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**Page 1**

**Commanders Message**

**March 2019**

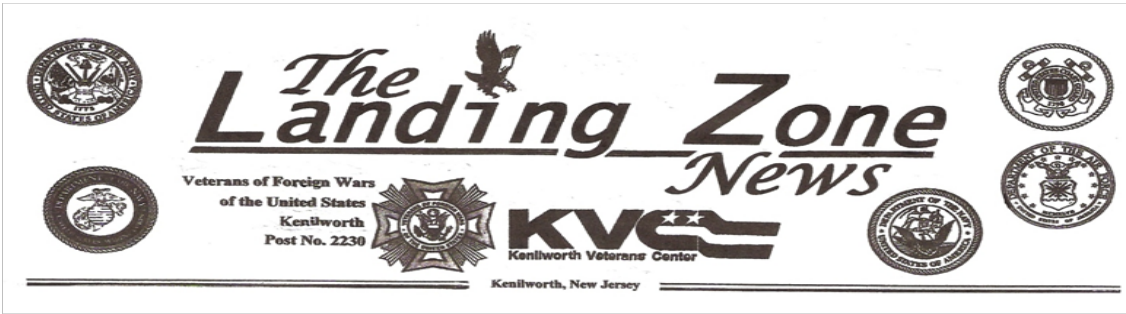
**Commander Bobby Jeans** – As we approach the St. Patrick’s Day celebrations. I need to remind members that we need volunteers to assist on parade day Saturday March 16<sup>th</sup>. I am going to need a contingent to march in the parade and several members to work in the building at the after parade celebration. Please make every attempt to be at our regular scheduled monthly KVC/VFW meeting on Thursday March 14, 2019 starting at 7:00pm. The success of this program will be determined by you. So please come out and give us a hand.

**Special Memorial Service** - As we have previously reported the passing of past VFW Member and KVC Executive Board member John Beninati’s memorial service was delayed. The family has notified me that a special memorial service will be held on Saturday March 9<sup>th</sup>, 2019 at Masterpeter Funeral Home in Roselle Park at 1:00pm. For additional information contact Commander Jeans. For all those wishing to pay their respects please muster at the funeral home at 12:30pm.

**Nominations and Election of VFW Executive Board:** Nominations for positions on the VFW Post 2230 Executive Board will be accepted at our March VFW meeting which will be held on Thursday March 14<sup>th</sup>, 2019 at the Kenilworth Veteran’s Center. Anyone wishing to nominate a comrade to hold an elected office please attend our next meeting. Elections of those nominated will take place at our April VFW meeting which will be held on Thursday April 11<sup>th</sup>, 2019.

**KVC/VFW Monthly Meetings:** The next monthly meeting of the KVC/VFW Post 2230 will be held on Thursday March 4<sup>th</sup>, 2019. April’s meeting will be held on April 11<sup>th</sup>, 2019, May’s meeting will take place on Thursday May 9<sup>th</sup>. 2019 and June’s meeting will be held on Thursday June 13<sup>th</sup>, 2019. All meetings start at 7:00pm and are usually completed by 9:00pm. Refreshments are served at all meetings and usually always in the Kennedy Room (Lower Hall) of the KVC.

**KVC St. Patrick’s Day Party:** Keeping with tradition Commander Jeans and President Dobbins will host a St. Patrick’s Day party at the Kenilworth Veteran’s Center on Sunday March 17<sup>th</sup>, 2019 from 2pm to 6pm. Plenty of corned beef and cabbage and all the trimming will be served. All members are invited to attend and invited to bring your spouse and family. As in the past the post will be picking up the cost and no charge to members and their guest.



## Page 2

**VVA 688 Rick Harrison:** VVA 688 has many events planned for the next several months. Of course there are our visits to the PTSD Unit at Lyons Hospital (every 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday). We have can shakes scheduled around the local area. We will be participating, along with Kenilworth VFW Post 2230, in the Union County St. Patrick's Day Parade on March 16<sup>h</sup>. Other projects are also being discussed and planned, which I will keep everyone informed as they develop. VVA 688 is always looking for new members so if you're a Vietnam Veteran get in touch with me or Ted Meadowcroft who is the Chairman of the membership committee for VVA 688. Until the next time please be safe and well. See you at the post. On behalf of my family I would like to wish you and yours a very happy Easter this April 21<sup>st</sup>. Please keep our troops in your thoughts and prayers.

**St. Patrick's Day Parade:** The Union County St. Patrick's Day Parade will be held on Saturday March 16, 2019 start time will be 1:00pm in Union, N.J. As in past years transportation to and from the Kenilworth Veteran's Center will be provided with buses departing for the parade from the KVC at 11:00am and returning to the KVC 15 minutes after the parade ends. The Union County Emerald Society will be holding their after parade party at the KVC starting after the end of the parade to 7:00pm. Please visit the Union County St. Patrick's Day Parade Committee webpage [www.unioncountystpatricksdaysparade.com](http://www.unioncountystpatricksdaysparade.com) for additional information. The Grand Marshall is Sister Percylee Hart. Sister Percylee has been the principal of Union Catholic High School since 1980. Any member of VFW Post 2230 their family or guest can march with VFW Post 2230, Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 688, American Legion Post #470 or if you are unable to march ride our float.

**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. for hot dogs and beverages.

**Easter Wishes Commander Jeans:** I would like to take this opportunity to wish all of you a very happy Easter from Lenore, myself and the entire KVC/VFW Executive Board.



### Page 3

**Flag Deployment:** Flag Deployment will start off on Saturday May 25th, 2019 at 8:00am with our usual full breakfast consisting of scrambled eggs, bacon, sausage, pancakes, home fries, toast, fruit, juice, doughnuts, coffee, tea and milk. It will be a great start for a meaningful morning. At 9:00am we will muster at Graceland Cemetery near the Parkway exit on the Kenilworth Blvd. and begin to place flags on our veteran's resting places. As in the past there will be about 1100 flags placed on the gravesites. At 11:00am all those wishing to return to the Kenilworth Veterans Center will be invited for hot dogs and beverages.

**Memorial Day Services:** Please join us at Commander Robert Jeans Memorial Park which is adjacent to the Kenilworth Veteran's Center on Monday May 27, 2019 at 11:00am for our annual Memorial Day Services. On completion of our services you are all invited for light refreshments at the Kenilworth Veteran's Center. Memorial Day is an American Federal Holiday held every year on the last Monday in May. The American Federal Holiday memorializes all men and women who have died while serving in the United States Military. Originally, Memorial Day, was called Decoration Day. Decoration Day was founded as a way to commemorate all the lives that were lost during the American Civil War. The holiday recognized both the Union and Confederate soldiers.

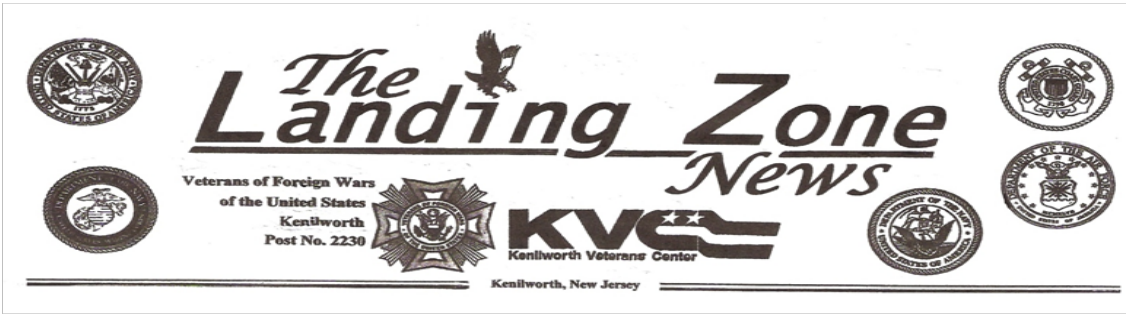
**VFW Poppy Program:** Chairman Ed Sulenski is already preparing for this years annual Poppy Drive. Our post Poppy Program will begin the first week in May and run through the month of May. Anyone that can help with the Poppies please let Ed know. Just a couple of hours during the month will be greatly appreciated by Ed and his committee.

**Sick Call –** Our thoughts and prayers go out to those members of the post who are having health issues and to the families of those members.

**TAPS:** Our thoughts and prayers go out to the families of KVC/VFW Member Benniey Alimonti who passed peacefully on 01-02-2019 at age 87

**New Members -** Congratulations and Welcome Aboard to our new members NikiaHodges, Calvin Carlstrom Jr. and Jeffrey Tovar.

**NJ Vietnam Veterans Memorial Foundation-Rick Harrison:** The 2019 NJVVMF Scholarship applications are now available. If you are or know of anyone who is interested in participating in the program I will have applications with me at our KVC-VFW monthly meeting



## Page 4

**Scholarship Programs** - Entries for this years Patriots Pen Youth Essay Contest the theme is “Why I Honor The American Flag” and the Voice Democracy Scholarship Contest the Theme is “Why My Vote Matters” have been submitted the cut off date was November 1, 2018. Scholarship winners will be announced in late March after the National Judging. Local winners will be announced in June. Good luck to all of those who submitted entries.

### KVC NEWS:

**KVC President Jerry Dobbins** – As information VFW supported bill H.R. 450 “The Preventing Crimes Against Veterans Act of 2019” which would punish with up to five years imprisonment whoever defrauds veterans of their earned benefits. This bill has passed the House and moved up to the Senate. The President said he would sign this bill when it reaches his desk.

**Vice President Robert Vesselli** - I thought I would pass this on because I have received a couple of inquiries from post members on who to contact to apply for replacement awards, medals and recognitions. You can either go on line to <http://www.amervets.com/library.htm> or write to Records Chief (REC-AMW) The American War Library Building Two, 16907 Brighton Avenue Gardena, CA 90247-5420. Their FAX number is 1-310-532-0634. A copy of your DD-214 must accompany your request. They will also send you an updated DD201A to be attached to your original DD-214 as proof of your eligibility to display your awards, medals and recognitions. If you go on line follow the links to “Application for Replacement Medals”.

**Secretary – Bill Salzman** The US Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit stated that Mr, Procopio a Life member of VFW Post 6587 who was assigned aboard the aircraft carrier USS Intrepid, which was stationed inside Vietnam’s 12 mile territorial waters was eligible to receive benefits under the Agent Orange Act. The ruling by a 9-2 vote stated that “served in the Republic of Vietnam” also qualifies those who were assigned to ships within the 12 mile territorial waters of Vietnam. Although the “Navy Blue Water Bill” has not been passed by the US House of Representatives it is a strong win for service personal who were assigned ships within the 12 mile territorial waters of Vietnam either on Yankee Station or Dixie Station. This ruling for disability benefits for some 90,000 so-called Blue Water Navy veterans from the Vietnam War. The VFW-supported case, “Procopio Vs. Wilkie” had VA Secretary Robert Wilkie being sued by Navy Veteran Alfred Procopio, who was denied service connection for prostate cancer and diabetes mellitus because he never stepped foot on dry land or served within Vietnam’s inland waterways.



## Page 5

**Building and Grounds – Bo Haniak** Just a couple of things to report on this quarter. First the Main Hall floor needs to be waxed. Commander Jeans has already interviewed a vendor and the job will be done in the next couple of weeks. The grating for the Main Hall Bar project is underway a vendor has submitted an acceptable bid and a deposit has been accepted and the work of installing the grating will begin shortly.

**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](http://www.kenilworthveterans.com) and is updated daily.

**Kenilworth Veterans Facebook Page** – Come and visit us on our facebook page you can join us by entering this address [www.facebook.com/kenilworthveterans](http://www.facebook.com/kenilworthveterans) click the like button and become part of our facebook 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](mailto:kvc.secretary@gmail.com) I send out notices and alerts as they occur. Things at the VA are changing all the time especially with the current administration whose goal it is to make it easier and quicker to obtain treatment for our veterans. You have to stay on top of all the changes. These benefits are for you take advantage of them. First you need to know what they are and how effect you and how it effects the care you receive.

**Congratulations:** VFW Member Paul Campanelli for the third year in a row was awarded the “New Jersey Realtor’s Circle of Excellence Award”. Paul was also named to the Remax “Hall of Fame”.

**Congratulations:** VFW Post 2230 sponsored Boy Scout Troop 83 for a great job at the annual “Boy Scout Klondike Derby”. Scoutmaster John Gasper reports that this year troop 83 had 4 groups entered which was the largest participation of any other troop represented in the “Klondike Derby” competition. For the second year in a row Troop 83 placed 1<sup>st</sup> in competition out of 20 participating teams. Our troop 83 also placed 4<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> in the competition. Our 10<sup>th</sup> place team was made up of scouts who had less than 1 year in Scouting. A remarkable job. An accomplishment that they are and should be proud to boast about. Well done to each and every scout from Troop 83.



## Page 6

**Saint Valentine's Day Message – Ed Miller:** everyone knows that St. Valentine's Day is that day of the year when friends and lovers express affection for one another through cards, candy, flowers or whatever means the imagination can find. On this day it would be most appropriate for us as Veterans to wine and dine that special lady in our lives. A simple card would express your heartfelt feelings and show her that you care. We must remember when we, as Veterans, were away, there was a special someone we were longing to get home and see. There could be no better time than St. Valentine's Day to give that special lady a big hug, a warm embrace and shower her gifts to show her that she was the one. Remember "sharing is caring."

**Easter Message – Ed Miller:** Easter is the first Christian High Holiday. No Holy Day or festival in the Christian year can compare in importance with Easter Sunday. To all Christians, Easter is the greatest day on the church calendar because it celebrates our Lord's greatest miracle – His Resurrection. With the coming of Easter it brings to us the spirit of the Pre-Lenten Season when penance, devotion and prayer are observed. Regardless of ones denomination, race, nationality or cultural distinction. Each of us have the privilege of worshipping God in anyway one wishes which is indeed a choice blessing and precious right of all people. With Lent, Holy Week and Easter Sunday. It gives us as veterans an opportunity to worship and pray for our fallen comrades who served our country and our precious flag. Please remember them in your prayers. The feast of Easter, as we probably all know brings to us an abundance of events. It heralds the beginning of spring, the time for us to show off our new clothes in the Easter Parade, the coming of the Easter Bunny and his colored eggs, the blossoming of the Easter Lilly, vacations for the children, their Easter Baskets and all the goodies to last them for the year. Most of all, Easter is a time for all of us to unite with our families and celebrate this holy day together. We, as veterans, should be thankful for being blessed with the gift of life that enables us to share this joyous occasion with our families and friends. Last, but not least, let us bear in our hearts and minds "The Lord is Risen", Alleluia. On behalf of all the officers and members of the KVC and VFW Post 2230 and Kenilworth American Legion Post #470, we would like to wish all our friends and families a very happy and blessed Easter.

A special thanks and best wishes to our service men and women presently serving around the world. 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.



Page 7

**Membership Drive-** Please sign up a new member. Here is the form advise all new members that first year dues is paid by the post:

**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:

