



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

Comrades,

March/April 2021

Hello Comrades, I hope all are doing well and you and your families are safe from the Corona Virus known as COVID-19 as it is reappearing from new strains. Good news coming from the VA for those in the USA, Guam and Philippines, the VA will have vaccines available, we are still waiting to hear for those under FMP in overseas locations such as ours in Thailand. As always it was a pleasure to see everyone at the March meeting and a couple new faces. It is with pleasure to announce our VFW Post achieved "All State" from the DPA once again, marking the 5th year in a row, an outstanding achievement. As an incentive for recruiting new Life Members or to have our Annual members 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. I ask that everyone keep looking for those Veterans in Thailand that need help with VA claims, TRICARE and Social Security, those looking for camaraderie of other veterans, or those just needing to talk.

As the techy world evolves, so does the VFW, we are looking forward to getting our meetings LIVE online using Zoom meetings. The Zoom license has been purchased and the new monitors will be installed soon, allowing Post members to attend meetings wherever they reside in the world and watch recorded meetings at their leisure.

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 244 members and currently stand at 107.01%, this great work by each of you has won the Post for the 5th 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 this means all of you continue to impress when it comes to community service, you volunteered on 61 projects spending 559 hours' worth a cost of \$18,190.24, 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 extend a very hearty thank you to Post Service Officer Dave Spurling for all his hard work that most will never see. In these last 2 months Dave has had contact via emails, visits and phone calls in excess 198 times to include taking a Comrade to a hospital appointment. Dave has helped widows receive over \$8600.00 in benefits, and he is still



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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, yes I said this last time and it still holds true.

THE MORE YOU KNOW:

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 May'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. Notification of the Monthly meeting will be sent out via email and linked through the Post website, the key to log into the website is; User Name: your member number, Password: is you last Name

Last but most assuredly, 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. Before travelling through out Thailand or any where else, check restrictions that may disrupt your plans.

Yours in Comradeship
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