

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

VOL. XXXVII, NO. 4

APRIL 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, May 12, 2025, 1900 hrs. - Norman Murray Center

AUXILIARY: Monday, May 12, 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), 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), Harry Steelman (11/26)

(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

If a person searches for what is nationally observed in a particular month, a long list will appear. For April, I selected "**The Month of the Military Child**". Post 6024 supports the VFW's National Home in Eaton Rapids, Michigan. The Post purchased three decorative bricks to help fund the remodeling of the National Home's housing facilities, and we give monthly donations to the National Home.

The Month of the Military Child, acknowledges the unique challenges faced by children in military families and recognizes the sacrifices and courage of these young Americans. These children navigate

ever-changing circumstances, and often, both parents are either on active duty or in the reserves, which means their primary caregivers can be deployed at any moment.

Military children become adaptable based on their family size, where they are stationed, and the duration of their military service. They may travel extensively across the country and sometimes around the world. Military life impacts every family member, including the youngest. Due to frequent relocations, it is difficult to maintain close relationships, even with immediate family members. Children endure deployments just like the parents who stay behind. This unique lifestyle does not come without taking a toll on the entire family, but always hardest on the military child.

Our Post does many things to support military families. Each year when the Mission Viejo Marine Adoption Committee has Lake Day for the 1st Marine Division and their families, Post 6024 joyfully furnishes entertainment for the children with bounce houses, train rides, and helping with the donation of prizes for the children. At the Annual Baby Shower at the Long Beach Veterans Hospital, the Post and the Auxiliary donate care packages and gas cards to new or expecting military mothers. Also, at December's Christmas meeting, members bring toys to be given to military children.

Everyone realizes the hardships and stress on the military families, but we need to be especially mindful of the stress and toll on the children. I'm glad to see that April has been set aside to give recognition and bring awareness to this small but precious commodity—our **United States Military Children**.

Commander, John Carson

Patriot's Pen Essay Winners: At our March Post Meeting, we were excited to present three of our Post Patriot's Pen winners with District 2 awards. From Left: Gianna Dal Poggetto 3rd place; Sydney Cutone 2nd place-both from Stoneybrooke Christian School, Ariel Zhang 1st place, Carden Hall School; Renee Fulk, District 2 Auxiliary President.



A week later, our two winners from Stoneybrooke Christian, on their 8th grade trip in Washington DC, were selected by their principal to place a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown at Arlington cemetery.

Post Election: Officers for the next term were elected at our April Post Meeting. The results for the 7 elected positions are: Commander, Harry Steelman; Sr. Vice Commander, Rene Macare; Jr. Vice Commander, Ned Costa; Quartermaster, Harshu Sharma; Trustee 3 yr., Russ Johnson; Trustee 2 yr., Robert Carey; Trustee 1 yr., Norm Lipin. Appointed officers will be published when available.

“In Appreciation” Award Certificate: Our Post recently started a program to recognize local businesses with an *Appreciation Award Certificate* to express gratitude to those who honor veterans and promote patriotism within our community.

For as many years as I can remember, the Mission Viejo **California Pizza Kitchen** has gone out of their way to thank veterans for their service when they come into the restaurant wearing a military cap or shirt. They also provide a free meal to all veterans on Veterans Day and Memorial Day and, on those days, the wait staff is happy to take Buddy Poppies from us, listen to the story and distribute them to other staff members to wear.



During the past few years, our Youth Activities Committee has descended on the Pizza Kitchen regularly to have lunch and meetings where we are always welcomed to a friendly, unrushed atmosphere.

On March 18, members of the Youth Activities Committee, Richard Vaughn, Casey Kleindienst, and Gale Goodall presented the **Appreciation Award Certificate** to the Mission Viejo California Pizza Kitchen. Manager Chris Coates gratefully accepted the certificate on behalf of the management and his staff. He said they were thrilled for the recognition but it was their honor to support and respect veterans in our community.



Buddy Poppy Campaign: Memorial Day is fast approaching and we need your help to make our Buddy Poppy Campaign successful. You can do this by volunteering to help man a station in front of a local business (contact Jr. Vice Al Hicks), drop a donation in the can where you see our tables set up in the community, or mail in a check. Donations that we receive during this time are essential to support our Posts many programs.

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:

“It is amazing what you can accomplish if you do not care who gets the credit.”
 _____ Harry S. Truman

“Age wrinkles the body. Quitting wrinkles the soul.”
 _____ Douglas MacArthur

“Those who dare to fail miserably can achieve greatly.”
 _____ John F. Kennedy



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

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UPCOMING AND HISTORICAL EVENTS

May 10, 2025 ———District 2 Convention, South Shores Church, Dana Point 0900 hrs.
May 12, 2025 ———Post Meeting 1900 hrs., Norman Murray Center
May 12, 2025 ———Auxiliary Meeting 1900 hrs., Norman Murray Center
May 17, 2025 ———Female Veteran's Baby Shower, Long Beach VA Hospital
May 21-25, 2025 ———Buddy Poppy Campaign
May 26, 2025 ———Memorial Day Programs

April 25, 1865 ——— Mary Surrat taken into custody as a co-conspirator in Lincoln's assassination

April 30, 1945 ——— Adolph Hitler commits suicide in his Berlin bunker headquarters

May 4, 1998 ——— Clinton administration invokes sanctions against North Korea and Pakistan for secret missile deal