



POST 3261 NEWSLETTER
1822 W. 162nd St., Gardena, CA 90247
Phone (310) 324-6161

WILLIAM STARK ROSECRANS VFW POST 3261 – SEPTEMBER 2021 NEWSLETTER

“It’s not the dues you pay to be a member, it’s the price you paid to be eligible”

WHAT’S UP AT LOCAL POST 3261

POST CALENDAR

Post Meeting: Second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at Post 3261.

To ensure a quorum, membership meetings will be held on Zoom.

Bingo: Every Wednesday- Doors Open at 4:30 p.m. – Starts at 6:30 p.m.

Per LA County Department of Public Health, you must wear a mask if not vaccinated and bring your vaccination card.

POST COMMANDER VINCENT “KIRK” WARREN

I would like to welcome back our members and the general public to Post 3261 since our reopening. Just a reminder that during the pandemic we may be required by the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health to implement new requirements for the protection of our membership and the general public. We look forward to your continued cooperation and support in these endeavors.

We are now publishing a monthly newsletter and hope you will find the information useful. Our Newsletter Editor, James “Jimmy C” Carradine, recently transferred his membership to our Post and we are delighted that he has volunteered his support. Jimmy is also the new Senior Vice Commander replacing William Hundley who moved out of state.

We also would like to welcome new member Larry “Skip” Anglin, who has volunteered to be our new Service Officer. Larry will be helping vets returning from Afghanistan. He plans to develop classroom and on-site training in Industrial Maintenance Mechanics and Electricians to help with employment opportunities in these fields.

Volunteers are needed to help improve our facility and services! If you have expertise in fields like technology, electrical, construction, janitorial, game tournaments – Sign-up at the Bar or contact SVP Post Commander Jimmy Carradine at (310) 324-6161 or jimmyc_90250@yahoo.com.

QUARTERMASTER NORMAN “NORM” CHIBANA

Membership Dues – Annual dues are \$40.00 and can be paid at Post 3261, or at vfw.org. Consider changing from Annual to Lifetime Membership with a life-long commitment to serving fellow service members and veterans. Payment can be made on an installment plan or as a one-time payment.

Update Your Contact Information – The Post maintains the name, address, phone number and email address of all members and Auxiliary. Please contact the Post Quartermaster if you have a change of address, email, etc. so that we can update our database. **If you haven’t already, please send us your email address.**

NOTE: Approximately 40% or more of Post and Auxiliary addresses, phone numbers and email addresses are incorrect. Update your information at chibanan@yahoo.com or jimmyc__90250@yahoo.com.

RENT THE BANQUET HALL FOR YOUR NEXT PARTY OR EVENT!

The Banquet Hall is approximately 2550 sq. ft. with a 325 sq. ft. stage. There is a separate bar area, separate entrances and exits and restrooms available. There is plenty of parking and on-site management. The building is air-conditioned and heated and is a non-smoking facility.

<u>HALL RENTAL PRICES AND CONDITIONS: PER FIRE DEPT.</u>	
HALL CAPACITY IS 250 PERSONS	
SECURITY DEPOSIT TO RESERVE WITH CONTRACT.....	\$500.00
SUNDAY (3 PM TO 10 PM)	\$950.00
MONDAY – THURSDAY.....	\$550.00
FRIDAY AND SATURDAY (BAR CLOSSES AT MIDNIGHT).....	\$1900.00
PATIO – NO KITCHEN (10 AM – 6 PM).....	\$650.00

The VFW **will not** hold a date for you without a deposit. Once you determine when your event will be held, it is important that you place a deposit on the date to secure the date and time you are interested in. Policies for the rental are contained in our agreement.

A deposit is required. It is important that you place a deposit in advance to secure the date and time, so call ahead and make an appointment to stop in and see our venue. Policies and guidelines for the use of the Hall are contained in the rental agreement. Please call the Post at (310) 324-6161 or send an email to chibanan@yahoo.com. Feel free to stop by during operating hours.

EMPHASIS ON MEMBERSHIP: RECRUIT AND RETAIN

The success of Post 3261 relies on the efforts of its membership and that is particularly true when it comes to recruiting and retention of members.

The VFW says numbers matter and they do, especially when we lobby Congress for strong support for the Veterans Administration – our voices count! You can be as involved as you choose – but be sure to keep your membership current. **Reach out** to friends and family who are qualified veterans but are not members. Invite them to a meeting or an activity so they can see “What’s in it for them”.

WEEKEND ACTIVITIES AT POST 3261

Starting in September the Canteen will be open **Sundays at 1:00 PM** for all scheduled National League Football (NFL) games. You may order food from outside sources and eat it in the Canteen. **Please make sure you clean up before leaving.** We hope that with more volunteers we will be able to increase our weekend activities.

CANTEEN
Open Monday -
Sunday:
2:00 – 10:00 PM

Drop by to enjoy a cold beer or beverage and say hello to our two outstanding bartenders “Ryann” and “Sweeney” for excellent services and conversation.

Bring a friend – we have two large screen TVs and a smoke free facility. Wi-Fi is readily accessible, just ask the bartender for the password.

TACO Tuesday 4-9 PM

Carne Asada & Chicken
\$1.50

Open on Wednesday
During BINGO Kitchen
Hours
5 - 9 PM

MENU

Hot Dogs / Hamburgers
Cheese Toast / Patty Melt
Taco Salad / French Fries
Desserts: Brownies &
Pineapple Upside Down
Cake

WE REMEMBER

WE SALUTE OUR FALLEN VETERANS

The Department of Defense on Saturday (August 28, 2021) identified the 13 members of the U.S. military who were killed in the attack on the airport in Kabul, Afghanistan, on Thursday, August 26, 2021, as they worked to evacuate people to safety. They hailed from across the country from California to Wyoming to Tennessee. The average age was just over 22. Eleven were Marines, one was a Navy Medic, and another was a member of the Army.

Here is what we know about them (this section in part):

Marine Corps Staff Sgt. Darin T. Hoover, 31, of Salt Lake City, UT
Marine Corps Sgt. Johanny Rosario Pichardo, 25, of Lawrence, MA
Marine Corps Sgt. Nicole L. Gee, 23, of Sacramento, CA
Marine Corps Cpl. Hunter Lopez, 22, of Indio, CA
Marine Corps Cpl. Daegan W. Page, 23, of Omaha, NE
Marine Corps Cpl. Humberto A. Sanchez, 22, of Logansport, IN
Marine Corps Lance Cpl. David L. Espinoza, 20 of Rio Bravo, TX
Marine Corps Lance Cpl. Jared M. Schmitz, 20, of St. Charles, MO
Marine Corps Lance Cpl. Rylee J. McCollum, 20, of Jackson, WY
Marine Corps Lance Cpl. Dylan R. Merola, 20 of Rancho Cucamonga, CA
Marine Corps Lance Cpl. Kareem M. Nikoui, 20, of Norco, CA
Navy Hospitalman Maxton W. Soviak, 22, of Berlin Heights, OH
Army Staff Sgt. Ryan C. Knauss, 23, of Corryton, TN

SOURCE: New York Times "What we know about the 13 U.S. service members killed in the Kabul attack."
Go to [nytimes.com/article/us-soldiers-killed-afghanistan.html](https://www.nytimes.com/article/us-soldiers-killed-afghanistan.html). for the full article.

20TH ANNIVERSARY OF 9/11



Remembering VFW Members Killed at the Pentagon

A VFW Post commander and a young woman who grew up in her dad's VFW before joining the Navy paid the ultimate sacrifice on 9/11. See the complete stories in the September issue of the VFW Magazine of William Ruth and Jamie Lynn Fallon.

Article written by Janie Dyhouse.

POW/MIA RECOGNITION DAY – SEPTEMBER 17, 2021

BACKGROUND: NATIONAL POW/MIA RECOGNITION DAY



Until July 18, 1979, no special commemoration was held to honor America's POW/MIAs, those returned and those still missing and unaccounted for from our nation's wars. That first year, resolutions were passed in Congress and the national ceremony was held at the National Cathedral, Washington, DC. A Missing Man Formation was flown by the 1st Tactical Squadron, Langley AFB, Virginia. The Veterans Administration published a poster with the letters "POW/MIA" and that format was continued until 1982, when a black and white drawing of a POW in harsh captivity was used to convey the urgency of the situation and the priority that President Ronald Regan assigned to achieving the fullest possible accounting for

Americans still missing from the Vietnam War. For the next ten years, the various renditions of the American Eagle, by artist and Vietnam Veteran Tom Nielsen, came to symbolize America's POW/MIAs and our nation's determination to account for them and bring them home.

National POW/MIA Recognition Day legislation was introduced yearly until 1995 when Congress opted to discontinue considering legislation to designate special commemorative days. Since then, successive Presidents have signed an annual proclamation. In the early years, the date was routinely set near the League's annual meetings. In the mid-1980's, the American EX-POWs decided that they wished to see the date established as April 9th, the date during World War II when the largest number of Americans were captured. As a result, legislation advocated by the American Ex-POWs was passed covering two years, July 20, 1984, as initially proposed, and April 9, 1985, the latter of which had to be cancelled due to inclement weather, a concern that had been expressed with the proposed April 9th date.

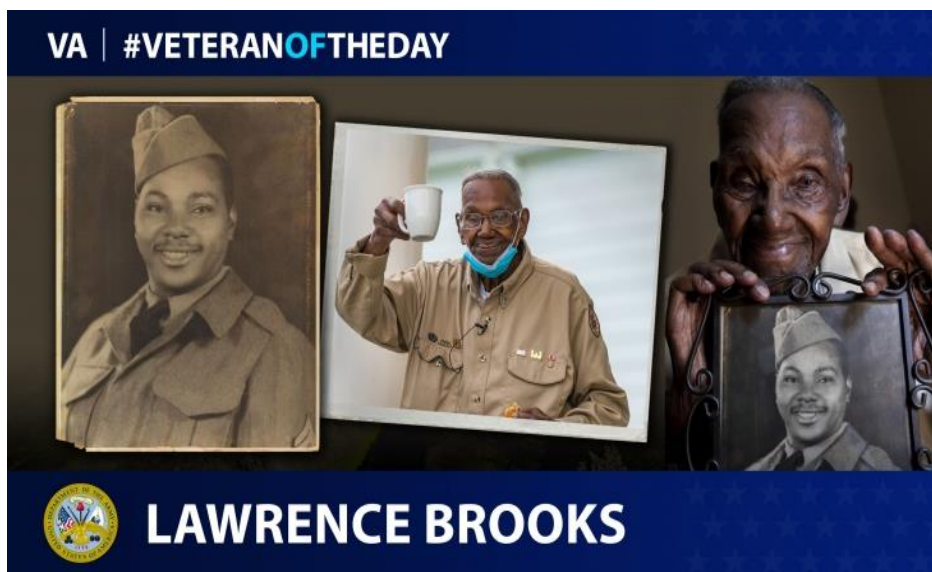
In 1984 National POW/MIA Recognition Day ceremony was held at the White House, hosted by President Reagan. At this most impressive ceremony, the Reagan Administration balanced the focus to honor all returned POWs and renew national commitment to accounting as fully as possible for those still missing. Perhaps the most impressive Missing Man Formation ever flown was that year, up the Ellipse and directly over the white House.

Subsequently, to accommodate all returned POWs and all American still missing and unaccounted for from all wars, the League proposed the third Friday in September, a date not associated with any particular war, not in conjunction with any organization's national convention, and a time of year when weather nationwide is usually moderate. Most nation ceremonies have been held at the Pentagon; however, in addition to the July 20, 1984, White House ceremony noted above, the September 19, 1986, a national ceremony was held on the steps of the US Capitol facing the National Mall, also concluding with a flight of high-performance military aircraft in Missing Man Formation.

Source: National League of Families of American Prisoners and Missing in Southeast – www.pow-miafamilies.org Re-published June 2018

CELEBRATIONS

VETERAN OF THE DAY



On his 112th birthday, Veteran of the Day, Army Veteran Lawrence Brooks, was the oldest living WW II veteran in the U.S.

Lawrence Brooks was born on **September 12, 1909**, in Norwood, Louisiana. He was living in New Orleans, Louisiana, when the Army drafted him in 1940. He went to Camp Shelby, Mississippi, for basic training and honorably discharged in November 1941. When the Japanese bombed Pearl Harbor in December 1941, the Army called Brooks back into service. He joined the 91st Engineer Battalion, a primarily

African American battalion. Engineer battalions constructed roads and bridges for the Allied forces and worked in mapmaking, clearing hazards in airfields, and providing ground support.

In the spring of 1942, the 91st Engineer Battalion deployed to Australia where Brooks recalled they began working immediately in construction. In the summer of 1942, they transferred to Horn Island in northern Australia before moving to Papua New Guinea. Brooks served multiple support roles during this period, such as cooking food, cleaning uniforms and acting as a chauffeur for officers. Though not directly involved in combat, he did recall two times that he was in danger: once during a base bombing while the battalion was in New Guinea, and another time when the C-47 cargo plane he was on was damaged.

Brooks' C-47 cargo plane was transporting wire from Australia to New Guinea when an engine failed. He had to work quickly to get rid of all the load to make the plane light enough to continue. "There was the pilot, the co-pilot and me and just two parachutes. I told them, 'If we have to jump, I'm going to grab one of them,'" he recalled in an oral history for the National World War II Museum. Brooks' battalions later transferred to the Philippines after the Japanese surrender in August 1945. He returned to the U.S. and honorably discharged as a private first class.

After the war, Brooks returned to New Orleans and worked as a forklift operator until his retirement in 1979. He has five children, five stepchildren, 13 grandchildren and 22 great-grandchildren. At the age of 112, he is America's oldest living Veteran and has appeared frequently at events at the National World War II Museum in New Orleans.

Thank you for your service.

Contributors:

Writer: Sarah Concepcion; Editors: Julia Pack and Katherine Berman; Fact Checker: Lia Sansoucy; Graphic Artist: Kiki Kelley. Source: blogs.va.gov/VANTAGE/92477/veteranoftheday-army-veteran

US AIR FORCE BIRTHDAY - September 18, 2021

Happy Birthday US Air Force!



The VFW salutes all who have worn the uniform of the American Airman

WASHINGTON – On Saturday, Sept. 18, 2021, the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) joins in with our grateful nation in celebrating the birthday of the U.S. Air Force, who has protected and defended our country for the past 74 years.

Originally organized as part of the U.S. Army in 1907, the Air Force became a separate military department on this day when a fellow VFW Life member, President Harry S. Truman, signed the National Security Act of 1947. Today, our Air Force remains the most dominant air, space, and cyber force in the world, all thanks to the service, sacrifice, and integrity of those who have worn Air Force blue.

Source: <https://www.vfw.org/media-and-events/latest-releases/archives/2021/9/happy-birthday-us-air-force>

VETERANS NEWS UPDATE

AGENT ORANGE BENEFITS

Agent Orange was an herbicide that the U.S. Military used during the Vietnam War. Exposure to Agent Orange is associated with several medical conditions, some which are serious. The Department of Veterans Affairs lists these conditions as presumptive. This means that veterans who meet certain eligibility criteria are automatically eligible for VA disability benefits.

Eligibility for Agent Orange Benefits

Veterans who meet the following criteria are eligible for Agent Orange disability benefits:

A medical record of having been diagnosed with an Agent Orange-related illness or condition, AND any of the following:

- Service in Vietnam for any length of time between January 9, 1962, and May 7, 1975, **OR**;
- Service in or near the Korean Demilitarized Zone (DMZ) for any length of time between September 1, 1967 and August 31, 1971, **OR**;
- Service aboard a vessel operating not more than 12 nautical miles seaward of the demarcation line of the waters of Vietnam and Cambodia (c.f. Public Law 116-23, the Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act of 2019), **OR**;
- Exposure to herbicides in a location other than Vietnam or the DMZ, such as by loading, transporting, or storing them while serving in the U.S. Armed Forces.

Certain veterans who operated from Royal Thai Air Force (RTAF) bases near U-Tapao, Ubon, Nakhon Phanom, Udorn, Takhli, Korat, and Dong Muang, near the airbase perimeter anytime between February 28, 1961, and May 7, 1975, may qualify. You can read the full set of eligibility requirements on the [VA website](#).

Agent Orange Presumptive Conditions – VA’s Agent Orange Presumptive List

<u>Disease</u>	<u>Year Added</u>
Al Amyloidosis	2006
Chronic B-Cell Leukemias	2003
Chloracne	1991
Diabetes Mellitus Type 2	2001
Hodgkin’s Disease	1994
Ischemic Heart Disease	2010
Multiple Myeloma	2016
Non-Hodgkin’s Lymphoma	1991
Parkinson’s Disease	2010
Peripheral Neuropathy, Early-Onset	2013
Porphyria Cutanea Tarda	1994
Prostate Cancer	2013
Respiratory Cancers	1994
Soft Tissue Sarcomas*	1991
Bladder Cancer	2021
Hypothyroidism	2021
Parkinsonism	2021

*Exceptions: osteosarcoma, chondrosarcoma, Kaposi’s sarcoma, and mesothelioma.

New Conditions on the Agent Orange Presumptive List

Since the passage of the 2021 National Defense Authorization Act, there are now three new conditions on the Agent Orange presumptive list. These conditions include:

- **Bladder Cancer**
- **Hypothyroidism:** A condition occurs when the thyroid doesn't produce enough hormones
- **Parkinsonism:** A condition with symptoms of Parkinson's Disease, including tremors, impaired speech, muscle stiffness, and slow movement

The addition of these conditions means that many more veterans will be eligible for VA disability benefits. If you filed a claim for one of these conditions in the past, the VA will automatically review your case to see if you're now eligible.

SOURCE: hillandponton.com/agent-orange-presumptive-list-of-conditions

VETERANS CRISIS LINE



Veteran Affairs offers a network of support for all our Nation's Veterans and their families. Veterans in emotional crisis and their loved ones can call the free and confidential Veterans Crisis Line to connect with a qualified crisis counselor who are available to help **24/7 365**.

For veterans and their families, even if they are not registered with VA or enrolled in VA health care.

Phone: 1-800-273-8255
Web: veteranocrisisline.net
Text: 83825

ANNUAL EYE EXAMS ARE ESSENTIAL TO VETERAN'S EYE HEALTH

National Eye-Exam month was in August however it is very import to have your eye health checked. The Department of Veterans Affairs encourages all Veterans and their family members to schedule their annual appointments. The VA is highlighting routine eye exams particularly among senior Veterans. Age-related macular degeneration is the leading cause of vision loss in adults over the age of 60-a common condition which can blur the sharp, central vision people need for activities like reading and driving.

A collaborative study involving VA researchers discovered a group of HIV medications known as nucleoside reverse transcriptase inhibitors may help prevent AMD. The study was led by the University

of Virginia School of Medicine and included more than 15 medical centers and universities in the U.S. and abroad, including the South Carolina Columbia VA Health Care System with support from its affiliated nonprofit Dorn Research Institute.

Investigators looked at data of more than 33 million patients over a 20-year period and discovered patients receiving HIV medications—namely as preventive measures against HIV—were roughly 40% less likely to develop dry macular degeneration, the most common form of AMD.

“The database results back genetic findings from the study that explain how the HIV drugs might help protect vision,” said VA Investigator Scott Sutton, Pharm. D. “The results intriguing and offer promise for a new approach to preventing and treating disease that affects millions of Veterans and non-Veterans.”

According to the VA Office of Blind Rehabilitation Services, more than 1 million Veterans have low vision, and roughly 130,00 are legally blind. As the Veteran population continues to age, vision and blood pressure have been found to be effective in preventing vision loss. Though hopeful, researchers say further studies and Food and Drug Administration approval will be needed before HIV medications identified in the study can be used to help treat age-related blindness.

Routine eye exams and preventive vision testing are covered under the VA health care benefits. Learn more about VA’S Blind Rehabilitation Services.

Source: blogs.vva.gov/Vantage/93417/annual-eye-exams-essential-to-veterans-vision-and-eye-health

VA STANDARDS FOR MAMMOGRAPY SCREENINGS

**Disabled American Veterans support H.R. 4571
For Women Serving in the Military**



H.R. 4571, the Supporting Expanded Review for Veterans in Combat Environments (SERVICE) Act of 2021, would revise the VA’S standards for mammography screenings to include those veterans who have served in locations known to have been associated with toxic exposures.

The bill would expand eligibility for these life-saving screenings beyond the commonly advised age and risk scope to encompass those who have served in specific locations and timeframes, including Iraq, Afghanistan, and areas of Southwest Asia, as well as other areas where U.S. military forces utilized burn pits. It also requires a report to Congress comparing the rates of breast cancer among troops deployed to areas with known exposures with service members not deployed to those locations and to the civilian population.

Defense Department research reports indicate that women who have served in the military have an elevated risk for breast cancer compared to their non-veteran peers. Nearly half of the growing demographic of women veterans is under age 45, and after almost two decades of war many will have had exposure to various airborne or other toxic hazards during service including a milieu of toxins associated with exposure to burn pits.

While VA historically outperforms the private sector in providing breast health screenings for women, this bill will bolster those efforts even further. Better screening and early detection, especially among those with known risk factors, can help save lives.

The Disabled American Veterans (DAV) organization believes it is imperative these veterans have access to early breast cancer detection services that align with their history of toxic exposures during military service. Therefore, we strongly support the SERVICE Act of 2021, in accordance with DAV Resolution No. 15, which calls for enhanced medical services for women veterans

SOURCE: dav.quorum.us/bills/

VA TO START PROCESSING DISABILITY CLAIMS FOR CERTAIN CONDITIONS RELATED TO PRESUMED PARTICULATE

The Department of Veterans began processing disability claims Aug. 2 for asthma, rhinitis and sinusitis on a presumptive basis based on presumed particulate matter exposures during military service in Southwest Asia and certain other areas---if these conditions manifested within 10 years of a qualifying period of military service.

VA conducted the first iteration of a newly formed internal VA process to review scientific evidence to support rulemaking, resulting in the recommendation to consider creation of new presumptions of service connection for respiratory conditions based on VA's evaluation of a National Academies of Science, Engineering and Medicine report and other evidence.

The process concluded that particulate matter pollution is associated with chronic asthma, rhinitis and sinusitis for Veterans who served in the Southwest Asia theater of operations beginning Aug. 2, 1990, to present, or Afghanistan, Uzbekistan, Syria, or Djibouti beginning Sept. 19, 2001, to the present. VA's review also concluded that there was sufficient evidence to presume that these Veterans have been exposed to particulate matter.

"I announced my intent to initiate rulemaking on May 27 to consider adding respiratory conditions to the list of chronic disabilities," said Denis McDonough, Secretary of Veterans Affairs. "Through this process I determined that the evidence provided was sufficient to establish presumptions of service connection for these three respiratory conditions. This is the right decision, and VA will continue to use a holistic approach in determining toxic exposure presumptive moving forward."

The Southwest Asia theater of operations refers to Iraq, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, the neutral zone between Iraq and Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Qatar, the United Arab Emirates, Oman, the Gulf of Aden, the Gulf of Oman, the Persian Gulf, the Arabian Sea, the Red Sea, and the airspace above these locations.

VA will conduct outreach to impacted Veterans and survivors to inform them about their eligibility and will provide information on how to apply. Veterans and survivors who believe they may be eligible for the newly established presumptive conditions are encouraged to apply. They should file a [VA Form 21-525EZ](#) if applying for the first time or a [VA Form 20-0995](#) if they are reapplying for these conditions. For more information on the new presumptive conditions, visit our website at Airborne Hazards and Burn Pit Exposures – Public Health (va.gov).

To apply for benefits, Veterans and survivors may visit VA.gov or call toll-free to 800-827-1000. Within the next week, you can view the interim final rule at www.regulations.gov.

COVID-19 BOOSTER SHOTS AND ADDITIONAL DOSES LATEST UPDATE



We follow the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidance on booster shots and additional doses as outlined in the following:

We now offer a third vaccine dose only to certain groups of people with weakened immune systems.

We cannot provide booster shots quite yet. The Advisory Committee to the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has recommended authorizing a booster dose of the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine for people 65 years of age and older and those at high risk of severe illness from COVID-19. The Committee recommends that these individuals receive a booster dose six or more months after they've had their second Pfizer-BioNTech dose. Final CDC guidance is expected next week and is required before we can provide booster shots at the VA. Check back soon for updates at the weblink below:

Source: va.gov/health-care/covid-19-vaccine/

EDITOR'S COMMENTS: Let me start by saying my name is James "Jimmy C" Carradine. I'm retired from the U.S. Air Force after a 20-year career. My last duty station was Los Angeles Air Force, El Segundo, CA. I was previously a member of VFW Post 1717, Lompoc, CA. before its recent closure at which time I became a member-at-large. Our Quartermaster "Norm" *twisted my arm* and now I'm a member of VFW Post 3261. On a more serious note, "Norm" has impressed me with his hard work and dedication to VFW Post 3261. Therefore, it was a "no brainer" to join this post.

Now, let's talk about the Post 3261 Newsletter. First of all, I volunteered to publish the newsletter however, I have no prior experience but a desire to do the best job possible for our post. It's my intention to publish the newsletter monthly and that it will be informative to our members and their families concerning veteran and military affairs.

Presently, our membership is declining due to our aging population. In each newsletter, we will emphasize the need to increase our membership and the need for volunteers. You don't have to be a VFW member to volunteer - just have a desire to serve.

VFW Post 3261 will be developing a new website to inform people about our post and to help boost membership. We hope our website will be informative to our veterans as well to our visitors and the community at large.

We welcome any comments, suggestions, or complaints about errors that warrant correction. Please send me an email at jimmyc_90250@yahoo.com.

VFW POST 3261 OFFICERS

Commander – Vincent “Kirk Warren

Senior Vice Commander – James ”Jimmy C” Carradine

Junior Vice Commander - Noe Rubio

Quartermaster – Norman “Norm” Chibana

Chaplain - Michael J. McArdle

1st Year Trustee – Arnulfo Ochoa

2nd Year Trustee – Horace Yonamine

3rd Year Trustee – Patrick F. Tubal

Adjutant – Norman “Norm” Chibana

Service Officer – Larry “Skip Anglin

Judge Advocate – Robert K. Maruo

Surgeon - Open