

# 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

NOVEMBER 2023

vfwpost6024.org

VOL. XXXV, NO. 11

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 468-8135  
Trustee 2 Year: Harry Steelman 422-8325  
Trustee 1 Year: Ken Simonson (941) 539-2551  
Scout Chairman: Michelle Coppage (951) 348-1366  
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  
Conductor: Kerry Velasquez  
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, December 11, 2023, 1800 hrs. - Norman Murray Center  
**AUXILIARY:** Monday, December 11, 2023, 1800 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), Harry Steelman (12/23), Frank McLeary (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)

*(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,

This was a hectic month, and we are not finished yet. Dick Vaughn and Gale Goodall, with the help of Casey Kleindienst and Kristen Clements, read and judged 195 Patriots Pen entries, and sent 13 winners to District 2 for judging. The Voice of Democracy entries totaled 24 written plus audio entries, with 2 forwarded on to the district. Gale also sent one Teacher of the Year nomination in the K-5 category to the district. Thank you to Michelle Coppage for identifying this worthy teacher candidate. As in the past, we have a good chance to advance some to the Department and possibly to National for consideration to win the top awards for the year.

Rene Macare and Chuck Wright submitted two Law Enforcement Officers, an EMT, and a Firefighter to the district representing the best for the year in their departments in our post's area.

Post Service Officers Bob Franzwa and Rick Bitney, Membership Chairman Rene Macare, assisted by Commander Carson, Jr. Vice Al Hicks, Trustee Robert Casillas, Clark Courtney, Harry Steelman and his wife, Michelle Coppage, Gary Heald, Robert Carey, Dick Vaughn, Gale Goodall, and Adjutant Ned Costa were among attendees at several Veteran' Recourse Fairs Saddleback and Irvine Colleges, the RSM Family FEST, and/ or other Veterans gatherings, helping veterans needing VA form filing assistance and VFW recruiting opportunities. Jim Clements and Michelle Coppage attended the RSM Salute to Veterans in the middle of our Buddy Poppy Campaign. I apologize if I missed naming others. Several veterans are currently receiving assistance in filing VA claims, and several veterans have joined or transferred into our VFW Post as a result of these activities.

Al Hicks, Post 6024's Jr. Vice Commander, again brought post members out to spend time in some nice weather with a few windy days, all over the Saddleback Valley to hand out Buddy Poppies. The estimated five teams totaling 15 post members and 3 Auxiliary members successfully collected donations as well as met a lot of grateful citizens.

Quartermaster Harshu Sharma, Adjutant Ned Costa, and Commander Carson travelled to Anaheim Post to be subjected to the dreaded VFW post-inspection. Thanks to the supreme organization and attention to detail of these two and the eagle-eye supervision of Commander Carson, the post passed with an excellent +. It is also important to mention past quartermaster Harry Steelman's advice, when asked, was a great help. It was a full post team effort as it is a report of all the work and activities we all participate in.

Several post members enjoyed the drive to the Anaheim VFW for their monthly second Friday Steak dinner for \$10.00. It is a great time to meet other VFW District 2 veterans. I would be remiss if I failed to commend Harry Steelman for representing the post at two speaking engagements. I heard one speech and was told the other presentation he gave was outstanding. Thank you Harry. More events are on hand for this month.

May everyone have a great Thanksgiving and be thankful for what you have. Enjoy your freedom. You paid for it. Get your RSVP to Gale Goodall or Commander Carson to attend our December Christmas dinner open meeting starting at 6 p.m.

*Commander, John Carson*

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**New Members:** Welcome aboard to new members Robert Bader-Huesgen, US Navy, War on Terror, Cuba; and John Ruelas, Jr., US Navy, Vietnam; who were both voted in at the November Meeting.  
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**December Meeting:** Our annual **Christmas Dinner Open Meeting** is coming up soon on **December 11**. Other than great food and door prizes, the main attraction will be an informative talk given by forensic archeologist, Mindy Simonson, who works for the Defense POW / MIA Accounting Agency. Mindy spends most of her time overseas in the field working to find U.S. Military remains so they can be returned home to America and their families.

The meeting will begin at 6:00 pm in the Sycamore B room at the Norman Murray Center. If you have not already sent your **RSVP** for yourself +1, please email Gale Goodall at: [tommyg0910@aol.com](mailto:tommyg0910@aol.com)

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**Give Thanks:** At this time of year, it is important to pause and reflect on all we have to be thankful for. Of course on Thanksgiving Day our thoughts go to family, comfortable homes, and abundant food.

Let's also remember that currently there are at least 172,000 service men and women deployed out of the country away from their families this Thanksgiving guarding the freedom of all of us at home. Give thanks for all of these volunteers who willingly put their lives on the line to keep our country safe.

Our Post has much to be thankful for also:

We are thankful for all of our active members who work tirelessly to keep our Post going to provide services to veterans in need.

We are thankful for all of the generous people who stuff money in the Buddy Poppy jars on Veterans Day and Memorial Day to help support our programs.

We are thankful for the 219 sixth thru twelfth grade students who were motivated this year to write a patriotic essay on either, "How are you Inspired by America?", or "What are the Greatest Attributes of our Democracy?". The ideas expressed by these students give us great hope for leaving our country in the hands of the next generation.

We are thankful for all of the teachers who work hard guiding their students to become productive citizens and teaching them respect for our nation's history, the importance of our veterans, and that character is important.

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**The Prayer at Valley Forge:** This poignant painting, created for the nation's bicentennial by Arnold Friberg, and often displayed during Thanksgiving, depicts Washington kneeling in the snow by his white horse.

The artist was inspired by the legendary story told by a local Quaker man named Isaac Potts, the man who owned the property where Washington and his army set up their encampment during the winter at Valley Forge. Potts reported witnessing Washington praying in the woods which convinced Potts to declare allegiance to the Revolution despite his Quaker faith.

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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:**

*"Government is a trust, and the officers of the government are trustees; and both the trust and the trustees are created for the benefit of the people."* \_\_\_\_\_ *Henry Clay*

*"By the blessing of God may that country itself become a vast and splendid monument, not of oppression and terror, but of wisdom, of peace, and of liberty, upon which the world may gaze with admiration, forever."*  
\_\_\_\_\_ *Daniel Webster*

*"No man is above the law and no man is below it; nor do we ask any man's permission when we ask him to obey it."*  
\_\_\_\_\_ *Theodore Roosevelt*



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## THE POST SCRIPT



### UPCOMING AND HISTORICAL EVENTS

**December 11, 2023**——Post Open Holiday Dinner Meeting 1800 hrs., Norman Murray Center  
**December 11, 2023**—— Auxiliary, joint meeting with Post for Holiday festivities, 1800 hrs.  
**December 8, 2023** —— Happy Hanukkah  
**December 25, 2023**——Merry Christmas  
**January 1, 2024** —— Happy New Year

*November 19, 1863*—— *Lincoln gives his 2 minute Gettysburg Address whose words have come to symbolize the definition of democracy itself*

*November 25, 1963* —— *The eternal flame representing the spirit of John F. Kennedy was lit during his funeral at Arlington National Cemetery and continues to burn after 60 years*

*December 1, 1989*—— *Mikhail Gorbachev is first Soviet Russian leader to visit the Vatican and meet the Pope, thus ending 72 years of strict atheist policy in Communist Russia*