

# THE POST SCRIPT

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE UNITED STATES  
EDWARD J. KEARNS MEMORIAL POST 6024

P.O. BOX 4457

MISSION VIEJO, CALIFORNIA 92690-4457

vfwpost6024.mytroop.us

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MARCH 2023

EDITOR: GALE GOODALL

*In memory of Tom Goodall*

tommyg0910@aol.com

## 2022-2023 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> Robert Carey	280-5845
<u>Officer of the Day:</u> Frank McCleary	232-9391
<u>Chaplain:</u> Gary Heald	466-4225
<u>Advocate:</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> Harry Steelman	422-8325
<u>Trustee 2 Year:</u> Ken Simonson	(941) 539-2551
<u>Trustee 1 Year:</u> Chris Mimbs	422-6499
<u>Scout Chairman:</u> Jim Clements	(714) 343-4788
<u>Honor Guard Leader:</u> Bob Franzwa	(858) 229-4306

### AUXILIARY

<u>President:</u> Sandi Guzman	(714) 926-2279
<u>Sr. Vice President:</u> Vacant	
<u>Jr. Vice President:</u> Vacant	
<u>Secretary:</u> Mary Lombard	683-0106
<u>Treasurer:</u> Jackie Heddlesten	484-3801
<u>Chaplain:</u> Tom Walling	586-9689
<u>Conductress:</u> Vacant	
<u>Guard:</u> Vacant	
<u>Trustee #1:</u> Tom Walling	586-9689
<u>Trustee #2:</u> Vacant	
<u>Trustee #3:</u> Anna Boyce	837-5484

NOTE: All area codes not noted are (949)

### NEXT MEETING

POST: Monday, April 10, 2023, 1800 hrs. - Norman Murray Center

AUXILIARY: Monday, April 10, 2023, 1800 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 (1/23), Fred Egeler (11/25), Clark Courtney (6/30), Robert Carey (7/23), Harry Steelman (12/23), Elinor Scott in memory of Jack West (6/23), Frank McLeary (11/24), Herbert Nakasone (2/28), Robert Casillas (1/25), Ken Simonson (10/23), Julie Hammeras in memory of Samuel Bussell (11/27), Casey Kleindienst (3/23), RJ Jackson (8/25), Ed Rice (5/25), William Wyngaard (5/25), Michael Burnett (5/27), Anna Boyce (6/23), John Summa (6/24), Roger Clinch (6/27), Dave Berutich (2/26), Pat Rizco (2/24), Rene Macare (6/26), Jackie Heddlesten (11/25), Terry Pfeil (7/26)

*(NOTE: A donation of at least \$15.00 allows you to be a Post Script Booster for one year. The date after your name*

### COMMANDER'S CORNER

Comrades,

American Military History has many interesting stories of how and why America became, and still is, a key Super Power. Lest we forget this History and how it was accomplished, and more important, how to maintain that status, Freedom and Global Peace will be no more. One such story of American soldiers in WWII doing the seemingly impossible at a very high cost is that of the 2nd Ranger Battalion who took Pointe Du Hoc during the Normandy Invasion.

Under the command of Lt. Col. James E. Rudder on the 6th of June, 1944, 225 Ranger Commandos of companies D, E, and F made History on D-Day. Their task was to still the large German gun batteries at

the advance of the Normandy Invasion which in itself was a huge challenge. To make their task even more difficult, they had to climb straight up the sheer 100 foot cliffs of Pointe Du Hoc Normandy to start their mission. During this raid they met with a barrage of German gunfire and grenades as they attempted to reach the top of the cliffs. With this seemingly impossible task, these brave men overcame the odds but only through the sacrifice of half of their men. With the remaining smaller numbers of their team they set out to seek and destroy the guns they believed would be at the top of the cliffs they just climbed. Little did they know that the Germans had already moved these guns further inland so now they had to battle their way past the Germans who awaited them at the top of the cliff and find where these guns had been moved. Through sheer guts and gumption these men were able to not only find the big guns but they destroyed them successfully to pave the way for the Normandy Invasion. Had they not accomplished their task of climbing the cliffs and silencing these guns, the invasion would not have been successful and WWII would have been lost...



THIS IS ONE OF THE VERY FEW PHOTOS OF MEN OF THE 2ND RANGER BATTALION IN A BOMB CRATER AT POINTE DU HOC FIGHTING OFF THE GERMANS.

Major History was made by this small band of dedicated American soldiers and it turned the tide of the war in our favor. As the saying goes, we could be speaking German today and be under the control of a horrible regime were it not for men such as our 2ND Battalion Rangers.

About the perseverance of American soldiers dedication to their duty at all cost, I leave you with this one bit of History put in a slightly different way: "Americans - We'll cross a frozen river in a row boat to kill you in your sleep on Christmas. No kidding we've done it before..." Thank you George Washington for leading that charge!!!

*Sr. Vice Commander, Rene F. Macare*

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**PoSt \$cript Boo\$ter\$:** Thank you to Terry Pfeil for his much appreciated \$65 donation to this publication  
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**New Members:** Welcome new member Al Sterling, who was voted-in at our March meeting. He is a USAF Vet who served in SE Asia.  
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**VFW Presents Award to Sea Cadet:** On Sunday, March 12, Sr. Vice Commander Rene Macare attended an awards ceremony for the El Toro Battalion Sea Cadets.

He presented a certificate and medal on behalf of our VFW Post to Chief Petty Officer Summer Phillips-Boyes for outstanding performance of duties with her unit.

We anticipate more collaboration with the Sea Cadets including having them participate with our Honor Guard in flag folding ceremonies.  
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**April Meeting Reminder:** Please plan to attend the April 10 Post Meeting for final Nominations and Election of Officers for the next term.

**Women's History Month:** In WW II, Victory in the Pacific depended on strategy, bravery and military might. It also depended on a brilliant Marine Scientist named **Mary Sears**.



At the Battle of Tarawa in the Gilbert Islands in November 1943—one of the major amphibious landings of the war—as many as 100 boats full of US Marines ran up against a coral reef hundreds of yards from shore. As Marines jumped into the water and tried to make their way to the beach, Japanese fire mowed them down. Though the US prevailed at Tarawa, more than 1,000 Americans were killed and 2,000 wounded—what went wrong? One major blunder that turned the shoreline into a killing field was shockingly basic. Operations planners relying on outdated nautical charts and imperfect memories of foreign officers had misjudged the tide. A startling realization that their lack of knowledge about the ocean was going to cost lives, ships and equipment.

Enter diminutive marine biologist Mary Sears, who at age 38, with impressive scientific credentials became the Navy's first official Oceanographer. This unknown plankton researcher found herself in the middle of a terrible global war providing critical advice that countless lives depended on. It is no exaggeration to say that Mary Sears was instrumental in bringing the field of oceanography onto the battle stage.

Her data gathering and top-secret calculations on the eve of battle changed fledgling amphibious forces into premier assault teams. Sears retired from active service in June 1946 but continued her own research, published a vast collection of unparalleled knowledge of the sea, and rose to the rank of Commander in the US Naval Reserve. Three years after her death, the U.S. Navy recognized her service in October 2000 by launching a 300-foot research vessel named in her honor **USNS Mary Sears**, one of seven Oceanographic research vessels in operation today.

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**Swallows Day Parade, Saturday, March 25:** Our Post will participate again this year in the Annual Swallows Day Parade in San Juan Capistrano starting at 10 am. We need members to come out and walk the parade route with us or stand on the side lines and cheer us on. The Parade which takes place throughout downtown San Juan Capistrano is one of the nation's largest non-motorized parades. New this year, we will have a booth at the Mercado Street Faire, just off the main Parade route, where parade goers can go to eat, dance, play, and shop. We will be advertising our Post activities and making contact with local Vets. We are also looking for volunteers to help man our booth. For more information, contact Sr. Vice, Rene Macare

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**Lake Day for Marines and Sailors, April 8:** The City of Mission Viejo will host the Camp Pendleton Headquarters Battalion and families at its Annual Marine and Sailors Appreciation Day at Lake Mission Viejo beginning at 10 am. Our Post will be on hand to visit with the active duty servicemen and will supply a miniature train, bounce houses, and other entertainment. All Post members are invited to attend, just say you are with the VFW at the gate.

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**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**



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**MONTHLY POWER QUOTES:**

*"Leadership is a 2-way street, loyalty up and loyalty down. Respect for one's superiors and care for one's crew"*  
----- Rear Admiral Grace Hopper

*"If you compromise your integrity and principles on minor issues, it gets easier to make bad choices on the big issues."*  
----- General Ann Dunwoody

*"When you stop a dictator there are always risks. But there are greater risks in not stopping a dictator."*  
----- Margaret Thatcher



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## THE POST SCRIPT



### UPCOMING AND HISTORICAL EVENTS

**March 25, 2023** — Swallows Day Parade , San Juan Capistrano  
**April 8, 2023** — Lake Day for MV Adopted Marine Unit, Lake Mission Viejo  
**April 10, 2023** — Post Meeting 1900 hrs., Norman Murray Center, Election of Officers  
**April 10, 2023** — Auxiliary Meeting 1900 hrs., Norman Murray Center  
**June 8-11, 2023** — Department Convention, Anaheim, CA

*March 30, 1981* — Attempted assassination of Pres. Ronald Reagan in front of Hilton Hotel in DC  
*April 2, 1865* — Gen. Lee evacuates the Confederate capital at Richmond and surrenders April 3  
*April 10, 1945* — Nazi Concentration Camp at Buchenwald liberated by US Troops  
*April 6, 1917* — Coast Guard officially becomes part of US Navy