



HOME DPA HISTORY

Post 1054 History

John C. Parker Memorial Post 1054



"Post 1054 History"

John C. Parker was a former Merchant Marine who was one of the founding members of the Post. The Post was named after him upon his death, as he was the first of the original members to pass away. The Post Home has made at least 3 moves, but has never left Yokosuka.

Chartered: May 11, 1968

Location: Yokosuka, Japan, Moved from Sub Alley in the Honcho to Yasuura in about 1989.

Commander-in-Chief: Thomas C. Walker

Past Post Commander's List

1968-1969	Theodore B. Mayer	1969-1970	Timothy R. Trimble
1970-1971	Kenneth C. Cole	1971-1972	Charles A. Green
1972-1973	William G. Calder	1973-1974	David C. Reed
1974-1975	Richard H. Hanna, Jr.	1975-1976	Richard H. Hanna, Jr.
1976-1977	Harold D. Ricker	1977-1978	Robert B. Heili
1978-1979	Harry D. Ramsden	1979-1980	Robert H. Storey

1980-1981	Charles Baumgardner	1981-1982	Peter W. Connor
1982-1983	Charles B. Johnson	1983-1984	Donald H. Pulsipher
1984-1985	Raymond L. Misamore	1985-1986	Theodore R. Moore
1986-1987	Charles J. Dugan	1987-1988	Virgil E. Gann
1988-1989	Virgil E. Gann	1989-1990	James A. Aiken / Ronald F. Sapp
1990-1991	Raymond L. Howe	1991-1992	Raymond L. Howe
1992-1993	Virgil E. Gann	1993-1994	Virgil E. Gann
1994-1995	Virgil E. Gann	1995-1996	Douglas Beuer
1996-1997	Michael Toomey	1997-1998	Virgil E. Gann
1998-1999	George Jordan	1999-2000	Kiowa Kirchoff
2000-2001	James M. Venzke	2001-2002	James M. Venzke
2002-2003	John S. Corbin	2003-2004	Bernie Kenna
2004-2005	Bernie Kenna	2005-2006	Robert Chenier
2006-2007	Kirk McKnight	2007-2008	Kirk McKnight
2008-2009	Mike Lutman	2009-2010	Efrain Castro
2010-2011	Homer Kemper	2011-2012	Homer Kemper

[Post 1054 Website](#)

Submitted by Kirk McKnight on 1 Aug 2006

Sullivan's Elementary First Graders earn Young American Awards



On 12 January, 42 first grade Students from Sullivan's Department of Defense Elementary School at Yokosuka, Japan earned Young American Awards for successfully learning the "Pledge of Allegiance." The ceremony included another lesson for the students and a video teaching them how the pledge came about. "One of the things that members of VFW throughout the world do is to promote citizenship in our local communities and educational facilities," Bernie Kenna, Commander of Post 1054, said. "Flags and flag education are important elements of our Citizenship Education programs and we are planning to return to Sullivan's to assist the faculty in other educational opportunities for our children." Commander Kenna went on to explain Americanism is an unflinching love of country; loyalty to its institutions and ideals; eagerness to defend it against all enemies; undivided allegiance to the flag; and a desire to secure the blessings of liberty to posterity and ourselves. Comrade Collis handed our buddy poppies and discussed the meaning and history behind them. The Young American awards were presented by Commander Kenna, Bob Chenier, Senior Vice Commander, Charles Collis and Huck Hugh, of Post 1054, and Sullivan's Faculty members: Principal Dave Russell, Vice Principals Roger Reade and Peggy Wilson, and first grade teachers Betty Journey, Jane Froehike and Heather Appel. Mrs. Appel was also the project coordinator.



Bob Chenier, PAO, VFW Post 1054

09 OCT 2006; Post 1054 hosted an end of summer Post Picnic at the waterfront park in Yokosuka.

04 NOV 2006: Post 1054 reviewed 40 Patriots Pen entries selecting the entry by Denel McDowell as the winner for the post.

08 NOV 2006: Presentation by Post CDR McKnight, JVC Clayton, and Chaplin Lutman about Veteran's Day to the Fourth Grade at Yokosuka Sullivan's School.

16 FEB 2007: Presentation of a memorial plaque to Sullivan's school honoring Major Taylor, a former student who was killed in Iraq. Presentation was attended by the Major's brother, the CDRs of Posts 1054 and 9467, the Sullivan's School principal, and various teachers. The event was covered by Stars and Stripes newspaper.

Family of GI 'overwhelmed' by Yokosuka's response to death

BY ALLISON BATHGOREP
Staff and Columnist

YOKOSUKA, JAPAN - There are differences between a regular newspaper's coverage and the one that unfolded on the Internet Tuesday night.

What happened with the arrival of the USS Zumwalt (DDG 1000) in Yokosuka on Oct. 27, 2006, when David Taylor, a 30-year-old sailor, was killed by a friendly fire, was an explosive, far-reaching event, John said Friday.

In a Department of Defense Independent Schools meeting at the C. Stennis Flight School, he played a memorial piece on Taylor's behalf at Yokosuka Naval Base on Friday.

John and David's parents also were "OTD" (On The Day) at the meeting to discuss the school's plan to bring Taylor's story to life in 2008.

Labor Secretary Robert Gates' report says that the Iraqis used a lethal weapon to kill Taylor, an elderly soldier who had been in the service for 10 years.

"They said the cell was more professional, almost like they were keeping and watching the device," said John, who has watched the dashboard video footage recorded on his brother's flight before the screen went black.

After the arrival of David's death, he was informed from a Korean field trip to find his school administration and peo-



John Taylor reads the plaque dedicated in memory of his father, Maj. David Taylor, who was killed in Iraq in October.

ple who were waiting for him in the parking lot.

"It was like getting the wind knocked out of me," he said. "You've seen the scene in the movies when the soldier falls to the ground and his comrades fall down with grief — it's really like that, I couldn't breathe."

But the loss of his father's life comes through childhood. Both were presidents of their high school's senior class. John got ROTC scholarships to attend the U.S. Air Force Academy in Colorado.

Just before David died, they had seen him and his troops pre-

pare to go to the front lines. David was with Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 2nd Battalion, 6th Infantry Regiment, 25th Infantry Division, Germany, for he was assigned to the 1st Airborne Combat Team while in Iraq.

"One of the first things David would do when he got the posting was to bring all the materials and let them get first class on the flight," John said in an earlier interview. "He was in the cockpit. He was very simply a general contractor."

David, 37, also survived by his wife, Michelle, and six children, John, the oldest, David Sr. and Kay, have been "overwhelmed" by the 2006 end response to their son's death, John said.

David was commemorated at the year's Veterans Day service at Yokosuka Middle School and Primary School — a service by the Veterans of Foreign Wars' national organization — will be held at the Yokosuka Veterans' Hall of Honor. It's important for children to recognize their father's loss to someone who has served and made the ultimate sacrifice, said VFW 1054 commander Ed. Mark night.

John said he'll remember David as a confident, practical, and playful, but never without a sense of humor and a great dad.

16 FEB 2007: Presentation by Post CDR McKnight, JVC Clayton, and Chaplin Lutman about Presidents Day to the Second Grade at Yokosuka Sullivan's School.

16 MAR 2007: Presentation by Post CDR McKnight, JVC Clayton, and Chaplin Lutman about the Pledge of Allegiance. Presented certificates for learning the pledge to 190 first grade students.

17 MAR 2007: Post 1054 held a recruiting drive at CFAY Yokosuka. There were two locations, outside the Commissary and in the lobby of the Fleet Rec building. 3 new members and 6 admirers were signed up.

21 APR 2007: Presentation of 5 gold star flags in honor of each of the Sullivan Brothers to Sullivan's School during the visit of Albert Sullivan's granddaughter to the school. Presented Ms. Sullivan with a post coin.

25 MAY 2007: Presentation by Post CDR McKnight, JVC Clayton, and Chaplin Lutman about Memorial Day to all grades at the Sullivan's School. Attended Sullivan's School Memorial Day ceremonies.

06 JUN 2007: Presentation by Post CDR McKnight about Flag Day and folding the flag to 300 Kindergarten students at Sullivan's school.



09 JUN 2007: CDR McKnight and Chaplin Lutman presented a plaque and certificate to Denel McDowell, the Post 1054 Patriots Pen essay winner.



11 JUN 2007: Post 1054 sponsored the second annual Children's Summer Bible School and Church Crusade on Hingotanan Island, Bohol, Philippines. The post rose over \$600.00 to provide food, beverages, and supplies to over 100 children during the week long event.

05 JUL 2007: Buddy poppy drive at Yokosuka Schools resulted in \$1745.00 being raised for the Posts relief fund.

21 SEP 2007: Post conducted a POW-MIA observance at the post.

23 OCT 2007: Conducted post judging for Patriots Pen, VOD, and Teacher of the year. Post Received 50 Patriot Pen entries, 26 VOD entries, and 1 nomination for Teacher of the year.

28 OCT 2007: Post officers participated in the District II judging for Patriots Pen and VOD. Post 1054 entries were not selected at District.

09 NOV 2007: Presentation by Post Commander McKnight about Veterans day to Yokosuka Sullivans School.

09 NOV 2007: Post Commander McKnight was a member of the Official party for the Yokosuka Kinnick High School Veterans day program to honor past and present veterans.

12 NOV 2007: Post 1054 Officers attended a joint 2 bell ceremony with the Yokosuka branch of the Fleet Reserve Association in honor of Veterans Day. Ceremony was attended by Rear Admiral Kelly CNFJ and Captain Weed, CO of Fleet Activities Yokosuka.

17 NOV 2007: Post members attend a Retiree Healthcare Information Seminar and Appreciation Day presented by the USNH at Yokosuka, the VA, and the NMCRS.

01 DEC 2007: Post reached 100% in membership for the 2007-2008 year.

06 MAR 2008: Post SVC Clayton, JVC Lutman and other post members participated in the dedication of the USS ONEIDA memorial in Kosano Park, CFA Yokosuka.

14 MAR 2008: Post Commander McKnight and SVC Clayton conducted Pledge of Allegiance presentation for 167 first graders at Yokosuka Sullivan's school. Certificates were presented to all the Students.

07 APR 2008: Post reached 115.16% in membership and achieved All-American status.

26 APR 2008: At the District II meeting, the following post members were elected and installed as District Officers: Bernie Kenna-Commander, Kirk McKnight- SVC Mike Lutman-Chaplin.

28 APR 2008 - MAY 2008: Post 1054 sponsored the third annual childrens Summer Bible School and Church Crusade on Hingotanan Island, Bohol, Philippines. The post again raised over \$600.00 to provide supplies and refreshments to over 100 children.

Submitted by: Kirk McKnight, 29 April 2008

2009

Post 9467 from Yokohama merged with Post 1054

2010

Passed Post Commander and Quartermaster Kirk McKnight passed away

Post 1054 Canteen closed operations due to lack of funds and participation. Meetings are being held at the Fleet Reserve Association in Yokosuka Japan.

If you have anything to add to the History of the Department of Pacific Areas, either to the Department, Districts or Posts, Please Email dpahist@vfwddeptpacific.org with the information in Document format.