



# The Landing Zone News



Veterans of Foreign Wars  
of the United States  
Kenilworth  
Post No. 2230



**KVC**  
Kenilworth Veterans Center



Kenilworth, New Jersey

Editor: William J. Salzmann, 941 Madison Avenue, Elizabeth, NJ 07201-1309  
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**Page 1**

## **Commanders Message**

**March 2014**

**Commander Bobby Jeans -** I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for your support and kind cards and phone calls congratulating me on my appointment as Grand Marshal in the Saint Patrick's Day Parade. I am very proud, as all of you know, of this great honor and I am thankful to all of you who have participated in this event with me. This is just not an honor for me but for all Veteran's of this post and members of Post 2230 for all that we do for veterans, those that are Missing in Action and all of our POW's this is truly your day as well as mine. It has been a busy time at the post due to the snow, rescheduling of events and our meetings as well. Due to the February meeting being canceled due to inclement weather makes the March meeting all that more important for attendance. With the upcoming elections to the executive board of the post we are going to need our membership to step up and volunteer. Details of our Flag Deployment and Memorial Day service are explained in this newsletter but don't forget to come out and be counted in memory of our fallen comrades.

**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 13<sup>th</sup>, 2014 at the Kenilworth Veterans' 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 10, 2014. Anyone wishing to vote please attend our April meeting.

**KVC/VFW Monthly Meetings:** The next monthly meeting of the KVC/VFW Post 2230 will be held on Thursday March 13<sup>th</sup>, 2014 in the Kennedy Room Starting at 7:00pm. April's meeting will be held on Thursday April 10<sup>th</sup>, 2014 and our meeting in May will be on Thursday May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2014 and our June meeting will be held on Thursday June 12<sup>th</sup>, 2014. Refreshments will be served on all the meeting dates and the meetings should end around 9:30pm.

**Yankee Stadium Bus Trip** – Post 2230 is planning a bus trip to Yankee Stadium on June 21, 2014 for a game between Baltimore Orioles and the NY Yankee's. Bus will leave the Kenilworth Veterans Center promptly at 9:30am and light refreshments will be served to and from the stadium. Tickets are \$85.00 per person and must be purchase by June 1, 2014. These trips are always sold out so if you plan to go my advice is to purchase your tickets as soon as possible. To order your tickets call Kathy or Bobby at the post or see Rick Harrison.



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## Page 2

**St. Patrick's Day and Parade** Saturday March 15<sup>th</sup> the St. Patrick's Day Parade will kick off at 11am at the KVC. All those marching will muster in the main hall. Transportation will be available to the starting point of the parade and returning to the KVC after the parade. Festivities will continue at the KVC as usual for the after parade party. Anyone wishing to march or to ride on our float please contact Bobby Jeans. Family of Veterans are also welcome to march or take a vacant place on the float. For members please wear your VFW hats or KVC berets. Again this year we will be joined in the parade by American Legion Post 47, Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 688 and Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 779. As all of you know Commander Robert Jeans has been selected to be the Parade Grand Marshal. A well deserved honor for Bobby. Not only does he commit himself to the daily operations of the KVC and to the needs of the many veterans that seek his help but Bobby also has a very strong commitment to the Union County St. Patrick's Day Parade Committee. This year the Parade Committee has dedicated this year's parade to all of our brave US Military Prisoners of War and our Military's "Missing in Action". All of the participating Veterans and military Groups will be marching at the head of the parade. We ask all members to participate in this special dedicated parade to either march or ride on our float. If you know any veteran that does not belong to our or any other post please extend an invitation to participate with us.

The parade will start exactly at 1:00pm and marching units will gather at Morris Avenue and along Commerce and Jeanette Avenues. Midway reviewing stand located at Morris and Caldwell Avenue where announcers will be located to give details of participant's history and information. This is a great place to watch the parade.

**KVC St. Patrick's Day Party:** As in past years Commander Jeans and President Dobbins will host a St. Patrick's Day party at the Kenilworth Veterans' Center on Monday March 17<sup>th</sup> from 4pm to 8pm. Plenty of corned beef and cabbage and all the trimmings will be served. All are invited to attend.

**Flag Deployment -** Flag Deployment will start off on Saturday May 24<sup>th</sup>, 2014 at 8:00am with our usual breakfast consisting of scrambled eggs, bacon, sausage, pancakes, home fries, toast, fruit, juice, coffee, tea and milk. It will truly be a great start to such a meaningful day. At 9:00am we will muster at Graceland Cemetery and place over 1000 flags on our veterans resting places. When completed we will all return to the KVC for light refreshments and ice cold beer.



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## Page 3

**MEMORIAL DAY SERVICES** Please join us at Commander Robert Jeans Memorial Park which is adjacent to the KVC on Monday May 26<sup>th</sup>, 2014 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 who died in battle. The name Decoration Day was altered to Memorial Day when the holiday was expanded to celebrate and recognize all the American soldiers who died in battle, not just specifically in the Civil War.

**BOY SCOUTS** – Christmas tree and wreath sale at the Kenilworth Veterans Center was a great success. Thanks for all of your support to make this happen again. Our camping schedule is up in the air for this coming season but we are working on several camping trips for our scouts during the spring and summer months.

**VFW Poppy Program:** Chairman Ed Sulenski reports that the Poppy's for this year's drive has arrived and we are good to go. Our post Poppy Program will begin the first week in May and run through the month of May. Quite a few of our members have volunteered to help with this worthy VFW cause but we still have room for more volunteers. If anyone is interested in helping call Commander Jeans at the post.

**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.

**Sr. Vice Commander – Rick Harrison** – Hope all is well with everyone as we are two months into the New Year. VVA has several events that will be coming up. We will be participating in the Union County St. Patrick's Day Parade along with our own VFW Post 2230 as well as VVA Chapter 779. VVA salutes and congratulates Commander Bob Jeans on being nominated as this year's parade Grand Marshal. More details will follow about the parade events. Also, the dedication of the Vietnam Memorial in Westfield and the dedication of a Belluh-10 Huey Helicopter at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Holmdel (May 7th). In addition, VVA



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## Page 4

continues its monthly visit to the PTSD Unit at Lyon's Hospital. The NJVVMF is pleased to announce the 2013-2014 Scholarship Program. I will have applications at our VFW meetings as well as forms at the VFW if anyone is interested. For additional info, please call 1-732-335-0033 Ext. 100. If anyone has any questions regarding VVA, please call me at 908-416-5930 or e-mail me at RICKVVA688@aol.com. Hope to see you at the "V" or at the meetings. Be safe and be well.

**Sick Call** KVC President Jerry Dobbins is well on his way to recovery as is VFW Adjutant Bill Salzmann. Both are doing well and the improvements are noticeable. Our best wishes to our VFW Chaplin Ed Sulenski in his recovery and Comrade Charles Jason who is recovering from a stroke at the Lyons VA Hospital – Community Living Building 135, Room 127, Area 1-B. Our thoughts and prayers are with all of our recovering comrades and their families. Charles Haller is recovering in Overlook Hospital for the last 2 weeks all cards and well wishes should be sent to their home addresses. Get well soon!!!!

**TAPS:** Our prayers go out to the families of Comrade Mark Ruscanski who lost his battle with cancer on Friday 1-17-2014, Thomas McHale who passed peacefully at Overlook Hospital on Tuesday 1-28-2014, Leonardo “Lenny” LaTorre who passed peacefully at his home on 11-19-2013 and James Vitale Sr. who passed away suddenly on December 28, 2013,

**MEMBERSHIP:** Welcome aboard to our new members Steven Waters, Arthur Stallings and Stephen Gibki we look forward to seeing you around the post.

**VFW Adopt a Unit Program:** The 10<sup>th</sup> Mountain Division, 1-10 Combat Aviation Brigade, Bravo Company, Taskforce Tiger Shark deployed to Forward Operating Base Salerno in Afghanistan has completed their deployment and returned to Fort Drum in Watertown, NY. The unit had been deployed for 9 months giving air support to ground troops of the 10<sup>th</sup> Mountain Division and flying protection to keep FOB Salerno safe. During their deployment we were able to send 9 large boxes of Christmas goodies to the unit. Sgt. Bill Orlando Jr. crew chief on board a Black Hawk Helicopter and a member of VFW Post 2230 served on this deployment to FOB Salerno marking this as the end of his second deployment in Afghanistan. Welcome Home to American soil to all the members of the 10<sup>th</sup> Mountain Division. Your motto “Fly to Glory and We Strike at Night” has been honorably served.



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## Page 5

### KVC NEWS:

**President Jerry Dobbins** – I would like to thank the membership for nominating and electing the KVC Executive Board members to serve in the year 2014. Your Executive Board members for 2014 are: President Jerry Dobbins, Vice President Bob Vesselli, Treasure Bill Allan, Secretary Bill Salzmnn, House Chairman Bobby Jeans, Bar Chairman Gerry Grasso, Building and Grounds Chairman Bill Sinkowitz, Trustees Brian Hirth, Rick Harrison and Al Fiorillo. This year has been tough on both Helene and myself medically but thanks to all of you for your prayers, well wishes, cards and thoughts. You really helped us get past the hurdles. Both of us are on our way to recovery, still have a long way to go but getting stronger every day. Thanks again to all of you.

**Vice President –Bob Vesselli:** Despite the "polar vortex" and the snow storms, I'm hoping that 2014 has been a good year for you all so far! We are happy to welcome back KVC President Jerry Dobbins and wish him continued progress and good health. We also hope that George Klaus feels better soon and can join us at our meetings On February 8th, The Union County St. Patrick's Day Parade Committee celebrated the investiture of Robert E. Jeans Sr. as Grand Marshal of the parade to be held on Saturday March 15th. Congratulations Bobby for this much deserved honor! You make us proud. The KVC will be marching with you!

**Secretary – Bill Salzmnn** Just wanted to remind everyone if you change your address please notify your KVC secretary. I will make the change for you with the National. If you notify the National of an address change they do NOT notify the post. Also for those members who receive the newsletter via US Postal Service if you have an e-mail address please send me an e-mail at [kvc.secretary@gmail.com](mailto:kvc.secretary@gmail.com) so that I can add you to our e-mail list. As you are aware the postage has gone up again to .49 Cents per letter. It would be a great help and a cost saver to the post if you have an e-mail address so we can send the newsletter via e-mail attachment instead of sending it via US Postal Service.

**Bar Chairman – Gerry Grasso** Everything is as good or better than last year. On weekends we have a packed house at the bar and most of the nights during the week have a good size crowd as well. Both of our halls are pretty much booked so if any members needs the use of either hall please get in touch with Commander Jeans and reserve your hall before someone else books them. Gerry also advised that the KVC Super bowl party at the post was a great success.



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**Page 6**

**Treasurer – Bill Allan** All of our books are in order and have been reviewed by auditors and our accountant. No problems all is well. I look forward to serving the KVC as your Treasurer in 2014. Thanks to Rob Schielke for a job well done in his two years as KVC Treasurer and I truly appreciate his help during this transition period. As a result of his hard work and dedication we have been able to lower our debt, merge with 5 VFW Posts, continued lower insurance rates, redefine our Corporation status and our NJ State Charity Status just to name a few of his great accomplishments. From all of us Rob thanks for an outstanding job.

**Pull Tab Game – Bill Allan** I am happy to report we are doing very well and are currently ahead of schedule. For those members who don't know it is equivalent to the NJ lottery rub off. Many of our members play this game daily. Stop by and join in the fun remember you can't win it if you don't play it.

**National Veterans Service Committee - Fred Gorman** We need your support!!! The staff of the Community Living Center is planning a special dinner for our Veterans and their family members on Wednesday April 9<sup>th</sup>, 2014 at 6:00pm. Funding is needed to provide special appetizers and deserts. Checks should be made payable to: VA NJ Health Care System and earmarked for CLC Family Dinner GPF – 8806. Funds are needed by April 1, 2014. Any questions please contact the staff of Voluntary Service at 908-604-5814.

**Membership Committee -** We currently have 307 VFW and 59 KVC members. For those who have not yet sent in their 2014 dues please do so. Commander Jeans has your 2014 membership card in the office and immediately upon receipt of your dues he will send the card out to you.

**Kenilworth Veterans Web Page -** Our KVC/VFW Web page at [www.kenilworthveterans.com](http://www.kenilworthveterans.com) is up and running and contains a lot of information and photos about our post, veterans and benefits. Changes are made almost daily and our calendar is available for keeping track of coming events. You can also pay your dues via Pay Pal or your Credit Card accounts. The web page is secure and your personal information is NEVER given out to anyone for any reason. When visiting our web page go to our guest book and comment on your thoughts about the page or our post we would like to hear what you have to say.

**Kenilworth Face Book Page –** Join us on our KVC/VFW Face Book Page at [www.facebook.com/kenilworthveterans](http://www.facebook.com/kenilworthveterans). When visiting our page please click the LIKE button and come back often to see what is going on.



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## Page 7

**VA Registration Information** Remember that all newly discharged military personal must register with the VA within 5 years of their discharge. The VA will not enroll any Veteran who did not register with the VA unless they are service connected and then they can only be seen for that service connection. The VA has also set up a new web site [myhealthvet.com](http://myhealthvet.com) where you can register with the VA, track your meds, refill prescriptions and a lot of other things. The web site also gives you access to your records. It is worthwhile to visit the web page and browse the topics.

**Congratulations:** to Joyce and Bo Haniak on their recent promotion to the rank of Grandmother and Grandfather Greyson Mancuso was born on 12/24/2013 coming in at 6 lbs 7 ozs. And 20 3/4 inches. The proud parents Janet and Brian Mancuso. Congratulations and God bless.

**Congratulations:** To Art Vitale who recently won bragging rights as the TOP ANGLER of the year 2013 by American Bass Anglers on Lake Richard B. Russell near Elberton, Ga. Art caught 5 bass weighing in at 10.21 pounds. Art won a fully rigged Triton 21XS bass boat powered by a Mercury 200 horsepower Pro XS outboard motor and a MotorGuide Trolling Motor. The entire package retails for about \$60,000.00. Congratulations Art. When are you going to take us for a ride?

**Thought of the Month – Ed Miller** People will forget what you did, people will forget what you said, but people will never forget how you made them feel. If you really want to do something you will find a way. If you don't you will find an excuse.

**Blessing on St. Patrick's Day – Ed Miller** May your thoughts be as glad as the Shamrocks, may the road rise to meet you, may the wind be always at your back, may the sunshine warm upon your face, the rain fall soft upon your fields, may your heart be as light as song, may each day bring you bright happy hours that stay with you all year long, wishing you God's blessings and a Happy Saint Patrick's Day, may good fortune be yours and may your day never end. Until we meet again, may God hold you in the palm of his hand. An Irish wish from the heart of a friend.

**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



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## Page 8

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 #470, we would like to wish all our friends and families a very happy and blessed Easter. God bless you all.

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**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:

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