

THE POST SCRIPT

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE UNITED STATES

EDWARD J. KEARNS POST 6024

P.O. BOX 4457

MISSION VIEJO, CALIFORNIA 92690-4457

vfwpost6024.org

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JULY 2023

EDITOR: GALE GOODALL

In memory of Tom Goodall

tommyg0910@aol.com

2023-2024 POST AND AUXILIARY OFFICERS

POST

Commander: John Carson 633-6763
Sr. Vice Commander: Rene Macare 306-3185
Jr. Vice Commander: Al Hicks 647-9253
Quartermaster: Harshu Sharma (818) 879-3120
Adjutant: Ned Costa (562) 682-3100
Officer of the Day: Frank McCleary 232-9391
Chaplain: Gary Heald 466-4225
Advocate: Casey Kleindienst 306-6133
Surgeon: Clark Courtney 338-8078
Guard: Gary Portas 595-1412
Service Officer: Bob Franzwa (858) 229-4306
Trustee 3 Year : Robert Casillas (562) 370-4371
Trustee 2 Year: Harry Steelman 422-8325
Trustee 1 Year: Ken Simonson (941) 539-2551
Scout Chairman: Jim Clements 614-9283
Honor Guard Leader: Bob Franzwa (858) 229-4306

AUXILIARY

President: Jackie Heddlesten 484-3801
Sr. Vice President: Gale Goodall 510-8538
Jr. Vice President: Lea Bergman (562) 412-8202
Secretary: Mary Lombard 683-0106
Treasurer: Mary Lombard 683-0106
Chaplain: Thomas Walling 586-9689
Conductress: Vacant
Guard: Melissa Sorensen 244-3992
Trustee #1: Kathy Holman 661-3130
Trustee #2: Cynthia Neitzke 436-2221
Trustee #3: Thomas Walling 586-9689

NOTE: All area codes not noted are (949)

NEXT MEETING

POST: Monday, August 14, 2023, 1900 hrs. - Norman Murray Center
AUXILIARY: Monday, August 14, 2023, 1900 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 (9/24), Fred Egeler (11/25), Clark Courtney (6/30), Robert Carey (7/24), Harry Steelman (12/23), Elinor Scott in memory of Jack West (6/23), Frank McLeary (11/24), Herbert Nakasone (2/28), Robert Casillas (12/28), Ken Simonson (10/23), Julie Hammeras in memory of Samuel Bussell (11/27), 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 (2/28), Jackie Heddlesten (11/25), Terry Pfeil (7/26)

(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

Comrades,

July: the first full month of summer. That means things are heating up, not only the weather from Mother Nature but for VFW Posts as well. Post 6024 is no exception. We started on Monday, July 10, on the patio of the Norman Murray Center prior to our July Post meeting when we honored WWII Veteran, Tech4 Robert C. Steelman. Those in attendance witnessed our Post Honor Guard performing the VFW Ritual for honoring a veteran, who has passed, for his service to the Nation. A flag was folded and presented to the Steelman family.

At our Post meeting, comrade Jim Clements presented information about an annual event sponsored by the Rancho Santa Margarita Chamber of Commerce in which our Post could participate. During the discussion, it was voted to pay the entrance fee to set up a Post 6024 informational booth at the Rancho Family Fest 2023. This event will be held October 7-8, 2023; Saturday noon to 10 pm and Sunday noon to 8 pm at RSM Central Park. It was also decided that it would be beneficial for our Post to join the RSM Chamber of Commerce to bolster our presence in the community. RSM and the surrounding communities have a lot of veterans that will attend the *Family Fest* and our booth will be a way to let veterans know about our award-winning Post and give out information about the VFW. As the time gets closer, we will be passing out a signup sheet to man the booth. Food, drinks, displays, and fun for all is the order of the day. Look for more information.

VFW CA District 2 Commander, Daniel Jennings, was in attendance at our meeting to swear in the newly elected Post Officers and committee leaders for 2023-2024. He also spoke to the Post about the new metal Buddy Poppy coming out this year and on ways to increase our membership. He also officially announced we are a VFW All-American team, ranking in the top 80 Posts in the nation!

Commander Jennings also gave an update on changes coming through National that will affect the VFW Posts. Training will be offered in October at a District 2 meeting to fill everyone in on the newly adopted changes. To that end, I will be attending the National VFW Convention, along with Trustee Harry Steelman, at the end of July in Phoenix AZ. Should be a hot time for all!

There are a lot of other events scheduled and more in the planning stages for this year. As we have done in the past, roll up your sleeves and join in. We will have fun.

Commander, John Carson

PoSt \$cript Boo\$ter\$: Thank you to Robert Carey and Renee McCare who have extended their Booster subscriptions.

New Members: We are happy to welcome new member Dennis Ayers, a USMC Vietnam Vet.



Installation of Officers: Our officers for 2023-24 (listed on page 1) were sworn in by District 2 Commander, Dan Jennings, at our July Post Meeting.

Scouts: Our sponsored scout troops have been busy. Boys Troop 727, Girls Troop 7272, and Cub Scout Pack 727 all participated in the City of Lake Forest July 4th parade carrying a huge American flag the entire parade route..

In addition, Girls Troop 7272 just returned from summer camp in the high Sierras and Boys Troop 727 is leaving for a summer camp in Lake Arrowhead.



Helping Veteran Families: A project that our Post has been interested in for several years, and donates to, is the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA) and the great work it is doing to bring home our soldiers and provide closure to veteran families who may have been waiting more than a generation.

The work of the DPAA was brought to our attention by Comrade Ken Simonson whose daughter, Mindy, works with them as an archeologist, and we have been doing occasional updates in the Post Script.

As of May 22, 2023, more than 81,000 Americans remain missing from WWII, the Korean War, the Vietnam War, the Cold War, and the Gulf Wars/other conflicts. 75% of these are located in the Indo-Pacific region, and over 41,000 of the missing are presumed lost at sea (from ships or aircraft water losses). Here are a just couple of recent success stories from the dedicated work these teams do everyday:

Wreckage of WWII bomber 'Heaven Can Wait' found, recovery mission a success: The American B-24 bomber named "Heaven Can Wait" was shot down off the coast of New Guinea in March of 1944. All 11 servicemen aboard were killed. Those 11 men have been counted among the MIA.

A non-profit, Project Recover, had located the wreckage of the aircraft. Then the DPAA along with the Navy Experimental Diving Unit got involved to recover what they could from the bomber. They successfully recovered a tremendous amount of biological and non-biological evidence to bring home to analyze. Although it will be months before any results are known, a repatriation ceremony was held for the service members in May when the remains were flown back to the U.S.

Soldiers Identified from Unknowns Exhumed at Punchbowl National Cemetery: Among the many sets of remains returned to the US from Korea since 1954, 3 MIAs were recently identified. Two were exhumed from a burial site of unknowns at Punchbowl and the other was identified as part of boxes of remains turned over to the US by North Korea in 1993.

Identification is a very slow process, once the remains are transferred to the DPAA Laboratory at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, scientists from DPAA use dental and anthropological analysis. Additionally, scientists from the Armed Forces Medical Examiner System use mitochondrial DNA analysis.

The families of these 3 servicemen are finally able to bring their soldier home—Cpl. Rex Powell will be buried in Salisbury, NC on Aug. 11, 2023; Sgt. Cresenciano Garcia will be buried in Laredo, TX on Oct. 14, 2023; and Cpl. Dewey E. Rewis will be buried in Echols County, GA on a date yet TBD.

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**



MONTHLY POWER QUOTES:

"Facts are stubborn things; and whatever may be our wishes, our inclinations, or the dictates of our passions, they cannot alter the state of facts and evidence."

----- John Adams

"The best way out is always through."

----- Robert Frost

"Success is not final, failure is not fatal: it is the courage to continue that counts. "

----- Winston Churchill

"As we express our gratitude, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter words, but to live by them ."

----- John F. Kennedy



**Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U.S.
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UPCOMING AND HISTORICAL EVENTS

July 22-27, 2023—— VFW National Convention, Phoenix, AZ
August 14, 2023—— Post Meeting 1900 hrs., Norman Murray Center
August 14, 2023—— Auxiliary Meeting 1900 hrs., Norman Murray Center
August 19, 2023 —— District 2 Meeting, 900 hrs., Ontario Post

July 18, 1947—— Pres. Truman signs an Executive Order determining the presidential line of succession which becomes the 25th Amendment to the Constitution when ratified Feb. 10, 1967
July 26 1945 —US Cruiser Indianapolis arrives in the Marianas with an unassembled Atomic bomb
August 4, 1952—Helicopters from the USAF Air Rescue Service land in Germany completing the 1st transatlantic helicopter flight in 51 hours and 55 min of flight time