

# ROLL CALL

Volume 13 - Issue 7

July 2008

VFW Post #3783

## INCOMING COMMANDER

I would like to thank each of you for the honor you have given me of allowing me to be the Commander of the best VFW Post. The incoming Officers and House Committee members are a dedicated and hard working group and we will work tirelessly to make this coming year a huge success!

Please make a special effort to attend the Post Meetings (the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month at 1930).

Thank you again for this wonderful opportunity! See you at the Post!

**Jennifer Finley, Incoming Commander**

## OUTGOING & INCOMING

### SR. VICE COMMANDER

I Would like to thank the past officers of the Post. Dale, Pontiac, and Larry, for all their service. Job well done. And thanks to all who have helped me to accomplish the projects here at the club. Lawn maintenance, painting of chairs and etc. A special thank you to Liz and all her hard work.

I look forward to working with the new Post Officers & Ladies Auxiliary in the coming year. To make Post 3783 the best in the 1<sup>st</sup> District.

**T. J. Watkins, Outgoing & Incoming Sr. Vice Commander**

### INCOMING JR. VICE COMMANDER

Lots of changes going on at the Post. Many new folks have stepped up to fill needed positions. Wish them all good luck.

As talented as many of them are they can't do everything themselves and really need the help of their fellow comrades.

I have relieved Larry as Junior Vice and look forward to working with all of you to make this the best Post in the District.

My home number is 760-440-9600. Call and let me know if you're interested in helping out in the kitchen. Come make your favorite meal and share it with the members. We are in need of cooks, dishwashers, helpers, waitresses and ticket sellers.

If you can't find the time to volunteer then just stop in and say hi to everyone. Remember to support your Post.

The American Red Cross thanks you and so do your blood chairman. We had 11 members of the VFW

Pick a night and come on out and join us and have some fun.

**Richard Trevallee, Incoming Jr. Vice**

## OUTGOING & INCOMING CHAPLAIN

The hot days of summer are upon us. I pray that June was good to you despite all the bad news and gas prices. We finally had a Celebration of Life and placing of the name on the Memorial Wall for Bob Stewart (Stu). We also attended a funeral for Charles Williams here in Ramona. He was a WWII Veteran and thanks to Dale, TJ and Skip for helping perform the VFW Ceremonies.

There was no meeting in June, but I hope to see you at the next meeting on July 16, 2008. God Bless our Post 3783. Have many happy moments in July.

**Charley "Chaplain" Curtis, OUTGOING & INCOMING CHAPLAIN**

## MARINE MUSTER

There will be no a Ramona Marine Muster in July. The next one will be on August 16<sup>th</sup>, 2008.

About 1200-noon - eight bells of the forenoon watch - what ever time-keeping method you use - you know the drill.

If you are a Marine, former Marine, retired Marine, other Service member who has served with or supported the Marines, or friends of Marines, and desire to be added to a directory of Marines, please contact Bob Darron(760) 787-9175 or [bobaneli@cox.net](mailto:bobaneli@cox.net).

Don't forget for planning purposes the next Muster will be August 16<sup>th</sup>, same day as the Blood Drive. And those delicious hamburgers!

See You There!

**Semper Fi, Bob Darron**

## BLOOD DRIVE COMMITTEE

The first day of summer, the longest day of the year and of course the hottest day for our June Blood Drive. Thanks to all of the donors who showed up and donated any way. The weather didn't matter and the juicy hamburger lunch that awaited them gave them the added incentive that they needed. We had 30 donors present for donations and only 3 were deferred for various reasons so we were able to collect 27 good pints of blood. We were concerned that the heat would keep everyone away.

donate and 5 Auxiliary ladies. Many of our usual donors were at convention, so we will see the rest of you on August 16<sup>th</sup>, our next drive.

Thanks again to our kitchen crew, an outstanding job as usual. So try to keep cool and we will see you in August for our next blood drive.

### Dracula Dick and Bloody Mary

#### 2008 Memorial Day Poppy Sales

I would like to thank all who participated in selling Poppy's on Memorial Day weekend. The total sales were \$6622.00. John Wilson took salesman of the year award with \$746.00 raised. All the money will be used to help veterans and their families.

Others who participated were:

Joanne Dobson, John Dobson, Bob Dobson, Jan Galloway, Liz Prafke, George Little, Don Cole, John Wilson, Dale Smith, Andy Mandichak, Katie Budzenski, Jennifer Finley, Phil Brown, John "Pontiac" Hine, Bev Erbacher, Norma Book, Tammy Steen, NROTC, David Drew, Matt Reilly, Dougherty Family, Norm Campbell, Larry Littlefield, Carol Littlefield, Tom Dorset, Lisa Dabney, Jim Schirmers, Fritz Schirmers, Tony Thomas, Ken Dower, John Leap, Randy Rollf, Joan Rollf, Ray Weatherholtz, Dick Nass, Bill Mackay & Madolyn Gifford.

### Craig Bousquet, Buddy Poppy Chairman

#### Cemetery Flag Placement Committee

I regret not mentioning two valuable members who were great about the flag placement. DAVID DREW whose dedication to perfection in updating the plot maps assured NO VETERANS GRAVE missed. JOHN WILSON with his expertise repaired many flags saving the Post much dollars.

If you see these men please tell them thanks.

### Johnny Dobson

#### INCOMING AUXILIARY PRESIDENT

As incoming President, I would like to thank everyone for electing me to lead you through this next year. Thank you to all who accepted positions or agreed to chair a committee or even just be there to lend a hand.

Thank you Mariann for a great job this past year. I hope this year will be just as good. I am sure with all the wonderful members showing their support we will be able to accomplish our projects and support our Post with pride.

Our next Auxiliary meeting is July 8<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm. See you at the Post.

### Katie Budzenski, Incoming Auxiliary Pres.

#### OUTGOING & INCOMING JR. VICE

Wow, summer is upon us and we are Rockin' and Rollin' in the Club. The "V" Club. I have seen a lot of new faces and it is wonderful to see us grow. More people can help the volunteers and the community.

If you are new, just ask anyone of us how you can help. We are always looking for someone to donate a few hours and month, that's it. Just a few.

Huge, gigantic THANKS to all the out going officers and incoming. Say "Hello", wave "See you soon". Dale and Marla, yu guys ROCK with everything you have done for the club. I know you will be awesome for the 1<sup>st</sup> District and still be around us.

On a personal note: My family - Sothmans and Ragsdales would like to say how much we appreciated everything everyone has done and all the prayers for the loss of my Father and my Mother. Words cannot express how much we love every single one of you.

Mark your calendar an buy your raffle tickets for the Fourth of July in the Park! Come out bring a side dish and get ready to eat and sing! See ya! Have a fantastic day!

### Denise Sothman, Outgoing & Incoming Auxiliary Jr. Vice.

#### OUTGOING AUXILIARY CHAPLAIN

Thank goodness as my last article as Chaplain I have nothing major to report on.

A heart felt thank you to everyone who supported me as Chaplain. A Special Thank You to Beverly Erbacher for accepting to take over this position.

Remember if you or any member you know of needs anything please feel free to let us know. I know Beverly will do a wonderful job. Be Happy and Healthy. See you at the Post.

### Katie Budzenski,

#### Outgoing Auxiliary Chaplain

#### Mrs Gail Cole & Ladies Auxiliary

would like to help protect our troops as they protect us! We can do this by asking businesses and individuals to purchase a special sun screen set consisting of a 4 oz. Tube of Mary Kay SPF 30 Sun screen plus a SPF 15 lip protector for \$23. Both these products are recommended by the Skin Cancer Foundation as effective UV sun screen.

I want to make a BIG difference, so I am matching what businesses and individuals donate (so for each set purchased to donate at \$23, I will donate an additional set so that 2 soldiers are protected).

My goal is to protect 100-200 soldiers by selling 100 sets and donating 100% of my profit to protect our soldiers.

### Michelle Lorenzana,

% Gail Cole

P.O. Box 2021

Ramona, CA 92065

#### FROM THE CLUBHOUSE

Summer is coming on and meals are slowing down. Remember meals on Saturday nights need to I shop on Wednesday and Thursday, so the earlier you call in the better. Unless I know of a large group I cut back on the # of dinners I shop for.

Fourth of July is approaching and picnic is slated for 2:00 pm to 5:00 pm, with meat and corn and rolls being provided by the Post. Side dishes are welcome.

Since vacations, parties and weddings are upon us; if you would like to volunteer for any duty, we would really appreciate it.

### Free Dinners drawn for July 2008 are

Ron Brinkerhoff and Harry Palmer

To be used in the month of July only!

Madolyn Gifford, Clubhouse Manager

### UPCOMING VFW EVENTS

### AND/OR NATIONAL DATES

August 2008

- 1<sup>st</sup> - Air Force Day
- 4<sup>th</sup> - U.S. Coast Guard - Est. 1790
- 12<sup>th</sup> - Ladies Auxiliary Mtg. 7:00 pm
- 14<sup>th</sup> - National Navaho Code Talkers Day
- 16<sup>th</sup> - National Airborne Day
- 19<sup>th</sup> - District Membership Mtg.
- 20<sup>th</sup> - Post 3783 Mtg. 7:30 pm
- 22<sup>nd</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup> - Newsletter Articles Due
- 26<sup>th</sup> - District Auxiliary Mtg.

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### NEWSLETTER EDITOR

As your substitute newsletter editor, I wish Rose Busang the very best in the coming years. Do your best in getting your articles to her on time. Thanks Liz!

Newsletter articles due:

Friday, July 18<sup>th</sup>, 2008

Emails: Sat., July 19<sup>th</sup>, 2008

I will pick them up at the Post or  
email to [mymygma@aol.com](mailto:mymygma@aol.com)

Thanks so much, Rose Busang

Liz Prafke, Substitute Newsletter Editor

### From the National VFW -

On July 8<sup>th</sup> the Declaration had it's first public reading in Philadelphia's Independence Square. Twice that

have reservations.

If your VFW magazine is returned to them 2 times in a row; they drop you off "your Post" roster. Not good! In other words, they expect you to keep them in the loop if you move.

Your Post also needs your change of address -before you move! We pay the Post Office \$.75 - \$.97 for each change of address "they give us". You could help us keep our costs down, if you would call (760) 789-7888 or email - [mail@vifw3783.com](mailto:mail@vifw3783.com). Or send us your change of address before you move. Please include: Apt # or Space # and nine digit zip.

Some of you are not getting the newsletter because you have omitted that info, and they are coming back to us. Thank You.

### INDEPENDENCE DAY!

Independence Day, in the U.S., an annual holiday commemorating the formal adoption by the Continental Congress of the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776, in Philadelphia. Although the signing of the Declaration was not completed until August, the Fourth of July holiday has been accepted as the official anniversary of United States independence and is celebrated in all states and territories of the U.S.

At the time of the signing the United States consisted of 13 colonies under the rule of England's King George III. There was a growing unrest in the colonies concerning the taxes that had to be paid to England. This was commonly referred to as "Taxation without Representation" as the colonists did not have any representation in the English Parliament and had no say in what went on. As the unrest grew in the colonies, King George sent extra troops to help control any rebellion.

In 1774 the 13 colonies sent delegates to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania to form the First Continental Congress. The delegates were unhappy with England, but were not yet ready to declare war. In April 1775 as the Kings's troops advanced on Concord Massachusetts, the battle of Concord would mark the unofficial beginning of the colonies war for Independence.

June 1776 a committee included John Adams, Benjamin Franklin, Philip Livingston and Roger Sherman. Thomas Jefferson was chosen to write the first draft which was presented to the congress on June 28. A vote was taken late in the afternoon of July 4<sup>th</sup>. Of the 13 colonies, 9 voted in favor of the Declaration, 2 - Pennsylvania and South Carolina voted No, Delaware was undecided and New York abstained. To make it official John Hancock, President of the Continental Congress, signed the Declaration of Independence.

day the Declaration was read to cheering crowds and pealing church bells. Even the bell in Independence Hall was rung.

The "Province Bell" which would later be renamed "Liberty Bell" after it's inscription - "Proclaim Liberty Throughout All the Land Unto the Inhabitants Thereof".

The holiday was first observed in Philadelphia on July 8, 1776, at which time the Declaration of Independence was read aloud, city bells rang, and bands played. People celebrated with fireworks and with candles which they lit and placed in their windows.

The first Independence Day celebration took place the following year - July 4, 1777. By the early 1800's the traditions of parades, picnics, and fireworks were established as the way to celebrate America's birthday. It was declared a legal holiday in 1941.

The Fourth of July is traditionally celebrated publicly with parades and pageants, patriotic speeches, and organized firing of guns and cannons and displays of fireworks. Although fireworks have been banned in most places because of their danger, most towns and cities usually have large firework displays for all to see and enjoy.

Family picnics and outings are a feature of private Fourth of July celebrations. Today, the most popular way to celebrate Independence day is to get together with family and friends, have a cook out and attend a firework's display!

### Did you ever wonder what happened to the 56 signers of the Declaration of Independence?

Five signers were captured by the British as traitors, and tortured before they died.

Twelve had their homes ransacked and burned. Two lost their sons serving in the Revolutionary Army; another had two sons captured.

Nine of the 56 fought and died from wounds or hardships of the Revolutionary War.

They signed and they pledged their lives, their fortunes, and their sacred honor. What kind of men were they?

Twenty-four were lawyers and jurists. Eleven were merchants; nine were farmers and large plantation owners....men of means, well educated, but they signed the Declaration of Independence knowing full well that the penalty would be death if they were captured.

Carter Braxton of Virginia, a wealthy planter and trader, saw his ships swept from the seas by the British Navy. He sold his home and properties to pay his debts, and died in rags.

Thomas McKeam was so hounded by the British that he was forced to move his family almost constantly. He served in the Congress without pay, and his family was kept in hiding. His possessions were taken from him, and poverty was his reward.

Vandals or soldiers looted the properties of Dillery, Hall, Clymer, Walton, Gwinnett, Heywaard, Ruttledge, and Middleton.

At the battle of Yorktown, Thomas Nelson, Jr., noted that the British General Cornwallis had taken over the Nelson home for his headquarters. He quietly urged General George Washington to open fire. The home was destroyed, and Nelson died bankrupt.

Francis Lewis had his home and properties destroyed. The enemy jailed his wife, and she died within a few months.

John Hart was driven from his wife's bedside as she was dying. Their 13 children fled fro their lives. His fields and his gristmill were laid to waste. For more that a year he lived in forests and caves, returning home to find his wife dead and his children vanished.

Some of us take these liberties so much for granted, but we shouldn't. So, take a few minutes while enjoying your 4 of July holiday and silently thank these patriots. It's not much to ask for the price they paid.

### Remember: Freedom is never free!!

I hope you will show your support by sending this to as many people as you can, please. It's time we get the word out that patriotism is NOT a sin, and the Fourth of July has more to it than beer, picnics, baseball games and fireworks.

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The past and current officers of the VFW Post 3783 and Ladies Auxiliary, wish each and everyone of you a great Independence Day.

We will be celebrating our freedom in our park on:  
July 4<sup>th</sup>, 2 p.m. - 5 p.m.  
Karaoke will be provided by  
"Mike & Ike" - 2p.m. - 5 p.m.

Meat, corn & rolls will be provided and we will welcome side dishes.  
 Thank you!!!!

