



Editor: William J. Salzman, 941 Madison Avenue, Elizabeth, NJ 07201-1309
E-Mail - wmsalz@optonline.net or kvc.secretary@gmail.com

Page 1

Commanders Message

November 2019

Commander Bobby Jeans – After an extensive rehab program here at the KVC we were able to complete several major projects that were on our “TO DO LIST” but there are still a few more that need to be done. We aggressively move into our veteran’s projects. Flag Deployment, Veterans Day and the Scholarship programs have been completed. We move on to the Thanksgiving Holiday with our baskets for the needy, casino night at the Westfield Armory that we attended on November 23rd and sending the packages overseas to our troops on deployment over this holiday season. We will be assisting our newly appointed VFW Adopt a Unit with their needs and the sending of packages to the 102nd CAV (Westfield Armory) who have been deployed since January 2019. As you all have heard this and many more things continue to be on our agenda with our active military personal that are or will soon be on deployment. Anyone wishing to donate items please drop them off at the KVC/VFW Lounge. Kathy Curren will be happy to assist anyone who has questions. On behalf of my wife, Lenore and myself, we would like to wish all of you a happy holiday season. May God bless you all and the United States of America.

Flag Deployment Veterans’ Day - Flag deployment kicked off our Veterans’ Day Ceremonies on Saturday 11-02-2019 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 were served. Thanks to chefs Tom Campbell, Mike Vitale, Tony Dobbins, Tony Vetuschi and Bob Cermak. 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 were invited to return to the KVC for hot dogs and beer.

Veterans Day Memorial Services – Commander Jeans began the ceremonies on Monday 11-11-2019 at 11:00am. All of our Community Leaders were present giving up their time and joining us in honoring our Veterans and remembering that the deeds performed in time of war by our veterans often go unrewarded and should never be forgotten by the General Public. Each and every veteran suffered a great deal by inward and outward wounds of sacrifice and memories. Our veterans gave of themselves without restrictions or reservations they committed themselves to the unknown. We stand proud as veterans not asking for rewards just remembrance. Upon completion of the ceremonies all were invited to the KVC for lunch.



Page 2

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 Tony Lepore, Harold Scheidegger Anthony LaFerrara, Vincent Cerciello and Ed Miller.

TAPS: Our condolences go out to the family of KVC/VFW member Al Fiorillo on the unexpected passing of Al's sister Rita D'Anna. Also our condolences go out to the family of KVC/VFW member Bo Haniak on the passing of his brother Stefan Haniak. Our condolences to the families of the following KVC/VFW members Samuel Damiano, Anthony Corello, Dennis Farrell, Carmen Rotella, John Scherzo, Christian Dittman, Joseph Pascarella, Edward Parin, Alfred Haimback, James Vigliotti, Robert Sammons, Charles Jason and Brian Hirth. Our prayers go out to one and all. The Commander would like to thank all members who participated at grave site services with a hardy "WELL DONE".

Boy Scout Troop 83 Christmas Tree Sale: Again this year the Boy Scouts from our VFW Sponsored Troop 83 will be selling Christmas Trees. The trees are scheduled to arrive at Robert Jeans Memorial Park adjacent to the Kenilworth Veterans Center on November 29th. The Boy Scouts will also be selling Wreaths and Grave Blankets.

Thanksgiving Dinner : Vietnam Veterans of America Chapters 688,779 and 800 hosted a Thanksgiving dinner event for the PTSD unit at Lyons VA Hospital on Thursday November 7th. Another great evening for our veterans and many full stomachs were enjoyed by all.

Christmas Care Packages for our Military: The 102nd CAV, from Westfield Armory has 2 units deployed sine January2019. We ask that you remember them in your thoughts and prayers over this holiday season. Kathy Curren has been the VFW Post 2230 spear head in collecting donations of articles and items for our care packages for both units. To find out the items that she is looking to send our troops and any other information with regards to the care packages call Kathy at the post 908-276-9769



Page 3

New Members: Welcome aboard to new VFW/KVC Members Keron Phillip, Elliot Morse, Rolf Kruse, Joseph Kiempisty and Clifford Michel.

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 year's theme is "What makes America Great". 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 "What Makes America Great."

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.



Page 4

Vice President Robert Vesseli - Nominations for 3 positions on the KVC Executive Board, President, Treasurer and Secretary were taken at our November meeting. Additional nominations will be taken at our December Meeting followed by elections for those positions. As most of you know 3 positions of the KVC Executive Board come up for election each year to take effect on January 1st of the coming year.

Building and Grounds Chairman Bo Haniak I have conferred with the KVC Executive Board and we have moved forward on hiring an Architect “Robert Grimaldi” getting designs and prints for completing the 2nd floor rest room. Additionally, we have requested prints for placement of an elevator so that we can comply with the “American Disability Act.” Please be reminded this is in the planning stages only to determine cost of these projects at which time the prints/plans will be brought up for a vote during a regular scheduled KVC Meeting. All other maintenance has been completed and up to date.

Secretary – Bill Salzmann Updating the membership we now have 354 VFW/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

Changes in the VA Programs: As of January 2020 the Military requirements for in-active military personal has changed giving a broader allowance to Veterans in using the PX. For additional information contact Joe Weaver the Post Service Officer.



Page 5

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 12th, 2019 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 Wednesday December 18, 2019 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 6th, 2019 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.



Page 6

Vesselli Productions Presents: KVC/VFW Kenilworth Post 2230 with the assistance of Bob and Cheryl Vesselli and Mary Morley Productions presents the 2020 annual St. Valentine's Day Dance on Saturday February 8th, 2020 at the Kenilworth Veteran's Center 33 South 21st Street Kenilworth, NJ. This year we are featuring that great oldies group "Sounds of the Street". They will be performing all your favorite songs from the 50's, 60's and 70's. Doors will open at 7:00pm. Tickets will be available in December \$30.00 per person includes beer, wine and soda bring your own snacks. For tickets or additional information call Kathy at the post 908-276-9769.

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

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:
