

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

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AUGUST 2023

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: Jim Clements 614-9283
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
Conductress: Vacant
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: Wednesday, September 13, 2023, 1900 hrs. - Norman Murray Center

AUXILIARY: Wednesday, September 13, 2023, 1900 hrs. - Norman Murray Center

POST SCRIPT BOOSTERS

Carol Rigg in memory of Gene Rigg (8/23), 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 (9/23), Dave Buck (9/24), Fred Egeler (11/25), Clark Courtney (6/30), Robert Carey (7/24), Harry Steelman (12/23), Elinor Scott in memory of Jack West (6/23), Frank McLeary (11/24), Herbert Nakasone (2/28), Robert Casillas (12/28), Ken Simonson (10/23), 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,

Post 6024 Trustee, Harry Steelman, and your post-Commander, John Carson, attended the 124th VFW National Convention in Phoenix AZ. The outgoing Commander in Chief, Timothy Borland was the MC for most of the convention's main daily meetings. During these meetings the national award winners were introduced and presented their awards; thanks were given to the many corporate sponsors that made generous donations to veterans' causes; and a recap of the accomplishments of the VFW over the past year was presented including the passing of the PACT Act. At the congressional hearings, those asking for federal funding were allotted 15 minutes to present to Congress their requests. When VFW Commander-in-Chief, Timothy Borland had his turn, he started speaking about the needs of the millions

of veterans. The committee was so engrossed in his presentation, he was not interrupted for one hour and a half. Then, he was invited back after lunch to complete his long presentation. It was because of this presentation that Congress passed the PACT Act Helping Veterans. Many of the rules, procedures, and bylaw changes were presented at the general meetings, and the assembled members got to vote on what was accepted as changes or rejected. When the new podium bylaws come out for 2023-2024, you will be able to see the numerous changes made.

Steelman and I attended several training sessions and got a lot of information on the rules and procedures concerning the VFW and how to run it properly. Space in the PostScript is limited, so I can't even start to explain all that was learned. We met and talked to VFW Veterans from all over the world. Notes were compared, and we came away knowing our post is on the right track, but it takes a lot of work. Sessions began at 08:00 hours, and you got back to your hotel around 18:00 hours. If you wanted to go and visit the surrounding sights, you had to go early and/or stay late as the convention would take all your time. It was worth it. Plus you needed to make time for the hospitality room that allows you to meet and greet many fellow veterans.

In the end, Duane Sarmiento was elected Commander-in-Chief of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U.S. He served in the United States Navy from 1988 to 1997, and the United States Naval Reserve from 2002 to 2006, earning his VFW eligibility by serving in Operations Desert Shield/Storm.

Harry Steelman and I both came away impressed with how the National Convention was run and would strongly encourage any member interested in the VFW to attend a National Convention. You will come back with a better understanding of what it is we do and the feeling that it all is well worth it. The next National Convention will be in Kentucky.

Commander, John Carson

SEPTEMBER MEETING DATE CHANGED: Since our normal Monday meeting falls on Patriot's Day, September 11, and we will be participating in the ceremony at the Rancho Santa Margarita Civic Center Plaza at 1815 hrs., we have rescheduled for Wednesday, September 13, same time 1900 hrs., but moved to the Palo Verde Room. Update your calendar and plan to attend both events.

Po\$t \$cript Boo\$ter\$: A big thanks to Ned Costa for becoming a first time Booster.

New Members: We have two new members to welcome this month: Michelle Coppage USN Gulf War Vet and transfer member Jim Lebowitz USAF Vietnam Vet. We look forward to getting to know you both better.

Lifetime Service Award: To honor a Lifetime of Service to Country, Community & Veterans thru the VFW, our Post made a special presentation including a handsome plaque to life member comrade **Bruce Hunt** at our August Post Meeting.



During his active years with the Post, Bruce could be found in front of the Mission Viejo Albertsons at a Buddy Poppy table every Memorial Day and Veterans Day, or serving pizza and BBQ at the Long Beach VA Hospital in the Spinal Cord Injury Ward.



He also put in numerous hours organizing all kinds of events to help active duty Marines and Sailors and families at Camp Pendleton in support of the City of Mission Viejo adopted unit, HQ Battalion, 1st Marine Division, including the very popular annual Day at Lake Mission Viejo. These are just some of the many things Bruce has done that have made a difference to our Post and in our Community.
Thank you Bruce.

Comrade in Distress: Please keep our Post Guard and Charter Member, Gary Portas, and his wife Dottie in your prayers as Dottie recovers from recent heart surgery. Gary is staying with his daughters during this time but a card sent to his home address will find its way to him or he would appreciate a call to let him know we are thinking about him. 19801 Meadow Ridge Drive, Apt 7, Trabuco Canyon, CA 92679 949-412-1129

Combat Veterans Photo Gallery: If you haven't seen it yet, you need to check out the new page on our Post website (vfwpost6024.org) honoring our 6024 members who proudly served in combat during their tour of duty. If your picture and name is not on there yet, it should be, please send the information to our webmaster: Ned Costa: casperned68@yahoo.com

National Desert Shield and Desert Storm Memorial: This new memorial in Washington DC was approved by Congress May 28, 2014 and a subsequent bill in March 2017 authorized the construction, without the use of federal funds, near the National Mall. The location will be just north of the Lincoln Memorial and west of the Vietnam Memorial. A groundbreaking ceremony occurred at the site on July 14, 2022. The design concept was approved by the Commission of Fine Arts in October 2022 and construction is expected to start in the fall of 2023 — actually a short timeline from approval to construction as Memorials go !



The stated goal of the Memorial is to create a deeply moving sequential experience for visitors that:

- ◆ Educates them about the historical events of the war
- ◆ Illustrates the historical significance of the 34-nation coalition that united to liberate Kuwait
- ◆ Reflects the unique environmental and battle conditions experienced by servicemen and women in this war
- ◆ Leaves visitors with an enduring memory of the historical significance and accomplishments of Desert Shield and Desert Storm

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:

"Courage is contagious. When a brave man takes a stand, the spines of others are often stiffened."
----- Billy Graham

"Courage is what it takes to stand up and speak; courage is also what it takes to sit down and listen."
----- Winston Churchill

"May we think of Freedom, not as the right to do as we please, but as the opportunity to do what is right."
----- Peter Marshall

"In the beginning of a change, the Patriot is a scarce man, and brave and hated and scorned. When his cause succeeds, the timid join him, for then it costs nothing to be a Patriot ."
----- Mark Twain



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UPCOMING AND HISTORICAL EVENTS

September 11, 2023 ——- Patriot's Day Ceremony, RSM Civic Center Plaza, 1815 hrs.
September 13, 2023 ——- Post Meeting 1900 hrs., Norman Murray Center *Palo Verde Room*
September 13, 2023 ——- Auxiliary Meeting 1900 hrs., Norman Murray Center
October 7-8, 2023 ——- RSM Family Fest, Post 6024 will have a booth, Central Park RSM

August 25, 1990 ——- *The United Nations gives approval for the world's navies to use force to stop vessels trading with Iraq*
September 3, 1777 ——- *The American Flag flown in battle at for first time during a Revolutionary War skirmish at Cooch's Bridge Maryland*
September 10, 1608 ——- *John Smith elected Council President of Jamestown, first permanent English settlement in North America*