The Around the Pacific newsletter showcases what is happening locally throughout the VFW Department of Pacific Areas and the MOC Grand of the Pacific through articles, photos, etc., and the Department Editor, may provide information from outside the Department, in the various programs that both support. Inputs are due no later than the 15th of the month.

REMINDER!

IT IS COMING SOONER THAN YOU THINK!

Council of Administration and Grand Scratch
4 - 6 December 2009
Subic Bay, Philippines
WEB REGISTRATION PORTAL
http://vfwdeptpacific.org/CONV/

Reservations must be made prior to 01 December 2009.

For current schedule click the link:
http://vfwdeptpacific.org/CONV/schedule.htm

CONTACT INFORMATION: Jim Correll  cofa@vfwdeptpacific.org
ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO, UNITED STATES – Comrade William Brandon of VFW Post 9723 at a Vietnam Veterans Motorcycle Conference in Albuquerque New Mexico the last of September 2009 the man setting in the chair is a WWII Marine Corps Code Talker.

POW-MIA OBSERVANCE HELD ON KADENA

Vice Commander 18th Wing delivering the POW-MIA Speech (left) and Commander Don Allen of the American Legion and Commander Stan Stewart from VFW Post 9723 (right) laying a wreath at the POW-MIA Day at Kadena Airbase.

Willie T and the motorcycle club at the POW-MIA Day at Kadena Airbase, Okinawa, Japan (left and center). Comrades Dennis Provencher, Harry Thomas, Al Meyers, and some of the Motorcycle Club member’s (right).
POW-MIA Day Kadena Airbase Commander Don Allen American Legion, Commander Stan Stewart VFW Post 9723, and Major John Glenn USMC Retired School Teacher Kadena Middle School.

DEPARTMENT OF PACIFIC AREAS ADJUTANT AWARDS COMRADES IN KADENA

Breakfast and awards ceremony held on the 19th of September 2009 at the Kadena NCO Club which Comrade Department Adjutant Richard A. Keeley attended and presented a few awards from the National Headquarters.

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL!

Department Adjutant Richard Keeley our guest of honor talking at the Breakfast (left), presented the new charter to Commander Stewart VFW Post 9723 (center), and National Outstanding Community Service Award to Commander Stan Steward (right).

Keep tabs on what is going on in the Department of Pacific Areas by clicking onto:  www.vfwdeptrpacific.org
Comrades Stewart, Provencher, Pearson, and Willie receiving awards (left). Miss Roberts telling our Post Comrades at the Breakfast about her trip to Europe. Her parents (her father is a life member of VFW Post 9723) and the Post donated $500.00 to Miss Roberts for a scholarship trip from Kubasaki High school to Europe (right).

District 3 Korea

VFW POST 10216, SONGTAN, KOREA
HILL 180 MEMORIAL POST
VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE UNITED STATES

VFW POST 10216 AND OSAN AIR BASE POW-MIA ACTIVITIES 14-18 SEPTEMBER 2009

VFW Post 10216 members (left to right) Commander Shawn Watson, Adjutant Michael, PDC Frank Sass, Curley Krepp and POW-MIA member Alan Laughter.

Formation of troops at the Osan POW-MIA Ceremony.

OSAN AIR BASE< KOREA – VFW Post 10216 members participated in a week’s worth of POW-MIA activities from 14-18 September, culminating in a Ceremony on 18 September 2009. 27 VFW members attended and donated over 47 hours of community service.

Osan’s 5th Reconnaissance Squadron (U-2) participates in the 24-hour POW-MIA Run. Squadron Commander Spencer Thomas (left) and the 1st Sergeant Tom Ferrell (right) are both VFW members. Over 300 Osan active duty military and VFW members participated in the run.
Korean War Veteran Curley Knepp and PDC Lyons with the wreath donated by the VFW. Major Curley Knepp was an honored guest at the ceremony.

PDC Lyons, Colonel Mark Mattison and CMSGT Michael Williams unveil the new POW-MIA Monument.

VFW Post 10216’s POW-MIA Chairman Charles Wood led this year’s successful events.

Past DPA Commanders Larry Lyons and Frank Sass sharing the moment.

Past Department of Pacific Areas Commander Larry Lyons was the Guest of Honor and gave a moving speech on POW-MIA, highlighting the outstanding contributions of the military’s Joint POW-MIA Accounting Command. Larry has participated in this event for the past three years. This was one of Larry’s shorter speeches, to the relief of his fellow VFW members. Thanks Larry!
Post Commander Shawn Watson conducts an Induction Ceremony and Senior Vice Commander Hammerstrom reads the “Cross of Malta” Oath to new VFW Members at our September Post Meeting.

VFW Post 10216 Member John Bruner (left) meets Ollie North (right) during Ollie’s swing through Afghanistan (where John is working a contract job). He wants everyone to know that Ollie told him “John, you sure have that rugged Clint Eastwood look.”

Post member Brad Williams sent us a report on his new assignment in Incirlik, Turkey! Bad Brad says he’s really enjoying himself, but misses the Osan gang. Best wishes Brad and stay in touch!

Blast from the Past, our dearly beloved CMSGT Terry Tillman, who passed away from cancer in 1997. Shown here with his wife and friends.

Yes, those are younger pictures of Shay “Shaman” Carnes, Keith Michael and Kevin Smith in the background. Chief Tillman was a mentor to many. For those who don’t know, the famous “Tillman Conference Room” in Osan’s KCOIC is named in his honor.

Photos provided by Post member Eric Morin.
DAEGU, SOUTH KOREA – District III Commander Darin Combs was recently invited by Ambassador Kathy Stevens to join her in honoring Republic of Korea Veterans from the Korean War. The event was hosted by the oldest traditional style Korean restaurant in Daegu, South Korea.

The evening started off with a short speech by the Ambassador who stated her appreciation for the Korean Veterans and the Alliance the United States and the Republic of Korea enjoy and that together, we have fought side by side in many conflicts throughout the world. Ambassador Stevens is admired by many Koreans due to her understanding of Korean history and culture as well as her ability to speak the Korean language fluently.

We have so much to learn from not only our fellow Comrades, but from Comrades from Allied countries with whom we fought with side-by-side as well. Korean War Veterans expressed their deep appreciation and thanksgiving for America’s support of the Republic of Korea to Ambassador Stephens, District III Commander Darin Combs, and other American military leaders present.
A "Cootie Swarm" was held at VFW Post 10216 Post Home on 19 September 2009 that included Pup Tents from throughout Korea. A great time was had by all!

Doc is trying to move up in the VFW and tells Commander Watson “I want to be just like you”. Doc brings “kissing up to the Commander a new meaning."
DPA ALL-STATE PROGRAM FOR 2009-2010

To view the Department of Pacific Areas All State Program, please click on the link below:

http://vfwdeptpacific.org/Awards%20Programs/allstateDPA.pdf

POST COMMUNITY SERVICE REPORTS

All members please submit!

Reminder to submit your Monthly Volunteer / Community Service Reports to your Post Junior Vice Commander as directed by your Posts. Reports are due on the Department Website on or before the last day of each month for that month.

VFW BUDDY POPPY DONATIONS

Donations for Buddy Poppys are greatly appreciated and accepted. Please see your Post Buddy Poppy Chairman for details.

MOC PADDY DADDY PROGRAM

M.O.C. Grand of the Pacific is asking you to help support the Paddy Daddy Program. Applications are available online on the VFW Department of Pacific Areas website:

The Paddy Daddy Application for signing up Comrades, Cooties, Friends, Family, and yes, even your Pets can be signed up!

Please fill out as many applications as you like for a very good cause. The VFW National Home Special Project is the recipient of the proceeds from our very own program in the Pacific Areas.

Send the application to me along with a check made out to “Ee CHI GAE Pup Tent #2, in the amount of US$25.00, and I will promptly prepare your Certificate, Card and Pin and mail them to you. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to e-mail bhaney@vfw10223.org.

Yours in Comradeship,
L.O.T.C.S.
Billy Haney
Seam Squirrel Pup Tent #2
Military order of the Cootie
Paddy Daddy Chairman

DEPARTMENT OF PACIFIC AREAS

GRAVE DIGGERS

Become a member and support the Department of Pacific Areas Grave Diggers Program which is open to anyone who has a desire to support the Clark Cemetery. To use our PDF "fill-able" application form log onto:


- Please mail your application and membership fee, as well as any future donations to:

VFW Post 2485
Attn: Grave Diggers
PSC 517, Box RC-V
FPO AP 96517-1000

If you make a donation or become a member of the Grave Diggers, we thank you very much and ask you to please inform your Post Adjutant / Quartermaster.

DEPARTMENT OF PACIFIC AREAS CLARK CEMETERY

Clark Cemetery Maintenance Fund donations accepted to support the maintenance of this cemetery, which is completely dependent on individual and group donations. VFW Post 2485, located in Angeles City, Philippines, is the caretaker of Clark Cemetery for the VFW Department of Pacific Areas and is in need of your help.

http://www.vfwpost2485.com/cemetery.htm

If you make a donation, we thank you very much and ask you to please inform your Post Adjutant / Quartermaster.
MEMBERSHIP RECRUITING

Keep on recruiting and see how far we can get beyond our “Bag Limit!”

IS YOUR MEMBERSHIP UP TO DATE

Are you a member in good standing? Look at your membership card. If it is about to expire, renew it today or better yet, go LIFE MEMBERSHIP and save money over time. It’s never too late to switch to a Life Membership and you never have to worry about rate increases or remembering to renew!

MEMBERSHIP RECRUITING AND APPLICATION PROCESSING

Membership is the future of our organization. All comrades should be willing assist with a membership growth and/or help the post in whatever needs to be done. When you are submitting an application for membership for a perspective new member, it is important to ensure you have it completed properly so as not to delay the processing. At the next Post Monthly General Business Meeting, the applications will be reviewed for completeness and voted on before submission to the VFW National Headquarters. To ensure no delays in processing:

- Ensure you complete the application fully,
- Include proof of eligibility,
- Payment in the form of a check, money order, credit card, or cash for either Life Membership or Annual Membership. (Checks and money orders will be made out to “VFW Post ________”)

Temporary membership is then granted to attend VFW Meetings and events with the Post until such time as the newly recruited Comrade receives their VFW Membership Card from the VFW National Headquarters with full membership benefits.

2009-2010 Life Membership:

- Up to Age 30 - $425.00
- Age 31 through 40 - $410.00
- Age 41 through 50 - $375.00
- Age 51 through 60 - $335.00
- Age 61 through 70 - $290.00
- Age 71 through 80 - $225.00
- Age 81 and Older - $170.00

“IT’S NOT WHAT YOU PAID TO BE A MEMBER, IT’S WHAT YOU PAID TO BE ELIGIBLE.”

VFW LEGACY LIFE MEMBERSHIP

The VFW’s Legacy Life Membership provides an opportunity for Life Members to leave their mark on the nation’s largest combat veterans’ organization. Available only to current Life Members, the new Legacy Life Membership not only offers expanded and exclusive benefits, but also helps ensure that the VFW’s good work will continue for generations to come. Legacy Life Members can select from three membership categories: Gold, Silver, or Bronze. Each offers a selection of exclusive benefits. Once activated, your membership will endow additional income - made in your name - that will provide a stable financial foundation for both your Post and the VFW. For more information logon to:

http://www.vfw.org

Have you asked someone to join today?

What are you waiting for?

Keep tabs on what is going on in the Department of Pacific Areas by clicking onto: www.vfwdeptpacific.org
If you make a donation, we thank you very much and ask you to please inform your Post Adjutant / Quartermaster.

The VFW provides numerous services to military service members and their families. The three main efforts of the VFW Military Services department are:

Click and see how you can help:  http://www.vfw.org/

RETURNING THE FAVOR
For benefits available to you and your family,
Email us at: NationalMilitaryServices@vfw.org
or call: 816 ★ 756 ★ 3390

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS
Thanks you for your service. You make America proud!

Thousands of troops are coming home.
VFW will help them get justice.

Thousands of America’s sons and daughters have been wounded in Iraq and Afghanistan operations.

And they are just the tip of the iceberg.
VFW Veterans Service is helping these heroes get the health care and benefits they earned with their blood and sacrifice.

We are fighting for them, when they cannot fight for themselves.

Honor the Dead by Helping the Living

Do your part with a gift to the 2009 Veterans Service Annual Campaign. Your support helps veteran’s rights here in our state.

Every Hero Needs a Hero

The VFW knows that when many of our defenders return from battle they’ll still have to fight. Fight for quality medical care, fight for fair and timely benefits. Fight to ensure their spouses and children will be cared for always.

Thankfully, they’re not alone. They have VFW service officers on their side.

Please support the National Veterans Service. Your generosity helps so many veterans right here in our state.

You never know when you or your closest contacts might need a hero on your side.

Honor the Dead by Helping the Living

See you in the next edition!