



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



VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS.

Post 7907



Never Forget

POST MONTHLY MEETING SCHEDULE

Please Join Us

Auxiliary General Meeting
No Meeting This Month

VFW Post Officers/House Committee Chair Meeting

6:00 PM | Monday - Feb 17

VFW 7907 Post Meeting
7:00 PM | Thursday - Feb 20

Event Planning Meeting
No Meeting This Month

House Chairman Clean Up/Working Party
8:00 AM | Saturday Mornings

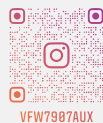
 **Veterans Crisis Line**
DIAL 988 then PRESS 1



VFWPost7907



VFWPost7907Aux



VFW7907AUX

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:

Greetings All,

I hope everyone is ready for an exciting next six months, there is so much going on here at your Post. Please check your event calendar so as not to miss any of the fun planned for all of you, your families and friends.

Again in is my honor to thank all of the Post Volunteers for the hard work and dedication that is put forth each month. Without these folks nothing would happen around at the Post. Bartenders, Saturday working party, Wednesday lunch crew, VVA kitchen crew and the list goes on.

I am happy to report that again the volunteers have stepped up after a bit of planning and brainstorming we have the Friday dinners back and Sunday Breakfast once a month. So please check out those awesome flyers Dawn has in this month's newsletter. Looking forward to seeing everyone around the Post in February.

Here is the result of The Post 2024/2025 programs:

VFW Post 7907 Firefighter of the Year: Captain Bill Waugaman, San Diego Fire Rescue

VFW Post 7907 Teacher of the Year: Mrs. Katie Thompson, Poway Unified School District

Voice of Democracy 1st Place Winner: Anoushka Majumder Scripps Ranch High. Ms Majumder also placed 1st at our District and 3rd at the State level.

2nd Place Winner: Jesper Setterberg Mt Carmel High

3rd Place Winner: Piper Plumbo Mt Carmel High

Patriots Pen 1st Place Winner: Claire Cea, Lakeside

Please join me in thanking all of our wonderful winners for representing Post 7907, job well done.

If there is anyone who knows of a veteran of their family in need, please contact me, Ed the service officer or Chaplain Don.

Commander Bill Kimble

2024-2025 Officers



Post Commander – Bill Kimble
Sr. Vice Commander – Vern DuMolt
Jr. Vice Commander – Deanna Smith
Quartermaster – Clint Dawson
Chaplain – Don Biadog, Jr.
Surgeon – Fred DiCarlo
Service Officer – Ed Ozmun
Adjutant – Paula Jansen
Judge Advocate –
Guard – Daniel Samayoa
1st Year Trustee – Paul Swanson
2nd Year Trustee – Oscar Rocha
3rd Year Trustee – Bryan Gust
House Committee Chairman – Tim Ragnar
Membership Chair – Jay Santa Maria
Officer of the Day – Jim Cook
Maintenance Manager – Jason Widmer
Canteen Manager – Dawn Ragnar

Auxiliary Officers



President – Dawn Ragnar
Sr. Vice President – Jericho Nevitt
Jr. Vice President – Christina Swanson
Secretary – Kacyenne Barber
Treasurer – Deborah Sellers
Chaplain – Christy Schiltz
Conductor – Karen Kimble
Guard – Rachel Rocha
1st Year Trustee – Shari Dunbar
2nd Year Trustee – Connie Houk
3rd Year Trustee – Patty Wolinski



FROM THE AUXILIARY PRESIDENT:

At the risk of sounding repetitive, I just want to thank all our amazing Auxiliary members for always stepping up to help where help is needed! You are such a giving and caring group of individuals and I'm so grateful to be a part of our Auxiliary.

We're about a month behind "kicking off" our 2025 but we're on the way to finishing off this fiscal year with a bang! With dinners coming back to Friday nights and once a month breakfasts, I'm hoping to see more Auxiliary members that haven't been into the Post lately. Please be sure to read the Canteen manager's article with all the upcoming events & dates.

During our January meeting, we voted not to have a general meeting in February, so our next meeting date is March 11th at 6PM.

Thank you,

Dawn Ragnar

BUNCO NIGHT
FEBRUARY 25
GAME (\$5) STARTS 6:00PM SHARP!
BRING A FRIEND (OR 3)
AND JOIN US ON
February 25TH!

**I WANT YOU FOR THE
SATURDAY MORNING
WORK PARTY**
Each Saturday at 8:00 AM at the Post
For more info, contact
Tim Ragnar at timragnar@gmail.com

PLEASE JOIN US FOR OUR 4TH ANNUAL

CHILI II COOK-OFF & SUPERBOWL PARTY!

{BRING A FRIEND OR TWO! }

Our contestants will be competing to see who has the best chili in town & we need you to be the judge!

Feb, 9 2025

\$15 gets you sample bowls of ALL the enteries!
(while supplies last)

Canteen opens at 3pm * chili served at 3:30pm
WINNER ANNOUNCED AT HALFTIME

SUPERBOWL SPECIAL \$6 BUCKETS

4 beers for \$6!
Select cans of beer
(while supplies last)

FROM THE CANTEN MANAGER:

As indicated last month, there's been some pretty big changes that are being implemented February 1st. First off is we're bringing meals back! Starting in February, we will be BACK to offering dinners every Friday with set meals each week – meaning, the 1st Friday of the month will be a fried chicken basket; the 2nd Friday, burgers; 3rd Friday, spaghetti and 4th Friday, a fish fry. Each week, these will be the meals served (for details, see page 6). We are also adding once a month Sunday breakfasts. Our February breakfast is on Sunday, February 23rd. Please see page 7 for more information.

The second change is OUR HOURS OF OPERATION ON FRIDAYS will be changing! We will be opening at 4:30PM on Friday's effective February 7th.

With all these changes, don't forget about our Super Bowl party & chili cook-off. ALL our competitor positions have been filled! We will have 15 different chilies for everyone to taste and vote on. The Auxiliary will also be providing other snacks and desserts for people that purchase tickets at the door. Please bring some friends, enjoy great chili, the game and fun! Cost is \$15 per person at the door (no advance tickets).

We will also be welcoming BUNCO back on a quarterly basis. The next bunco night will be Tuesday, February 25th see page 2 with details.

Last but not least, our third BIG change is our position of canteen manager. Effective March 1st, Vern DuMolt will be assuming most of the canteen manager's responsibilities. I will remain the point of contact to rent the hall and the event coordinator (as well as my Auxiliary President position). Please be sure to congratulate Vern when you see him.

It's been an honor and a privilege to serve our Post as canteen manager and it is something that I will miss. I want to thank all of the members and volunteers for your support over the past few years.

Dawn Ragnar

Mark Your Calendar With These Events

Feb 9 – Super Bowl Party & Chili Cook-off - see page 3 with details

Feb 23 – Sunday Breakfast – see page 7 with details.

Feb 25 – BUNCO - see page 2 with details

Mar 4 – Fat Tuesday Celebration see page 7 with details

Mar 8 – Steak Night & Trivia see page 8 with details

Save These Dates – Details Coming Soon

Mar 14 – St. Paddy's Day Bash!

Mar 23 – Sunday Breakfast

Apr 20 – Easter Brunch *This year we will have an Easter egg hunt as well*

Footprints in the Sand & Snow

Most of you are familiar with the poem "Footprints in the Sand"
(Author: Unknown))

One night I dreamed a dream.

As I was walking along the beach with my Lord.

Across the dark sky flashed scenes from my life.

For each scene, I noticed two sets of footprints in the sand,

One belonging to me and one to my Lord.

After the last scene of my life flashed before me,

I looked back at the footprints in the sand.

I noticed that at many times along the path of my life,

especially at the very lowest and saddest times,

there was only one set of footprints.

This really troubled me, so I asked the Lord about it.

"Lord, you said once I decided to follow you,

You'd walk with me all the way.

But I noticed that during the saddest and most troublesome times of my life,

there was only one set of footprints.

I don't understand why, when I needed You the most, You would leave me."

He whispered, "My precious child, I love you and will never leave you

Never, ever, during your trials and testings.

When you saw only one set of footprints,

It was then that I carried you."

"Footprints in the Sand" is a Christian metaphor for having faith in God even when the journey is tough. It is also a popular figurative religious poem. The poem describes a person who sees two pairs of footprints in the sand, one of which belonged to God and another to another who walks with God. At a point of time along the journey, the two pairs of footprints diminish to one set off footprints. In the end, God carried the pilgrim.

I am not a poet; however, I would like to share a short story about the once-in-a-lifetime winter storm and footprints in the sand and snow in southern Mississippi. Our January 2025 family trip to Mississippi Gulf Coast is something to remember forever. We enjoyed seeing family members for the first time in thirteen years. Circumstances beyond our control, our seven-day visit turned into ten days. We were stranded due to an unexpected and unprecedented Winter Storm Enzo that shut down the airports in Gulfport, MS and Houston, TX.

We observed via the Weather Channel and eye witness outside our hotel a once-in-a-generation historic snowfall during the snowstorm in Gulfport, MS and other Southern States on January 20-22, 2025. It was fascinating to watch inside the Residence Inn Marriott Hotel the accumulation of snow that started early morning until evening on January 21, 2025. Reports from various sources indicated that on January 21, 2025, Gulfport, MS experienced a historic snowstorm. "The snowfall in Gulfport, MS was significant, with reports indicating that the area received around 7.5 inches of snow. This event shattered longstanding snowfall records across the region and transformed the northern Gulf Coast into a winter wonderland."

Our scheduled trip from Gulfport, MS to San Diego, CA was cancelled twice due to the Winter Storm Enzo. The Gulfport-Biloxi International Airport was completely shut down. We stayed indoor all day on Tuesday January 21, except for a few minutes I managed to capture the snowfalls around our hotel. The last time I was in Gulfport was nearly twenty years ago during the aftermath of Super Hurricane Katrina. The Mississippi Gulf Coast was completely destroyed. The scene of devastation along Highway 90 was mind-boggling.

Here are three short lessons I learned about the storm, snow and the sand.

First, expect a storm and suffering in your life's journey. When Jesus sent His disciples He warned them:

"Look, I am sending you out as sheep among wolves. So be as shrewd as snakes and harmless as doves. 17 But beware! For you will be handed over to the courts and will be flogged with whips in the synagogues. 18 You will stand trial before governors and kings because you are my followers. But this will be your opportunity to tell the rulers and other unbelievers about me. 19 When you are arrested, don't worry about how to respond or what to say. God will give you the right words at the right time. 20 For it is not you who will be speaking—it will be the Spirit of your Father speaking through you. Matthew 10:16-23 NLT

Second, the powerful images of the snowflakes on the sand, ground, the footprints, and the sun shining on them communicate a very important message for you and me.

Capturing the brightness of the falling snow and snow on the ground is one of my favorite strategies in photography. It reminds me of the Hebrew Scripture saying,

"Come now, and let us reason together," says the Lord, "Though your sins are like scarlet,

They shall be as white as snow; Though they are red like crimson, They shall be as wool. Isaiah 1:18 NKJV.

The Bible verse speaks of God's invitation to come and reason together, offering forgiveness and cleansing from sin. The imagery of sins being as scarlet and becoming white as snow symbolizes the transformative power of God's grace and mercy.

"Not only feel sorrow for the sin committed, but break off the practice. We must be doing, not stand idle. We must be doing the good the Lord our God requires... blessed be God, there is a Fountain opened, in which sinners of every age and rank may be cleansed. Though our sins have been as scarlet and crimson, a deep dye, a double dye, first in the wool of original corruption, and afterwards in the many threads of actual transgression; though we have often dipped into sin, by many backslidings; yet pardoning mercy will take out the stain, Psalm 51:7. They should have all the happiness and comfort they could desire. Life and death, good and evil, are set before us. O Lord, incline all of us to live to thy glory." Source: Matthew Henry Commentary.

The beautiful snow is here today, but someday it will be gone. It will ultimately melt away, evaporate, or sip thru the ground. The footprints in the sand and snow will soon disappear during hightide. The snow will melt away during the higher temperature. You are enjoying your life now (and others maybe suffering), nevertheless, we will all die and disappear forever.

Life is short. The psalmist declares, "The years of our life are seventy, or even by reason of strength eighty; yet their span is but toil and trouble; they are soon gone, and we fly away. Who considers the power of your anger, and your wrath according to the fear of you? So teach us to number our days that we may get a heart of wisdom. Return, O Lord! How long? Have pity on your servants! Satisfy us in the morning with your steadfast love, that we may rejoice and be glad all our days." Psalm 90:10-14 ESV

"O Lord, make me know my end and what is the measure of my days; let me know how fleeting I am! Behold, you have made my days a few handbreadths, and my lifetime is as nothing before you. Surely all mankind stands as a mere breath! Selah. Psalm 39:4-5 ESV

The Apostle James recorded, Come now, you who say, "Today or tomorrow we will go into such and such a town and spend a year there and trade and make a profit"— yet you do not know what tomorrow will bring. What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little time and then vanishes. Instead you ought to say, "If the Lord wills, we will live and do this or that." As it is, you boast in your arrogance. All such boasting is evil. So whoever knows the right thing to do and fails to do it, for him it is sin. James 4:13-17 ESV.

Third, ask yourself, "What should I do now while I am here on earth?"

1. Start the Day Right by asking God for help or forgiveness of your sins.
2. Always Believe in God (Jesus) in your heart.
3. Extend a helping hand to others in need.
4. Read your Bible and Pray every day this year 2025.
5. Always Remember...God is GOOD ALL THE TIME.

Please don't waste your life and time. Do something productive and positive. Help your struggling family and neighbors. Forgive those who wronged you. Love those who hate you. Always promote peace in your community.

Someday, sooner or later your footprints in the sand and/or snow will disappear. Whatever you have, small or great, you will leave everything behind. Hopefully, the impactful legacy you leave behind will remain for a long, long time. Regrettably, that too will fade away. Only what you have done in the name of God will last forever. As for now, keep sharing the Good News, do a good turn daily by helping a struggling soul, always keep your eyes on Jesus Christ, and never ever forget that God will never, never forsake nor leave you.

Love You,

Chaplain Don Biadog, Jr.

Snowstorm photos captured on January 21, 2025, Gulfport, MS



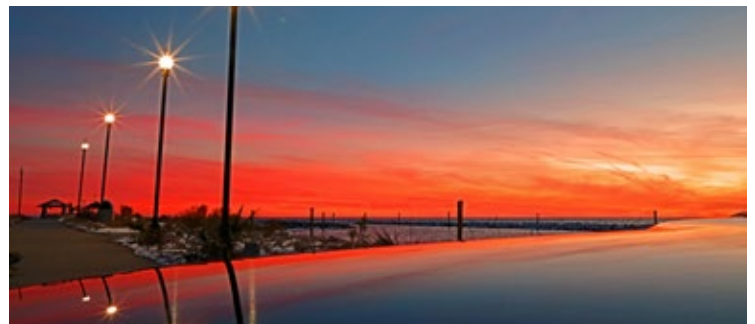
The historic blinding snow storm shut down the Gulfport-Biloxi International Airport.



The Residence Inn Marriott Hotel staff had to stay overnight during the snow storm.



This was a very unique capture of the snow, sand, and salt-water of the gulf at sunset.



A beautiful reflection of sunset after the winter storm.



This powerful image of the snowflakes on the sand, ground, the footprints, and the sun shining on them communicates a very important message for you and me.

FRIDAY NIGHTS

VFW POST 7907

1ST FRIDAY

Fried Chicken dinner
1 breast OR 1 thigh & leg
coleslaw
potato salad
dessert
\$12

2ND FRIDAY

Burgers
fries
coleslaw
dessert
\$12

3RD FRIDAY

Spaghetti
salad
garlic bread
dessert
\$12

4TH FRIDAY

Fried Cod
fries
coleslaw
dessert
\$15

**DINNER SERVED
6PM - 7:30PM**

VFW 125 Years Strong



Commander & Edward Wakefield a representative for Senator Joel Anderson presenting a proclamation that September 29th is officially VFW LT Fred Kent Day.

**Sunday
BREAKFAST**

February 23 | 9am - 11am

2 EGGS (made to order)
HASHBROWNS
BILL'S BISCUITS & GRAVY
SAUSAGE OR BACON

BREAKFAST \$12

VFW Post 7907, 12342 Old Pomerado Rd., Poway

MARCH 4 - FAT TUESDAY

**MARDI
GRAS**

COME ONE, COME ALL

Jambayla dinner
\$10 per person
includes dessert

Dinner 5:30pm - 7pm
(or while supply lasts)

RSVP by emailing
vfw7907events@gmail.com



TRIVIA NIGHT

Think you're the ultimate trivia champion? Prove it at our Trivia Night showdown! Bring your A-game and compete for glory!

SATURDAY, MARCH 8



**STEAK DINNER
SERVED 5:30 PM
TRIVIA STARTS 6PM**

\$20 PER PERSON INCLUDES STEAK & TRIVIA



VFW POST 7907, 12342 OLD POMERADO RD, POWAY



Around the Post

"And The Winners Are..."



Patriots Pen 1st Place Winner:
Claire Cea, Lakeside



Voice of Democracy 1st Place Winner:
Anoushka Majumder



VFW Post 7907 Teacher of the Year:
Mrs. Katie Thompson, Poway Unified School District

Congrats!

Around the Post

First Responders Lunch - Jan 25, 2025



Thank you to all the volunteers who made our First Responders lunch a success.



No party is complete without a cake.



We had a good turn out to honor our First Responders



Firefighter of the Year: Captain Bill Waugaman, San Diego Fire Rescue



Vietnam Veterans Association Lunch - Jan 18, 2025



He's very excited to eat the fabulous lunch served by Karen & Patti at the VVA lunch.



Wednesday Lunch Crew



Wednesday Lunch Crew preparing a fabulous meatloaf lunch on Jan 29, 2025.

Thank You to Our Sponsors and Volunteers

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DQ

Franchisee: Craig Engler
Veteran Owned


Locations

5950 Santo Road, San Diego, CA 92124
70 Town Center Parkway, Santee, CA 92071
1031 S. Santa Fe Avenue, Vista, CA 92084

FEBRUARY 2025



Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

<p>Get Your Birthday Drink! <i>Are you a Post or Auxiliary Life Member and is your birthday this month, then have a drink on us!</i></p> 							<p>1 3:00 PM - 9:00 PM 8:00AM Saturday Work Party 9:00AM-7:00PM Hall Rented</p>
2 Canteen Closed	3 3:00 PM - 9:30 PM	4 3:00 PM - 8:00 PM	5 11:00 AM - 6:00 PM 11:30AM Pork roast, mashed potatoes & veggies Donation: 12.00	6 3:00 PM - 6:00 PM	7 4:30 PM - 9:00 PM 6:00PM Fried chicken (1 breast OR 1 thigh & leg), coleslaw, potato salad & dessert Donation: 12.00	8 3:00 PM - 9:00 PM 8:00AM Saturday Work Party	
9 2:30 PM - 7:30 PM 3:00 - 7:00PM Super Bowl Party & Chili Cook-off	10 3:00 PM - 9:30 PM	11 3:00 PM - 8:00 PM 6:00PM NO Auxiliary General Meeting	12 11:00 AM - 6:00 PM 11:30AM Enchilada casserole, rice & beans Donation: 12.00	13 3:00 PM - 6:00 PM	14 4:30 PM - 9:00 PM 6:00PM Burger, fries, coleslaw & dessert Donation: 12.00	15 3:00 PM - 9:00 PM 8:00AM Saturday Work Party	
16 Canteen Closed	17 3:00 PM - 9:30 PM 6:00PM VFW Post Officers / House Committee Chair Meeting	18 3:00 PM - 8:00 PM	19 11:00 AM - 6:00 PM 11:30AM Smothered chicken, mashed potatoes & veggies Donation: 12.00	20 3:00 PM - 6:00 PM 6:00 PM VFW 7907 Post Meeting Happy Hour 7:00 PM VFW 7907 Post Meeting	21 4:30 PM - 9:00 PM 6:00PM Spaghetti, salad, garlic bread & dessert Donation: 12.00	22 3:00 PM - 9:00 PM 8:00AM Saturday Work Party	
23 8:30 AM - 12:00 PM 9:00 - 11:00AM Breakfast 2 eggs (made to order), hash browns, Bill's biscuits & gravy, bacon or sausage Donation: 12.00	24 3:00 PM - 9:30 PM	25 3:00 PM - 8:00 PM 6:00PM BUNCO!	26 11:00 AM - 6:00 PM 11:30AM Pepper steak, noodles & veggies Donation: 12.00	27 3:00 PM - 6:00 PM	28 4:30 PM - 9:00 PM 6:00PM Deep fried cod, fries, coleslaw & dessert Donation: 15.00		

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.