



VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE UNITED STATES
Department of Pacific Areas
District V
Banchang Utapao Thailand Post 12146

Comrades,

January 2020

I hope this monthly message finds each of you and your families in good health & spirits with New Year resolution that includes your continued support, comradery & assistants to fellow Vets, widows, orphans & the less fortunate in our local community! December was a fast paced VFW month starting with visit to Phnom Penh for the DPA Midyear meeting, observed Pearl Harbor remembrance, heartwarming Christmas eve Children's party at Wat Samnak Krathon school, the children received gift bags and blankets as well as visit by Santa. The Post was able to provide school uniforms and bedding for 15 children affected by the Ann's school fire & a few of Ann's school children joined the Christmas party. Thank you to our volunteer Santa, Crane Logistics, Dragon Cars and Finnegan's for the donations!

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

I have had no new reports of Comrades or Families of Comrades in distress, our thoughts and prayers go out to our Post Members & families who are stable / recovering. Please ensure you have prepared **"WILL or POA identified an Executor & maintain MEDICAL INSURANCE"**. We can assist with draft templates at the Post!

We continue to have big turnout and comradery at our monthly general member meeting. I believe the new lobby furniture was enjoyed by all who attended the Dec. meeting the tailored cushions envy of every Marine, soon we will put the donated gas grill to work. The USN MCB 5 Sailors joined us in Comradery & at the Children's Christmas party they are working hard at Utapao but enjoying Thailand, true Friends of the Post (FOP). In addition to the Jan. "O" & Member Meetings, BKK Post 9951 will host the District meeting 17-18 Jan. at JUSMAG BKK, see Officer or check website or FB for details.

Membership Program success continues with our Post standing #7 in Nat. Div. 5, #2 in the DPA & #1 in D5 @ 108%. The Post/ Donor offer programs continues the youngest NLM cost \$150, best deal in town so give a gift, be a recruiter, place your name in the "Bucket of Cheers"! During the Midyear our Post was awarded "Early Bird Status" for your efforts in recruitment / membership and support of Dept. / National programs! It was a pleasure to have met National IG Duane Sarmiento who sends his congrats to Thailand Post 12146.

GOOD NEWS on the VOD/PP/Teacher program judging, our Post 12146 VOD nominee Siena S. won the DPA VOD competition and now competes at National level. Our Post & D5 PP & TA nominees came runners up in tough competition, very proud patriotic participants! In support of our Post competition Comrade Bryan B. donated VFW VOD & PP shoulder bags to our nominated students.

Continue documenting /reporting your CS activities to JVC John K., let's get credit for all we do! The Post always need Chairman / Volunteers for upcoming events so check the calendars posted on our Website/ FB page, **GET INVOLVED IN YOUR POST!**



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Annual Target & Objectives updates:

- 1 Continue to foster Comradeship among our members, and develop activities which will promote increased member participation. [1st Camaraderie outing success!](#)
[Looking at 2nd outing after 1st of the year, possible Cajun / Cowboy theme.](#)
- 2 Mentor Junior Member leaders in VFW ritual, processes/ procedures that will enable the Post to place knowledgeable members into Post, Dist., Dept., positions. [D5 Qtr./DPA meeting training. Attend D5/DPA meetings and activities i.e. Midyear COFA Phnom Penh 06-08 Dec. Appointed new Surgeon/Safety Chairman Todd S.](#)
- 3 Ensure Post Service Officer position is filled by capable persons and that member issues & responses are handled in an expeditious manner. [SO office is open, office hours /appointments currently 2 hr. before Post meeting.](#)
- 4 Finalize the Purchase of the new Post home ensuring Post business stability, long term investment continuity and organizational self-dependence. [Completed](#)
- 5 Continue targeted Community Support involvement. Working with Charitable organizations, community leaders, local businesses in order to implement and follow up programs for veterans, widows, orphans and the local community. [Schedule CS project planning meeting 2019-2020](#)
- 6 Support and provide assistance to any / all Active Duty who may pass through our area, support when possible our Brethren of the Thai Military Veterans Association. [1st & 2nd MAP/Recruitment day completed, seeking "Adopt a Unit". Attended USAD Slow Pitch softball tourney 21-24 Nov. Pattaya Polo grounds, information/recruitment table, 35 teams played. Possible to sponsor next year, Engaged with USN MCB 5](#)
- 7 Fundraising includes identifying opportunities that will assist in contributions to Post funds. At a minimum maintain Post Store, 1 golf tournament and 2 raffles per year. Semi. [Golf tourney planned 29 Feb 2020 focus around Post 5-year Anniversary celebrations 22nd February includes I Watch raffle!](#)
- 8 The Post shall formally observe and celebrate Military / Veteran related Remembrances to include, but not limited to [Memorial, Independence, 9/11, POW/MIA and Veterans Day](#). Continue to honor and participate in activities that honor our Comrades from other countries such as [Trafalgar, Remembrance, Thai Veterans Day and ANZAC Day. Buddy Poppies when appropriate](#)

Yours in Comradeship

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