

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

MARCH 2024

vfwpost6024.org

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EDITOR: GALE GOODALL

In memory of Tom Goodall

tommyg0910@aol.com

2023-2024 POST AND AUXILIARY OFFICERS

POST

<u>Commander:</u> John Carson	633-6763
<u>Sr. Vice Commander:</u> Rene Macare	306-3185
<u>Jr. Vice Commander:</u> Al Hicks	647-9253
<u>Quartermaster:</u> Harshu Sharma	(818) 879-3120
<u>Adjutant:</u> Ned Costa	(562) 682-3100
<u>Officer of the Day:</u> Frank McCleary	232-9391
<u>Chaplain:</u> Gary Heald	466-4225
<u>Advocate:</u> Casey Kleindienst	306-6133
<u>Surgeon:</u> Clark Courtney	338-8078
<u>Guard:</u> Gary Portas	595-1412
<u>Service Officer:</u> Bob Franzwa	(858) 229-4306
<u>Trustee 3 Year :</u> Robert Casillas	468-8135
<u>Trustee 2 Year:</u> Harry Steelman	422-8325
<u>Trustee 1 Year:</u> Robert Carey	280-5845
<u>Scout Chairman:</u> Michelle Coppage	(951) 348-1366
<u>Honor Guard Leader:</u> Bob Franzwa	(858) 229-4306

AUXILIARY

<u>President:</u> Jackie Heddlesten	484-3801
<u>Sr. Vice President:</u> Gale Goodall	510-8538
<u>Jr. Vice President:</u> Lea Bergman	(562) 412-8202
<u>Secretary:</u> Mary Lombard	683-0106
<u>Treasurer:</u> Mary Lombard	683-0106
<u>Chaplain:</u> Thomas Walling	586-9689
<u>Conductor:</u> Kerry Velasquez	678-9134
<u>Guard:</u> Melissa Sorensen	244-3992
<u>Trustee #1:</u> Kathy Holman	661-3130
<u>Trustee #2:</u> Cynthia Neitzke	436-2221
<u>Trustee #3:</u> Thomas Walling	586-9689

NOTE: All area codes not noted are (949)

NEXT MEETING

POST: Monday, April 8, 2024, 1900 hrs. - Norman Murray Center

AUXILIARY: Monday, April 8, 2024, 1900 hrs. - Norman Murray Center

POST SCRIPT BOOSTERS

Carol Rigg in memory of Gene Rigg (10/25), 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 (10/24), Dave Buck (9/24), Fred Egeler (11/25), Clark Courtney (6/30), Robert Carey (7/24), Frank McCleary (11/24), Herbert Nakasone (2/28), Robert Casillas (12/28), Ken Simonson (10/24), 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), 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), Ned Costa (8/24), Bill Cook (5/25)

(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

Recently, my cousin, George Hamilton, who was an Army Veteran passed away at age 85. I arranged for a memorial service and a celebration of life at the Norman Murray Center which provided the rooms and outdoor space at no cost. I was blessed to have our Post Honor Guard provide their time and effort to give George a proper Veteran Memorial Service. Those participating on the Rifle team that Bob Franzwa manages were: Harry Steelman, Clark Courtney, Bob Franzwa and myself. After the 3-volley rifle salute, the team reassembled to carry on the Flag Folding ceremony and Al Hicks attended to read the 13 Folds of the Flag.

After the ceremony we all retired to the Jacaranda rooms for a celebration of life ceremony for family and friends. George was a huge Military history fan and had collected some very interesting and valuable WWII history, some of which I will be donating to the Flying Leatherneck Museum slated to move from the Miramar Air Base to the Great Park location (formerly El Toro Marine Air Station). I will keep everyone posted on when they can see his items on display there.

One of the things I found, for example, was a framed photo of the Enola Gay, with a photo of the crew and the history behind the mission of dropping the A-bomb. What was notable about this framed bit of history is that it was signed by the Pilot, the Navigator, The Bombardier, and the Radio Man!

In closing, I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to all the Post Honor Guard members and Flag Folding Team for giving up their time to honor my cousin for his service...

Sr. Vice Commander, Rene Macare

New Members: Welcome to our newest member, Jimmy Perez, a 12 year US Army Iraqi Freedom Vet, voted in at the March Meeting.

Taps: It is with much sorrow that we announce the passing of **Comrade Ken Simonson** only weeks after he lost his wife, Ginger, of 48 years.



Ken was born in 1948 and raised in Iowa. He was a US Army Veteran who served in Vietnam in 1969-70 as a Heavy Equipment Operator with the 27th Combat Engineer Battalion in Phu Bai. When he returned from serving his country, he met and married Ginger and they raised 3 wonderful daughters.



When Ken became a Life Member of our Post, he made it a point to get to know everyone and became involved in activities right away. It wasn't long before he accepted an officer position as Trustee in which he was still serving.

We feel very privileged to have known Ken, been his friends, and had him as a member of our Post.

Swallows Day Parade: Our Post will be participating in the Swallows Day Parade in San Juan Capistrano again this year. If you are unable to march with us; come out, wave a flag to support us and enjoy the festivities on the sidelines. March 23, 11:00 am.

April Post Meeting: Nominations are now open for next term's officers; all positions are available. To nominate someone or yourself, contact Judge Advocate Casey Kleindienst. **Elections** are at the April Meeting.

Women in Military History: When thinking about an outstanding woman in military history to write about during Women’s History Month, it seemed appropriate to look no farther than our own Post’s first woman



Commander, **Jackie Voelkl**, who served 2 terms in 2005-06. Jackie’s military service began when she was sworn in the Women’s Army Auxiliary Corps in December 1942. After basic training at Ft. Des Moines IA, and attending the Army Administration School in Arkansas,



she became the **first female Sergeant Major**. In 1943, she turned down the opportunity to become an officer in favor of serving overseas and was deployed to the European Theater of Operations. She became Secretary to the Base Commander in Portsmouth, England and administered manifests for the Normandy invasion. On Christmas Eve 1944, during the Battle of the Bulge, Jackie and seven of her WACs flew to Paris, to work at **Gen. Eisenhower’s** Headquarters. As private secretary to **Gen. Robert A. McClure**, head of the Army Psychological Warfare Division, she helped develop propaganda pamphlets to drop to the German people to convince them to surrender. In June 1945, Jackie moved with Gen. McClure to Gen. Eisenhower’s new headquarters in Frankfurt. There, as the now renamed Information Control Division, they continued to develop and spread pamphlets, about concentration camps and other war atrocities, to drop and inform the German population of what their country had done. Jackie was definitely a pioneer among early military women and immensely involved in veteran concerns her entire life. Her WAC uniform now hangs in the WWII Museum in New Orleans.



Last month we introduced our 2023-24 Teacher of the Year. Her school was so excited about her award that they posted it on their outside message board for the whole community to see.

MONTHLY POWER QUOTES FOR WOMEN’S HISTORY MONTH:

“Positive progress towards excellence, that’s what we want....if you stand still and settle for the status quo, that’s exactly what you will have.”

_____ *Brigade General Hazel Johnson-Brown*

“The most damaging phase in the language is: It’s always been done that way.”

_____ *Rear Admiral Grace Hopper*

“If we want the most effective fighting force, we need to pick the most qualified capable man for the job, even if it is a woman.”

_____ *Lt. Col. Martha McSally*



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UPCOMING AND HISTORICAL EVENTS

- March 23, 2024** — Swallows Day Parade, San Juan Capistrano 1100 hrs.
April 6, 2024 — Lake Day for MV adopted Marines and Sailors, Lake MV 1000 hrs.
April 8, 2024 — Post Meeting 1900 hrs., Norman Murray Center
April 8, 2024 — Auxiliary Meeting 1900 hrs., Norman Murray Center
May 4,-5, 2024 — District 2 Convention and Memorial Service, Anaheim

March 23, 1775 — Patrick Henry delivers his “give me liberty or give me death” speech at the Virginia Convention

March 31, 1968 — Lyndon Johnson announces he will not seek re-election

April 3, 1865 — Richmond surrenders to Union forces after Lee’s troops withdraw

April 5, 1951 — Death sentences imposed on Rosenberg's after highly publicized espionage trial