

Comrades,

Numerous DPA Posts are reaching out and supporting local community organizations, charities and other Veterans and Fraternal groups. As mentioned in previous Typhoon articles, the DPA Initiative Outreach Program should not be confused with outreaching to veterans for membership drives, taking care of our fellow veterans or meeting the criteria of the All State and All American programs, which is separate.

Here are some events that were posted in September on individual Post's websites, Facebook pages and CSR inputs to the DPA.

- Post 1054 Yokosuka Japan: Facebook post on hosting with the VA Center for Women Veterans the Monthly Women Veterans Meeting. Other attendees included multiple other veteran service organizations and VA employees. This month the Embassy of Israel came as special guests to discuss partnering with the VFW and other organizations for better recognition and outreach to female combat veterans.
- Post 9612 Camp Zama Korea: Facebook post on conducting a concurrent Hispanic Heritage Month Commemoration and fundraising for victims of recent hurricanes event.
- Post 12130 Cebu City Philippines: Facebook post on turning a veteran cemetery upgrade project back to the Philippine Veterans Association. The upgrades included installing a new gate and door to limit pass thru traffic. The project was partially funded by MAP.
- A handful of Posts participated in "green" projects (e.g. area cleanup, recycling) to include Post 2485 Angeles City Philippines who provided 1,200 trees to the Angeles City Clean and Green program.
- Numerous Posts stated they hosted or participated in POW MIA ceremonies, the Korean-American Friendship Festival, Japan Friendship Festival, Battling Bastards of Bataan event, 911 remembrance eventss, veteran advisory boards, sporting events, provided financial and/or material support for hurricane victims in the United States as well as schools, churches and families in need in the local communities.

As I am sure you know, a proven Outreach method is to work with other fraternal organizations who support local community organizations. Doing so can not only increase the VFWs exposure, but it also has a solid potential to increase the Post's membership. While reviewing Posts Facebook pages, I noticed a large amount of the Home pages have up to three sections, usually on the right-hand side of the page, titled "Pages Liked by this Page", "People Also Liked" and "Suggested Groups" listed. These sections can provide links to other organizations which may provide positive leads. Examples of other organizations I noticed included RSL Western Australia Hawthorn Sub-Branch, Operation Eagle Pull & Frequent Wind & S.S. Mayaguez, USARSUPTHAI FB Association, The NAM, Retirement Services Office Korea, Paul E Finn Memorial Post 37 (American Legion) South Korea, Thailand Laos and Cambodia Veterans FB Group, and many more. It might be worthwhile to look into these.

If you have any suggestions on ways your Post reaches out to the local communities and want to showcase it here, please let me know.

Yours in Comradeship,
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