



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

6:00 PM | Tuesday - April 9

VFW Post Officer Meeting

6:00 PM | Monday - April 15

House Committee Chair Meeting

6:00 PM | Thursday - April 18

VFW 7907 Post Meeting

7:00 PM | Thursday - April 18

Event Planning Meeting

6:00 PM | Wednesday - April 24

House Chairman Clean Up/Working Party

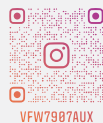
8:00 AM | Saturday Mornings



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:

Comrades, Auxiliary, Friends, and Family,

This year seems to be passing by so quickly! I want to extend my gratitude to everyone who is contributing to and participating in the various activities organized by our VFW. The collective effort of so many individuals truly make our post an outstanding place to be.

As my term as Commander draws to a close, I urge each of you to reflect on the reasons why you joined this organization. Although I've been a Life Member since 2018, the motivations behind my joining remain vivid. As a Marine, it's often challenging for non-military individuals to comprehend our perspective. I sought a community where I could forge genuine friendships and bonds with others who, like many of us, perceive the world through a slightly different lens. Our community holds immense significance—from the Korean War veterans to those who served in Vietnam, the Gulf War, Iraq, Afghanistan, and every conflict in between.

Moreover, I want to emphasize the importance of kindness towards one another. We never truly grasp the intricacies of someone else's life until it's too late. If you're aware of a fellow service member, family member, or friend who could benefit from a helping hand, a listening ear, or simply a cup of coffee, please don't hesitate to reach out to myself or one of my officers.

Lastly, I need to address some essential matters. Weapons are strictly prohibited within the premises of our post, without exception. Let's refrain from provoking one another, and under no circumstances should anyone lay hands on another without consent. It's disheartening that I find it necessary to reiterate these principles to a group that inherently understands their significance.

Thank you for your continued dedication to our community. I am deeply honored by each of your contributions to this post. Remember, I am here to support each and every one of us, so please don't hesitate to reach out if you need assistance or simply someone to talk to.

Semper Fidelis,

John Carson

858-335-7040 | John.R.Carson@gmail.com

2023-2024 Officers



Post Commander – John Carson
Sr. Vice Commander – Paul Swanson
Jr. Vice Commander – Jason Widmer
Quartermaster – Clint Dawson
Chaplain – Don Biadog, Jr.
Surgeon – Fred DiCarlo
Service Officer – Ed Ozmun
Adjutant – Deanna Smith
Judge Advocate – Bill Morrison
Guard – Adison Fernandez
1st Year Trustee – Vern DuMolt
2nd Year Trustee – Mark Burdette
3rd Year Trustee – Oscar Rocha
Officer of the Day – Pat Anamosa
House Committee Chairman – Tim Ragnar
Canteen Manager – Dawn Ragnar
Maintenance Manager – Jason Widmer
Membership Chair – Aaron Spaulding

Auxiliary Officers



President – Deborah Sellers
Sr. Vice President – Suzanne Kohlbrecher
Jr. Vice President – Evelyn Hummel
Secretary – Christina Swanson
Treasurer – Dawn Ragnar
Chaplain – Christy Schiltz
Conductress – Karen Kimble
Guard – Linda Miller
1st Year Trustee – Patti Caniglia
2nd Year Trustee – Shari Dunbar
3rd Year Trustee – Connie Houk



FROM THE AUXILIARY PRESIDENT:

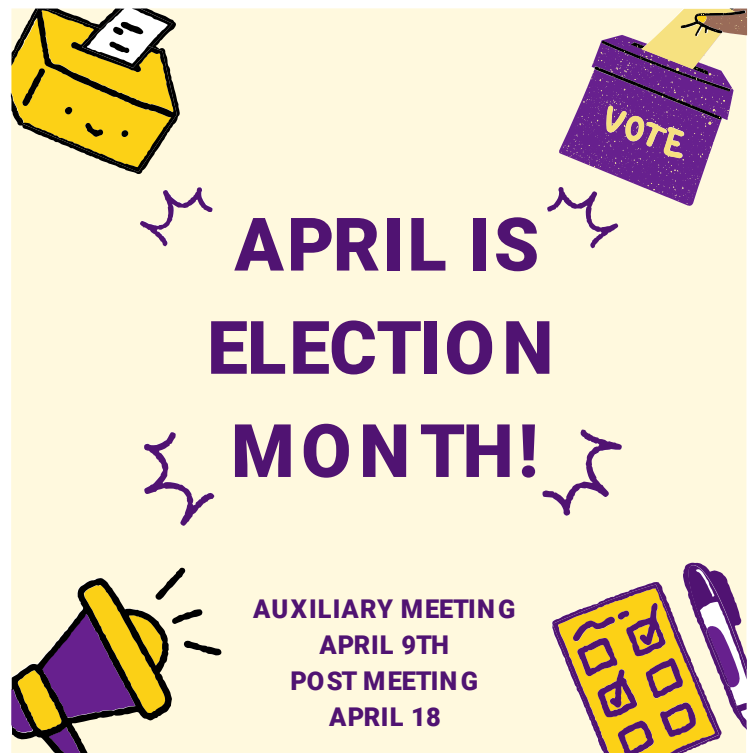
In our April newsletter we have highlighted are fun springtime events. A big thank you to all of you who helped with the craft fair. Special thanks to Paul, Christina, Patti, & Suzanne for managing the food and bake sale. Thanks to Dawn for making it happen! Also to everyone of you who contributed and came despite the weather.

Auxiliary officer elections will be held at our meeting April 9th. Please attend and cast your nominations.

We are still in need of more volunteers in the kitchen for the Cornhole tournament. Also we will be needing many hands for wrapping the silent auction baskets for Casino Night.

Thank you for your continued support. Everything you do makes our post awesome.

Deborah Sellers



A MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE COMMITTEE CHAIR

We are almost completely finished with updating the canteen. I want to give a special thank you to friend of the Post, Mike Cobb. He spent many, many hours away from his family to help build the “hellfire bar island” and it looks amazing because of his awesome skills. Bravo Zulu Mike!

All we have left to do is install a new sink and dishwasher behind the bar and hang up some very important memorabilia.

Again, a huge thank you to everyone who has contributed and helped in remodeling the canteen over the past 14 months.

Of course, if you ever have a free hour or so on Saturday mornings, you’re always welcome to help with clean up. We start at 08:00.

Thank you,

Tim Ragnar



FROM THE CANTEEN MANAGER:

March was CR@zY and April is going to be even MORE FUN! We're kicking off the 1st Annual Cornhole Tournament Saturday the 13th. We will have a "corny" menu for food & some drink specials. The canteen opens at 11:30AM with lunch being available starting at 12PM and the tournament kicking off at 1PM. REMEMBER...this event is to build Buddy Poppy awareness and all of the proceeds will be going to the Post and Auxiliary relief funds! Volunteers are still needed in the kitchen and of course we're hoping to get a TON of players! If you'd like to participate in ANY capacity, please email, vfw7907events@gmail.com.

On April 27th, we are excited to have CASINO NIGHT! The fun starts with cocktails and the at 6PM and gambling at 7PM. Entry price is only \$40 per person and includes \$500 in chips & food. We will have a silent auction and of course, you'll cash in your chips to get a chance at some AMAZING raffle prizes. Remember, the Post depends on the funds from this event so PLEASE consider donating a basket or raffle item. If you are interested in contributing in anyway, PLEASE email, vfw7907events@gmail.com.

Looking ahead to May and our 2nd Buddy Poppy event of the year, we will be doing a Flag A Yard Fundraiser! A combination of American flags and poppy's will be planted in a friend's yard (for a donation fee of course) on May 26th for Memorial Day May 27th. Prices and details can be found on page 8.

Mark Your Calendar With These Events

- April 13 – Cornhole Tournament (see page 6 with details)
- April 27 – Casino night (see page 3 with details)
- May 18 – Flag A Yard order deadline (see page 8 with details)
- May 27 – Memorial Day
- June 1 – Volunteer Appreciation Day (see page 9 with details)

Drink Specials & News

We now have Newcastle Brown Ale!

April 13 Drink Specials:

- West Coast IPA \$4
- Pilsner Urquell \$4
- Jack Daniels (shot) \$4

April 27 Drink Specials:

- Royal Flush (crown, peach schnapps & cranberry) \$5
- Black Jack (Espresso martini) \$5
- Bavik Super Pils - \$3

Footprints in the Sand and Snow



(Top two photos) Photos of footprints in the Sand was taken on 14 May 2020 on board Naval Air Station North Island, Coronado, CA. It's the location where "Top Gun: Maverick" was filmed.



I walked on sandy area under the Nimitz Bridge, Liberty Station, on February 28, 2024, during low tide.

Following our Sunday Service on February 11, 2024, I saw something very nice and rare view. It was a picture-perfect of sand and shore of San Diego / Point Loma area and the snowcapped mountain of San Geronimo, nearly 100 miles away.

"Footprints in the Sand"

I walked on a sandy area under the Nimitz Bridge, Liberty Station, on February 28, 2024, during low tide. In the next few hours, high tide would have erased my footprints.

Likewise, in our daily walk, we leave behind some positive "footprints" impacting people we love or people we touched in our journey. Someday, our footprints on earth will be gone when our LORD calls us home.

I challenge you today:

- (1) **Don't waste your life!**
- (2) **Make a difference to someone today!**
- (3) **Always Have an attitude of gratitude!**
- (4) **Offer help to someone today!**
- (5) **Share the Love of God!**

"Footprints in the Snow"

By the time of writing (February 29, 2024), northern California is expecting up to ten feet of snow during the snowstorms. Other

places in the northwest are expecting blizzard conditions too.

Here are some lessons I learned about my personal experience during the winter snow season while serving our God and Country in my duty stations in 2007-2010 in Naval Station Newport, Rhode Island, and Naval Base Kitsap, in 2010-2013 in Silverdale, WA.

First, capturing the brightness of the falling snow and snow on the ground is one of my favorite strategies in photography. There were times that the snow could be very bright, so I needed to wear sunglasses. The lightness of the snow was pure white and blinding. 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

Only God can perform a miracle of forgiveness if we answer His invitation and come to Him with a contrite heart asking Him for forgiveness. Only God can turn the darkest stain in our lives to the whitest living like the refreshing snowfall. Only God can turn our dirtiest deeds to cleanest conscience like turning the red stained wool to brightest white color.

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

The beautiful snow is here today, but someday it will be gone. It will ultimately melt away, evaporate, or slip through the ground. You may be enjoying life now (or suffering), nevertheless, we will all die sooner or later and disappear forever. Someone said that we can not avoid death and taxes. Well, sometimes taxpayers will find a way to avoid taxes, however, we will never avoid the end of life's journey on earth.

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

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

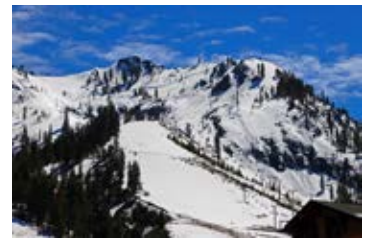
Don Biadog, Jr.



Footprints in the snow captured on 11 May 2022, Lake Tahoe, CA.



Footprints in the snow with sun shining through the snow on 1 January 2021, Laguna Mountain, CA



Late snowfall 12 May 2022 at the historic Squaw Valley, west of Lake Tahoe, CA. It was a very bright and blinding day during our brief visit.



Following our Sunday Service on February 11, 2024, I saw something very nice and rare view. It was a picture-perfect of sand and shore of San Diego / Point Loma area and the snowcapped mountain of San Geronimo, nearly 100 miles away.



Photo captured on February 11, 2024, from the shore of San Diego / Point Loma area – A snowcapped peak, one of mountains east of San Diego, CA.

Military Training Comes in Handy



You can never plan for a workday to go sideways, and that was certainly the case for RMS Senior Test Coordinator Deanna Smith on a late January day this year in the middle of the Pacific Ocean.

It was day three of Aegis combat systems modernization sea trials an RMS team was supporting on board the USS Pinckney (DDG 91). "I was on the mess deck with a couple teammates, late morning, when there was a medical emergency called over the 1MC, the ship's loudspeaker. Shortly after the announcement, the ship's captain came over the 1MC and asked if anyone had any experience with flight deck operations."

A Navy sailor was injured, and an aircraft carrier was in the area and was available to send a Sikorsky SH-60 helicopter to do a medical evacuation (medevac). The USS Pinckney crew needed assistance out on the flight deck because the ship was not certified for flight operations and there was minimal crew training on supporting a medevac.

Deanna had such training being a six-year Navy veteran who served as an SH-60F/H airendale – a sailor who flies in aircraft and works on flight decks – and as an aviation warfare operator. "Performing medevacs was a regular part of aviation warfare duty, so I had a great deal of experience in that area and was very comfortable assisting on the ship." Her Navy duty included a tour in Iraq as a door gunner which provided even more medevac know-how.



(L to r) Deanna in Alaska on her first deployment (USS John C Stennis) and Deanna with The Black Knights in Iraq, her second deployment (USS Ronald Reagan).

"I immediately went on the flight deck and helped them do the foreign objects detection (FOD) walk-down to make sure the area was clear. That proved to be a bit tricky because the crew wasn't quite sure which direction the helicopter would be coming from."

Deanna provided some flight deck safety training on the flight deck first before entering the hangar bay.

She then led the team on a walk-through of the helicopter basket process: how it is deployed, how to place the patient in the basket, and tying the individual down.

"When the helicopter arrived, two of the helicopter crew members hoisted themselves down on the deck, so they didn't have to send the basket up which would have been very dangerous." The injured sailor was brought aboard the helicopter and whisked to the carrier for treatment.

In all, Deanna spent nearly two hours leading the effort.

"Fortunately, the sailor had a relatively minor injury, and she was back on land the next day, but it was important to do everything right. I'd do that for anybody. The Pinckney crew members were great. They listened and everybody stayed calm."

Her Lockheed Martin RMS teammates viewed all of the day's proceedings on monitors from the cameras stationed on the flight deck. "They kidded me afterwards, 'We didn't know you were going to go out there and take over.'"

Just a couple days later, Deanna's manager, Teré Patterson, received an email:

Wanted to reach out and express our deepest gratitude for the help that Deanna Smith brought to the Pinckney team during a recent medevac event during Combat System Sea Trials #1. We had a sailor who required to be medevac'd off the ship and Deanna provided some relevant and timely training to my team regarding [search and rescue] efforts.

It is great to see some of that goodness alive and well as former Navy sailors transition to the other side and still bring it when it's needed.

*CDR Dustin Smith, Commanding Officer
USS Pinckney*

LOCKHEED MARTIN 

Article reprinted with permission from Deanna Smith and Lockheed Martin.





CORNHOLE TOURNAMENT APRIL 13TH

1 PM @ VFW POST 1907

12342 OLD POMERADO RD, POWAY

Canteen opens 11:30 | Lunch for purchase 12pm - 3pm

2 PERSON TEAMS

SCAN TO REGISTER

REGISTRATION FEE:

\$20 PER PERSON

ENTRY DEADLINE:

12PM APRIL 13TH

CASH PRIZES!

1ST PLACE \$300

2ND PLACE \$200

3RD PLACE \$100



SPONSORS



**All proceeds go
to support
Post & Auxiliary
relief funds**



BURGER MENU

it's burger o'clock



FRIDAY NIGHTS

CLASSIC BURGER

\$10

(INCLUDES VEGGIE BURGER)

EVERY FRIDAY



**BACON
CHEESEBURGER**

\$12

EVERY FRIDAY

**MUSHROOM &
SWISS BURGER**

\$12

SUB BURGER FOR
GRILLED CHICKEN

APRIL 5TH



BBQ BURGER

\$12

SUB BURGER FOR
GRILLED CHICKEN

APRIL 19TH

**BACON & BLU
BURGER**

\$12

SUB BURGER FOR
GRILLED CHICKEN

APRIL 12TH



**PASTRAMI
BURGER**

\$12

SUB BURGER FOR
GRILLED CHICKEN

APRIL 26TH



INCLUDES 2 SIDES
& DESSERT





VFW POST 7907
VFW AUXILIARY 7907

Flag A Yard FUNDRAISER

all proceeds go to



Veterans & family Relief fund



Let us decorate a friends front yard with flags & poppy's!

The recipient can choose to pay to move them
or do nothing and have the flags sit for 1 week.

Flags & Poppy's to be placed on May 26, 2024

10 Flags

\$20

20 Flags

\$30

30 Flags

\$40

Buy your flag "insurance" now!

For a donation fee of \$20, you cannot be flagged

Contact Dawn at 858-231-1222 to place your order
orders MUST be placed by May 18



Special Karaoke Night

**1ST AND 2ND
FRIDAY OF THE MONTH**

***SPECIAL
KARAOKE NIGHT
WITH JASON ON
APRIL 12TH***

Time :
Dinner served 6pm - 7pm
Karaoke 7pm - 9pm

Dates:
April 5 with Danielle
April 12 with Jason

VFW Post 7907, 12342 Old Pomerado Rd, Poway



3RD TUESDAY OF THE MONTH

BUNCO NIGHT

EVERY MONTH
3RD TUESDAY OF THE MONTH

APRIL 16TH

GAME (\$5) STARTS 6:30PM SHARP!

BRING A FRIEND (OR 3)
AND JOIN US ON
APRIL 16TH!



**THANK YOU
FOR ALL YOU DO!**

**Please join us for VFW Post 7907
annual Volunteer Appreciation Day**

JUNE 1st

12pm - 4pm

**canteen opens at
11:30**

spouses welcome!

**We will have food, prizes &
drinks on us!**

Around the Post

SpaceX Satellite Launch - March 18, 2024



SpaceX Satellite launch from Vandenberg SFB as seen from the Post.



Post Members At Large



March 4, 2024 - Ed Ozmun & Pat Anamosa attend Eternal Honor for Joseph Fagan at Miramar National Cemetery.

Craft Fair - March 3, 2024



Thanks to all who participated in this year's craft fair, both vendors and customers. We had something for everyone. We look forward to another successful craft fair next year.



Chaps is always honored to serve our veterans & their families on board MNC, where he leads an *Eternal Honor Service* on average of at least once a week. The photo above & the two below were captured during the Eternal Honor service for Dennis C. Klapwyk, USN.



Friday Night Dinner & Live Music - March 22, 2024



Bill Kimble & Mike Cobb Friday night fun.



Country Crossovers Band rocked the house.



***We have a good time at the Post.
Join us in supporting veterans and their families.***

Thank You to Our Sponsors and Volunteers

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Veteran Owned

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70 Town Center Parkway, Santee, CA 92071
1031 S. Santa Fe Avenue, Vista, CA 92084



APRIL 2024



Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat



Drink Specials*:

April 13 Drink Specials: West Coast IPA \$4; Pilsner Urquell \$4; Jack Daniels (shot) \$4

April 27 Drink Specials: Royal Flush (crown, peach schnapps & cranberry) \$5; Black Jack (Espresso martini) \$5; Bavik Super Pils - \$3

* Available when the Post is open

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.

	1 3:00 PM - 6:00 PM	2 3:00 PM - 8:00 PM	3 11:00 AM - 6:00 PM	4 3:00 PM - 6:00 PM	5 3:00 PM - 9:00 PM	6 3:00 PM - 6:00 PM
			11:30AM Pasta, meatballs w/marinara, garlic knots, salad Donation: 10.00 6:00PM Bicycle Club Meeting		6:00PM-8:00PM Burger or Mushroom & Swiss burger with choice of 2 sides Donation: 10.00 6:00PM-9:00AM Open Mic Karaoke	8:00AM Saturday Work Party
7 Canteen Closed	8 3:00 PM - 6:00 PM	9 3:00 PM - 8:00 PM	10 11:00 AM - 6:00 PM	11 3:00 PM - 6:00 PM	12 3:00 PM - 9:00 PM	13 11:30AM - 6:00 PM
		6:00PM Auxiliary General Meeting	11:30AM Chicken Stroganoff & veggies Donation: 10.00 6:00PM Bicycle Club Meeting; Poway Chamber Mtg		6:00PM Burger or Bacon & blue cheese burger with choice of 2 sides Donation: 10.00 6:00PM-9:00AM Open Mic Karaoke	8:00AM Saturday Work Party 1:00AM - 6:00PM Cornhole Tournament
14 Canteen Closed	15 3:00 PM - 6:00 PM	16 3:00 PM - 8:00 PM	17 11:00 AM - 6:00 PM	18 3:00 PM - 6:00 PM	19 3:00 PM - 9:00 PM	20 3:00 PM - 6:00 PM
Boy Scout Meeting	8:00 am Flag Retirement Ceremony 6:00PM VFW Post Officers Meeting	6:30PM BUNCO!	11:30AM Lasagna & salad Donation: 10.00 6:00PM Bicycle Club Meeting	6:00PM House Committee Chair Meeting 7:00PM VFW 7907 Post Meeting	6:00PM Burger or BBQ burger with choice of 2 sides Donation: 10.00 7:30-9:00 PM Live Music with Windjammers	8:00AM Saturday Work Party 10:00AM - 1:00PM Vietnam Veterans Association Meeting
21 Canteen Closed	22 3:00 PM - 6:00 PM	23 3:00 PM - 8:00 PM	24 11:00 AM - 6:00 PM	25 3:00 PM - 6:00 PM	26 3:00 PM - 9:00 PM	27 5:00 PM - 9:00 PM
Boy Scout Meeting			11:30AM Baked chicken, mashed potatoes, gravy & beans Donation: 10.00 6:00PM Event Planning & Bicycle Club Meetings		6:00 PM Burger or Pastrami burger with choice of 2 sides Donation: 10.00 7:00PM-9:00PM Live Music with Country Crossovers	8:00AM Saturday Work Party 6:00PM - 10:00PM Casino Night
28 Canteen Closed	29 3:00 PM - 6:00 PM	30 3:00 PM - 8:00 PM	Get Your Birthday Drink! Are you a Post or Auxiliary Life Member and is your birthday this month, then have a drink on us!			



★ All Gave Some. Some Gave All. ★