

THE POST SCRIPT

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WAR'S OF THE UNITED STATES

EDWARD J. KEARNS POST 6024

P.O.BOX 4457

MISSION VIEJO, CALIFORNIA 92690-4457

vfwpost6024.org

VOL. XXXVII, NO. 6

JUNE 2025

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: Monday, July 14, 2025, 1900 hrs. - Norman Murray Center

AUXILIARY: Monday, July 14, 2025, 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 (4/28), Joe Goff (9/26), Al Ramirez (11/26), Fred Egeler (11/25), Clark Courtney (6/30), Robert Carey (7/25), Frank McLeary (11/28), Herbert Nakasone (2/28), Robert Casillas (12/28), Julie Hammeras in memory of Samuel Bussell (11/27), RJ Jackson (8/25), Michael Burnett (5/27), John Summa (6/26), Roger Clinch (6/27), Dave Berutich (2/26), Rene Macare (2/28), Jackie Heddlesten (11/25), Terry Pfeil (7/26), Ned Costa (8/26), Casey Kleindienst (6/28), Steve Valderrama in memory of Enmanuel G. Valderrama (12/37), Harry Steelman (11/26), Carson Day (12/2032)

(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

I am a charter member of VFW Post 6024. Over the past eight years, I have been the Post's Jr. Vice Commander, Buddy Poppy Chairman, and Commander. I have taken this responsibility to heart and tried to do my best. Along the way, I have not been afraid to seek advice, guidance, and direction from the Post's current and past commanders and officers. I believe in the word, "synergy" when it comes to leadership. I want to thank all those that I have bounced ideas off over the years. Everyone wants to give me credit for accomplishments that have occurred under my watch, but I want to give credit to those who listened and advised me along my path. I am not leaving Post 6024, rather taking my show to another venue, as CA.VFW District-2 Commander. So, I'll remain a Post member, watchdog, adviser,

and supporter. I feel the Post has great leaders that will continue to serve the Post, VFW, veterans, and the public.

In parting, I want to leave a few words of wisdom I have picked up along my journey:

- ◆ Remember not to take life too seriously!
- ◆ First, my mom didn't raise a dummy. If she did, it was my brother.
- ◆ If you can't look back at your younger self and realize that you were an idiot, chances are you probably still are an idiot.
- ◆ Have you ever looked at someone and think, *Why hasn't anyone hit you on the head with a shovel yet?*
- ◆ If common sense was lard, most people wouldn't be able to grease a pan.
- ◆ It's never too late to be what you want to be.
- ◆ Once you reach a certain age, you become permanently unimpressed by a lot of drama.
- ◆ As you grow older, you will discover that you have two hands: one for helping yourself, the other for helping others. (Audrey Hepburn)
- ◆ A hungry stomach, an empty wallet, and a broken heart can teach you the best lessons of life.

Six Undeniable Facts of Life : — Steve Job Quotes from his death bed.

1. Don't educate your children to be rich. Educate them to be happy, so when they grow up, they will know the value of things, and not just their price.
2. Eat your food as your medicines, otherwise you have to eat medicines as your food.
3. The one who loves you will never leave you for another, because, even if there are 100 reasons to give up, he, or she, will find that one reason to hold on.
4. There is a big difference between a human being and being human.
5. You are loved when you are born. You will be loved when you die. In between, only YOU oversee your life.
6. If you just want to walk fast, then walk alone. However, if you want to walk far, then walk together.

The Seven Best Doctors:

1. GOD. 2. Sunlight. 3. Rest. 4. Exercise. 5. Diet. 6. Self-Confidence. 7. Friends.

Thank you for being my friend and helping me walk the path less traveled,

Commander, John Carson

New Members: No new members this month.

PoS\$ \$cript Boo\$ter\$: A big thank you to life member Carson Day for his generous Booster contribution.

Lifetime Recognition Award: At our May Post Meeting, Past Commander **Casey Kleindienst** was recognized for his service and dedication to VFW Post 6024. Casey joined the Post in 1988. He found his fit and served a very long stint as Quartermaster from 2005-2017. He was then elected Commander and served through June 2021. Since then, he has served as Post Advocate and in July 2024 took on the added responsibility as Chief of Staff.



Casey was drafted into the Army in 1966. He was introduced to jungle warfare at Fort Irwin then trained with the 4th Infantry Division at Fort Lewis and shipped out to Vietnam from there. He was assigned to 1st Bn/8th Inf, and conducted Search & Destroy missions in the Tuy An Valley. The last half of his tour was the Ho Chi Minh Trail in the Central Highlands engaging with NVA troops.

Cmdr. John Carson, Casey Kleindienst, Jr. Vice Al Hicks

Status of our Veterans Cemetery: Thank you to Post Life Member Bill Cook, Chairman of the Orange County Veterans Memorial Park Foundation, for providing this progress update.

Background:

The idea for a resting place to serve Orange County's military families has been discussed since at least 2014. Five years of bitter fighting ensued in the Irvine City Council regarding a site for the cemetery at the former El Toro Marine Base. The site the City finally embraced required so much clean up and preparation that it exceeded the existing state funding and the rest of the money would not likely be budgeted for many years out.



Fast Forward to 2021:

The focus shifted to the **Gypsum Canyon** site, a gift of parkland from The Irvine Company, perfectly located near the junction of three counties, a magnificent site which will become a revered monument for the next century and beyond.

A powerful coalition of Veterans groups, community members, and elected officials united to advocate for Gypsum Canyon and every city in Orange County voted to support the site. The Orange County Board of Supervisors allocated \$20 million for development of the cemetery at Gypsum Canyon.

2022:

The state or tribal legislature passed necessary legislation ... and appropriated funds for establishment and operation, officially paving the way for Gypsum Canyon to become the future home of the Southern California Veterans Cemetery.

2024:

Anaheim City Council approved necessary permits for development. The State budget included additional funding for the cemetery.

2025 Where are we now:

- ♦ On May 27, Irvine Mayor Larry Agran made another attempt to undermine the universally supported Gypsum Canyon Cemetery site in Anaheim Hills in favor of his Irvine site in the Great Park. His resolution failed spectacularly following public comments from 130 residents. This finally puts an end to challenges by Mayor Agran.
- ♦ We are waiting for the Title Transfer. The state or tribal government must have title to the land.
- ♦ Apply to the Department of Veterans Affairs for federal assistance with a grant. The Application has been prepared multiple times and we have appeared on the VA grant list for several years, first as Irvine, now as Anaheim, but always as a back-page 'non-conforming pre-application'. CalVet is in process of preparing to submit yet *another* application, this to eventually get us onto the Grant Funded list. The 2026 list will be published October 1.

This *should* be the final step before the essential title transfer. Once the County conveys title to the State, we will actually have a VETERANS CEMETERY. The OC Cemetery District and CalVet have been working details of shared costs, site and grading, infrastructure and operations. We are anticipating dirt to fly in 2026.

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 QUOTE:

"I am not afraid of an army of lions led by a sheep, I am afraid of an army of sheep led by a lion."
_____ Alexander the Great



**Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U.S.
Edward J. Kearns Post 6024
P.O. Box 4457
Mission Viejo, CA 92690-4457**

**RETURN SERVICE
REQUESTED**

**NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
MISSION VIEJO, CA
PERMIT NO. 591**



THE POST SCRIPT



UPCOMING AND HISTORICAL EVENTS

June 18-22, 2025 — Department of California Convention, Anaheim, CA

July 4, 2025 — Independence Day

July 14, 2025 — Post Meeting 1900 hrs., Norman Murray Center

July 14, 2025 — Auxiliary Meeting 1900 hrs., Norman Murray Center

July 22, 2025 — Post and Auxiliary Americana Pot Luck, 1700-2000 hrs. Norman Murray Ctr.

August 9-13, 2025 — 126th VFW National Convention, Columbus, Ohio

June 28, 1919 — Treaty of Versailles formally ends World War I. Germany given sole blame for the war, gave up Alsace-Lorraine and overseas colonies, and paid reparations of \$15 Billion.

June 14, 1977 — Raid on Entebbe airport in Uganda occurred as an Israeli commando unit rescued 103 hostages taken by pro-Palestinian guerrillas on a hijacked Air France airliner.