



NEWS FROM LT FRED L. KENT • VFW POST 7907 POWAY, CA



POST MONTHLY MEETING SCHEDULE

Please Join Us

House Chair Committee Meeting

6:30 PM | 1st Thursday - Jan 3

VFW CDR/Officer Meeting

6:30 PM | 2nd Thursday - Jan 10

VFW 7907 Post Meeting

7:00 PM | 3rd Thursday - Jan 17

VFW/AUX Roundtable & Social Planning Meeting

6:30 PM | 4th Thursday - Jan 24

AUX Monthly Meeting

6:00 PM | 2nd Tuesday - Jan 8

Post House Chairman Clean up/Working Party

9:00 AM | Saturday Mornings



Have an article for *The Patriot*? Please submit your articles no later than the 21st of each month. Send your submission to VFW7907@gmail.com with *Newsletter Submission* in the subject line.

COMMANDER'S CALL

Hopefully, everyone had a safe and happy holiday season. Once again, **THANK YOU** to all the wonderful Post volunteers who continuously amaze me with everything they do for the Post, Veterans and VFW Programs. Thanks for the Christmas present of **100% Membership** and in only 6 months, Post 7907 is ALL STATE Eligible. Simply **OUTSTANDING!**

NEVER FORGET- January Dates to remember-

For any Post member who participated in any of these events, **WE SALUTE YOU.** Thank you for your sacrifice and service to our great country.

- 1/6 USMC launch Operation Deckhouse Five (Mekong Delta, Vietnam) began in 1967
- 1/9 US carried out air strikes on al-Qaeda operatives within Somalia in 2007
- 1/14 USS Enterprise flight deck fire (accidental rocket detonated) in 1969
- 1/16 Operation Desert Storm (Iraq) begins in 1991
- 1/25 Operation SMACK, assault on Spud Hill (Korea) in 1953
- 1/26 USN LT Evert Alvarez Jr spends his 2,000th day as a POW (Vietnam) in 1970
- 1/29 Taliban forces clash with US Forces near Adi Ghar Mountains (Afghanistan) in 2003

Let me start out by saying what an outstanding Post Christmas Party. It was nice to see all those who turned out and I hope everyone enjoyed it as much as I did. Thanks to those who decorated, organized and assisted with the Christmas party for the Post.

Thanks to all who tirelessly gave their time and effort in support of the Ray Chavez funeral. It was a classic example of Vets helping Vets and doing what we do. In this case, Ray was a VFW Poway Post member and the eldest surviving member of Pearl Harbor. God Bless you Ray- RIP. At the end of the Newsletter are just a few photos. It was an honor to participate in such an event. Thanks to Rick from Arizona, Chaps Biadog, CDR US Navy, and our very own **Don, Barry and Bud** for Making it Happen.

Bravo Zulu to the Post Membership Committee- **Greg and Richard (and Alan H).** Please see attached letter from **BJ Lawrence, Commander-in Chief, Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States.** VFW Post 7907 is now at 101%. Membership is our lifeline. If everyone recruits just one member, our Post will continue in perpetuity. In the next 6 months, a CDR's coin for each new recruit and Membership Chair will buy you a beer too.

continued on page 2

2018-2019 Officers

Post Commander...Bill Morrison

Sr. Vice Commander...Vernon DuMolt

Jr. Vice Commander...Bill Kimble

Quartermaster...Alan Helton

Chaplain...Barry Cronin

Surgeon...Chad Foley

Service Officer...Bud Lichtenstern

Adjutant...Alberto Vazquez

Judge Advocate...Bob Parks

Guard...Jennifer Guerrero

1st Year Trustee...Ed Ozmun

2nd Year Trustee...Jim Forrest

3rd Year Trustee...Tom Behrle

Officer of the Day...Jason Widmer



Auxiliary Officers

Auxiliary President...Alex Grosch

Auxiliary Sr. Vice President...Robert Fenter

Auxiliary Jr. Vice President...Bill McKibbin

Auxiliary Treasurer...Brad Cotton

Auxiliary 1st Year Trustee...Linda Miller

Auxiliary 2nd Year Trustee...Jim Gordon

Auxiliary 3rd Year Trustee...Patty Grosch



We are trying to move right along into the 21st Century with Post improvements and technology. If you want to get involved or have an expertise, please contact any Post Officer or House Chair. We need to get security cameras installed, the Point of Sale system up and running, and smartly utilize QuickBooks. If you have can help or have an idea on process/Post improvements, glad to hear it. Special Thanks to **Melissa and Fernando Law- House Chairman** for their tireless efforts in keeping the Post ship shape. Never has the Post been so clean. BZ!

Wishing you a Healthy and Happy New Year.

Bill Morrison

[FROM THE SENIOR VICE COMMANDER](#)

Comrades,

Here we are again, another holiday season when we get together with family and friends to share meals, relive memories of the past, and make plans for the future. During this time we are often reminded of the men and women who are serving our great country, who are not able to be home with their families. Many of us understand the loneliness and pain of these people because we were once in their shoes. We can recall holiday meals in mess halls or tents that were reasonably decorated for the season, and the food that was prepared for us that although tasty, wasn't quite what we longed for. Although we were among our brothers in arms who we trusted with our lives, we still longed for our families who were on the other side of the world.

As we spend this holiday season with our families and friends let's not forget those in uniform who are facing the sacrifices we once faced.

In Comradeship,

Vernon DuMolt

[FROM THE JUNIOR VICE COMMANDER](#)

Comrades,

We've taken it easy between the holidays regarding Buddy Poppy sales but are planning to hit it hard again in the new year. Details are still in work, but we're hoping to do another weekend at Walmart and also at the Miramar Exchange. Looking forward to seeing you in 2019!

In comradeship,

Bill Kimble

[FROM THE QUARTERMASTER](#)

Comrades,

As mentioned in the December newsletter, the Post had new solar panels installed the day before Thanksgiving. We are still waiting for the first bill from SDG&E but are expecting to see some significant savings from this effort...especially for the upcoming summer! Thanks again to everyone involved with the project. And a reminder for everyone to keep supporting your Post.

Alan Helton

FROM THE SURGEON

Comrades,

I hope everyone had a very joyous and festive Holiday season and Happy New Year!

Even though I was not able to make the funeral or Celebration of Life for Ray Chavez, I have heard nothing but great things from everyone about how well both went. Members of the VFW and the Auxiliary put forth a phenomenal effort to ensure the events were executed with deserving respect. In addition to the folks Tom Behrle called out, I would also like to bring some recognition to **Pam K.** as I understand her efforts helping out all day were notable. Thanks Pam!



Movie quote of the month (free beverage of choice to the first person that corners me at the Post with the movie title of origin):

"Hey Hamilton, have a holly-jolly Christmas."

Previous month's answer – Hot Shots

GEAUX SAINTS!!

Chad 'Axel' Foley

Email: chad.g.foley@gmail.com

FROM THE ADJUTANT

Comrades,

I want to thank you all for giving me the opportunity to be your post Adjutant. Fernando has taught me the ropes of the job. We all know he did an amazing job and I know I have big shoes to fill. With your support I hope to make you all proud to call me your Adjutant.

Semper Fidelis,

Alberto Vazquez

FROM THE JUDGE ADVOCATE

Happy New Year Comrades,

As we now enter 2019, it marks the mid-point in our VFW year with the first round of nominations just four months away. I would like to take this time to ask the membership to start seriously thinking about looking to who we would want to be part of our leadership team next year. Although our current line of Officers is doing a great job, Comrades, we cannot assume that the same Comrades will be able or want to continue year after year. Talk to your comrades to see who is interested or, better yet, consider volunteering yourself. Yes it can be time consuming and sometimes frustrating but it can also be very rewarding to serve your Post and help in the mission of *"No one does more for Veterans."*

Okay, enough serious stuff. I hope all had a great Holiday Season and that you all resolved to come out and support our Post a little more this year. During January we will be having the play offs and some bowl games airing at the canteen and Dickie Boys will be resuming the best omelets in town on the last Sunday. So I hope to see you at the Post.

In Comradeship,

Bob Parks

BRAVO ZULU OF THE MONTH



The BZ of the Month for December is presented to **Clint Stedman**. On repeated occasions and when needed the most, Clint stepped up and helped out in both the kitchen and the canteen. Thanks, Clint, for your support and dedication.

FROM THE HOUSE COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

Dear Comrades,

Hoping everyone had a very Merry Christmas and wishing you a Happy New Year.

December was a quiet month for the Post in terms of new projects, so there is not much to report on that front. However, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize **Don Stonecipher** for his contributions. Don has taken on a number of tasks to improve our Post, and we very much appreciate his efforts.

As always, as friends and family, our mission is to support each other, our Veterans, and the Post. Regardless of our minor conflicts and disagreements, we should always remember that ultimately, our goal is to be here for one another.

Just a reminder that every Saturday we have a working party at the Post to clean and work on various odds and ends. Remember that volunteering is good for the soul and does a body good!!

Don't forget to join us for play-off football and as always:

Thank you for your service!

Fernando Law

FROM THE MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN

For December, the Post voted in the following members:

- **William Dower**, USMC, recruited by Richard Anderson
- **Gregory Fitzpatrick**, USMC, recruited by Bob Parks
- **Stephen Meyer**, USN, recruited by Bill Morrison
- **Kym Scott**, USMC, recruited by Richard Anderson
- **Steven Williams**, recruited by Richard Anderson

Welcome Aboard!

We have surpassed 100% and are currently 100.7%! Great job to all our recruiters and keep on recruiting

Greg Clark

Cell: 858-602-2484

Email: gregory.j.clark18@gmail.com

FROM THE CHAPLAIN

Excerpt from the VFW Chaplain's Handbook:

Our Heavenly Father, we thank You for the year we have completed in the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, for its successes, and for the strength You have given us to overcome its failures. As we face a new year together, give us patience and understanding for all our comrades, wisdom in our decisions, and Your aid in building a better organization...so that we may continue to serve our God and our Country.

FROM THE EVENTS COMMITTEE CHAIR

Bill McKibben, Leroy and Judy Hill, Pam K, Dennis Rasmussen, and Linda Miller were instrumental in providing and serving the food at the Ray Chavez Celebration of Life. Of course, we couldn't done it without the leadership of **Don Stonecipher** who went home because he was too tired. Another one that pooped out was **Bob Baron**, he was here all day! In a lighter moment, Leroy and Linda cut a rug to the great mariachi music that was playing.

"Another round above the ground!"

Tom Behrle



UPCOMING EVENTS

JOIN US AT THE POST FOR THE FOLLOWING EVENTS:

SUPER BOWL PARTY
SUNDAY, FEB 3 2019

VALENTINE'S DINNER
SATURDAY, FEB 23, 2019

ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARTY
SATURDAY, MAR 16, 2019

APRIL EVENT - TBD

VFW & VFW AUXILIARY INSTALLATION
MAY

COMMANDER APPRECIATION
DINNER & FAREWELL PARTY
JUNE

HAIL TO THE NEW OFFICERS
JULY

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

VFW, AUX & kids who need Community Service Credit

Saturday Morning Work Party

Each Saturday at 9:00 AM at the Post
For more info contact Fernando Law.

Friday Night Burger Burn

Join us EACH Friday for a delicious burger, a cold beer, chips and salad for a \$7.00 donation.

Enjoy great Canteen specials too!

Volunteers always needed & greatly appreciated!



Programs for At-Risk Veterans and Their Families

Along with VA and with other federal, State and local agencies, the VFW puts forth a lot of effort to see that Veterans and their families at risk of homelessness are provided a number of services that try to keep veterans in their house and provide for their love ones.

Here are a few programs that are available to prevent homelessness among Veterans.

The VFW Unmet Program (Financial Grant):

The VFW understand the challenges veterans, service members and military families can face and believe that experiencing financial difficulties should not be one of them. That's the premise behind the VFW's Unmet Needs program.

Unmet Needs is there to help America's military families who have run into unexpected financial difficulties as a result of deployment or other military-related activity or injury. The program provides financial aid grants of up to \$1,500 to assist with basic life needs in the form of a grant - not a loan - so no repayment is required. To further ease the burden, we pay the creditor directly.

The needs of our veterans, service members and their families should never go unmet.

VA Housing-Related Programs

Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF):

For very low-income Veterans, SSVF provides case management and supportive services to prevent the imminent loss of a Veteran's home or identify a new, more suitable housing situation for the individual and his or her family; or to rapidly re-house Veterans and their families who are homeless and might remain homeless without this assistance.

Homeless Providers Grant and Per Diem (GPD) Program:

State, local and tribal governments and nonprofits receive capital grants and per diem payments to develop and operate transitional housing including short-stay bridge housing and/or service centers for Veterans who are homeless.

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development-VA Supportive Housing (HUD-VASH):

This collaborative program between HUD and VA combines HUD housing vouchers with VA supportive services to help Veterans who are homeless and their families find and sustain permanent housing. As of April 8, 2018, HUD has allocated more than 87,000 vouchers to help house Veterans across the country.

Through public housing authorities, HUD provides rental assistance vouchers for privately owned housing to Veterans who are eligible for VA health care services and are experiencing homelessness. VA case managers may connect these Veterans with support services such as health care, mental health treatment and substance use counseling to help them in their recovery process and with their ability to maintain housing in the community. Among VA homeless continuum of care programs, HUD-VASH enrolls the largest number and largest percentage of Veterans who have experienced long-term or repeated homelessness.

I and my Post Service Officers standby to serve you...

Bud Lichtenstern

Never Forget



United Nations troops watch intently as hospital corpsmen remove the flak vest of a soldier wounded in the attempt to take Spud Hill, 12 miles southwest of Chorwon in North Korea on January 29, 1953.

Landing operations during Operation "Deckhouse V" in 1967. Two USMC amtracs move along the beach with a UH-1 helicopter approaching at right & USS Washtenaw County in the background. Photo# NH 103692



USS Enterprise flight deck fire (accidental rocket detonated) in 1969

USN LT Evert Alvarez Jr spends his 2,000th day as a POW (Vietnam) January 26, 1970



On January 16, 1991 President George H. W. Bush announced the start of Operation Desert as cruise missiles and waves of bombers pummeled Iraq's military targets in the Persian Gulf.

ADI GHAR, AFGHANISTAN - In this Department of Defense (DoD) handout photo, soldiers from the U.S. Army 82nd Airborne Division search a cave January 30, 2003 in the Adi Ghar mountains, Afghanistan. (Photo by Leopold Medina Jr/U.S. Army/Getty Images)



VFW Post & Community Events

Ray Chavez Planning Team & Funeral - Dec 13, 2018



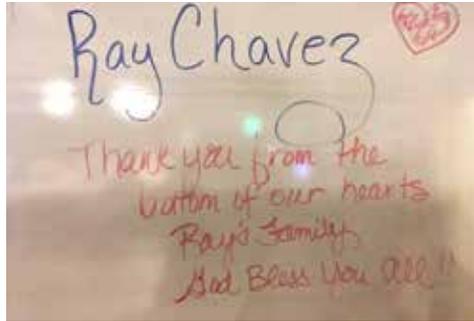
MC Rick



Service at Miramar National Cemetery



CDR Essenfeld SURFPAC, XO USS Pearl Harbor, CDR Morrison and Chaps Biadog



Thank you note written by Summer behalf of the Chavez Family on our white board



Planning meeting with Chaps



Presentation of a photo of Ray from family to VFW planning team.



December 11, 2018

William Morrison, Commander
VFW Post 7907

Dear Commander:

I would like to congratulate you on having achieved the distinct honor of leading your Post to over 100% in membership for the 2018-2019 year. Please accept the enclosed streamer with my sincere gratitude for your Post's many contributions to our membership recruitment and retention efforts.

However, our job is far from over, and with your continued efforts I am confident we will accomplish our membership mission. My line officers and I, along with the national membership staff are ready to assist you any way we can starting with my 2018-2019 National Membership Program

As one of the leaders of our great organization, william, you know too well the job is far from over, but with your continued efforts, I am confident we will attain our membership goals.

Yours in true comradeship,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Vincent B. J. Lawrence". The signature is stylized with a large, sweeping initial "V" and a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Vincent B. J. Lawrence
Commander-in-Chief
Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States

JANUARY 2019



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1		2 11:30 AM Open-faced pork-loin sandwich, mashed potatoes & gravy <i>Hood Boyz</i> Donation: 8.00 	3 6:30 PM House Chair Committee Meeting	4 5:30 PM Burger, beer, salad & chips <i>House</i> Donation: 7.00 	5
6 9:00 AM Chicken fried steak, eggs & potatoes <i>Sandy & Crew</i> Donation: 8.00 	7	8 6:00 PM VFW Auxiliary Meeting	9 11:30 AM BLT's & fries <i>Hood Boyz</i> Donation: 7.00 	10 6:30 PM VFW CDR/Officer Meeting	11 5:30 PM Burger, beer, salad & chips <i>House</i> Donation: 7.00 	12
13	14	15	16 11:30 AM Patty melt & fries <i>Hood Boyz</i> Donation: 8.00 	17 7:00 PM VFW 7907 Post Meeting	18 5:30 PM Burger, beer, salad & chips <i>House</i> Donation: 7.00 	19
20 9:00 AM Eggs, biscuits & gravy <i>Clint & Sandy</i> Donation: 8.00 	21	22	23 11:30 AM Pansit with veggies, pork, shrimp, lumpia & tapioca <i>Amy & Crew</i> Donation: 8.00 	24 6:30 PM VFW/AUX Roundtable & Social Planning Meeting	25 5:30 PM Burger, beer, salad & chips <i>House</i> Donation: 7.00 	26 12:00 - 4:00 PM Hall Rented
27 9:00 AM Omelets or eggs-to-order, bacon, toast & hash browns <i>Dickie Boys</i> Donation: 9.00 	28	29	30 11:30 AM Lasagna, garlic toast & salad <i>Hood Boyz</i> Donation: 8.00 	31	Please Note: We make an effort to list the meals accurately. However, menu items may change. Please check the Post menu board or call the Post to verify.	

Canteen Hours*: Sun: Breakfast 9:00 AM–6:00 PM; No breakfast 12:00 PM–6:00 PM | Mon & Tue: 11:00 AM–6:00 PM
Wed-Fri: 11:00 AM–9:00 PM | Sat: 12:00 PM–6:00 PM

*Closing hours subject to modification based on activity

★ All Gave Some. Some Gave All. ★