

## ***From the Junior Past Department Commander:***



Comrades,

We are off to a strong start to the new VFW year, both in terms of recruiting and programs. I have noted that your recruiting efforts include both annual and life members, with the latter being essential for our long term success. I'm pleased to report that per MEMSTATS 100% of District 3 Posts have recruited one or more new members. Great work getting off to a fast start.

I'm also pleased to note that several Posts have begun meeting their program requirements, and with school starting soon it is time to start working your VDP, PP, and Teacher submissions with your local schools. Consider also your submissions for the other Award programs; Public Safety, (Law Enforcement, Fire and Paramedic), and Scouting. It was disappointing last year that we had no submission for the Scouting Award, even though a number of Posts sponsor Scout Troops. Start early this year and identify those who may be good candidates for these awards.

Now is also a good time also to look ahead to the end of year Department Awards and to start mentoring those who will lead your Posts, Districts and the Department into the future. We have not always done well in these areas in the past.

If I can be of assistance, please contact me at [pdcgilbert@vfwdeptpacific.org](mailto:pdcgilbert@vfwdeptpacific.org)

Yours in Comradeship & Service,

John Gilbert  
Junior Past Department Commander  
Department of Pacific Areas

***Get It Done!***