

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

OCTOBER 2024

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EDITOR: GALE GOODALL

In memory of Tom Goodall

tommyg0910@aol.com

2024-2025 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 and Chief of Staff:</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 Carey	280-5845
<u>Trustee 2 Year:</u> Robert Casillas	468-8135
<u>Trustee 1 Year:</u> Harry Steelman	422-8325
<u>Scout Chairman:</u> Thomas Schober	510-0774
<u>Honor Guard Leader:</u> Bob Franzwa	(858) 229-4306

AUXILIARY

<u>President:</u> Jackie Heddlesten	484-3801
<u>Sr. Vice President:</u> Renee Fulk	(714) 469-9938
<u>Jr. Vice President:</u> Gale Goodall	510-8538
<u>Secretary:</u> Mary Lombard	683-0106
<u>Treasurer:</u> Mary Lombard	683-0106
<u>Chaplain:</u> Kerry Velasquez	678-9134
<u>Trustee #1:</u> Cynthia Neitzke	436-2221
<u>Trustee #2:</u> Renee Fulk	(714) 469-9938
<u>Trustee #3:</u> Kathy Holman	661-3130

NOTE: All area codes not noted are (949)

NEXT MEETING

POST: Tuesday, November 12, 2024, 1900 hrs. - Norman Murray Center

AUXILIARY: Tuesday, November 12, 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 (7/25), Dick Vaughn (5/28), 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 (7/25), 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 (6/26), Roger Clinch (6/27), Dave Berutich (2/26), Pat Rizco (3/25), Rene Macare (2/28), Jackie Heddlesten (11/25), Terry Pfeil (7/26), Ned Costa (8/26), Bill Cook (5/25), Casey Kleindienst (6/28), Steve Valderrama in memory of Enmanuel G. Valderrama (12/37)

(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

Hello to everyone, I am back on duty in a very limited capacity. My spinal surgery, which lasted 5½ hours was, according to the surgeon, the most difficult and taxing surgery that can be performed. Before the operation, the surgeon told me later, he thought I'd be a quadriplegic. Through grit and determination, combined with the Marine Corps fight, I am not. I still have a long road to full recovery, (1-3 years) but I will prevail.

My activities are limited, but I am happy to have been able to attend the Auxiliary and Post's joint Potluck Octoberfest. In November, the Post/Auxiliary will be having a "Vets-Giving" Potluck. I encourage all to

attend. If you are tired of the boring monthly meetings and feel you don't have enough time to talk to fellow veterans, this is the place to be. No speeches, no rituals, just food to eat, and free roaming to talk to everyone and anyone. Cost is the only the food you make to bring and share. See you there on November 20.

Our Post and Auxiliary are helping veterans in need at a pace we have never seen before. This is due to those few members that twice a year man the Buddy Poppy tables, handing out poppies to our friends and neighbors. We accept donations from citizens wanting to help veterans in need. Al Hicks, our very busy Jr. Vice Commander, coordinates this campaign. If you are not helping our Post raise funds, it's not too late to volunteer; we do need your help. Call Al or me and tell us you can sit on a chair behind a table and talk to and listen to our local citizens while handing out Buddy Poppies. Once you do it, you will be hooked and have the great feeling of knowing you are helping fellow veterans. If you are not local or unable to volunteer, how about slipping a check in an envelope to help us out.

This post is yours, and it can only survive and succeed with your willingness to help.

Commander, John Carson

New Members: Four new members were voted in at our October meeting: Peter J. Nelson, US Army and US Navy 1954-1971 served in Korea and Vietnam; Jim Lindberg, US Navy Pilot, Vietnam; Larry Johnston, US Navy Submariner, Expeditionary Operations; and Rick Vink, US Army, Vietnam. We look forward to seeing all of you out at our meetings and events.

TAPS: We sadly report the passing of **Comrade Doug Sasso**.
Doug was a 28 year Life Member of our Post and a perennial Post Script Booster for as long as we have records.

August 1961-September 2024

After college at the University of Illinois, Champagne-Urbana, Doug was commissioned in the US Marine Corps and stationed at Quantico, VA, until he graduated from USMC Development and Education Command at the FBI Academy. Next, he entered flight school at the Pensacola, FL Naval Air Base where he received his wings. Doug's career in the Marines lasted for 23 years and took him to places and on flights throughout the world.

During his service, he flew the CH-53D/E Super Stallion helicopters during both combat and humanitarian operations. He was deployed to Desert Storm (91-92), and Afghanistan (2004). Post combat duty included providing air support for President Clinton on a journey to Entebbe Uganda and assignments at El Toro, Tustin, and Edwards Air Force Bases in CA. He retired from active duty as a Lt. Colonel in 2007.



His many medals and ribbons include: The Air Medal with flight Numeral 1, Navy Commendation Medal, Southwest Asia Service Medal with 2 Bronze Stars, National Defense Service Medal with 1 star, Sea Service Deployment Ribbon with 2 Stars, and Meritorious Unit Commendation with 1 star.

Doug loved flying helicopters, so it was a natural progression that he continued civilian flying at American Eagle and American Airlines. He eventually achieved his goal of flying the 787 Dreamliner just before the diagnosis of stomach cancer which took his life. Doug was interred with full military honors at Miramar National Cemetery, San Diego, on October 9. *Semper Fi*

Change of Meeting Date: Due to Veterans Day being on Monday, our November Post Meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 12 at 1900 hrs. **MARK YOUR CALENDER**

Veterans Day Observances: Our Post Honor Guard will participate in two local programs. First, the City of Mission Viejo program will begin at 0830 hrs. at the Norman Murray Center —*please note this is a time change from prior years*. The Veterans Day observance at El Toro Cemetery will follow at 1100 hrs.

Vets-Giving, November 20: Another fun POTLUCK dinner party is being planned by our Auxiliary. This will be at the Norman Murray Center from 5:30-8:00 pm in the Palo Verde Room. Bring your favorite Thanksgiving themed dish to share along with your spouse / friend/ family member and enjoy socializing with the group. This is also a great opportunity for new members to get to know everyone.

Please RSVP to Kerry Velasquez: kerryliz1949@gmail.com

Did You Know: When Steven Hopkins of Rhode Island rose before the Continental Congress in Philadelphia on Oct 3, 1775 and introduced a resolution calling for “the building and equipping of an American fleet as soon as possible,” Samuel Chase of Maryland indignantly scoffed that it was “the maddest idea in the world.” Many delegates rightfully viewed navies as too expensive while others still hoped for resolving the differences with Great Britain and the creation of a navy would be one more step away from that goal. Reluctance prevailed, and the resolution was tabled. But two days later, word arrived that two unarmed and unescorted brigs carrying significant stores of weapons and powder had departed England bound for Quebec.



USS Alliance 1778

This was a tempting enough target to cause Congress to explore ways to intercept these ships and divert their much needed cargo to General George Washington, then laying siege to Boston. But the resolution remained in limbo until a letter arrived from General Washington explaining that, desperate for ammunition and other supplies, **he** had authorized, at Congress expense, three schooners to cruise off Massachusetts for the purpose of intercepting enemy supply ships. With no real alternative and considering the decision had essentially been taken out of their hands, Congress then passed the resolution for building an American fleet on **October 13, 1775**—now celebrated as the **birthday of the United States Navy**.

But the story is not over—with the Continental Army's victory in the Revolutionary War, money-poor Congress dissolved the Navy selling off its few remaining ships and assets. The final vessel, *Alliance*, was auctioned off in 1785 to a private bidder. However, a few years later, with the expansion of trade and shipping in the 1790s and the possibility of attacks by European powers and pirates looming, Congress acted in March 1794 by calling for the construction of a half-dozen frigates. The US Navy had proved it's value and was here to stay.

Today the Fleet totals 236 active commissioned vessels maintaining an American presence on the seas all over the world, ensuring lanes of commerce remain open for free trade, preventing aggression through credible deterrence, and displaying American power when necessary to ensure our continued freedom.

Christmas Open Meeting and Dinner: Put December 9 on your calendar for our annual Post Christmas Open Meeting and Dinner at the Norman Murray Center. RSVP's will be required for member +1 so we can plan for the proper quantity of food. Come join in the holiday festivities. Stayed tuned for more information.

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:

“A good Navy is not a provocation to war. It is the surest guaranty of peace.”
_____ Theodore Roosevelt

“I can imagine no more rewarding a career. And, any man who may be asked in this century what he did to make his life worthwhile, I can respond with a good deal of pride and satisfaction: 'I served in the United States Navy.' ”
_____ John F. Kennedy

“Duty, honor, country: Those three hallowed words reverently dictate what you ought to be, what you can be, what you will be.”
_____ Douglas MacArthur



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

October 13, 2024 — US Navy 249th Birthday

November 10, 2024 — USMC 249th Birthday

November 7-11, 2024 — Buddy Poppy Distribution

November 11, 2024 — City of MV Veterans Day Observance, Norman Murray Center 0830 hrs.

November 11, 2024 — El Toro Memorial Park Veterans Day Ceremony 1100 hrs.

November 12, 2024 — Post Meeting Rescheduled 1900 hrs., Norman Murray Center

November 12, 2024 — Auxiliary Meeting 1900 hrs., Norman Murray Center

November 13, 2024 — City of RSM Veterans Recognition 1800 hrs. Bell Tower Community Ctr

December 9, 2024 — Post Christmas Open Meeting and Dinner

October 17-25, 1944 - Battle of Leyte Gulf, the largest naval battle in history, took place off the Philippine Islands involving 216 U.S. warships and 64 Japanese ships resulting in the destruction of the Japanese Navy