



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



Comrades,

January/February 2021

Happy New Year Comrades, I hope all are doing well and you and your families are safe from the Corona Virus known as COVID-19 as it has reared its ugly head again. Due to the resurgence, we were not able to conduct a face-to-face meeting in January, by February travel restrictions within most of Thailand were lifted and were able to meet again at our Post Home. It was a pleasure to see you at the meeting, we had 30 comrades in attendance and were also able to enjoy some camaraderie afterwards. February 13 not only marked our regathering at the Post Home for the monthly General Membership meeting (GMM), but we also celebrated our 6-year Anniversary with cake and coffee, pizza donated by Comrade Landis and lasagna and lop moo donated by Mrs. Stein and Mrs. Morgan, thank you to all of you and to Kitty Beaver Restaurant and Bar for the beautiful cake and cupcakes. Just a reminder, the actual date of the Post is 19 February 2015, if you are out with any comrades, raise a glass.

Over the meetings of January and February we have gained one new Comrade by way of transfer from Songtan-Si South Korea Post 8180, welcome aboard Michael Chitwood, we had another Comrade upgrade from Annual to Life Member, congratulations Comrade James (Snowman) Snowden. As a new incentive for unpaid Annual members to upgrade to Life, the DPA is offering \$100 and our Post is matching that with an additional \$100 towards the cost of the Life Membership, now is the time to upgrade. The DPA has also modified its Life member recruiting program, for Post with less than 500 members (our Post stands at 239): for every 4 N/R Life members recruited the Post will receive 1 \$400 stipend or 1 DPA paid Life membership to be used in the Post membership program, as we have said before, find those Veterans out there, some need help with VA, some will benefit with having the camaraderie of those that speak the same language of "there I was" and "once upon a time".

We still have Members that are recovering from various medical situations, our prayers and thoughts go out to Chuck Cooksley, Pete Kobe, Arthur Nye and Barry Moshinsky, may all of you have a speedy recovery, our thought and prayers and best wishes are with you. Our Post Honor Guard as usual has been busy, though the Post thankfully did not lose anyone this period, the Honor Guard assisted American Legion TH02, Pattaya Thailand. I ask all the Post Officers to continue with your Buddy Check's.

Our Membership continues to grow as we have now passed 239 members and currently stand at 104.38%, this great work by each of you has won the Post for the 5<sup>th</sup> year in a row the Early Bird Special for recruiting, that is every year the Post has been eligible, what a feat.

Post 12146, yes means all of you continue to impress when it comes to community service, you volunteered on 61 projects spending 500 hours' worth a cost of \$33,919.42, in the words of DPA Commander Stein, nobody does more than VFW Post 12146 when it comes to Community Service, I thank each one of you. Continue documenting and reporting your CS activities to JVC Holzworth, let us get credit for all we do! The Post always needs Chairman/Volunteers for upcoming events so check the calendars posted on our Website/ FB page, **GET INVOLVED IN YOUR POST!**

I would like to recognize Post Service Officer Dave Spurling for all his hard work that most will never see. In these last 2 months Dave has answered over 110 emails, 78 phone calls, 4 outreach visits, hospital visits and helped a widow receive over \$8600.00 in benefits, and he is still helping 2 more widows and veterans as I type this. Thank you Dave, for all your hard work. In my opinion we have the best group helping veterans in Dave Spurling, Larry Williams (D5 SVO) and Al Fitchett DPA ADSO



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**THE MORE YOU KNOW:**

Members of our Post are showing interest in starting our own Military Order of the Cooties (MOC) Pup Tent, we need 15 new/transfer members to establish a new Pup Tent. Currently there are 5 Cooties in our Post that belong to Pup Tent 6 (basically D5 Pup Tent), we will need 10 more members, please see myself or JVC Holzworth if you are interested.

For all our Comrades not located in the Ban Chang or Pattaya area, have trouble traveling, living abroad, Post 12146 is moving into the digital age with the capability of not only face-to-face meetings but also online. As of today, the Post has purchased a Zoom license and will be able to go online no later than April's scheduled meeting. The Zoom will also allow for recording so those abroad can watch at your leisure. Thank you to the DPA for the grant to get us started.

Last but most assuredly not least, please watch out for your Comrades and if something is wrong, tell us. It is hard for us to help if we don't know there is a problem. **WHEN IN DOUBT, CONTACT ONE OF THE OFFICERS, I can be reached at 086-0716109.**

**Finally, please remember to mask up, clean your hands and be cautious in crowds, the Corona Virus is back and worse than it was before.**

Yours in Comradeship

Michael "Coop" Cooperman,  
CDR Post 12146  
Email: [chikncoopattaya@yahoo.com](mailto:chikncoopattaya@yahoo.com)  
Mobile: 0860716109