR Mitchell's term a memorable one. Let's set a new record for the total number of members in our Department.

Yours in comradeship and service to veterans,

Ken

Kenneth A. Stein
Past DPA Commander 2020-2021
EVERY Veteran is a HERO
"Remembering our great Vietnam Veterans Past and Present"



Immediate Past DPA CDR

Ken Stein



A LITTLE BIT OF HISTORY

An Unlikely Friendship: Jesse Owens (Gold medal winning American track star) and Lutz Long (German Olympian, Nazi soldier)

History is messy. Looking back it is easy to judge and dismiss individuals based on labels and affiliations. You'd probably be surprised to find that a German track star at the Berlin Olympics became friends with African American track star Jesse Owens despite the presence of angry, racist leader Adolf Hitler at the games.

Long publicly embraced Owens while American President Franklin D. Roosevelt didn't send him a congratulatory telegram after his impressive wins.

Excerpt: "It took a lot of courage for him to befriend me in front of Hitler," Owens later said in an interview. "You can melt down all the medals and cups I have and they wouldn't be a plating on the 24-karat friendship I felt for Lutz Long at that moment. Hitler must have gone crazy watching us embrace."

After besting Long and taking home gold in the long jump, Owens was famously photographed saluting the American flag. Long stood behind him, offering the Nazi salute.

The two remained friends, keeping in contact as much of world plunged into war. Long was stationed with the German Army in North Africa before being killed in action on July 14, 1943, during the Allied invasion of Sicily. In his last letter to Owens, Long, seemingly aware of his impending fate wrote, "My heart tells me, if I be honest with you, that this is the last letter I shall ever write. If it is so, I ask you something. It is a something so very important to me. It is you go to Germany when this war done, someday find my Karl [Kai], and tell him about his father. Tell him, Jesse, what times were like when we not separated by war. I am saying—tell him how things can be between men on this earth."

In 1951 Owens traveled to Germany to meet Long's then 10-year-old son, Kai, fulfilling his promise to indeed tell the young boy how things could be. Owens eventually served as best man at Kai's wedding, and the two families remain in contact to this day."

Read the letter in the article. It is powerful. They were men of their times but didn't let that keep them from being friends. If they could figure it out, we should be able to do the same.

[#perspective](#) [#jesseowens](#) [#hitler](#) [#olympics](#) [#tcc](#)



DPA ADJUTANT/QUARTERMASTER

Comrades,

There has been a lot of questions on the All American and All State dashboards. Each is operated differently. For the All State dashboard, you need to send your information to the chairman for that program and the chairman will update the dashboard. For the All American dashboard, the Post Adjutant will create an entry and it will show as "Awaiting District". The District Adjutant will have to approve it, followed by the Department Adjutant and finally National. District Adjutant can submit entries for the Post within their District. If there is still a problem, send me all the information needed to fill the entry in and I will create the entry for you.

We will be coming up on the deadline for the early All State winners, IF you have not sent me your cap size please do so. If you do not want a cap but instead want the \$50 gift certificate, let me know. I will need this information no later than 15 April. This will give me time to ensure the caps are received prior to the Department Convention.

National is providing a grant program for membership. This is how it breaks down: New or reinstated life membership (member pays full life membership), the Post will receive \$30, New, or reinstated life installment plan membership, Post will receive \$20. A new Annual membership, Post will receive \$20. And a reinstated annual member, National will give the Post \$10. There is no additional paperwork needed to receive this grant. It will work the same way as if an annual member paid online to renew their membership. National will ACH the money to your Post account the following month. This program will last until the money runs out. I do not know how much money they put into this program.

Speaking of reinstated members, what is a reinstated member? A reinstated member is a member that has not paid their dues for 2 years.

Things are looking better in the way of the COVID situation. Let's all keep our fingers crossed and masks up. We just might, I said might, have an in-person convention in Angeles City this year! I will be emailing the information for convention book ads to all Commanders and Adjutants as soon as possible.

Yours in Comradeship,

Shawn Watson
Adjutant/Quartermaster



Adjutant / Quartermaster

Shawn Watson



MEDAL OF HONOR RECIPIENTS

#MedalOfHonor Marvin Glenn Shields (December 30, 1939–June 10, 1965) was the first and only Seabee to receive the Medal of Honor. He was also the first United States Navy Sailor to receive the Medal of Honor for action in Vietnam.

Marvin G. Shields born December 30, 1939, in Port Townsend, Washington, enlisted in the Navy January 8, 1962. Shields graduated from high school in 1958 and had moved to Hyder, Alaska, where he worked the goldmines. After construction training, he served with Mobile Construction Battalion 11, and was with Seabee Team 1104 at Dong Xoai, South Vietnam, June 10, 1965, when a Vietcong regiment attacked. After being wounded, Shields continued to carry up ammunition to the firing line, and after receiving a second wound, insisted on helping a more severely wounded soldier to safety. Refusing to consider himself and now greatly weakened, he again exposed himself to enemy fire, volunteering to help knock out a machine gun which had the entire camp pinned down. Shields died from wounds he received after he and others “succeeded in destroying the enemy machine gun emplacement, thus undoubtedly saving the lives of many of their fellow servicemen in the compound.” He posthumously received the Medal of Honor September 13, 1966.[1] He is buried at Gardiner Cemetery, Gardiner, Washington.[2] His name is listed on the Vietnam Veterans Memorial on Panel 02E, Row 007.[3]

Medal of Honor citation

Marvin G. Shields, United States Navy, (posthumous), Construction Mechanic Third Class, U.S. Navy, Seabee Team 1104., Dong Xoai, Republic of Vietnam, 10 June 1965.

For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty while serving with United States Navy Seabee Team 1104 at Dong Xoai, Republic of Vietnam, on 10 June 1965. Although wounded when the compound of Detachment A-342, 5th Special Forces Group (Airborne), 1st Special Forces, came under intense fire from an estimated reinforced Viet Cong regiment employing machine gun, heavy weapons and small arms, Shields continued to re-supply his fellow Americans with needed ammunition and to return the enemy fire for a period of approximately three hours, at which time the Viet Cong launched a massive attack at close range with flame throwers, hand grenades and small-arms fire. Wounded a second time during this attack, Shields nevertheless assisted in carrying a more critically wounded man to safety, and then resumed firing at the enemy for four more hours. When the Commander asked for a volunteer to accompany him in an attempt to knock out an enemy machine gun emplacement which was endangering the lives of all personnel in the compound because of the accuracy of its fire, Shields unhesitatingly volunteered for this extremely hazardous mission. Proceeding toward their objective with a 3.5- inch rocket launcher, they succeeded in destroying the enemy machine gun emplacement, thus undoubtedly saving the lives of many of their fellow servicemen in the compound. Shields was mortally wounded by hostile fire while returning to his defensive position. His heroic initiative and great personal valor in the face of intense enemy fire sustain and enhance the finest tradition of the United States Naval Service.[4]

- 1) United States Navy. DANFS Marvin Shields
- 2) "Marvin Glenn Shields". Claim to Fame: Medal of Honor recipients. Find a Grave. Retrieved July 26, 2010.
- 3) Virtual Wall
- 4) United States Navy. Navy Medal of Honor: Vietnam War 1964-1975.

#OnThisDayInHistory #HallofValor

<http://nationalinfantrymuseum.org/project/hall-of-valor/>



JUDGE ADVOCATE

The VFW Podium Edition

During my tenure as the Department Judge Advocate, it has become apparent to me that there is a lot of discord with how to utilize and interpret the guidelines set by National.

The VFW Podium Edition is broken down into four (4) parts. The Congressional Charter, Bylaws, Manual of Procedure, and VFW Ritual.

The Congressional Charter grants us the right to exist, it spells out the purpose, membership requirements, and grants us the powers to carry out the purposes.

The Bylaws establish mandatory requirements that must be followed in the day-to-day operations of the post, district, department and national.

The Manual of Procedure then expands on each section of the Bylaws providing guidelines on how to comply with these Bylaws.

The Ritual provides guidance on how to conduct meetings, ceremonies, provides prayers, songs, tributes and templates to assist you in carrying out the expected protocol of the VFW.

One of the most common misunderstandings is that of filing a vacancy of an elected officer.

In Section 220, 420, 520 of our Bylaws, it states that all vacancies occurring in the elected offices shall be filled in accordance with Section 220, 420 or 520 of the Manual of Procedure.

Example 1: A post chaplain transfers his membership creating a vacancy. Bylaws, Section 220 states: **Vacancies.** All vacancies occurring in the elected offices of the Post shall be filled in accordance with Section 220 of the Manual of Procedure at the next regular or special meeting as prescribed in Section 203 of the Manual of Procedure.

The word shall in this section makes it mandatory that a new chaplain be elected.

You would then refer to Section 220 of the Manual of Procedure for guidance on how to carryout filing this vacancy.

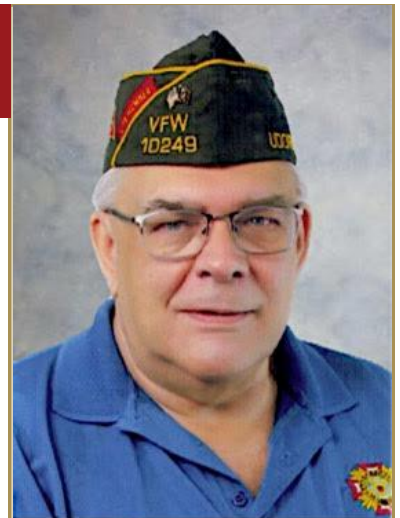
Manual of Procedure, Section 220 states: Should the vacancy occur in any other elected Post office or committee, the Post shall at the next regular or special meeting, nominate and elect a member to that position.

Once again, the word shall in this section makes in compulsory to elect a new chaplain.

Example 2: A district trustee resigns creating a vacancy. Bylaws, Section 420 states: **Vacancies.** All vacancies occurring in the elected offices of the District shall be filled in accordance with Section 420 of the Manual of Procedure at the next regular or special meeting as prescribed in Section 403 of the Manual of Procedure.

The word shall in this section makes it mandatory that a new trustee be elected.

You would then refer to Section 420 of the Manual of Procedure for guidance on how to carryout filing this vacancy.



Judge Advocate

Delbert "Bert" Marohl

JUDGE ADVOCATE

Manual of Procedure, Section 420 states: Districts may fill any vacancy in their offices at any regular or special meeting.

The word may in this section does not infer that you have an option to fill the vacancy. It only gives you the option to elect a new trustee at a regular or special meeting.

The words SHALL, MAY, and WILL are used throughout the Podium Edition and the following definitions apply to their use:

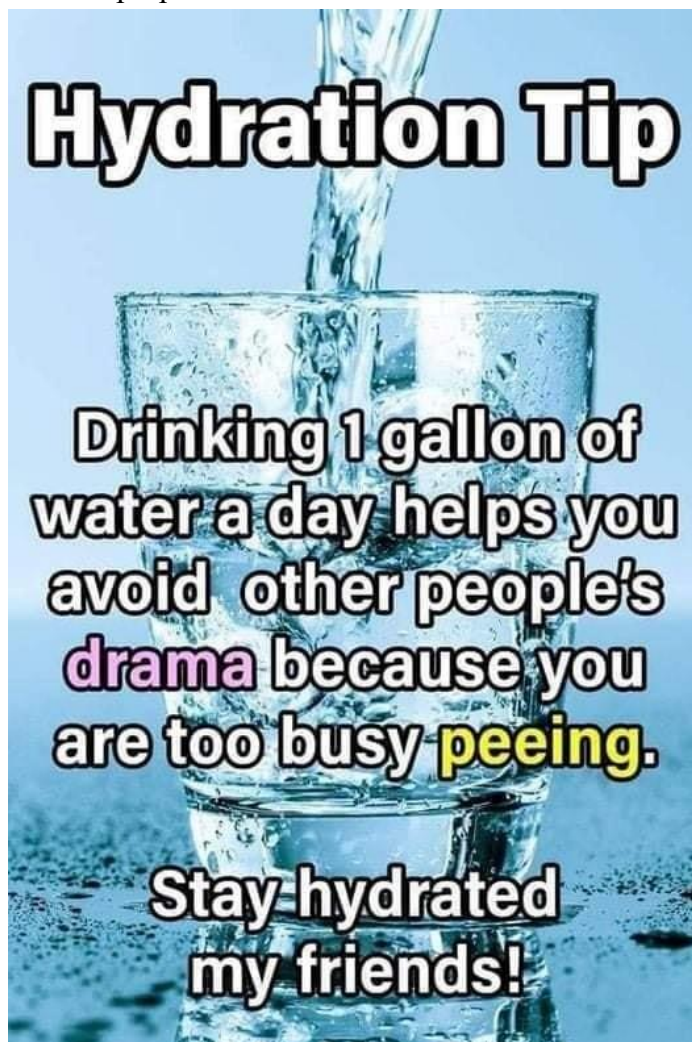
“**SHALL**” as used in the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Podium Edition, is used to express a provision that is mandatory.

“**MAY**” as used in the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Podium Edition, is used to express permission to, when it is necessary to express nonmandatory provisions.

“**WILL**” as used in the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Podium Edition, is used to express a mandatory declaration of purpose.

YIC

Bert Marohl
DPA Judge Advocate



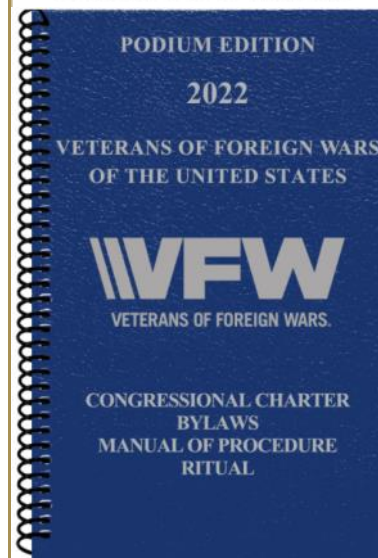
[Click Here](#) to buy the 2022 Podium Edition in hard copy from the VFW Store

[Click Here](#) to buy the 2022 Podium Edition in Kindle format from Amazon



Judge Advocate

Delbert "Bert" Marohl



A LITTLE BIT OF HISTORY

American GIs in World War II did not get to experience many creature comforts. Sustained mostly by C-Rations and whatever could be made in a field kitchen, troops were halfway around the world from the tastes of home. There was one exception. Every serviceman had access to a supply of Coca-Cola. This was done through a global network of bottling plants, technological innovations, and an entire unit whose job was to ensure that soda supplies never ran dry.



In 1943, Dwight Eisenhower sent a request to the head of Coca-Cola. Eisenhower requested 10 portable Coca-Cola factories near the frontlines. This came after Coke President Robert Woodruff had previously stated that any American servicemen would be able to get a Coke during the war no matter what it cost the company. With a request from Eisenhower, it was time for the soda producer to put up or shut up, and they came through with a plan that far exceeded the original 10 factories.

64 Coca-Cola bottling facilities were made for the war effort. These would not have been as successful as they were, though, without the aid of the Technical Observers. This might sound like an obscure military rank, and it sort of was. What the Technical Observers (or TOs) really were were Coca-Cola representatives uniformed in fatigues who were tasked with ensuring that GIs had Coke available to them regardless of where they were. 148 TOs helped quench the thirst of servicemen.

Coke's campaign to give troops everywhere their soda fix spread across the globe, but they did encounter issues in the Pacific. While the efforts to build bottling plants were successful, it was harder to get to more remote areas. There was a solution, though: jungle fountains. These were soda fountains, which were not common yet, that could be transported anywhere easier than bottles could. 1,100 jungle fountains were produced to aid in the war on thirst.

In a modern cynical view, the whole Coca-Cola ordeal could come off as a marketing stunt, and it is no secret that the company did take advantage of the good publicity it gave them. Coke ads from the time showed GIs sharing Cokes with other Allies, which helped to spread the brand globally.

The effort did accomplish its mission of boosting troop morale, though. It is not hard to find accounts from troops excited about having access to Coca-Cola. In times of chaos, something as simple as a familiar sugary soft drink did a lot of good, and Coke did its part by providing GIs with more than 5 billion sodas. Which means that chugging carbonated sugar water while playing Call of Duty: WWII makes the game more historically accurate.

https://www.cracked.com/article_32269_before-the-cola-wars-coca-cola-was-on-the-frontlines-of-wwii.html?utm_source=facebookCKD&utm_medium=link_new_timely&utm_campaign=social-account&fbclid=IwAR2TFo8LtkRor9EeuGfkbmUuFLofEaAJMkr6Cl5_v0Lx9CVB8-aHN6EdCBY

NATIONAL HOME CHAIRMAN

Comrades, January has pass us in a flash. Three months left before ALL STATE requirements should be made.

I hope that everyone is staying safe and watching themselves. With the Philippines opening the door for tourist we might just have a DPA convention this year.

National Home Donation Report as of 28 January 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		
District 2	Yes	\$50.00	11575	Yes	\$50.00
1054	Yes	\$50.00	12074	Yes	\$50.00
9555	Yes	\$100.00	12146	Yes	\$50.00
9612	Yes	\$50.00	12163		
District 3	Yes	\$50.00	District 6	Yes	\$50.00
8180	Yes	\$100.00	1509		
9985			2917	Yes	\$50.00
10033	Yes	\$50.00	3457	Yes	\$50.00
10223	Yes	\$50.00	District 7	Yes	\$50.00
District 4			124	Yes	\$50.00
9957			2485	Yes	\$50.00
District 5	Yes	\$50.00	9892	Yes	\$100.00
9876	Yes	\$800.00	11447	Yes	\$50.00
9951	Yes	\$50.00	12130	Yes	\$50.00
Dist/Post Total	\$2,200.00	Special Projects	\$0.00	Grand Total	\$2,200.00
Not Confirmed		Working on			

If any District or Post is 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
nhcdpa@vfwpacific.org
rehimes@gmail.com

A moment of tension in Vatican.
If the bishop moves forward the
queen can take him.



National Home Chairman

Randell Himes

Please report to me any and all donations that you make so I can record and track them. Email the completed form to:
nhcdpa@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](#)



WOMEN VETERANS PROGRAMS

In the simplest explanation, the Vietnam War (conflict) was the result of political and economic shifts after WWII. The conquered Japanese withdrew from the country. The French returned, determined to return Vietnam to colony status. The Communist Party, Vietminh, were not eager to be subjected to French rule. They practiced guerrilla warfare utilizing the Chinese border, in an effort to remove the French once more. It was decided in Geneva that the country was to be split along the 17th parallel in 1954 with two separate leaders: Ho Chi Minh (Communist) in the North; Ngo Dinh Diem (Catholic) in the South. An election to determine a leader for the entire country was to be held in 1956, supervised by a neutral party but, the election never took place. Meanwhile, the Korean War had already begun in 1950, another Communist versus Capitalist battle ground that the US was supporting militarily. The US was sending advisors to South Vietnam to protect the non-Communist government out of fear that Communism would spread if unchecked and provide a network for the Soviet Union.

Women in the military during the Vietnam War was much like it was during Korea or WWII. Women were around the violence, helped patch up the soldiers at field hospitals, had desk jobs, and working in intelligence but were not in the infantry. That doesn't mean they didn't witness the same nightmare but, they get less credit for their experience from the general public and their fellow veterans.



Sergeant Major Donna Lowery, US Army (Ret) 26 year military veteran, co-authored "Women Vietnam Veterans: Our Untold Stories" with Claire Starnes. The duo was able to find and interview 1,000 non-nursing Vietnam Vets who were willing to tell their stories. As a 20 year old female, her parents had to approve her going overseas. Prior to arrival in Vietnam, she was unaware of the political situation or even where the country was located. Lowery deployed to Vietnam in Jan 1967 where she served until Aug 1968 to include the heavy ground fire of the Tet offensive. Afterward, she continued on to Germany to serve as the youngest First Sergeant serving outside of a combat zone.

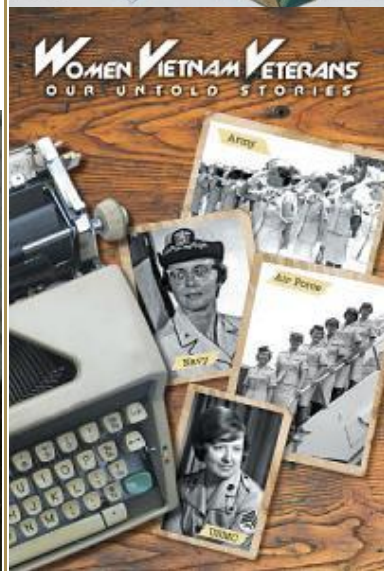
Staff Sgt Claire Brisebois Starnes, WAC started her career as a translator and then switched to photojournalism. She recalls riding in Helicopters while sitting on flak jackets to protect against bullets, taking pictures of firefights, soldiers enjoying their down time and trips to orphanages. "I went there to see what was going on," says Starnes. "I had to go and look for myself. I saw it was not the military running the war, it was politicians running the war." Like many Vietnam Veterans, Starnes sought out group therapy to deal with the images of war. She was treated like a bystander and verbally abused, her service was insulted and she never returned. Now she provides mentorship and support to all the women Veterans she can find through a non-profit Vietnam Women Veterans (VWV) Inc.



Women Veterans Programs

Lauren Wanzer

WOMEN IN THE MILITARY - A PROUD HERITAGE



WOMEN VETERANS PROGRAMS

LTC Anne Marie Doering was born in Northern Vietnam to a French Father and German mother. As an adult, she joined the WAC in 1943. Her unit was one of the first to land in the Pacific arena. "I wasn't in any fighting but, I was awfully close to it. When we moved into Manila, they were still shooting 10 miles out of the city." As a trained Intelligence Officer, she volunteered to return to Vietnam and has been credited to be the first Woman working in Vietnam as an advisor.



Precilla Landry Wilkewitz, WAC, spent most of her time in Long Binh, Vietnam (Jan'63-Sep'69) working for the Inspector General's Office as a barracks sergeant and admin clerk. "You really don't realize what war is until you're in a war zone and bombs are going off around you. There were air raids every night. We got

there and you could hear rockets going off. The busses had bars. There were howitzers on the jeeps. And it was so hot." Wilkewitz continues to serve though VFW Post 4224 and has been the Louisiana QM/ADJ since 1985.

Works cited:

<https://www.bbc.com/news/in-pictures-36574698>

<https://www.historylearningsite.co.uk/vietnam-war/the-causes-of-the-vietnam-war/>

<http://americanwac.com/japanIndex.html>

https://www.vietnamwar50th.com/assets/1/7/US_Servicewomen_in_the_Vietnam_War.pdf



Department of Pacific Areas

Women Veterans Programs

Lauren Wanzer

WOMEN IN THE MILITARY - A PROUD HERITAGE



SOMETHING TO PONDER

How to Avoid Mixing Your Metaphors



It's not rocket surgery. First, get all your ducks on the same page. Afterall, you can't make an omelet without breaking stride.

Be sure to watch what you write with a fine-tuned comb. Check and re-check until the cows turn blue. It's as easy as falling off a piece of cake.

Don't worry about opening up a whole hill of beans: you can burn that bridge when you come to it, if you follow where I'm coming from.

Concentrate! Keep your door closed and your enemies closer. Finally, don't take the moral high horse: if the metaphor fits, walk a mile in it.

Author: **Brian Bilston**



DEPARTMENT INSPECTOR

Comrades,

As of this date we still have some posts that have not completed their inspections to meet the All-State requirement.

The following Districts and Post have until April 30, 2022 to complete their inspections to be considered for All State/All American. Please let's not wait until the last minute to complete your inspection.

D-3 and Posts 9985 and 10033

D-4 and Post 9957

D-6 and Post 1509

District 3 and 6 have completed their inspection but can not be cleared for ALL-State, until the remaining Post or Posts in their district have completed their inspection.

Please stay safe and God Bless.

Yours in Comradeship and Service,

Robert Mo Moses

DPA Inspector

inspdpa@vfwpacific.org

**Do you know why
God didn't allow
our pets to
speak? To teach
us that love and
loyalty are
demonstrated by
actions and not
words.**



Department Inspector

Robert "Mo" Moses



CERTIFIED NATIONAL RECRUITER

Comrades,

The Christmas Holidays are over, the Lunar New Year is over, the Super Bowl is over, and Valentine's Day is most recently over. What isn't over yet is our recruiting for our Department. Currently as of 10 February we as a Department are at 97.27% of reaching our goal of 100%. In numbers we have 11,192 and we need 330 more members to renew or sign up.

Currently we have 72 Members doing our recruiting and that is an increase of six recruiters. For the most part they are recruiting one or two members each. However, John Bowers from Post 9723 recruited 20 Members, next is Joe Perkins from Post 8180 in Osan with 18 Members and rounding out our Top 3 is Cliff Wilsey from Post 2485 with 13 Members. Congrats to these Recruiters and all the other ones for it take a Team Pacific to make this happen.

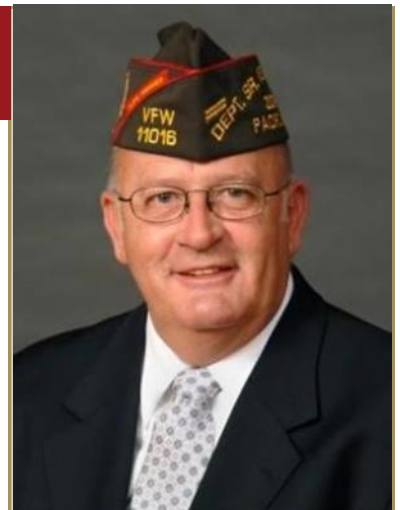
With my figuring we have till 30 June to get to 100% with 330 need that's basically 2.5 members needed each day recruited till the end of June. BUT, we do not have to wait that long. Let's get out there and shake those bushes look for the ones who have not renewed yet. Refresh your memories and look at the Community Service reports and let the perspective recruits hear what we do here in the Pacific helping or Active Duty Members, our local Veterans and their Dependents this will make recruiting a lot easier. WE do a lot in our Communities there is no harm in tooting our horn!

With the help of these recruiter we already have 7 Post that have reached 100% or better. Most of the other posts only need 20 or less. This can be done, we are one of the Best Departments that do the recruiting year after year. Our National Reps know this and count on the Pacific to make this happen.

I will close now with 2 quotes from a couple of our PDC's. From Dick Keely 100% means no growth! From Jim Malott that Post 2485 Comrades will see pretty soon moving to the PI he states that They Can't say YES unless YOU ask Them!

Yours Always in Comradeship

Larry Lyons
Certified National Recruiter
Past Department Commander 08/09
Department of Pacific Areas
EVERY Veteran is a HERO



Certified National Recruiter

Larry Lyons

Queso = Spanish for cheese

K, so = Southern for here's
the plan and y'all probably
not gonna like it

THE LIGHTER SIDE

Two brothers in a small town were well-known as troublemakers. If there was a problem in town, these boys were guaranteed to be involved one way or another. Their parents finally decided to do something about it. They called on the priest. He was known to have success in dealing with problematic behavior. He agreed to see them, but only one at a time.

The younger brother went first. He walked in and the priest asked him, "Where is God?" in a mild voice. The younger brother just sat there. The priest asked again, "Where's God?" The boy again just sat there. The priest tried once more, in a very annoyed and angered voice, "Tell me son, WHERE IS GOD?"

Terrified, the boy ran out of the room and straight to his room at home, where he hid under the bed. His older brother came in and asked what was wrong. The younger boy said, "We are in big trouble this time. God is missing, and they think we did it!"



A wife and husband made a living by working and living at a circus, and one day they visited a local adoption agency. Upon arrival, the couple raised some red flags for the social workers.

The staff was a bit concerned whether the couple would be suitable parents for a child. So, they started asking the pair some tough questions to make sure they would be good parents.

The social workers first asked the couple where the child would stay. If it was a safe and adequate environment where the little one would be comfortable and well taken care of. The couple produced several pho-

tos of their 65-foot motor home placed quite far from a big circus tent. The circus could be seen faintly in the background, away from the house. Looking closely at the images, the social workers noticed how clean, well equipped, and well maintained the home was. It even had a large and gorgeous bedroom for the couple's future children.

Still unsure about the husband and wife, the staff asked how the child would get a good education. They wanted to know if the child would be well taken care of in that regard. The couple explained that they'd already come prepared. They revealed how a full-time tutor had been hired and on standby to teach the child the normal subjects, including Mandarin, French, and computer skills. The social workers couldn't help but feel quite impressed, but they were still not sure. They raised concerns about the child being raised in a circus environment and if they would be well adjusted. The wife proudly handled this question explaining how she and her husband already had a certified expert as their nanny. She shared how the nanny was knowledgeable in welfare, pediatric care, and diet, adding: *"In addition, there are 20 other children who travel and live with their circus parents."*

Finally, feeling satisfied with all the couple's answers, the social workers gathered in a separate room to have the last discussion. The couple sat and waited hopefully with their hands clasped together.

Eventually, the adoption staff came back and asked one final question, "What age group are you looking to adopt from?" The husband replied, "Oh, that doesn't matter, as long as the child will fit perfectly into a cannon."

After a day of entertaining the troops, the Dallas Cowboys cheerleaders meet with the base commander to discuss the rest of the evening.

"Would you girls like to mess with the enlisted men or the officers this evening?" the commander asks.

"I don't think it matters to the ladies," the head cheerleader says, "but I'm sure a lot of the girls would like to get something to eat first."



DPA SURGEON

We are still facing troubling times in the COVID-19 pandemic. However, quarantine mandates, wearing masks and social distancing are still in place that makes traveling difficult. Recently, booster shots were made available in the United States and other countries around the world. Although some locations are not open to booster shots, but we are doing our part to protect ourselves and the community.

Here is the site where you can check if test kits are available in your area.

Request online for Covid Home Test/USPS: [HTTP://special.usps.com/test](http://special.usps.com/test)

As of January 31, 2022, here are the region or countries affected DPA by COVID-19 Variants.

Number of SARS-CoV-2 BETA Variant Cases

District 7- Philippines 3,191

District 2- Japan 181

District 5- Thailand 109

District 3- South Korea 36

Number of SARS-CoV-2 DELTA Variant cases

District 2-Japan 95,402

District 5- Australia 31,856; Thailand 8,789

District 3- South Korea 16,005

District 7- Philippines 3,276

Number of SARS-CoV-2 OMICRON Variant cases

District 5- Australia 8,673; Thailand 1,298; Cambodia 152

District 2- Japan 7,012

District 3- South Korea 582

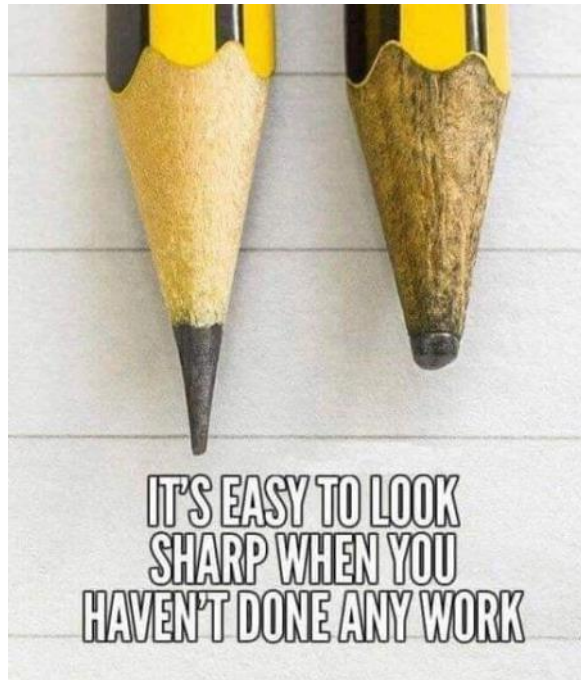
District 7- Philippines 91

We must continue to take precautionary measures in order to be safe.

Wear mask outside of home
Wash hands for 20 seconds
Keep social distancing 6 ft. apart
Cover your mouth when coughing.

Stay safe, think safe, and be safe

Yours in Comradeship,
Mariano Fajardo



Surgeon

Mariano Fajardo

VOP/PP/TA CHAIRMAN

Comrades,

I hope all is well, and I hope to see you all in the Philippines in June. The Department still has 2 Posts that I am not tracking for both a Voice of Democracy (VoD) and Patriot's Pen (PP) National donation on the All-State Dashboard. Besides those two Posts, two other Posts are marked red for either a VoD or PP and four Districts red for both, VoD and PP. Remember, to qualify for All-State/American, each Post that did not submit entries for VoD and PP needs to donate to National. You may make your donations at: https://vfwprograms.formstack.com/forms/vfwprogramsdonation2021_22. Post donations are \$75.00 for VoD and PP each. There was no requirement for Teachers Award (TA) at the Post or District level so, no donation is required for this program.

Please forward your donation receipt to vodppdpa@vfwpacific.org to get credit. Since each District turned one of each in, they do not need to donate. Please remember that your Post/District adjutant needs to update the dashboards if you made a submission. If you donated, it will automatically update All-American, but please send me a copy of the receipt in case of future issues.

Please be ready for the new topics to be publicly released; once they are, let's get that information out there and physically go to our local schools. Hopefully, they will add them to next year's curriculum.

This year's DPA VoD, PP and TA winners were:

VoD: **Samantha Shih**, District 4, Post 9957, Taipei, Taiwan.

PP: **Sawyer S. Stelzig**, District 5, Post 12074, Chiang Mai, Thailand.

TA 6th-8th grade: **Randy Schmidt**, District 4, Post 9957, Taipei, Taiwan.

Congrats, and let's wish them luck at the National level.

I want to thank all the Post and District chairmen who facilitated and cooperated in this year's VoD, PP and TA programs.

Yours in comradeship and service,



David Gley
DPA VoD/PP/TA Chairman
vodppdpa@vfwpacific.org
Phone: +82-10-2724-7176
EVERY Veteran is a HERO

Never blame
someone else for
the road you're on.
That's your own
asphalt



VOD/PP/TA Chairman

David Gley



A LITTLE BIT OF HISTORY

A hippie is a member of a liberal counterculture, originally a youth movement that started in the United States and the United Kingdom during the mid-1960s and spread to other countries around the world. The word hippie came from hipster and was initially used to describe beatniks who had moved into New York City's Greenwich Village and San Francisco's Haight-Ashbury district. The term hippie was first popularized in San Francisco by Herb Caen, who was a journalist for the San Francisco Chronicle. The origins of the terms hip and hep are uncertain, although by the 1940s both had become part of African American jive slang and meant "sophisticated; currently fashionable; fully up-to-date".

The Beats adopted the term hip, and early hippies inherited the language and countercultural values of the Beat Generation. Hippies created their own communities, listened to psychedelic music, embraced the sexual revolution, and used drugs such as cannabis, LSD, peyote and psilocybin mushrooms and other Psychedelics to explore altered states of consciousness. In January 1967, the Human Be-In in Golden Gate Park in San Francisco popularized hippie culture, leading to the Summer of Love on the West Coast of the United States, and the 1969 Woodstock Festival on the East Coast.

Hippies in Mexico, known as jipitecas, formed La Onda and gathered at Avándaro, while in New Zealand, nomadic housetruckers practiced alternative lifestyles and promoted sustainable energy at Nambassa. In the United Kingdom in 1970, many gathered at the gigantic Isle of Wight Festival with a crowd of more than 400,000 people. I was there! In later years, mobile "peace convoys" of New Age travelers made summer pilgrimages to free music festivals at Stonehenge and elsewhere. In Australia, hippies gathered at Nimbin for the 1973 Aquarius Festival and the annual Cannabis Law Reform Rally or Mardi Gras. "Piedra Roja Festival", a major hippie event in Chile, was held in 1970.

Hippie fashion and values had a major effect on culture, influencing popular music, television, film, literature, and the arts. Since the 1960s, many aspects of hippie culture have been assimilated by mainstream society.

To attempt to put on an exhibit to expound on the Hippies or Summer of Love as was done in 2017 in San Francisco, was well meant, but somewhat futile as was like trying to capture lighting in a bottle.... Nice try, but (IMHO)... no cigar. The philosophies of the true Hippie does still live on but these days to run across a true Hippie is a lot harder than you may think. Alas.... keep your eyes open, they're still out there just the same, but not always where you may think them to be. [Professor Poster https://www.facebook.com/Posterville1966/](https://www.facebook.com/Posterville1966/)



AMERICANISM/LOYALTY DAY CHAIR

Americanism/Loyalty Day March-April

In this edition of Pacific Times, we will highlight **National Vietnam War Veterans Day**.

National Vietnam War Veterans Day is observed every year on March 29 and is a way to thank and honor our nation's Vietnam veterans and their families for their service and sacrifice. That is the first of 5 objectives with Vietnam Commemoration, the other four are:

- Highlight the service of our Armed Forces and support organizations during the war
- Pay tribute to wartime contributions at home by American citizens
- Highlight technology, science and medical advances made during the war
- Recognize contributions by our Allies

National Vietnam War Veterans Day will be observed on Tuesday, March 29, 2022. Organizers canceled or postponed many events to slow the spread of COVID-19 through social distancing. Veterans are encouraged to stay connected and participate in virtual events.

Who Does Vietnam War Commemoration Honor?

U.S. Armed Forces personnel with active duty service between Nov. 1, 1955 to May 15, 1975, regardless of location of service which includes:

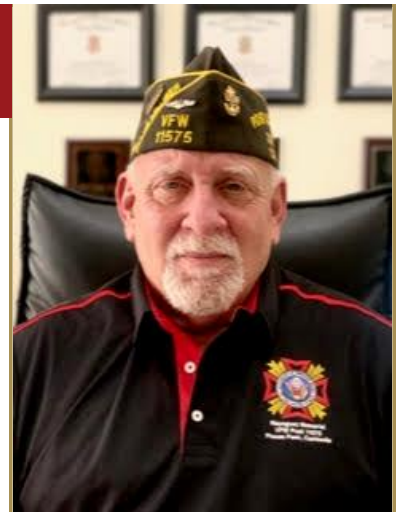
- Nine million Americans serving during that time
- 6.4 million Americans living today
- 2.7 million U.S. service members who served in Vietnam
- 58,000 whose names are memorialized on a black granite wall in our Nation's capital
- 304,000 who were wounded
- 1,253 Missing in Action (MIA) heroes who have not yet returned to American soil
- 2,500 Prisoners of War (POWs)

The commemoration makes no distinction between veterans who served in-country, in-theater, or were stationed elsewhere during those 20 years.

Origins of National Vietnam War Veterans Day Commemoration

- 2007: Congress incorporated language in H.R. 4986 authorizing a program commemorating the 50th anniversary of the Vietnam War
- 2008: H.R. 4986 was signed into law on Jan. 28, 2008
- 2012: The Vietnam War Commemoration began with the Presidential inaugural event at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington D.C. on Memorial Day, May 28, 2012
- 2017: The Vietnam War Veterans Recognition Act of 2017 established The National Vietnam War Veterans Day to be celebrated each year on March 29

*Commemoration of the 50th Anniversary of the Vietnam War
will continue through Veterans Day, 2025*



Department of Pacific Areas

Americanism/Loyalty Day Chair

John "Jack" Farrell



AMERICANISM/LOYALTY DAY CHAIR

Observing National Vietnam War Memorial Day

Over 11,000 local, state and national organizations, businesses, sports franchises and governmental agencies, including the Department of Veterans Affairs, have committed to be commemorative partners to hosting ceremonies, programs, events and activities that commemorate the 50 year anniversary of the Vietnam War.

Activities Include:

- Wreath laying ceremony at The Vietnam War Memorial “The Wall”
- Ceremonies and activities at VA Medical facilities across the country
- The National Cemetery Administration (NCA) will recognize, honor and thank Vietnam era veterans and their families with commemorative ceremonies

Visit the official DoD site VietnamWar50th.com for a full schedule of local events, resources and history.



Upcoming Americanism/ Loyalty Opportunities

Women’s History Month	Month of March
Hug a GI Day	04 March
K9 Veterans Day	13 March
Rosie the Riveter Day	21 March
Medal of Honor Day	25 March
National Vietnam War Veterans Day	29 March
Month of the Military Child	Month of April
Gold Star Spouses Day	05 April
Former POW Recognition Day	09 April

Service Branch/Organization Birthdays

US Navy Reserve	03 March
US Navy Seabee’s	05 March
American Legion	15 March
US Air Force Reserve	14 April
US Army Reserve	23 April

Yours in Service to Veterans

Jack Farrell
Americanism/Loyalty Chairman



Americanism/Loyalty Day Chair

John "Jack" Farrell



SOMETHING TO BEE LEARNED HERE

My dad has bees. Today I went to his house and he showed me all of the honey he had gotten from the hives. He took the lid off of a 5-gallon bucket full of honey and on top of the honey there were 3 little bees, struggling. They were covered in sticky honey and drowning. I asked him if we could help them, and he said he was sure they wouldn't survive. Casualties of honey collection I suppose.

I asked him again if we could at least get them out and kill them quickly, after all he was the one who taught me to put a suffering animal (or bug) out of its misery. He finally conceded and scooped the bees out of the bucket. He put them in an empty Chobani yogurt container and put the plastic container outside.

Because he had disrupted the hive with the earlier honey collection, there were bees flying all over outside.

We put the 3 little bees in the container on a bench and left them to their fate. My dad called me out a little while later to show me what was happening. These three little bees were surrounded by all of their sisters (all of the bees are females) and they were cleaning the sticky nearly dead bees, helping them to get all of the honey off of their bodies. We came back a short time later and there was only one little bee left in the container. She was still being tended to by her sisters.

When it was time for me to leave we checked one last time and all three of the bees had been cleaned off enough to fly away and the container was empty.

Those three little bees lived because they were surrounded by family and friends who would not give up on them, family and friends who refused to let them drown in their own stickiness and resolved to help until the last little bee could be set free.

Bee Sisters. Bee Peers. Bee Teammates.

We could all learn a thing or two from these bees.
Bee kind always.

Author unknown

Painting : Autumn Skye Morrison



Beginners Guide to Bee Keeping

POW/MIA CHAIRMAN

Greetings Comrades.

The POW-MIA program is a top priority for the U.S. government. We have the distinction of being the only country in the world that does everything possible to bring all of our missing and fallen troops back home. The Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA), the arm of the Pentagon that searches for, identifies and repatriates remains of Americans from conflicts stretching back to World War II, has agreements with 46 Nations to locate remains of missing Americans. It is truly a global mission.

Recovery operations have been restricted globally due to COVID-19. But because of the close partnerships the United States has with nations where American service members are still missing, such as South Korea and Vietnam, recoveries didn't wholly cease. South Korea has a sister organization that was developed on the model of our agency to recover remains. Their efforts have helped tremendously. We have also been working with the Vietnam government, since 1985, and they have been very dedicated to conducting recovery operations as well. They have been cooperative in allowing our team to visit remote villages within the country, talking to the local people. These discussions have led us to crash sites that were not well documented and never searched before. Excavations of these sites have led to more discoveries.

Below is a list of those that are still unaccounted for as of February 2022. These totals vary from different resources and are approximate.

WW I	-----1,648
WWII	-----72,159
Korean War	-----7,478
Cold War	-----125
Vietnam War/S.E. Asia	---1,584
Iraq & Other Conflicts	-----5

Yours in Comradeship,

Wayne "Bud" St.Onge
Department of Pacific Areas
POW/MIA Chairman



POW/MIA Chairman

Wayne "Bud" St.Onge



DEFENSE POW/MIA ACCOUNTING AGENCY
FULFILLING OUR NATION'S PROMISE

SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT



Someone's kids need to read this... When my mom was cleaning out her house over 23 years ago to sell it, I wasn't very sympathetic over her attachments to things. I would go over on weekends to help her and we would go thru things, things for a yard sale, things to donate, things to throw away.

I would usually get upset over how long it was taking her to decide. For instance, we were going thru kitchen cabinets and she spent 20 minutes looking at an iron kettle with lid...finally I said mom, at this rate it is going to take us another 2 years...she told me that her mother used to make meals in that kettle and leave them at doorsteps of neighbors during the depression, mom would deliver them...and then they would reappear back to her with an apron, or a wood carving, something in return for the meal.

I realized that everything that my mom was going thru was really a reliving of her life....if you are reading this and are under the age of 60....you won't get it....you haven't lived long enough, most of you have not had to move your parents into a nursing home, or emptied their home...you haven't lived long enough to realize that the hours you spend picking out the right cabinets, or the perfect tile will not be what in the later years matter...it will be the handmade toothbrush holder, or a picture that you got on vacation....so, if your parents are downsizing, and moving to smaller places, or selling a home, give your mom and even your dad a break...those things that you don't understand why they can't just pitch, and why you think you know what needs to be tossed or saved...give them a little time to make their decisions...they are saying goodbye to their past, and realizing that they are getting ready for their end life...while you are beginning your life.

As I have been going thru things, it's amazing just how hard it is to get rid of objects...but, life goes on, and you realize they are just things...but sometimes things comfort us...so give you parents or grandparents a break. Listen to their stories....cause in 40 years...when you are going thru those boxes and the memories come back, it will be hard to get rid of those plastic champagne flutes that you and your late husband used at a New Year's party 40 years ago.....you will think nothing of the tile or the light fixtures...that were so important then...as happy as they are for you....as much as they love you...you just don't have a clue till it happens to you...and then you will remember how you rushed them, and it will make you sad....especially if they are already gone and you can't say I'm sorry, I didn't get it. (author unknown).

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER / TAPS REPORT

Comrades please remember our fallen comrades and pray for those still missing in action. Let us bow our heads in pray to All Mighty God. Pray for them and their families that they may be reunited. We also pray thee that you will help lift this terrible pandemic so all on earth can go back to normal living. Bless the medical personnel who so diligently strive to find a cure. Amen

Jan – Jun 22 TAPS REPORT
Date of Report: 15 February 2022

[illegible]

Ronald J. Davis
Chaplain DPA
chapdpa@vfwpacific.org or to davisronald738@gmail.com.



Chaplain

Ron Davis



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



LETTER OF INTENT

**The following pages are Letters of Intent from
Department Members running for Office for the
VFW Calendar Year 2022-2023**



LETTER OF INTENT DPA SURGEON



It is with great honor to announce my candidacy for the position of Surgeon, Department of Pacific Areas for the Term 2022-2023. I am a Gold Legacy Life member and Commander of All American VFW Post 11575 in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, Past Commander of All American Post 12146 in Banchang, Thailand, Past Department Assistant Inspector General, and Past District 5 Commander for Thailand, Cambodia, and Australia, and currently the Department of Pacific Areas Americanism/Loyalty Chairman.

As a graduate of Central Texas College and an accredited First Responder I bring a long history of medical related experience to the department and this position and utilize my wide range of experience to benefit the Department.

My accomplishments in a variety of positions and institutional knowledge of VFW policies, procedures and programs provide me with the necessary skills for successful service to the department. My record in a range of elected and appointed positions at the Post, District and Department levels makes me exceptionally qualified for the position of Department Surgeon. Please consider my current and previous experiences:

District 5 Commander 2019
District 5 Senior Vice Commander 2017-2019
District 5 Inspector 2017-2019
All American Post 12146 Commander 2018-2019
National Aide-De-Camp 2019-2020
All-American Post 11575 Commander 2019-2021

If elected to serve as Department Surgeon, I will do my utmost to represent our department with superior service to our membership. I ask you for your vote of confidence in allowing me to perform the duties and responsibilities of Department Surgeon.

Yours in Comradeship and Service to Veterans,

Jack Farrell
Candidate for Department Surgeon
Department of Pacific Areas

LETTER OF INTENT JUNIOR VICE COMMANDER



Letter Of Intent

Comrades,

I would like to thank everyone for their support running for Surgeon's position 2021-2022. I am humbly asking for your support and confidence as I seek the position for DPA Junior Vice Commander (JVC) for the ensuing year 2022-2023. As one of the post charter members for Post 3457, I have been contributing numerous hours and served every position in the Post from 1995 to present.

I have committed my family to support my involvement with the VFW for the good of the community. The VFW has come a long way to where we now, and continues to serve the veterans, active military and the community better than any other veterans organization. This could not happen without the support of our members and without good leadership. Here are the positions I have held:

2021-2022	DPA Surgeon
2020-2021	DPA delegate to VFW National Convention
2020-2021	DPA Inspector
2014-Present	Post QM All State and All American at different times
2011-2012	Post Cdr. All American
2009-2011	Dist. 6 Commander
2006-2009	Post Cdr. All State/All American
2008-2009	DPA VOD/PP Chairman
MOC Pup Tent #13	
Life Member Legacy Bronze	
Member for the last 27 years	

Comrades, I have held other post and districts positions along with volunteering countless hours; my next journey is to serve you. We are leaders; let me lead the way.

Yours In Comradeship,

Mariano Fajardo

LETTER OF INTENT JUNIOR VICE COMMANDER

LETTER OF INTENT DEPARTMENT OF PACIFIC AREAS JUNIOR VICE COMMANDER MICHAEL D. LUTMAN

Comrades,

I am very excited and even more humbled to announce my candidacy for the position of Junior Vice Commander, VFW Department of Pacific Areas. I am a 30-year Navy veteran who retired in 2007 as the Command Master Chief of an afloat training organization. Today I continue to serve as a DoD Contractor in charge of Strike Warfare training in the U.S. Navy's only Forward Deployed Fleet Synthetic Training organization located in Yokosuka, Japan. VFW Positions held include:



- DPA VMS Chairman 2018-2021, DPA Inspector 2019-2020, DPA Safety Chairman 2021-2022
- District 2 Commander 2018-2019 (AA), SVC, JVC, Adjutant, Surgeon, Safety Officer, Inspector, Service Officer, Trustee
- Post 1054 Commander 2008-2009 (AS), 2015-2016 (AA), 2016-2017 (AA), 2019-2020 (AA), SVC, JVC, Adjutant, Surgeon, JAG, Service Officer, Trustee
- National Aide-De-Camp, 2013-2014, 2020-2021, Assistant Inspector General, 2015-2016, National Deputy Chief of Staff, 2017-2018

My width and breadth of service both in the military and the VFW has given me a solid baseline to build upon. Make no mistake, any recognition I have been fortunate to receive has been the work of a team of passionate and dedicated patriots. This was very true as a Sailor and most certainly true as part of being a part of the Department of Pacific Areas. I am truly fortunate to be surrounded by so many dynamic and dedicated Comrades. I will bring all the lessons learned during my 17 years in the VFW, 30 years in the U.S. Navy, and my 15 years as a DoD contractor to the DPA Junior Vice Commander position. I will always be willing to listen and learn.

It is with great humility that I ask for your support. I give you my promise that I shall do my very best if elected to continue to lead us into the future as a high performing department. We are second to none when it comes to supporting our Veterans and their family members. I will also work toward helping us help ourselves with time spent to train and educate ourselves EARLY across the board to infuse our department with the knowledge necessary to improve what we do and how we do it. As sharp as we are now, we can only become increasingly proficient, now and in the future by applying not only the lessons of the past, but the goals of tomorrow both in our beloved Department and at the National level. Veterans First, Comrades Always.

Yours in Comradeship and Service and Lover of the Crummy Shirt,

Mike Lutman, Gold Legacy Life Member, District 2, Mainland Japan, VFW Post 1054
Candidate for Junior Vice Commander
VFW Department of Pacific Areas

LETTER OF INTENT DPA CHAPLAIN



LETTER OF INTENT TERM 2022-2023

Department Chaplain

Louis S. Holub EMC (SW) USN ret.

I am Honored to announce my candidacy for the position of the Department of Pacific Areas Chaplain term 2022-2023.

I am a Charter Gold Legacy Life member of the All State-All American Banchang Utapao VFW Post 12146. In addition, I'm the Immediate Past All American Commander DPA District 5 Thailand, Cambodia and Australia, as well as the past DPA Audit Committee Chairman, continuing to serve as an active member and Officer holding many Department, District and Post level Offices and Chairmanships including Honor Guard Member, Convention Chairman (3 terms) and appointed Chaplain during a DPA COFA.

I bring a varied background to this most important non-sectarian and nondenominational Chaplain position. My goal while following the DPA Commanders programs is to advance the Chaplain ministry, always maintaining a positive attitude towards my fellow veterans, widows, orphans and the less fortunate in our areas and to provide ministry to the membership wherever there is a need by coordinating with Service Officers, Surgeons, Safety Chairman, and Chaplains.

My Military experience as a Chief Petty Officer USN and my continuing civilian career as Senior Vice President and General Manager of major Southeast Asian Energy companies has exposed me to many unique local, retiree and expatriate human challenges which have prepared my competencies and compassion to fulfill the position as Pacific Areas Chaplain.

Please consider my previous VFW achievements:

VFW Department of New Jersey Member large	(1996-2014)
Post 9876 Pattaya Beach, District 5 Trustee (appointed)	(2014-2015)
Post 12146 Charter member/QM, Dist. 5 Adjutant	(2015-2016)
AS/AA QM (National Aid de Camp)	
DPA Budget committee member & Dist. 5 QM	(2017-2018)
AS/AA Post Adjutant, National Aid de Camp	
DPA Assistant QM, Dist.5 QM, Post JVC	(2018-2019)
AS/AA Post JVC-Dist. 5 QM	
DPA Audit Chairman, Dist. 5 QM, Post SVC elect/Commander	(2019-2020)
AS/AA Post Commander, Dist. QM	
Dist. 5 Commander, Post JA, National Special Aid de Camp	(2020-2021)
AS/AA Dist. 5 Commander	
Post & Dist. 5 VOD/PP Teachers Chairman	(2017-2021)

I ask that you place your confidence in me and I look forward to seeing each of you at the upcoming 2021-2022 Department Convention in Angels City Philippines June 2022.

Yours in Comradeship and Service to Veterans

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 or The Pacific Times Editor at pacifictimes@vfwpacific.org for information on how to submit your Sponsors.