

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

JULY 2024

vfwpost6024.org

VOL. XXXVI, NO. 7

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 Casillas	468-8135
<u>Trustee 2 Year:</u> Harry Steelman	422-8325
<u>Trustee 1 Year:</u> Robert Carey	280-5845
<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, August 12, 2024, 1900 hrs. - Norman Murray Center

AUXILIARY: Monday, August 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)

(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

In lieu of the Commanders Corner this month, Judge Advocate and Chief of Staff, Casey Kleindienst shares highlights from the Department Convention.

The 2024 VFW Department of CA Convention gathered at Hotel Fera Anaheim from June 16 to 23. On the first day, the Post officers attended a host of training seminars covering all aspects of post operations. The Thursday main event was the awards and recognition ceremony. And Friday was dedicated to the Joint Memorial Service honoring the VFWCA members who passed in 2023-2024.

For a second year, Post 6024's Ned Costa produced and showed a video tribute at the opening. (The video is available on YouTube <https://youtu.be/jkpkUamb51E> and also on our on Post website vfwpost6024.org). On hand to view the video was VFW Commander-in-Chief, Duane Sarmiento.



There were also Cooties at the convention. One of the more interesting exhibits was manned by our own Past Commander Fred-Otto Egeler. Outfitted in full Cootie regalia Fred was standing tall, passing along membership information.

On Saturday Deb Johnson was elected Commander of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Department of California.

She served in the Wisconsin Army National Guard from Feb 1985 – Nov 1994 as



a Production Control Specialist SGT (E5). In August 1990 her unit was deployed in support of Operation Desert Shield/Desert Storm to Dhahran, Saudi Arabia where she earned her eligibility to the VFW. She received the Southwest Asia Service Medal, Liberation of Kuwait Medal and the Army Commendation Medal.

Deb joined the VFW in 1993 at Post 2112 in Sparta, Wisconsin and is a Gold Legacy Life Member of Post 10859 in Bakersfield, California. Deb has two stepdaughters and one grandson. She and her husband Steve reside in Bakersfield, CA.

Po\$t \$cript Boo\$ter\$: Thank you to Ned Costa and Bob Carey for renewing their Boosters.

New Members: Two new members were introduced and voted in at our July meeting. Welcome Patrick Corbett, USA, Vietnam and Edward Solomon, USAF, Korea.

Long Beach VA Hospital: On Saturday, June 29, Hospital Chairman AJ Summa hosted an afternoon of music in the recreation room for the patients in the Spinal Cord Injury Ward at the Long Beach VA Hospital. He was assisted by volunteer Jonathan Zhou one of our student Voice of Democracy winners last year.

It was encouraging that about twice as many patients as at the prior event came in their wheel chairs to be entertained by the band, Long Beach Blue's Society.

The Post donated \$500 in Canteen Books to the Ward as well as gave \$10 in Script to each patient in attendance.

We are hopeful we may be able to put on a BBQ event in the Fall.



National Home Gets a Welcome Center: As a combined VFW and Auxiliary special project of 2023-24 President Carla Martinez and Commander-in-Chief Duane Sarmiento, \$125,000 was raised and gifted to our National Home in Eaton Rapids, Michigan to convert the Administration Lobby into a Welcome Center.

With the Home being located miles from town, the Welcome Center will contain a retail space which will stock basic food and beverage needs for families and a clothing and souvenir space will provide convenient options for visitors and guests.

“The Welcome Center project will change the face of the administration space by providing a warm and welcoming environment for our visitors and residents as well as insuring postal and parcel mail gets to the residents in a timely manner”, said VFW National Home Executive Director Mike Wilson. “We are truly thankful to Duane and Carla for taking on this project fundraiser and all those who donated to it,” Wilson said.

The renovation is scheduled for completion in late fall.



Thoughts from the Commander: I am a charter member of Post 6024. Because of work, family raising, and other commitments, I was inactive until ten years ago. Since then, I have met dozens of veterans. As I have talked to these veterans, they are dedicated, hard-working, and quiet about their time on active duty. Knowing they’re true American heroes has taught me much about my comrades. We all had a call to help America in need, and we answered that call. We can all be proud of what they did, the job, and the work done.

As I learn more about our fellow members, the stories I can elicit from them are beyond belief. We are blessed to have some badass heroes in our midst. There came a saying from Vietnam: "We all gave some, some gave all." As the Post brings on new members, please get to know them. Sit down for coffee, iced tea, or even a cold brew. Veterans have stories that NEED to be told to help clear bad memories and know other veterans understand our hurt. We can tell our stories or, better yet, listen to theirs. It helps to speak of or hear the call to duty adventures. It helps clear the mind and lets the soul know we are not alone. We are all we have, all in this together, and we still have this need to help others.

God Bless the United States, and God bless our veterans.
Commander, John Carson

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:

“The wave of the future is not the conquest of the world by a single dogmatic creed but the liberation of the diverse energies of free nations and free men”.
_____ John F, Kennedy

“The President’s hardest task is not to do what is right, but to know what is right”.
_____ Lyndon Baines Johnson

“Government is like a big baby—an alimentary canal with a big appetite at one end and no sense of responsibility at the other”.
_____ Ronald Reagan



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

July 21, 2024 ——— Post and Auxiliary BBQ
July 27-31, 2024 — VFW National Convention, Louisville, KY
August 12, 2024 ——— Post Meeting 1900 hrs., Norman Murray Center
August 12, 2024 ——— Auxiliary Meeting 1900 hrs., Norman Murray Center

July 11, 1804 ——— Alexander Hamilton killed in duel with Aaron Burr
July 19, 1918 ——— Armored cruiser USS San Diego sunk off Fire Island, NY by mine laid by U-156
July 23, 1948 ——— USS Putnam (DD-757) evacuates U.N. team from Haifa, Israel and becomes first US Navy ship to fly the U.N. flag.
August 2, 1934 — After death of German President Paul von Hindenburg, Chancellor Adolf Hitler becomes absolute dictator of Germany and the last remnants of the democratic government were dismantled