



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



Comrades,

July/August/September 2021

Hello Comrades of Post 12146, yes it has been a while since I have put out a newsletter, but here it is. Thailand is still struggling with the Corona Novel virus 19 and with it comes numerous restrictions that was limiting movement from province to province. Another effect of the COVID-19 restrictions is group size whether it be at one of our meetings or a Post hosted event. The main thing is all if not most of you have had the opportunity to receive the first if not both vaccine jabs, if not please let us know so we can get you help in Thailand and direct you to the right place. For those Comrades in the US, if you have not received your vaccine by now, it was by choice, and I will not advocate either way as that is not my job.

Our meetings are still be done using in person and online using Zoom media. The webmaster sends out the invite every month via blast mail, please save the invite information for meeting day and if you are not receiving the monthly emails from the Post, let one of the Officers know or contact our webmaster Comrade Augie directly at augiesr@gmail.com, after logging into the meeting you will be put into a waiting room, as soon as we see it, we will click on accept and you we will be in.

The Post was just notified Sep. 22, that we achieved 100% of Membership already, that is great news and great recruiting by all. Please do not stop recruiting, it is not about filling the blocks for All American and All State as much as it is a show of force when our delegates to Congress and the VA ask for more assistance and help for our Veterans. We also want to find the Veterans in our communities to provide them the help they need whether it be with the VA, Social Security, Tricare or just need some camaraderie.

We still have Members that are recovering from various medical situations, our prayers and thoughts go out to Chuck Cooksley, Gary Steuer, Augie Augustine and Barry Moshinsky, may all of you have a speedy recovery, our prayers and best wishes are with you. Unfortunately, we lost Trustee 3 Year Comrade Dave Landis September 14, the Post Honor Guard provided honors for Comrade Landis at his funeral service in Bangkok, our sincerest condolences go out his widow, son, and family both in Thailand and in America. As September is Suicide Awareness Month, I asked the Post Officers to contact each our Members if for nothing more than to let them know help is always a phone call away.

If any one is still wondering about fling claims with the VA, does it really work, why should I, well please contact our Post Service Office (SVO) Dave Spurling. This man just does not quit fighting for our Veterans and their benefits. Dave, while recovering from a 4-way bypass heart surgery still recovered over \$86,000 in benefits for not only deserving Vets., but also widows and dependents. Please if you are not sure, contact SVO Spurling and let him help you.

People always ask, "I see your VFW has fund raisers, what for", well Comrades the simple answer is "We help our Veterans, widows, dependents and the community". During the last 3 months Members of our Post have been involved in 115 projects, utilizing 384 volunteers, travelling so many miles you could literally circle the globe at a value of \$31,540.00. The Post has been involved with donations of food, money, and volunteers to help over 1500 local residents affected by COVID restrictions and loss of income, that was just in the last 3 months. We have donated funds to help provide adequate housing for a



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poor elderly lady. We have had Members and their families deliver much needed food and water to orphanages and bedridden locals in the Rayong area. We had a Past Commander receive donations of clothes and unused items to the underprivileged at the Hand-to-Hand Foundation. When someone ask you why we have fund raisers, let them know about this

THE MORE YOU KNOW:

There has been warranted concern about the meeting room on the second floor of our Post home and the safety of it, well folks here is the low down. The second floor has been inspected by qualified engineers, and yes, we do have one section of the floor that must be beefed up for us to continue using that particular section of the floor. The rest of the floor area is safe using the engineers load formulas. There will be more to follow as our House Committee continues to work the issue.

The Post is looking forward to the following upcoming events; USMC Birthday, Veterans Day, Thanksgiving Day and the Annual Children's Christmas Party, we can always use help, please get involved and volunteer to help with any of these events.

Reminder, notification of the Monthly meeting will be sent out via email, yes, I know I already said it, sometimes reminders help. The DPA Council of Administration (C of A) is scheduled for the first week of December and will be held in Barrio Barretta, PI, travel for our Post members will be dependent on Thailand international travel restrictions and quarantine, more to come.

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 not going away anytime soon. Before travelling through out Thailand or any where else, check restrictions that may disrupt your plans.

Yours in Comradeship
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