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Commanders Message

November 2017

Commander Bobby Jeans – Summer is over? Or is it? With this weather we are having it's a prolonged summer but never fear because we will certainly have a winter. Be careful the ice and snow will be upon us before you know it. As we are entering this holiday season I would like to remind everyone of our KVC/VFW mission statement. We are here to take care of our disabled veterans, widows and orphans. This includes volunteering and giving of your free time towards those goals. So please make it a point to come to the post and ask what needs to be done. We start this season off with a dinner sponsored for hospitalized Lyons Veterans on Thursday October 26th at the KVC. We will then go into our baskets for the needy for Thanksgiving. Directly followed by our Christmas celebrations. Much to be done so please be available to assist. Hope to see all of you at the post during this beautiful time of year. On behalf of my wife Lenore and the entire Jeans family I would like to wish all of you a great and blessed Thanksgiving and Christmas Season.

Flag Deployment Veterans' Day - Flag Deployment will kickoff our Veterans' Day Ceremonies on Saturday 11-04-2017 with a hardy breakfast at the Kenilworth Veterans' Center at 8:00am. A great New Jersey style breakfast of eggs, bacon, toast, rolls, donuts, coffee, tea, milk and all the other things that go with a New Jersey Style Breakfast will be served. Off to Graceland Cemetery at 9:00am to place over 1300 American Flags on our departed Veterans' Grave sites. Upon completion at the cemetery all are invited to return to the KVC for hot dogs and beer.

Veterans Day Memorial Services – Commander Jeans will begin the ceremonies on Saturday 11-11-2017 at 11:00am. Upon completion of the ceremonies all are invited to the KVC for refreshments.

Holiday Wishes – On behalf of the entire Executive Board of the VFW I would like to wish all of you and your families a very Happy Thanksgiving and a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. I would also like to ask all of you to take a moment of silence or prayer at your holiday tables and think of all our military men and women who have given up their holidays so that we can enjoy ours. May God bless all of them.



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Cell Phones For Soldiers - Just wanted to remind everyone that our Cell Phones for Soldiers program is still going strong. If you are disposing of your old cell phone drop by the post and drop it in our basket in the Lounge. If you can't make it to the post call Bobby Jeans and he will make arrangements to have the phone picked up. All the used cell phones that are received go to a clearing house and Verizon call cards are then issued for use of our Military men and women who are stationed overseas. I am surprised that so many people think that our Military men and women overseas can make phone calls for free. Even in the combat areas of Afghanistan this is not true. All of our service personal must pay for their phone calls. These calling cards make it possible for many of our service men and women to call home. Please support this cause.

Sick Call: Our thoughts prayers and well wishes for a speedy recovery to George Klose, Brian Hirth, Mike Vitale, Tony Lepore and Kathy Curren. Get well cards were sent from the post.

TAPS: Our condolences go out to the family of Victoria Cusick, Mother In Law to post member Fred Gorman. Victoria passed on Sunday July 30th, 2017 at age 83. Our condolences also go out to the family of Charles Hamill WWII Veteran member and past Commander of Elizabeth VFW Post 8410 who passed on Saturday October 7th, 2017. Our condolences also go out to the family of Scott Kubik who passed away at his residence on Saturday 10-14-2017.

Veterans On Line Shopping Privilege – The veterans online shopping privilege will help to recognize the contributions by all who served. Beginning this Veteran's Day November 11th, 2017, myNavyExchange.com is proud to expand our online shopping privileges to all honorably discharged veterans of the U.S. Military. This highly anticipated change in DoD policy grants online exchange shopping privileges to an estimated eighteen million additional individuals. According to DoD officials, "The online benefit will also strengthen the exchanges' online business to better serve our current patrons. Inclusion of honorably discharged veterans would conservatively double the exchanges' online presence, thereby improving the experience for all patrons through improved vendor terms, more competitive merchandise assortments, and improved efficiencies." We invite you to keep visiting our web site, or connect with us through our Navy Exchange Facebook page for further details and announcements as they become available.



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New Members: Welcome aboard to new VFW/KVC Members Robert Canon, Daniel Ries and Victor Mennella.

Scholarship Programs - Our "Voice of Democracy" audio-essay program provides high school students with the unique opportunity to express themselves in regards to a democratic and patriotic-themed recorded essay. Each year, nearly 40,000 9-12 grade students from across the country enter to win their share of \$2 million in educational scholarships and incentives awarded through the program. This years theme is "American History, Our Hope For The Future". The National 1st place winner receives a \$30,000 scholarship paid directly to the recipient's American university, college or vocational/technical school. There are also many local, District and State Scholarship Program winners.

Our "Patriot's Pen" youth essay attracts over 132,000 students in grades 6-8 to submit their essays. The national 1st place winner wins \$5,000 and an all-expense-paid trip to Washington, D.C. the 1st place winner from each state competes for national awards totaling \$54,500, with each 1st place state winner receiving a minimum of \$500 at the national level. The essay contest encourages young minds to examine America's history, along with their own experiences in modern American society, by drafting a 300-400 word essay. This years theme is "America's Gift To My Generation."

For additional information and/or applications visit your nearest VFW Post or visit www.vfw.org. Please remember to tell your grandchildren to pick up their applications at the School Council Office or the KVC in the lounge.

KVC NEWS:

KVC President Jerry Dobbins – On behalf of the KVC Executive Board and myself I would like to take this opportunity to wish all of you and your families a Happy Thanksgiving and as this begins our Christmas Season we hope that all of you and your families enjoy a very Blessed and Merry Christmas and a Happy and Healthy New Year.

Vice President Robert Vesselli - Nominations for 3 positions on the KVC Executive Board will be held at our November meeting and elections for those positions will take place at our December meeting. If anyone is interested in running for a spot on the Executive board or nominating anyone for a position please come to our November meeting on Thursday November 9th, 2017.



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Maintenance Chairman Bo Hanik – You may or may not know this summer we had an extremely aggressive schedule in and around the post. The heating system and oil tank removal have been completed. Roof drains have been repaired. Main hall bar has been completely refinished and many new items were installed. The barroom floor and hallway are completely replaced and new floor tiles installed. We had an emergency repair to the ceiling truss of the KVC building and this was a totally unexpected repair and expense. The funds for these projects were raised during the fund raiser of November of 2016. Again a great thank you to Tom and Allison Zucek and all those who volunteered for that committee. We could not have done it without you.

Thanksgiving Baskets for the needy - Ed Miller Again this year we will put together and deliver Thanksgiving Day baskets of food to our needy. A total of 40 baskets will be delivered in time for Thanksgiving this year. I am working closely with the management team from Costco for a donation of the turkeys and I am sure that the school children as usual will be gathering the other food ingredients for the baskets. You can either contact me or Kathy in the lounge for the dates and times that we will be at the KVC putting the baskets together and delivering them to those families in need.

Secretary – Bill Salzmann Updating the membership we now have 301 VFW members and 60 KVC members. Remember if you are just discharging from military service you must register with the VA within 5 years of your discharge to protect your eligibility for future claims with the VA. It's easy just go online to www.va.org and follow the prompts to register with the VA. If you have any problems contact me and we will get it done.

Kenilworth Veterans Web Page - Don't forget to visit our web and sign our guest book. Check out our post calendar for upcoming events and view our photo album. Our web page URL is www.kenilworthveterans.com and is updated daily.

Kenilworth Veterans Facebook Page – Come and visit us on our face book page you can join us by entering this address www.facebook.com/kenilworthveterans click the like button and become part of our face book community.

E-mail Addresses – If you have access to a computer and have an E-mail address send it to me by e-mailing me at kvc.secretary@gmail.com I send out notices and alerts as they occur during the month between meetings and newsletters. I don't send jokes and I don't use your addresses for ads. It's just another way of me keeping all of you advised on things pertaining to the post or the VFW and most importantly the changes in veteran's benefits



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Holiday Thoughts - Ed Miller The Holiday Season has arrived and with it comes the beginning of one of the Holist times of the year. Christmas! Christmas is a very busy time for everyone. People scurrying about buying gifts for loved ones and parties and dinners are being planned, but let's not forget the true meaning for this holiday. It is the Birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. He was born to save the world. Gift giving and parties are secondary to this fact. On behalf of the officers and members of the Kenilworth VFW and the Kenilworth Veteran's Center Post #2230, I would like to extend Season's Greetings to everyone as we move into the Holidays. May your homes be blessed with joy of the Holiday Season, good times, good health and your life be filled with peace and happiness throughout the New Year. Last but not least, let us extend a special thanks and best wishes to our service men and women presently serving in Afghanistan. Ask God to watch over them and protect them from those who wish us harm. Let us remember them in our prayers and pray for a speedy reuniting with their families and loved ones. May God bless you all.

December KVC/VFW Meeting - Our December meeting which will be held on Thursday December 14th, 2017 starting as usual with an abbreviated meeting at 7:00pm will also be our Post Christmas Party. The only order of business will be nominations and election of officers which should not take long at all. All members are invited to attend and they are urged to bring their spouses, other family members and friends.

KVC Lounge Christmas Party-Gerald Grasso - Commander Jeans and President Dobbins will, again this year, host our KVC Lounge Christmas Party. Lots of food and drink on Monday December 18, 2017 from 4:00pm to 8:00PM bring a guest if you please. There are many events that will be scheduled starting with Thanksgiving and running through the first of the year as usual we will need a lot of volunteers around the post so if you are available let me know. I'm sure I can find something for you do help us.

VVA 688 Holiday Party Rick Harrison- Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 688 will be hosting their annual Christmas Parrrty at the Kenilworth Veteran's Center on Saturday December 9th, 2017 from 7:00pm to 11:00pm. Donation of \$10.00 per person includes Buffet, Refreshments (cash bar) and plenty of Holiday music. Please bring an unwrapped toy of \$10.00 or less in value for a child.. The presents will be donated to the USMC Toys for Tots program. If you are planning on attending notify Rick Harrison 908-241-9612 or rickvva688@aol.com no later than December 2nd so that he can plan on the amount of food that will be needed.



Christmas Trees: Boy Scout Troop 83 will be selling Christmas trees again this year starting the first weekend in December. If you purchase live Christmas trees visit our Boy Scouts at the KVC they always have great trees on sale and the prices are right.

Membership Drive- Please sign up a new member. For application forms see Commander Jeans at the post or contact via e-mail kvc.secretary@gmail.com

PTSD unit Meet and Greet Dinner Party: VVA688 and VFW 2230 Co-Hosted a Meet and Greet dinner party for the PTSD Unit from Lyons Veteran’s Hospital on October 26th, which again was a tremendous success. No-one left the KVC hungry that’s for sure.

PLEASE PRINT

Name _____ Address: _____
 City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____ Phone# _____
 E-mail: _____ Branch of Service: _____ Status: _____
 Date of Birth: _____ Social Security #: _____
 Dates of overseas service: From: _____ to: _____ Conflict/war: _____

Copy of DD-214 required with this application:
