



Comrades

Let me start by personally thanking all of you for the confidence you have shown in electing me as your new Department Commander for the year 2018 – 2019. I promise not to let you down and will do my best to represent you throughout the coming year.

The new VFW administrative year started 1 July 2018. Membership numbers will once again be a little difficult to track this early in the year as the National Membership Team resets the Online Membership System for the year 2018 – 2019. MEMSTATS numbers will be lower than you expect since they track only new members or renewals starting on 1 July 2018. VFW National informed us that the first Life Membership totals will be posted in MEMSTATS once the first Life Membership Payouts have been made to the Department, Districts and Posts in September 2018. You can see your current numbers by doing a Post Query! Senior Vice Commander Farris will be publishing the new numbers as soon as he can get meaningful numbers for you. Our goal this year is to hit 12,001 members for the Department. That will require each Post and District to start their recruiting efforts NOW! I'm confident this goal can be met if we work as a Team!

One of our primary means of Communication this year will be the Department of Pacific Areas Face Book Page. The DPA Communications Group Page will be utilized much more this year for dissemination of important information. If you are a DPA/District/Post Officer/Chairman, I strongly encourage you to join the page. Typhoon Editor, Mrs, Lenee Zaher, has been reappointed again this year. All DPA Officers and Chairpersons will submit articles to her by no later than the 5th of each month. Please include the DPA Webmaster on your emails so that he can post your information on the DPA Webpage. Finally, I have opened up my Commander's Face Book Page (Michael Ray Verville) to all VFW members within the Department of Pacific Areas. If you need to speak to me on any matter that involves the Department - Please feel free to send me a private message or post on my page. If you have ideas to make the Department better - I would be happy to hear from you. Finally, if you don't like something we are doing in the DPA - tell me BUT be prepared to recommend an alternative. Anyone can complain - be part of the solution! We are four days into the new VFW Term. Let's kick it in gear and "GET IT DONE" early this year. Don't wait until April to meet your All-State and All-American "Checklist" requirements for 2018 - 2019! The Department of Pacific Areas continues to excel as a leader within VFW National! Please contact me any time at mverville2005@gmail.com or +639182491184!

Yours in Comradeship and Service,

Michael R. (Mike) Verville
Commander
Department of Pacific Areas – 2018/2019