

# VFW 1st District of California



# DISPATCH



@vfwmighty1st

August 26, 2020

Dear Comrades,

I would like to take this opportunity to express my sincere appreciation to each of you for your commitment, dedication and selfless service during this very challenging time we live in. We are currently facing an extremely difficult health crisis all while maneuvering through some serious social injustices in our nation. Last month, during my installment speech, I stated that “Black Lives Do Matter.” Unfortunately, a misprint occurred in the print version of the September edition of the VFW magazine in which the word “Do” was omitted possibly causing confusion. My complete speech can be viewed here.

<https://livestream.com/accounts/8386284/events/9225536/videos/209028335>

To be very clear, this call to action was not to support a specific group or organization, rather to ensure our African-American Veterans of Foreign Wars and Auxiliary members, service members, veterans and families clearly understand that their VFW is here to support and serve them without bias, especially through this time of important social change. It is our duty as the VFW to stand with our African-American comrades during this time, as we would with ALL comrades facing any type of systemic injustice. The VFW has not always been the most inclusive veterans service organization, however, we, much like our country, are in the midst of real change. The VFW has learned and continues to learn that diversity, equality and inclusivity to ALL eligible veterans must remain the hallmark of this great organization’s founding principles.

Again, thank you for your continued commitment, dedication and selfless service to our nation’s veterans, service members and families.

Sincerely,

Hal Roesch

Commander-in-Chief, 2020-21

VFW National Headquarters

406 W. 34th Street

Kansas City, Missouri 64111



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## District 1 Commander Paula Jansen

Greetings Comrades and  
Auxiliary,

I wanted to highlight the trustee position; they are such an integral part of keeping our Post running. They are here to watch our funds and keep honest people honest. They don't usually get the credit they deserve.

I took the below out of the Officer Responsibilities Administrative Policy and Procedure Manual.

The Commander should be familiar with all activities of the Post. They should sit in with the Trustees at their audits or, at least, have a sufficient knowledge of their procedure to know whether they are doing their job.

The Post Trustees duties are probably the most misunderstood of any of the Post Officers. They are primarily the watchdogs of the Post funds. They make certain that no one has their fingers in the till. They audit the Post funds regularly -- at least once each quarter.

While the National Bylaws are silent on this point, it would seem logical that the Trustees also have authority and responsibility concerning the proper handling of funds. It is only reasonable that their authority should not be limited to catching a dishonest person. Equally important should be the prevention of dishonesty. Where funds are guarded carelessly or records are kept inefficiently, the Trustees should call attention to this and make every effort to correct it.

The Trustees duties extend to every operation of the Post. Their audits must cover all activities, including the clubrooms, the canteen/bar, bingo, or any other source of income or financial transactions. Again, it is not always entirely necessary that the Trustees do their own investigating and conduct their own audits. [\(Continued on page 3\)](#)

## District 1 President Rachel Luke



Brothers and Sisters,

We are well into this year's calendar and into the inspection season. Thank you to the Auxiliaries that hosted my line officers and myself at your meetings and being prepared for the inspections. The inspections so far have been flawless. We have had to make some changes to the inspection schedule due to auxiliaries learning how to operate and hold virtual or social distancing type meetings. Since we have moved the inspections around, our schedule to meet the inspection deadline is now tight. If you need assistance in figuring out how to operate virtually or in a social distance environment please let me know as soon as possible so we can keep to the schedule and complete the inspections on time.

From the 3 Auxiliaries that we have visited so far, I was very impressed with the ideas that these Auxiliaries are bringing to the floor to help veterans and their Auxiliaries. I ask that you send me a copy of your minutes from the meetings I attend and with your permission I would like to share these great ideas with the rest of the District's Auxiliaries.

O.K. back to business, please concentrate on working your programs. If you need assistance please reach out to the Chairmen or myself and we will get you the assistance you need to help you be successful.

Membership, Membership, Membership..... did I mention Membership yet? This is the life blood of our organization, we must bring in new members to help us survive. I would like to challenge each Auxiliary to work on recruiting the younger generation. We need to get them in, learn what they are interested in and what drives them so we accommodate and retain them.

I would like to thank the Fosters for inviting us into their home for Aux 1513's meeting. They were gracious hosts.

The 2nd School of Instruction has been moved from 5 Sept to 17 Oct due to the 5th being Labor Day weekend.

The POW/MIA Ceremony for the Dept, District and Post 1512 will be held onboard the USS Midway on Sept 26th. This is a reservation only event due to limited seating because of COVID. If restrictions relax between now and then, the Midway will add 50 more seats. So please keep checking with the Dept/District's POW/MIA ceremony chairman Al Hewitt.

Please ensure your filing your reports. Report, Report, Report. It is how you prove you're working your programs.

In your service,

**Rachel Luke, District 1 President**  
**Eagles are the Pure Spirit of our Veterans**

(continued from page 2)

In most cases, the Trustees are not qualified accountants, particularly where large amounts of cash are involved and the operations are especially complex. Many Posts employ a private firm of accountants for the purpose of an audit. This is to be encouraged rather than discouraged. In these cases, the auditors report to the Trustees and the Trustees make certain that the audit is conducted correctly.

A quarterly audit of all funds and accounts is an absolute necessity. If the Trustees do not function in a proper manner, the Commander may deem it an emergency situation and appoint an auditing committee on his/her own initiative.

**Regardless of the size of the Post, a quarterly audit is mandatory.** Failure to conduct one may result in the cancellation of the Post Quartermaster bond and will take away all voting privileges at District and Department Conventions.

The Trustees do not have any authority over the management of the Post Home, nor is property held in their name in an incorporated Post. They cannot serve on any committee having to do with the handling of Post funds, and cannot therefore serve as members of the House Committee, Bingo Committee, etc. There is nothing to keep a Trustee from serving as a volunteer worker or in an appointive capacity where Post funds are not handled.

What is the actual name of the audit? TRUSTEES' REPORT OF AUDIT

Who should fill out the audit? THE TRUSTEES, not the Quartermaster. Note some Post use electronic spreadsheets that auto fill.

Who signs the audit? THE COMMANDER AND AT LEAST 2 TRUSTEES

Does the quartermaster sign the audit? NO, the name of the QM is listed, but no QM signature is required.

Should the trustees count cash on hand? YES THEY SHOULD. It is listed on the audit form and they are signing that it is on hand.

When are the audits due to Department? July 31<sup>st</sup>, Sept 30<sup>th</sup>, Oct 31<sup>st</sup>, Jan31<sup>st</sup>. This is the last date it can be turned in to be counted on time. It can be turned in anytime during the month.

Thank you to all the trustees who every month sit down and go through all those statements, receipts, other files and for preparing the audits.

Stay Healthy and Safe

*Paula Jansen*

Commander, Mighty 1<sup>st</sup> District

Veterans – The Anchor of Our Nation

## Surgeon Report

Comrades,

The VA is starting to see its Non Emergent Patients again. If your care has been put off by the VA since the COVID outbreak and you have not been contacted by the VA, then contact your primary care clinic or the specialty clinic where you were being seen to get your appointments set up.

They will require you to wear a mask and your temperature will be taken prior to you being allowed to enter their facilities.

Respectfully,  
Eric Luke  
Mighty 1st District Surgeon



## YOUTH AND LEGISLATIVE REPORTS



### Youth

With school back in session - Distance or Virtual Learning, most likely the best way to promote our Youth Activities program will be social media. Use Facebook and share information with your friends and ask them to share it. Now is the time to promote Patriotism Through Literacy which introduces youth to historical figures and teaches them about events in our nation's history while fostering a love of reading that can lead to a lifetime of learning. Please visit [www.vfwauxca.org](http://www.vfwauxca.org) for a suggested reading list as well as other resources. I am here to assist in any way.

Diana Kulhanek  
dirude@yahoo.com



### Legislative-

California's Presidential General Election is November 3, 2020.

Registered voters will receive a ballot in the mail. For the November election, all voters have the option of voting by mail from the safety of their own homes. This reduces your exposure to COVID-19 while exercising your right to vote. You can also track your mail ballot by signing up for Where's My Ballot at [sdvote.com](http://sdvote.com).

Polling places will be open for 4 days, October 31 through November 3. Be prepared, your voting place may change and there will be fewer locations.

Make sure your voter registration is up to date.

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic and the governor's Executive order, every registered voter in San Diego County will receive a ballot in the mail for the November 3 election. Make sure there are no delays to you receiving your ballot in the mail. You can do this by verifying that the Registrar's Office has your most up to date voter information. Take a moment to verify both your home and mailing address. You can update your registration by re-registering to vote at [sdvote.com](http://sdvote.com).

Loyally submitted , Diana Kulhanek [dirude@yahoo.com](mailto:dirude@yahoo.com)



Notifications

**The VFW Membership Facebook page is now live!**

Welcome to the new VFW Membership Page! Please take a look around, we are still under construction, so more features are coming. If you like what you see or would like to leave a comment, please go to the reviews section and leave a comment.

<https://www.facebook.com/VFWmembershipHQ>

## “Auxiliary Community Outreach”

*National's new program for Auxiliaries 2020-2021*

**Question:** WHAT ELSE will be helpful to know?

Leading the Pledge of Allegiance at a City Council meeting or other community group would be reportable.

Just attending the city council meeting or giving a talk about the VFW Auxiliary to them or any other community group – is not reportable for credit.

If auxiliary members intend to participate in 'Walks' for Heart Association, Multiple Sclerosis, Breast Cancer, Leukemia and such... Motion can cover all, say: **“Participate in ‘walks’ benefitting other organizations.”**

If auxiliary members intend to do clean-up activity at parks, beach, after storm or holiday or vandalism, etc. Motion can cover all, say: **“Participate in ‘clean-up’ projects.”**

Other ideas for volunteering: Read to visually impaired or record materials for them... have excess fruit from your yard trees or garden, give to neighbors... bake or cook something for shut-in/elderly neighbors... move big trash bins to curb and return them on trash pick-up day for an elderly or ill neighbor... make 'hygiene or first-aid care kits' for homeless shelters... help someone begin a job resume or assist in a mock interview.

**Remember**, whatever you choose to do must be approved (voted on) by the Auxiliary and recorded in the meeting minutes, prior to the project, in order for volunteered hours to get credit.

**NEWS FLASH – Want the latest information about this program, yes, of course you do!**

News from **Department Chairman:** <https://vfwauxca.org/di/vfw/v2/default.asp?pid=79173>

News from **National Ambassador:** <https://vfwauxiliary.org/auxiliary-community-outreach-it-is-all-about-service>

See many new ideas and for helping senior citizens, animals, and the hungry and/or homeless. National's article featured a few words from our Department Chairman Maddie. The blog article included this important item: *Also, remember, you **must** wear VFW Auxiliary attire when volunteering in the Outreach Program!*

Need help or have questions, I am at your fingertips for email or phone chat most anytime.

Bea Brunner, District 1 Chairman

[BeAvolunteer@hotmail.com](mailto:BeAvolunteer@hotmail.com) or phone (619) 466-2132.

### Historian/ Media Relations Report

How are you promoting yourself?

There are many ways to promote your Auxiliary and what you are doing for our veterans including Newspapers, Radio, TV, and Social Media. These outlets are great for feature stories. This would not include who was elected to specific positions, your meetings, or meals. These are okay for your specific Facebook page on the calendar of events but not something you would ask to be put as a feature story in the paper. Ask yourself these questions before reaching out to promote yourself.

Are local people involved?

Is the event happening in the near future or just happened? (within the month)

Will non-members be interested in attending or hearing about the event?

Will the event help the local community? If yes then how?

Is the activity or event unique?

If you answer yes to these questions then promote that event! Great resources are available to help you do that on the National Resources page or contact me if you have questions!

### LeAnna C. Brown

President Carter-Smith VFW Auxiliary Post 5867

Conductress/ Historian/ Membership Team District 1 VFW Auxiliary

Web Team Department of California VFW Auxiliary

619.261.0753



## From the District Service Officer

### VA Caregiver Program Stipend

In the past, I have talked about the VA Caregiver Support Program, which is open to those veterans using a family member as their caregiver, primarily due to the extreme expense of using professional assistance such as assisted living facilities. The VA Caregiver Program provides a badly needed support program for an often overwhelmed "family member" caregiver.

#### What is a Primary Family Caregiver stipend?

A Primary Family Caregiver stipend is monetary compensation paid to a Primary Family Caregiver for providing personal care services to an eligible Veteran enrolled in the Caregiver Support Program. The stipend benefit is not intended to replace career earnings, and receipt of the stipend payments does not create an employment relationship between VA and the Primary Family Caregiver.

The VA Caregiver Stipend is open to Disabled Veterans with a 70% or higher rating. You can file as of 1 October 2020.

Only the designated Primary Family Caregiver of an eligible Veteran is entitled to receive a stipend. There can be only one Primary Family Caregiver designated at a time.

**The stipend is a VA enhanced service and is not considered taxable income.**

#### How often do you receive a stipend payment?

The stipend is paid monthly for personal care services that a Primary Family Caregiver provided in the prior month.

Once an application is approved, the stipend will be retroactive to the date the application was received at the VAMC.

#### Apply/Qualify:

To apply, you first need to qualify for the Comprehensive Assistance for Family Caregivers Program. You will use VA Form 10-10CG.

You and your "Family Member Caregiver" will need to apply together and participate in an application process to determine if you're eligible for the Program of Comprehensive Assistance for Family Caregivers. You'll both need to sign and date the application, and answer all questions for your role.

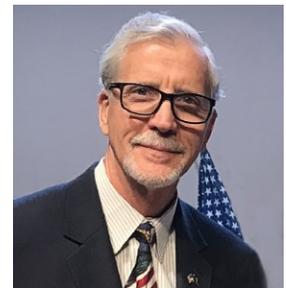
#### For more information:

The Caregiver support line can provide information on the Caregiver Support Program along with eligibility requirements:

- Phone: 1-855-260-3274, Monday-Friday 8 a.m. to 8 p.m., Eastern Standard Time
- Caregiver website at <http://www.caregiver.va.gov>

As always, I and my Post Service Officers standby to serve you.....

**Bud Lichtenstern**  
District Service Office



## Americanism Report

We have 2 important days this month.

Patriot Day is on Friday, September 11. This will be the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of what happen back in 2001.

POW/MIA Recognition Day is on Friday, September 18. The VFW Dept of CA will be at the Midway POW/MIA Ceremony on Sept. 26<sup>th</sup>. Please join us via Facebook live stream on the [VFW Dept of CA's Facebook page](#).

Thank you to the 7 Auxiliaries who have turned in reports.

Sara Jeyes  
Americanism

# 2020-2021 Commander's Challenge



As I visit the Posts I have been laying out my challenge for the year. The Challenge is simply to increase our **Legacy Life**

**Membership** in the **Mighty 1<sup>st</sup> District**. This is instead of a Commanders special project.

Our Current Status is 13 Posts with **Legacy Life Members** and 38 Total **Legacy Life Members**

The challenge is for each post to increase your **Legacy Life Members** by **1**.

How to enter, see your quartermaster or login to [VFW.org](http://VFW.org) *My VFW Become or Upgrade to Legacy Life*

For each new **Legacy Life Member** or upgrade from Bronze-Silver or Silver to Gold will be one entry.

Time period....1 Aug 2020- Dec 31<sup>st</sup> 2020.

The Winning Post (ticket) will be pulled live on Facebook on **Jan 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021**

The Prize will be **\$500** Cash from the District Commander

The Post with the most increased **Legacy Life Members** will received **\$200** from the District Commander.

## LEGACY LIFE MEMBER EXPLANATION OF BENEFITS

MEMBER INCENTIVES	BRONZE \$400	SILVER \$800	GOLD \$1200
Plated Engraved Life Member Card	●	●	●
Lapel Pin	●	●	●
Hat Pin	●	●	●
Distinctive Emblem & Supply Line for Legacy Life Members	●	●	●
Framed Certificate for Legacy Life Membership	●	●	●
Member Recognition on Internet & Convention Program	●	●	●
Member Recognition at Kiosks at Memorial Building in Washington, D.C. and Museum at National Headquarters	●	●	●
Special Plaque	●	●	●
Hat Patch	●	●	●
Personalized Brick at Centennial Plaza	●	●	●
Emblem & Supply Discounts (For Personal Use Only) *	5%	10%	15%
Increased Level of No-Cost AD&D Insurance *	\$2000	\$3500	\$5000
Annual Endowment: Post	\$6	\$12	\$18
Annual Endowment: Dept.	\$6	\$12	\$18

\* Does not apply to Memorial Legacy Life Membership

**Legacy Life Membership enables VFW Life Members to leave a lasting impression on our great organization.**

When you become a Legacy Life Member, you are helping us strengthen the VFW – where **NO ONE DOES MORE FOR VETERANS.**

Three prestigious levels of Legacy Life Membership are available: Gold, Silver, and Bronze. Each level offers generous benefits reserved exclusively for Legacy Life Members.

Once your Legacy Life Membership begins, an annual endowment in your name will be made to your Post, Department and the organization. You will feel confident knowing your contributions to our organization are not only helping today's veterans but the veterans of tomorrow.

You may also purchase a Memorial Legacy Life Membership in the name of a deceased VFW Life Member to help future generations know and honor their sacrifice and contributions.

Simply fill out the attached acceptance form and return it to the address provided. For any questions regarding Legacy Life Membership, please contact the VFW Membership Department at 1-800-756-3390. We will gladly provide you with more information on this prestigious and rewarding membership.

## Veterans Affairs (VA) Volunteer Service Update.

Greetings fellow VFW Auxiliary members, I have listed some important information that you might find interesting. If you have any questions or suggestions please feel free to contact me.

- Ms. Donna Fischer, Volunteer Service Chief, informed me that the VA is currently not accepting Volunteer applications or volunteers. Donna has not been given a date when applications will be accepted or volunteers welcomed back (TBD).
- Volunteer Services will continue to receive monetary donations.
- Volunteer Service is accepting the following non monetary donations: New nail clippers, New men's underwear sizes Medium/Large and facemasks.
- VA Christmas backpack event: District-1 VFW Auxiliary goal is to purchase a VA canteen coupon book for each backpack. The total is 200 books at \$5.00 each coupon book. Thank you Auxiliaries that have already donated, but we still need 80 coupon books or \$400.00. If you can bring this event up at your next Auxiliary meeting it will be appreciated. Your continued support for this event is much appreciated.
- I received approval from Ms. Fischer to restart the Auxiliary Adopt-A-Clinic snack donations. The Adopt-A-Clinic is called the "Specialty Clinic" at the VA. Lemon Grove Post 2082 VFW Auxiliary, donated \$200.00 in February 2020. These funds are still available and will be used to purchase snacks for September through December. Alpine Post 9578 VFW Auxiliary have committed for three months (January through March 2021). These snacks provide comfort for our VA Veterans patients. If an Auxiliary votes to help sponsor a month or two please contact me.
- Thank you to all Auxiliaries who helped support the VA Virtual Youth Program in there "Needs Drive" for Homeless Veterans. It was a success!
- The Annual Joint Review (AJR) has been completed (report to follow). Thank you District 1 Auxiliaries for an outstanding year 2019-2020.
- I would like to visit you at your next Auxiliary Meeting. Please call, text or send me an e-mail to schedule a date so we can visit and I may answer your questions.

Thank you for your continued Veterans Support.

**Liz Pedregon**

**VAVS Representative, (619) 746-3739, [epedregon619@gmail.com](mailto:epedregon619@gmail.com)**

## District Webmaster Report

Hi Everyone,

For you numbers people out there; our [Website](#) had 31 users last week, [Facebook](#) has 510 followers, [Instagram](#) has 185 followers, [Twitter](#) has 33 followers. These are all \*up to date\* resources that can be used to find out what is going on around our amazing district.

The District 1 web team is here to support both the Comrades and the Auxiliary so feel free to send us your posts' monthly calendars and special event flyers.

Do you want help making your event flyers? Check out [PosterMyWall.com](https://PosterMyWall.com) this is a free online flyer creation tool. It has taken the headache out of making meal flyers for many of our members already. You do not have to make an account to use it.

[Sara Jeyes](#)

[vfwcadist1.webmaster@gmail.com](mailto:vfwcadist1.webmaster@gmail.com)

## REPORTS FROM DISTRICT OFFICERS & CHAIRPERSONS

### District Chaplain Report

Hello Comrades, brothers, and sisters:

First of all, I want to extend my condolences to Past District 1 Commander Larry Brown of VFW Post 2111. Larry's wife Linda, who was a member of the Auxiliary of Post 7420, passed away recently. Her Funeral Services are still pending as of this writing. I will keep you all posted about it, but please keep Larry and his family in your prayers.



On Thursday 8/20/2020, I presented the Department Chaplain of the Year Award to Chaplain Stuart Jacobs of VFW Post 3788, Kearny Mesa. The Department provided a lite dinner for the members of Chaplain Jacobs' post. District Commander Paula Jansen and State Chief of Staff Keith McDonald were also invited to attend.

Lastly, as we continue to stay at home, wear our masks, and keep our social distance during this COVID-19 Pandemic, please stay safe and strong in your faith because we know that God is more than able to see us through these tough times. God, I pray that you will continue to watch over us, keep us strong, and keep us safe during these rough and tough times. I pray that you will provide for our every need, and I pray that in the very near future You will bring us together again in true comradeship and peace. Amen.

Blessings one and All,

**James Wright, District Chaplain**

### Auxiliary Chaplain Report

Hello Everyone:

07/28/2020 - Sympathy card sent to PDC Larry Brown , Post 2111, on the passing of his wife Linda Brown, Life Member Auxiliary # 7420

08/12/2020 – Get Well card sent to District 1 Auxiliary Senior Vice Maria Gapsin- Jimenez, Auxiliary 2080 recovery from recent surgery

08/14/2020- Sympathy Card sent to PDP Tootsie Dougherty, Auxiliary 1512, on the passing of her brother in law.

08/15/2020- Sympathy card sent to PDP Reta Butler, Auxiliary 1512, on the passing of her brother.

Loving God,

We thank you for the gift of life. We also thank you for the gift of all the wonderful people who inspire, challenge, love and encourage us in our journey.

Bless them with good health, peace, and joy.

We ask this through Christ Our Lord

Amen.

**Diana Kulhanek, District 1 Auxiliary Chaplain, [dirude@yahoo.com](mailto:dirude@yahoo.com)**



## Chief Of Staff Report

Comrades,

To all District members, I would like to assist you with any questions that you may have this year regarding the VFW Rituals and By-Laws.

1. POST MEETINGS: This month the topic is **“What order does a Post meeting follow”?**

I have seen that most Posts follow a general theme while conducting a meeting but there actually is a proper format. Ultimately it is the Post Commander’s meeting and the manual is a “guide” but for consistency alone, it’s best to follow the prescribed order.

Refer to the VFW Podium Edition in the “VFW RITUAL” (white section) to find the “ORDER OF BUSINESS” pages 14-42. The **full agenda** begins on page 14; the **traditional agenda** begins on page 18; while the **contemporary agenda** is on page 19. Should your Post hold ZOOM meetings, I would suggest using the **contemporary** agenda. These three are the proper format. Due to COVID 19 and the cancellation of the National Convention the 2019-2020 Podium Edition is still valid.

2. POST BY-LAWS: Should the Post want to vary some parts of the National By-Laws, you must create your own. And the Post By-Laws **MUST** be approved by the National Organization before they can be adopted. Follow your Commanders Manual should you decide to do so. However, be assured that the National By-Laws supersede all things VFW.

Yours in Comradeship,

PDC Douglas Carrington  
District 1 Chief of Staff  
2020-2021  
slainte1861@att.net



## Suicide Prevention Report

Comrades, Brothers, Sisters,

Happy September! Hope you and yours are all well.

September is **National Suicide Prevention MONTH**. National Suicide Prevention WEEK is September 7-13 with the World Suicide Prevention DAY being September 10th this year.

Veteran and military suicide prevention and mental health awareness is a big part of the Veteran and Family Support program. It is important to make a difference in the lives of our Veterans/ Service Members in crisis by educating ourselves about the 5 warning signs: personality changed? agitated? withdrawn? poor self care? hopeless? Knowledge is power; keep your eyes and ears open.

Veterans Crisis hotline: 800-273-8255

Stay safe!

Regards,  
Jan Illig Smith



## District Treasurer Report

Hello Treasures and Trustees!

I reached out to each of you during the month of August just to let you know that I am available for your questions and concerns. Many of you are old hands at this Treasurer's job and I want you to know I appreciated the feel-good response and friendly voice when I called especially as I begin my first year as District Treasurer.

Audits for the period ending June 30<sup>th</sup> and filing obligations should be completed at this time and sent to the department office. If you were not able to complete any of these tasks, you may contact the Department Treasurer or myself for assistance.

Also, the bond for the President & Treasurer 2020-2021 needs to be purchased and available when District President pays her annual visit to your auxiliary for the inspection.

Madam President, Rachel has set aside October 17<sup>th</sup> for a School of Instruction for Secretaries, Treasurers and Trustees. Please understand this is a required duty that all District Presidents up and down the State must complete as it relates to their year-end tally of performance for the Circle of Excellence. Your attendance is greatly appreciated. If you do not have your "purple packet" that was given to your Auxiliary President at the first school of instruction, please ask her/him for it.

Treasurers, if you are a little unsure of how to do a spread sheet, I can help you. If you want one on one instruction, we can do that too! Same goes for the Trustees. The future is here and Zoom meetings are the new classrooms. I will be glad to review the components of the audit with you.

That's all for now! Stay Safe and I hope to see you soon!

Regards,

Ellie Mello/ District Treasurer

### Buddy Poppy Shortage Update

All:

We are experiencing delays in the production of Buddy® Poppies. COVID-19 has had a severe impact on the assembly facilities, resulting in a low supply of fully assembled poppies. Please continue to submit your orders while we actively work toward fulfilling your requests. All orders will be processed in the order in which they are received, but fulfillment may be significantly delayed.

This is a difficult time for everyone and we're working hard to adapt to this new reality. Please watch for further updates, and feel free to send inquiries to our program administrators at [buddypoppy@vfw.org](mailto:buddypoppy@vfw.org). We appreciate your patience and will do our best to ship your orders as quickly as possible.

Respectfully,

Kevin Jones

Adjutant General

VFW National Headquarters

**Commander's Note: Contact District Commander Paula Jansen or Buddy Poppy Chair Alexis Henshaw Post 3783 for the possibility of purchasing poppies from other posts. Commanders: If you have poppies available please let Alexis know.**

Alexis Henshaw 402-289-7926 [alexishenshaw@hotmail.com](mailto:alexishenshaw@hotmail.com)

Paula Jansen 619261-0463 [cmd@vfwcadist1.org](mailto:cmd@vfwcadist1.org)

Here is the link where you can download the VFW Reporting System Training Guide:

<https://vfwca.org/uploads/Documents/Programs/REPORTINGSYSTEMTRAININGGUIDE.pdf>

## Voice of Democracy and Patriot's Pen Essay

- Applications are available at [www.vfw.org](http://www.vfw.org)
- VOD Theme is: **"Is This the Country the Founders Envisioned?"**
- Patriot's Pen Theme is: **"What is Patriotism to me?"**
- Entries are due to your Post by October 31, 2020.



## To: Department Adjutants/Quartermaster's VFW National Citizenship Education Teacher Award Program

Effective this program year we have updated the Smart/Maher VFW National Citizenship Education Teacher Award program. We have attached documentation to assist with running the program, please share the above with those who are responsible for this program. This is no longer required for All American. We will not be awarding a National Teacher of the Year. Each Department winner submitted to us, via Formstack, will receive a citation for the teacher and their school. These will then be forwarded on to the Department Headquarters for presentation. If you should have any questions and cannot find the answer in the attached documentation, please let us know.

Below is the link to the VFW Teacher Award Request Form, for Departments to request the citation for their winners in each category.

(Please do not share this link.)

<https://VFWPrograms.formstack.com/forms/departmentteacheraward>

Thank you,

**Tammy Beauchamp**  
Coordinator, Programs  
VFW National Headquarters  
406 W 34th Street  
Kansas City, Missouri 64111

### Editor's Notes:

**DO NOT SUBMIT PAPERWORK TO THE ADDRESS ON THE LEFT. SUBMIT TO YOUR POST. POST FORWARDS TO DISTRICT CHAIR MYLES FRY.**

The next two pages contain:

1. Eligibility Requirements and Documentation Required, including links to these documents on the VFW.org web site.
2. Teacher Entry Form



## SMART/MAHER VFW NATIONAL CITIZENSHIP EDUCATION TEACHER AWARD CITATIONS FOR ELEMENTARY, MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL TEACHERS AND THEIR SCHOOLS

Each year, the Veterans of Foreign Wars selects elementary, middle and high school teachers to participate in the Smart/Maher VFW National Citizenship Education Teacher program. Effective this year, VFW Post Teacher Award Chairman may submit a candidate to their **Department Headquarters by January 1** in each category. The Department may select a single candidate for each of the three awards and submit those to **VFW National Headquarters by February 1**. VFW's Department Teacher winners that are received at National Headquarters will receive a VFW National citation for both the winning teacher and their school in each grade category.

**NOTE:** The only item the National VFW Programs Department requires is the "VFW Department Teacher Award Citation Request Form" which is now available on the VFW website. Simply visit [vfw.org/#login](http://vfw.org/#login), log in to My VFW, then look under Member Resources, click on VFW Training & Support, then click on Community Service & Youth Programs, then look under Additional Resources. The Teacher Entry form, Instruction sheet, Citation Request form and Chairman's manual will be up on the VFW website in the near future.

### Who Is Eligible?

1. Teachers who promote civic responsibility, flag etiquette and patriotism are prime candidates for this award. For example, do you know a teacher who plans field trips to city hall or organizes community volunteer projects? Maybe you know an instructor who invites veterans into the classroom to discuss their military experiences. Perhaps you are familiar with a teacher who fosters the development of democratic values and beliefs through special projects. If you know of such a teacher, honor him or her today.
2. All current certified/licensed teachers in grades K-12 are eligible. Previous national winners are ineligible. Nominations can be submitted by themselves, fellow teachers, supervisors, family members or other interested individuals.

### Documentation required for all Candidates:

1. All Post-level nominees should provide a one-page resume as a minimum or up to five pages as a maximum of documentation of their teaching experience (for example: referer news articles, etc.) and a head-and-shoulder photo of themselves. These items will be forwarded on to the Department with the winning Teacher Entry form.

#### NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS

977 W. 140th Street  
Kansas City, MO 64111

Office: 816.256.8700  
Fax: 816.265.1157

#### WASHINGTON OFFICE

1006-17th Ave., N.E.  
Washington, D.C. 20002

Office: 202.548.2259  
Fax: 202.548.6719

[info@vfw.org](mailto:info@vfw.org)  
[www.vfw.org](http://www.vfw.org)



## VFW Smart/Maher VFW National Citizenship Education Teacher Entry Form

NOTE: VFW Point of Contact should fill out their section below prior to distributing this form.  
This will provide individuals from outside of the VFW with the needed information to submit their packets successfully.

### To be filled out by VFW representative

Sponsoring VFW Post #:  Sponsoring District #:

Date of Presentation: MM/DD/YY (if available)

### VFW Post POC

Full Name:

Phone:  Email:

Address: (where to mail entry)

City:  State:  Zip:

### Individual Submitting Nomination

Full Name:

Phone:  Email:

### Nominee Information

Choose appropriate teacher citation:(Elementary, Middle, High)

Full Name: (please list as you wish it stated on the citation)

Gender:  Phone :  Email:

Occupation Title: (if any) (please list as you wish it stated on the citation)

School Name: (please list as you wish it stated on the citation)

Address of School: (please list as you wish it stated on the citation)

City:  State:  Zip:

School Phone:  School Email: (if available)

Please complete this form and submit to your local VFW Post using the information provided above. Ensure to include all required documentation that is outlined on the instructions sheet provided with this form. All winning post entries must be received by their VFW Department Headquarters no later than January 1st. If you have any questions, please contact your Department Headquarters.

# RECENT EVENTS



Escondido VFW Post 1513 Riders visited WWII and Korean War veteran Jack Flaherty for his 97th birthday. Jack served in the US Navy and the US Air Force.

Happy Birthday Jack!



Escondido VFW Post 1513 members finish the task of cleaning and shining the "Wall of Courage"



State/District Chaplain James Wright presents the Chaplain of the Year Award to Post 3788 Chaplain Stuart Jacobs



Post 3788 Commander Doug Warren presented #StillServing Ribbon by D1 Commander



Charles E. Swisher Post 1924 in Fallbrook provided a Color Guard for the Murphy & Murphy Charity Golf Tournament to benefit the Fallbrook Food Pantry on Friday, August 21, 2020

# RECENT EVENTS

## Post 7907 conducts a Flag Retirement Ceremony



District President Rachel Luke visits the Post 2275 Auxiliary Meeting



Above: L to R  
Post 3783 QM John Hine  
Chris from Post 1924 standing  
Behind his black very-hard-to-see  
Service Dog Maddis  
District CDR Paula Jansen  
Post 2275 CDR Pat Gooden



District President Paula Jansen visits the Post 1512 Craft Supply Sale



District President Paula Jansen with Mission Valley Post 3787 Commander Michael Herman

## UPCOMING EVENTS

All,

There are two flyers here that can be used by any post. Please send them to your members and put them up in your post, share them on social media. Create an event on social media and invite your friends. Get the word out.

1. Backpacks (below): We are not looking so much for items as monetary donations. If each post could put the flyer on a donation can for one weekend's meals and then send the donations to Jerry earmarked for the backpack program it would be much appreciated. I am sure we could raise enough to get everything we need to fill the backpacks and purchase the coupon books. We more than likely will not be able to help with the assembly or hand out this year, so let's make sure those Veterans know we care.

2. The Veterans Walk we do in November which is hosted by Post 2111, is not going to happen in the normal way. The holiday party is something the residents look forward to each year. CV Vet home cannot allow us to be on the grounds due to Covid-19. After talking with Hank, and the committee agreeing, we are going to do the walk virtually. We can all walk in our community and send the pictures/videos to Post 2111 for a presentation during the holiday party. So, let's lace up our shoes on November 7<sup>th</sup>, get on your favorite walking trail and get some friends to join you for the virtual walk, and bring a smile to the residents as the same time.

p.s. these are both reportable items towards All State requirements.

Thank you all again for all that you do to support our fellow Veterans and make the Mighty 1st the MIGHTY 1ST.

Paula Jansen, D1 Commander

Veterans- The Anchor of Our Nation



# UPCOMING EVENTS

**VFW**  
NO ONE CARES MORE FOR VETERANS.  
California

**SEPTEMBER 26 / 9 AM**

**DEPARTMENT OF CALIFORNIA  
POW/MIA CEREMONY  
ONBOARD  
USS MIDWAY MUSEUM  
SAN DIEGO CALIFORNIA**



Please join us as we honor these Patriots for their unwavering and unrelenting spirit

"In every generation, members of our Armed Forces have answered the call of service in our nation's hour of need."  
PRESIDENT GEORGE W. BUSH

Visit [www.vfwca.org](http://www.vfwca.org) for more information.

**910 N. Harbor Drive, San Diego, CA 92101**

**Carter-Smith Auxiliary 5867 Fundraiser**



**TEA TO GO** \$40 includes 3 course Tea service for 2 with Assorted Teas boxed with love

**SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 19th 2020**

**Pick Up 1-3pm 12650 LINDO LN LAKESIDE CA 92040**

**PLEASE ORDER BY SEPTEMBER 10 TH  
NO GUARANTEE OF DAY OF AVAILABILITY**

**TO ORDER: EMAIL [AUXILIARY5867@GMAIL.COM](mailto:AUXILIARY5867@GMAIL.COM)  
OR CALL 619.261.0753**

\*payment due upon ordering, no refunds for no shows on day of scheduled pick up



**\$40.00 DONATION**

CONTACT SIX-SEVEN / [jchanna51@gmail.com](mailto:jchanna51@gmail.com)  
[vfwmotorcycleclub.org](http://vfwmotorcycleclub.org)

**OCTOBER 24, 2020  
6:00 PM**

\*\*\*SPA GHETTI DINNER & RAFFLE PRIZES\*\*\*



VFW LAKESIDE POST 5867  
12650 Lindo Ln, Lakeside, CA 92040

**HEY, JUST BECAUSE IT IS COVID-19...**

Doesn't mean that you can forget about our Chili Cook-Off coming this September!

**TAKE THIS TIME NOW!**

Spruce up those old recipes that you have had lying around... The clock is ticking...



**VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS**  
POST 9327-SANTEE, CALIFORNIA EST. 1963  
619-562-4022

**Post 9327, Santee**

**Chili Cook-Off date changed to TBD (To Be Determined). We will try get the word out as best we can when the date is known.**

# VFW 1<sup>st</sup> District Auxiliary Ways & Means Fundraiser

Due to COVID 19 this year we are unable to do our Annual Golden Acorn Casino, Ways & Means Fundraiser.

This year we will be doing dinners to raise funds.  
VFW Post 1512 has agreed to let the  
1<sup>st</sup> District Auxiliary utilize their kitchen for our fund raising efforts.

**Meals for the month of September**  
**5 - 7 pm**  
**Patio Dinning or Take Out**  
**Wednesday, September 9, 2020**  
**Stuffed Bell Peppers**  
**Roasted Potatoes**  
**Salad & Roll**  
**\$10.00**

**Wednesday, September 23, 2020**  
**Shrimp Scampi Pasta**  
**Salad**  
**French Bread**  
**\$10.00**

**Please come out and support your**  
**1<sup>ST</sup> District President, Rachel Luke**  
**and our Ways & Means Fundraiser.**

**VFW Post 1512 Encanto**  
**6873 Federal Blvd.**  
**Lemon Grove, 91945**  
**619-583-6873**





**VFW NATIONAL HOME FOR CHILDREN**  
*Every child deserves a happy family.*



I'm certain that you remember how emotional the first day of school can be. This year will be especially hard because of COVID-19.

For the children of military and veteran families at the National Home, these worries are magnified by much bigger challenges ...

They may be up all night crying because they miss a parent who is deployed overseas ... frightened about a parent suffering from the effects of PTSD ... or scared that their family will once again become homeless due to financial difficulties.

That's why I'm turning to you, a loyal supporter of the National Home, to help the children of America's war heroes start the school year on the same footing as the other kids.

**[Can I count on your generous gift to support our 2020 Back to School Fund today?](#)**

Your gift today will help ensure that each child can fill their list of required supplies...and that any National Home child in need gets the extra support, tutoring or counseling that will help them succeed in school.

Most importantly, you will help us continue to strengthen the families of active-duty military and veterans who are facing challenges such as financial hardships, PTSD and other afflictions, fractured family relationships, and uncertain futures.

Can the kids count on your support today? If so, please don't delay – thank you for caring!

You can benefit the National Home by making all of your purchases through Amazon Smile? Learn more at [amazon.smile.com](https://amazon.smile.com)

Hello fellow 1st District Auxiliary members,

My name is Barbara Jones, and I am the Ways & Means Fundraiser Chairman, for 1st District President Rachel Luke. As you all know we are unable to do the Annual Golden Acorn Casino, Ways & Means Fundraiser this year due to COVID 19. In order to make funds for Ways & Means, I will be doing some meals to raise funds. In the month of September, I plan on doing a meal on Wednesday, the 9th and Wednesday the 23rd.

Post 1512 Encanto, has agreed to let us use their Kitchen to cook the meals but I am in need of volunteers to help prepare and serve the food. Any and all help will be greatly appreciated. If you or someone you know is interested in helping out please feel free to contact me on my cell phone at 619-540-3649, by text, or email at [barbaraannjones10@gmail.com](mailto:barbaraannjones10@gmail.com).

I plan on doing meals not only in September, but October 7th & 21st and November 4th & 18th. Volunteers are needed in order to make this fundraiser a success. I look forward to working with you.

Barbara Jones

1st District Color Bearer #1

1st District Ways & Means Chairman.

# PARTNERS IN PATRIOTISM

ALL ,

We've heard about this before. If you were to send \$10.00 to National each month, you would stop receiving all the mail requesting donations.

It is here now!

**The Partners in Patriotism Program form is on the next page.** Use this form to join Partners In Patriotism. You will also find the form on all the VFW websites. Partners in Patriotism is a win-win monthly giving option to make things more convenient for you ... and allow us to do the best job we possibly can for America's sons and daughters.

Partners in Patriotism is the most effective way to help our proud veterans, service members, and their families. When you sign up, you support life-changing programs every month of the year. It's a great way to show you care!

Partners in Patriotism:

- > Keeps administrative costs down so more money goes to programs.
- > Allows for better budget planning and program funding to help more veterans, service members and their families.
- > Cuts down the amount of mail you receive. You will only receive the VFW Supporter Quarterly newsletters.

**Jerry P. Koehmlein**

GMCS (SW) USN RETIRED

VFW VAVS Deputy Representative (SDHS)

Department of California

District One Adjutant/Quartermaster

District National Home Chairman

VFW 1512 Chaplain

VFW 1512 Hospital/JROTC Chairman

E-mail [jerryrk@cox.net](mailto:jerryrk@cox.net)/[koehmleinj@gmail.com](mailto:koehmleinj@gmail.com) <mailto:jerryrk@cox.net> <mailto:koehmleinj@gmail.com> <mailto:jerryrk@cox.net>

Home/ Fax (619) 255-4108 Cell (619) 647-0457



# Partners In Patriotism

**GIVE MONTHLY TO HELP OUR HEROES**



Partners in Patriotism is a win-win monthly giving option to make things more convenient for you ... and allow us to do the best job we possibly can for America's sons and daughters.

Partners in Patriotism is the most effective way to help our proud veterans, service members and their families. When you sign up, you support life-changing programs every month of the year. *It's a great way to show you care!*

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- Keeps administrative costs down so more money goes to programs.
- Allows for better budget planning and program funding to help more veterans, service members and their families.
- Cuts down the amount of mail you receive. You will only receive the *VFW Supporter Quarterly* newsletters.

## Sign Up Today!

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE # ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

### CHOOSE HOW YOU DONATE

**Option 1: Credit Card**

- Visa     MasterCard
- Discover     American Express

\_\_\_\_\_

ACCOUNT NUMBER

\_\_\_\_\_

EXP. DATE

Amount to be charged: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

- monthly
- quarterly
- annually

• Minimum amount is \$10.00, processed on/or around the 20th of the month.

\_\_\_\_\_  
SIGNATURE

\_\_\_\_\_  
DATE

**Option 2: Checking Account Deduction**

Please send us a voided check along with the completed information below and return it to:

VFW National Headquarters  
406 West 34th Street, Suite 718  
Kansas City, MO 64111

Amount to be charged: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

- monthly
- quarterly
- annually

• Minimum amount is \$10.00, processed on/or around the 20th of the month.

\_\_\_\_\_  
SIGNATURE

\_\_\_\_\_  
DATE

Return this form to VFW National Headquarters, 406 West 34th Street, Suite 718, Kansas City, MO 64111 or fax to (816) 968-1129. Questions? Please call Donor Services toll-free at 833-VFW-GIVE (833-839-4485), or email [vfwfundraising@vfw.org](mailto:vfwfundraising@vfw.org). *Thank you!*

**NO ONE DOES MORE FOR VETERANS.**