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### Commander Bobby Jeans -

# April-June 2023

Greetings, fellow veterans and members of Post 2230. I hope this newsletter finds you well and in good spirits. Our post has a busy month ahead, with plenty of events and activities that I encourage you to take part in. If you're interested in lending a hand, please reach out to me or another officer.

**VFW Membership Drive** – If you know any veterans and they are not members of the VFW now is the time for recruitment. You can start by having the prospective member fill out the information box on the last page of this newsletter and get it to Bobby Jeans or Bill Salzmann.

<u>**Quartermaster – Brian Gorcysca**</u> All funds raised are deposited and all outstanding bills are paid. We are in great shape and in line with all our goals.

### <u> Chaplain – Ed Sulenski</u>

As we approach Memorial Day, may we honor and remember those who died that we might live in freedom. We remember our departed loved ones. Those we honor will be a part of our lives forever.

## VFW Poppy Program:

Chairman Ed Sulenski is ready for this year's 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.

# Flag Deployment:

Flag Deployment will start off on Saturday May 27<sup>th</sup> at 8:00am with our usual full breakfast at the post. 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.

<u>Sick Call</u>: Our thoughts and prayers go out to those members of the post who are having health issues and to the families of those members. Our best wishes to our executive board member Jerry Dobbins for a speedy recovery.



## KVC NEWS:

<u>President Jerry Dobbins</u> – Please join us at Commander Robert Jeans Memorial Park which is adjacent to the Kenilworth Veterans Center on Monday May 29<sup>th</sup> at 11:00am for our annual Memorial Day Services. On completion of our services you are all invited for light refreshments at the Kenilworth Veterans 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.

Bar Chairman – Gerry Grasso As usual the lounge is doing great.

If any member is looking to use the halls don't wait see Commander Jeans and reserve your date.

**Vice President Robert Vesselli**: If you are not registered and do not have a VA Health Card, Government Drivers License or Government Retirement ID Card you may apply for a Veterans Identification Card by calling 855-574-7286 or online at www.va.gov. This card can be used when asking for a veteran discount at various stores or eateries.

<u>Secretary – Bill Salzmann</u>: We currently have 57 KVC members and 293 VFW members. All but one are life members, and the only reason that we have 1 VFW member who is not a life member, it's because we are unable to locate him. Commander Jeans started this project 3 years ago and didn't stop until the job was done. Well done!

**<u>E-mail Addresses:</u>** If you have access to a computer and have an email address send it to me by emailing me at <u>kvc.secretary@gmail.com</u> I send out notices and alerts as they occur.

**Building and Grounds – Bo Haniak:** As we go through the heart of the busiest part of our annual schedule the building has been holding fairly well.

# A message from our National VFW 🎉



March 29 this year marks the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of U.S. combat troops returning home from the Vietnam war. That date is now known as National Vietnam War Veterans Day. The day was first proclaimed by President Obama in 2012. President Trump subsequently signed it into law in 2017.

It is a day to thank and honor all veterans who served in the war. The legislation, *The Vietnam War Veterans Recognition Act of 201 (P.L. 115-15)*, annually recognizes March 29 as National Vietnam War Veterans Day. It also amended *Title 4* of the *U.S code* to "encourage the display of" the U.S. flag on March 29.



<u>**Treasurer**</u> -**Rob Reyes** All is well. The books are in order and have been reviewed by our accountant.

### **Community Services**

A great part of our organization is community services. Nationally, regionally, and locally, we have so many members that volunteer their time. Being a fundamental principle of our organization, our community hours are reported to the national VFW. We'd like to get your feedback on the time you put into your community. Do you contribute time to a volunteer EMT squad or firehouse, a soup kitchen, an animal shelter, or a hospital? It is all part of the community report we submit. Please communicate with our service officer Ray Fuschino. We will gather the information discreetly; no names or personal data are reported, only the amount of time and a small description of the events.

Thank you for your continued service!

"<u>Operation Respect</u>" is a collection drive to benefit Union county veterans and residents of the Veterans home in Menlo Park. Please help make their lives more comfortable with a donation of a new sweater, clothing, slippers, toiletries, or a gift card.

"<u>Adopt-A-Unit</u>" is a program connecting us to an active duty unit by supporting it with products that help their deployments be more comfortable.

Kathy Curren heads both programs and can provide more details. She is an invaluable employee of the veterans' center and a dedicated veterans' advocate. She can be reached at our post most weekdays by calling 908-276-9769.

### Service officer Ray Fuschino:

The VFW Day of Service is an outgrowth of the organization's <u>#StillServing</u> campaign launched in 2020 to recognize the ongoing dedication of veterans and service members who continue to serve their communities. VFW Day of Service, led by veterans and in concert with other organizations and civic groups, is open for anyone to participate. The inaugural VFW Day of Service kicks off the first Saturday in May (May 7), marking the start of veteran-led community service projects to take place throughout the month.

The VFW urges its members and all veterans to visit <u>TodaysVFW.org</u>

and <u>VFWDayofService.org</u> to register their event on the interactive Day of Service map and receive a special participation decal, or find a local event to join and see what other veterans around the country are doing to make a difference.

Thank you all for your service.



<u>Kenilworth Veterans Web Page:</u> Don't forget to visit our web and sign our guest book. Our web page URL is <u>www.kenilworthvfw.com</u>.

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

Always the second Thursday of the month at 1900hrs.					
January 12 <sup>th</sup>	February 9 <sup>th</sup>	March 9 <sup>th</sup>			
April 13 <sup>th</sup>	May 11 <sup>th</sup>	June 8 <sup>th</sup>			
<u>July</u> No meeting Summer Interim	<u>August</u> No meeting Summer Interim	Summer Interim			
October 12 <sup>th</sup>	November 9 <sup>th</sup>	December 14 <sup>th</sup>			

2023 Meetings

### PLEASE PRINT

#### **VFW/KVC** Membership Application

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

Copy of DD-214 required with this application: PLEASE PRINT