

# THE POST SCRIPT

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE UNITED STATES  
EDWARD J. KEARNS MEMORIAL POST 6024

P.O. BOX 4457

MISSION VIEJO, CALIFORNIA 92690-4457

vfwpost6024.mytroop.us

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JANUARY 2023

EDITOR: GALE GOODALL

*In memory of Tom Goodall*

tommy0910@aol.com

## 2022-2023 POST AND AUXILIARY OFFICERS

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Sr. Vice Commander: Rene Macare 306-3185  
Jr. Vice Commander: Al Hicks 647-9253  
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Adjutant: Robert Carey 280-5845  
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Jr. Vice President: Vacant  
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Chaplain: Tom Walling 586-9689  
Conductress: Vacant  
Guard: Vacant  
Trustee #1: Tom Walling 586-9689  
Trustee #2: Vacant  
Trustee #3: Anna Boyce 837-5484

NOTE: All area codes not noted are (949)

## NEXT MEETING

POST: Monday, February 13, 2023, 1800 hrs. - Norman Murray Center  
AUXILIARY: Monday, February 13, 2023, 1800 hrs. - Norman Murray Center

## POST SCRIPT BOOSTERS

Carol Rigg in memory of Gene Rigg (8/23), Burton J. Rounds (in perpetuity), Doug Sasso (7/24), Dick Vaughn (5/24), Veronica Ashdown (5/24), Micky Jimerson (1/24), Stuart Evans (1/25), Joe Goff (9/26), Al Ramirez (11/24), Tom Fenton (9/23), Dave Buck (1/23), Fred Egeler (11/25), Clark Courtney (6/30), Robert Carey (7/23), Harry Steelman (12/23), Elinor Scott in memory of Jack West (6/23), Frank McLeary (11/24), Herbert Nakasone (2/28), Robert Casillas (1/25), Ken Simonson (10/23), Julie Hammeras in memory of Samuel Bussell (11/27), Casey Kleindienst (3/23), RJ Jackson (8/25), Ed Rice (5/25), William Wyngaard (5/25), Michael Burnett (5/27), Anna Boyce (6/23), John Summa (6/24), Roger Clinch (6/27), Dave Berutich (2/26), Pat Rizco (2/24), Rene Macare (6/26), Jackie Heddlesten (11/25)

*(NOTE: A donation of at least \$15.00 allows you to be a Post Script Booster for one year. The date after your name indicates your donation expiration. Our Boosters help offset the costs for mailing and printing this newsletter.)*

## COMMANDER'S CORNER

January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2023 started out to be a normal Post 6024 business meeting. But, when the meeting was finished, I felt everyone was moved by the events that occurred and a positive change had taken place.

After the opening ritual, Dick Vaughn, Gale Goodall and Kristen Clements presented six Patriot's Pen winners with awards. Two of the winners then read their winning entries. The message was about how they can help the United States Veterans. It became obvious why these presented- essays were chosen as winners among the 102 entries submitted from middle schools.

Past Post Commander, Casey Kleindienst, also one of the essay judges, wrapped it up by giving a very

moving heartfelt message to the students about standing up for their beliefs and acting on those beliefs. The message was to not hold back and be silent, but rather stand up for your beliefs and let them be known.

After the students, parents, and guests were dismissed, the regular meeting began. It, like many other meetings, moved along until I got to old business. I presented a suggestion for changing the way our post-elections are conducted. The suggestion came to me from a State VFW officer at the state convention. This proposal was discussed, with several people standing up and presenting their opinions. The entire proceeding was conducted in a professional manner, well thought-out responses were given, and a healthy discussion ensued. A motion was made, seconded, discussed, and voted on.

About midway through this process, I realized, this was a great example of true democracy at work. Honest heartfelt responses were stated, clear, precise, and to the point. No insults, name-calling, or emotional pleas. Afterward many members came up to me and stated they really enjoyed the interaction of the discussion and the way it was conducted. In my mind, this was a bonding of the members as they all felt they were a part of the Post in making a healthy mutual decision.

Let's keep this going and finish this post-year with a blast.

*Commander, John Carson*

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**Post Script Boo\$ter\$:** Thank you very much to Carolyn Chesna who made a one-time \$200 donation to the Post Script in appreciation for the Post performing the flag folding ceremony in honor of her brother-in-law at our September meeting.

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**New Members:** New member, Richard Bitney, was voted-in at our January meeting. He is a US Navy Vet who served from 1988-94 in the Gulf War. Welcome Richard.

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**January Post Meeting:** Our Patriot's Pen essay winners from Newhart Middle School came with their families to our Post Meeting to receive their awards. We presented certificates and checks to six students after which two students read their essays to the members.



Essay Committee members Kristen Clements, Gale Goodall, and Richard Vaughn are pictured with (left) 2nd place winner, 7th grader Abigail Crader, and 3rd place winner, 6th grader Rylan Ming Lien.

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**February Post Meeting:** We are looking forward to honoring some of our local First Responders at our February 13 meeting. In addition, we will also hear from more of our Patriot's Pen and Voice of Democracy essay winners.



**Spotlight:** There hasn't been a spotlight in the Post Script for a while but, on the occasion of his 90th birthday, it is especially appropriate to recognize someone who has and continues to contribute so much to the Post. In his mild unassuming way, Richard Vaughn, has been a cornerstone of our Post for many years.

Richard grew up in the mid-west dust bowl during the hardships of the depression. By adolescence World War II was underway. High school ROTC led him to joining a National Guard unit when he was 17. By the next year, he was serving in a US Army artillery battalion under-fire in Korea.

Many of you probably don't know that Richard is an accomplished author, a passion that only came to fruition after his retirement from an extensive business career in 1995. He has numerous short stories published and recently completed his first novel which is now in the publishing process.



Over the years Richard has served the Post in many capacities some of which include Adjutant and Trustee plus responsibility for rounding up and submitting reports to District and Department. But his most impactful contribution comes from his leadership of the Youth Essay program. During his tenure, the program has flourished; we have more community awareness than ever before; and are able to recognize and award dozens of students from 6th grade Patriot's Pen to 12th grade Voice of Democracy participants.

Let's wish Richard, a Very Happy 90th Birthday, and thank him for sharing his insight, for his mentoring, his always optimistic outlook and for his service to our Post.

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**Laguna Café:** Join us for our weekly breakfast meetings on Fridays at 7:30 am. 24310 Moulton Pkwy, Laguna Woods. **All Veterans Welcome.** In addition, the "Flashback" band entertains on the patio the 3rd Sunday of every month from 11:00 am—2:30 pm **All donations go to the VFW.**



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**MONTHLY POWER QUOTES:**

*"Freedom suppressed and again regained bites with keener fangs than freedom never endangered."*

----- Marcus Tullius Cicero, 44 B.C.

*"Though the flame of liberty may sometimes cease to shine, the coal can never expire."*

----- Thomas Paine

*"I have not yet begun to fight."*

----- John Paul Jones

*"The contest, for ages, has been to rescue Liberty from the grasp of executive power."*

----- Daniel Webster



**Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U.S.  
Edward J. Kearns Memorial Post 6024  
P.O. Box 4457  
Mission Viejo, CA 92690-4457**

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## THE POST SCRIPT



### UPCOMING AND HISTORICAL EVENTS

- February 13, 2023—Post Meeting 1900 hrs., Norman Murray Center  
February 13, 2023—Auxiliary Meeting 1900 hrs., Norman Murray Center  
March 13, 2023— Post Meeting 1900 hrs. Nomination of Officers, Norman Murray Center  
April 8, 2023 ——— Lake Day for MV Adopted Marine Unit, Lake Mission Viejo  
April 10, 2023 ——— Post Meeting 1900 hrs. Election of Officers, Norman Murray Center

*January 21, 1954 ———USS Nautilus launched in Groton, Connecticut, the world's first nuclear powered submarine*

*January 26, 1994— Romania becomes first former Cold War country to join NATO*

*February 3, 1943— With too few life jackets on board, 4 US Army Chaplains volunteer to go down with the ship as the Army Transport Dorchester is hit by a German torpedo*