



VFW Post 10208  
Salt Springs, Florida

17 September 2024

Dear Salt Springs community

As the Commander for Post 10208 since July of 2023, I am writing this letter to introduce myself to you and let you know of some of the exiting things going on here at the wonderful Salt Springs VFW. First, my name is Jack Roig, and I assumed the Commander position last year following Jim Beeler's 17 year service as our Commander. My emphasis so far has been to align our Post to match the guiding principles of our District, State and National organizations, while still maintaining a local perspective to better serve area Veterans, their families, and our community. We have made significant improvements to the Post and in fact navigated us from on a short list of VFW Posts that were being watched for non compliance with VFW State and National requirements to the top Post in our District. The Salt Springs VFW Post was honored as an All State and All American Post this year---- among the top honors available in the VFW! Despite inherited bills or issues totaling nearly \$30,000, we have made over \$27,000 improvements without spending one dime of Post operating funds, thanks to the generosity of the Salt Springs community.

One significant change at our Post actually took place before I took over, and that is the move to eliminate smoking in our inside spaces. We have a very nice outside covered patio area where smoking is allowed, and this patio has become a very popular feature, enhanced further by attractive patriotic lighting, two large screen TVs, music and a full bar that can be used for special functions. Unfortunately, we still have a very few members who remain dissatisfied with the membership decision for the Post to go non-smoking a year ago, and seem to take every opportunity to badmouth the Post and its management, insisting that the new management is bankrupting the Post. Please understand that we are a non-profit organization. We raise money through our Canteen operations, our Bingo and donations. Everything that we bring in, after our costs, goes back out to the veterans of our community, their families and community members. Since we have little control over when things break and need repair, nor donations, our finances fluctuate continuously and are an incomplete indicator of the health of the Post.

We have completely re-done the Hall, with all new paint, buffed floors, a bar, a new jukebox and a clean decorating scheme that provides flexibility in uses. Of course we also have the requisite VFW features for official functions as well. This combination of decorating schemes affords us increased options for renting out our hall for non-VFW events and helping our financial bottom line.

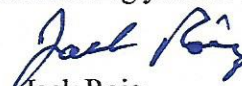
We have reorganized our budgeting structure to allow for increased charitable contributions to Veterans, Veterans' families and community needs. We do this by setting aside profits from our Bingo games, which means we can do our charitable support without utilizing operational funds.

We have updated our highway sign, with a scrolling digital display to let folks know of regular and special events. Additionally, we have our own website at [vfw10208.org](http://vfw10208.org) and a Facebook page at Salt Springs VFW. Both of these public sites are designed to inform folks of our Post happenings.

Besides our VFW organization, we share our spaces with our own VFW Auxiliary, AMVETS Chapter 1208, their Auxiliary, and a recent addition of a Sons of AMVETS chapter. So we can now find a membership option to serve nearly anyone, and for those who do not qualify, guests are always welcome with a member.

And of course we have cold beer on tap and a full bar in our Canteen, with good drinks and the friendliest bartenders around.

So please consider this letter your personal invitation to visit our Post and if you have not visited for a while, considering giving us another look. Our folks are friendly and look forward to camaraderie with other Vets, their families and community members. I look forward to seeing you again or meeting you for the first time! Come join us!

  
Jack Roig  
Commander