



Mar / Apr 2010

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS * CARTER-SMITH POST 5867
12650 LINDO LANE, LAKESIDE, CALIFORNIA 92040 (619) 443-0556
Websites: www.VFW-Lakeside.com * www.VFW-Lakeside.org

Post Newsletter

Post Officers

Commander
Ron Bonnin
Sr Vice Commander
Chobby Betts
Jr Vice Commander
Tom Jones
Quartermaster
Mike Cook
Adjutant
Paul Boston
Chaplin
Don Jimerson
1st Yr Trustee
Jeff Bucher
2nd Yr Trustee
Donald Smith
3rd Yr Trustee
Gary Walsh
Judge Advocate
Bob Zimmerman
Post Surgeon
Lex Boswek
Service Officer
Don Jimerson

House Committee

Leo Johnson
Corky Jones
Frank Larabee
Woody Walker
Larry West

Ladies Auxiliary

President
Gayle Boston
Sr. Vice Pres
Kailli Carter
Jr. Vice Pres
Eileen Clemons
Treasurer
Nancy Kowka
Chaplain
Delors Paulauskis

New Post Members

Christopher Carmichael
Charles Conniry
David Frost
Jared Horrell
Danny Pak
D.R. Parisette
William Quave
Gaylend Zahn

Welcome Aboard!



Commander's Corner

by Ronald J. Bonnin

Comrades,

Many good things are happening at our Post to be grateful for.

The AMVETS are footing the bill (\$6,000) to re-roof the west half of our building. The fundraiser is March 5th, 5:00pm - 8:00 pm, featuring pitt-cooked meat with all the trimmings, which is always very good.

We all need to remember to say thank you to our Post Officers, especially Ken Christopher, Larry West and Roger Martin. The VFW requires all positions to be filled or we will have to close. The VFW does so many good things for our veterans and the community. It is very important for us all to continue to do our part. Post elections are coming soon and we need all who can accept a position to do so. We will all work together so no one officer is over-burdened.

This February, the Department Commander, Jack Turner, was here in San Diego for his official visit. It was a fun weekend for all who attended. We were able to visit other Posts, the VA Hospital, and the Chula Vista Veterans' Home. We should all remember to visit the Home and the Hospital as often as we can. The veterans there do so appreciate the visits and they deserve the best from us.

I was nominated by the Department Commander to the position of National Aide de Camp and received the appointment. The position requires that I assist National VFW Officers when they visit San Diego. The position is a thank you for the hard work our Post is doing for the VFW and our community.

Our Post is close to receiving All State Honors. We are short only twenty membership renewals and 10 new members. Our Post hasn't received these honors for many years. To make this would be significant. It is quite difficult for Post with a large membership such as ours to achieve this. We need everyone to help with new member recruitment.

On March 16 our District Membership Meeting will be held at our Post at 7:00 pm. Dinner will be served at 6:00 pm. I would be greatly appreciated to see all of our members attend.

Our 64th annual Memorial Day Ceremony is coming along. Duncan Hunter, Diann Jacob, Joel Anderson, Major General Thomas Conant 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing Commander MCAS Miramar, Gunnery Sgt. Nick Popaditch, 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing Band, and more are already on board. Our ceremony will be a fitting tribute to all our veterans. There are many more irons in the fire and as always we need to say thank you to the people and volunteers who make our Post go, especially Suzanne, Nicki and Norma, who do so much it is hard to keep up with it all. Thank you all so much. You make me very proud of our Post and being commander is easy with such great support.

May God Bless our Post!

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Greetings!

by Chobby Betts,
Senior Vice Commander

2010, wow it's hard to believe it has been 42 years since I was in Vietnam.

Here are some Vietnam Veteran Facts:

1. 9,087,000 military personnel served on active duty during the Vietnam Era (Aug 5, 1964-May 7, 1975).
2. 8,744,000 GIs were on active duty during the war (Aug 5, 1964 – Mar 28, 1973).
3. 2,709,918 Americans served in Vietnam, this number represents 9.7 % of the generation.
4. 3,403,100 (including 514,300 offshore) served in the broader Southeast Asia Theater (Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia, flight crews based in Thailand and sailors in adjacent South China Sea waters).
5. 2,594,000 served within the borders of South Vietnam (Jan 1, 1965 – Mar 28, 1973). Another 50,000 served in Vietnam between 1960 & 1964.
6. Of the 2.6 million, between 1-1.6 million (40 – 60%) either fought in combat, provided close support or were at least fairly regularly exposed to enemy attack
7. 7,484 women (6,250 or 83.5% were nurses) served in Vietnam.
8. Peak troop strength in Vietnam, 543,482 (April 30, 1968).
9. Non-hostile deaths: 10,800.
10. Total deaths: 58,202 includes men formerly classified as MIA that subsequently died from their wounds. This accounts for the changing total.
11. 8 nurses died.
12. 61% of those killed were 21 or
13. Average age of those killed: 23.1 years.
14. Enlisted: 50,274, 22.37 years.
15. Officers: 6,598, 28.43 years.
16. Warrants: 1,276, 24.73 years.
17. Five men killed in Vietnam were only 16 years old.
18. The oldest man killed was 62 years old.
19. 2, 709,218 Americans serves in Vietnam, 58,202 were KIA for a percentage of .0214%.
20. 303,704 were wounded, 153,329 were hospitalized.
21. Missing in action: 2,338.
22. POWs: 766, (114 died in captivity).
23. As of Jan 15, 2004 there were 1,875 Americans still unaccounted for from the Vietnam War.

All gave some and some gave all. May God bless all veterans that served their country!



VFW NATIONAL HOME for Children

presented by Donald L. Smith
Jr. Vice Commander

The Idea

The idea of a National Home started with the Military Order of the Cootie. At their convention in Norfolk, Virginia, in August 1923, the Supreme Pup Tent gave the Supreme Commander the authority to select a site and work on the erection and maintenance of a home for orphaned children of the Veterans of Foreign Wars. The city of Norfolk, Virginia, becoming aware of this action, offered the Cooties a free site for the home through the Widgeon Realty Company of Norfolk. On January 19-20, 1924, the Supreme Council of Administration met in Kansas City and among the business transacted was consideration of the orphan home project. Frank P. Strickland, chairman of the committee, presented several offers of sites, but in view of a survey made to determine the number of children that the Cooties might be called upon to assume guardianship, it was determined that sufficient funds were not available to start the project. The project was therefore delayed and a call was issued to all Pup Tents to help raise funds. Although the Cooties were not able to get their noble idea in to action, the idea of a VFW National Home did not die.

The Beginning

The actual beginning of the VFW National Home lies with a poignant story of a young girl named Amy Ross. One cold day in February 1922, Amy Ross, then just 23 years old, walked into the office of Dr. Clarence L. Candler, the Department of Michigan Commander. Amy Ross said that she had an idea which she thought could be put into effect for the Veterans of Foreign Wars, namely to find jobs for the thousands of veterans who were walking the streets of Detroit looking for any kind of work. Dr. Candler wrote in the November 1924 issue of the *Golden Stripe*, Michigan's VFW Newspaper, "I didn't think she could do it, but anyway the limited facilities of the VFW were turned over to Miss Ross and she started to work. What followed is history (over 9,000 veterans were found employment), but not all of you know that the present high standing of the VFW in Michigan, our wonderful headquarters in the General Motors Building, the Yanks Convalescent Camp, Inc., our 300 grave burial plot at Roseland Cemetery, and our new \$500,000 VFW National Home, Inc. all came as a direct result of Amy Ross' sacrifices for the veterans of this community."

VFW National Home for Children (cont'd)

Dr. Candler went on to describe how Amy Ross worked hard for the VFW until her untimely death in 1924. It was through Amy Ross' efforts that a millionaire cattleman from Jackson, Michigan, named Corey Spencer came to meet with Dr. Candler in the summer of 1924. Mr. Spencer had heard about Amy's great work and the needs of the VFW. He had heard of the Yanks Convalescent Camp, and he knew about Moosehart – and he had an idea. Mr. Spencer had 472 Acres of land near Eaton Rapids, Michigan, known as the Grand River Stock Farm, and he wanted to make it a gift to the VFW. Spencer's offer was presented to the 1924 Convention in Atlantic City. The Commander-in-Chief appointed a committee to investigate the offer and report back to the National Council of Administration. On November 21, 1924, just before the VFW National Home became a reality, Amy Ross died, but her efforts have lived on. At the tender age of 25 the VFW gave her a military funeral, but as Dr. Candler said, "Amy Ross dead? No, she has just commenced to live...When that new little city arises out of the ground near Eaton Rapids called the VFW National Home, you will hear Amy singing a lullaby to some veteran's orphan." On December 6, 1924, just after Amy died, the National Council of Administration approved the idea of the VFW National Home, Articles of Incorporation were prepared, and on January 7, 1925, the dreams of Amy Ross and Corey Spencer and the Military Order of the Cootie came true. The Veterans of Foreign Wars had taken a giant step forward in fulfilling its pledge to "Honor the Dead by Helping the Living." The December 1924 issue of the *Gold Stripe* devoted all of its content to the sad parting of Amy Ross and the great news of the VFW National Home. The editor wrote, "This VFW National Home is the greatest objective ever placed before any veterans organization. It will give each and every post something tangible to work for."

First Funds

In 1922, the World Series ended in a tie between the New York Yankees and the New York Giants after the game was called due to darkness. Many ticket holders claimed that there was ample light, and that the only reason the game was called was to produce more profits through an additional game. The Baseball Commissioner, Judge Keneshaw Landis, decided that the new profits from the extra game should go to charity. Past Commander-in-Chief T.L. Huston, part owner of the Yankees at that time, obtained \$20,000 for the VFW and it was placed in a Trust Fund. This money was to be used for operating expenses of the VFW National Home for the first year. The early months of 1925 saw the pages of *Foreign Service*, the official publication of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, filled with many articles about the unfolding drama of the VFW National Home. Finances were uppermost in the minds of the founders of the Home. There were many exhortations for financial support. Robert G. Woodside, a past Commander-in-Chief, was named general chairman of a campaign to raise ten million dollars for an endowment fund. And so the Home was launched.

First Children

On March 2, 1925, Sgt. Edward Pollett, Ret., 48, traveled from Halfway, Michigan, to pick up his retirement check at Ft. Wayne in Detroit. While crossing the street in Detroit, he was hit by a street car and later died at a nearby hospital. Twenty-four hours after his death, Mrs. Pollett identified her husband at the county morgue and then found that she and her 6 children, ages 2 to 15 were left destitute since Sgt. Pollett's retirement pay stopped upon his death. The Halfway, Michigan VFW Post 1146 appealed to Dr. Candler, State VFW Commander, on behalf of the family, and arrangements were made immediately to send the family to the VFW National Home. Sgt. Pollett was given a military funeral by the Detroit and Halfway VFW Posts and he was buried in the VFW plot at the Roseland Cemetery which Amy Ross had worked hard to get for the VFW. On March 9, 1925, Mrs. Pollett and her 6 children entered the VFW National Home as the first residents. The first Matron of the Home, Nora M. Abbott, and first supervisor, Roy Williams, supervised the housing of the Polletts in an old frame farmhouse. In June of 1925, Nora Abbott wrote, "Maybe you would like to hear how things are going for the Polletts. My little mother and her children are settled and seem to be happy. She tells me how thankful she is that she could come here and have a home with her children. . . ." **Thank you for your interest and support! A community of promises kept.**



Chaplain's Corner
by Don Jimerson

We were notified that William R. Kuhner passed away last July, 2009.

Our comrade and friend, Leo Johnson, passed away in January 15, 2010. Our deepest sympathy and our prayers go out to Jackie and her family. Leo will surely be missed by everyone here at Carter-Smith [our Lakeside Post].

Blessings to All!



The Canteen

by Suzanne Hunt,
Canteen Manager

I sincerely hope that each of you are having a great start to the New Year.

Our Post has many exciting endeavors in the making and we are still working very hard to keep the renovation of our old building going. We lost the top to our overhang during the storms, along with a lot of roof leaks. The roof renovation is long past due, but we are certainly making headway. It is nice to see everyone helping out the Am-Vets in getting tickets for the roof renovation dinner sold. Hope that each of you have reserved March 5th for our renovation fund dinner that the Am-Vets are hosting to help pay for the roof. Tickets, if bought ahead of time, are \$10.00 for adults and \$5.00 for children. Tickets will be \$12.00 at the door. We will, in addition to some great food, have a 50/50 raffle, raffle prizes, silent auction and entertainment. Many, many thanks to all of our AmVet brothers and sisters for putting so much hard work into getting the roof replaced. Please come by and support our efforts and have a great time. Bring your friends, neighbors and relatives.

In addition, we are long over-due to replacing our heat and air-conditioning units in the main hall. It is extremely hot in the summer and cold in the winter, which makes renting our hall out difficult. However, all the work that we have done to date has certainly helped our hall rentals out a great deal.

I want to personally thank each and every one of you for coming to our "Burn Your Own Steak" dinner on February 19th. It was great to see such a good turnout, so you can look forward to another one in the near future. Many, many thanks to Jackie Meeks for helping me out ALL DAY and NIGHT getting the dinner prepped and then the clean-up. Many thanks to my daughter, Amber, and Karlos for helping me out in the kitchen as well. In addition, MANY thanks to Kent and Roger Lee for helping with the cooking of the steaks. GREAT JOB!!!!

I am again reminding everyone that EVERY WEEKEND will bring you a great HOMEMADE meal. We serve burgers with all the fixings every Saturday from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm for only \$6.00. In addition, our beverages/sodas are the cheapest in town. Every Sunday will bring you a great variety and not any 2 weeks have the same menu. \$8.00 will get you one heck of a breakfast (and maybe lunch/dinner also) with endless coffee and orange juice. If you have not been over in a while, come and try us out! There is not ONE bad weekend. These groups put their heart and soul into putting out a great meal. The money all stays at our Post and in our community. Who could ask for anything more?

Our Post is hosting a Poker Tournament on July 10, 2010. As you may or may not know, it takes a lot of money to host a tournament; so to that end, we are looking for sponsors and/or donations for our prizes. If you can help (or know someone who can help) please call Ron Bonnin or Ken Christopher with that information. You can leave a message at the Post at (619)443-0556 and our bartenders will ensure that they get the message. The AmVet Ladies' Auxiliary will be hosting a "Hot Summer Night" on August 21, 2010, and will be having a steak and/or half a chicken dinner, along with raffles and other fun goodies. Details will follow - mark your calendar early! You won't want to miss out on this one either. I want to thank all of our volunteer bartenders: Nicki, Diana, Amanda, Vicki, Michelle and Norma. These ladies put in a lot of hours volunteering to keep our Canteen open. THANKS!

"LETTERS FROM HOME"



CPL Tom Jones
670th MP
BAF APO
AE 09354



EMAIL RYAN!
ryan_skopek@us.army.mil



PFC Spencer Athearn
Echo Co 1-28 IN
Balad Joint Coordination Ctr
(BJCC), APO AE 09391

#438 PVT Matt Priddy
F. Co 2/58th INITB
9375 Conway Drive
Ft. Benning, GA 91905-5914



VFW HALL RENTALS

Do you need a place for your special event? Many events have been held at our Post including wedding receptions, anniversary parties, holiday events, birthday celebrations, fundraisers, craft fairs and various group / club events.

Please contact Suzanne Hunt for more details on dates available, pricing and other information related to our Hall rentals at (619) 443-0556!



SUPPORT YOUR LAKESIDE POST! COME DOWN WITH FAMILY & FRIENDS FOR BURGERS & BREAKFAST! SAT & SUN! EVERY WEEKEND! WHY NOT? ONLY \$6 - \$8

We'd love to see you!





March 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5 DEEP PIT BBQ FUNDRAISER 5P-8P	6 AM VET LADIES BURGERS
7 AM VET LADIES BREAKFAST	8 HOUSE COMMITTEE MTG	9	10 VFW & VFW AUX'Y GENERAL MEETING	11	12 MEXICAN DINNER FUNDRAISER 4P-8P	13 AM VET MEN BURGERS
14 AM VET MEN BREAKFAST	15	16 VFW DISTRICT MEETING 7P (DINNER 6PM)	17 ST. PATRICKS DAY!	18	19	20 VFW BURGERS
21 VFW BREAKFAST	22	23	24	25	26	27 SONS OF AM VETS BURGERS
28 SONS OF AM VETS BREAKFAST	29	30	31			



LAKE SIDE

VFW POST 5867
& AMVETS POST 367

ROOF RENOVATION
FUNDRAISER

DEEP PIT BBQ

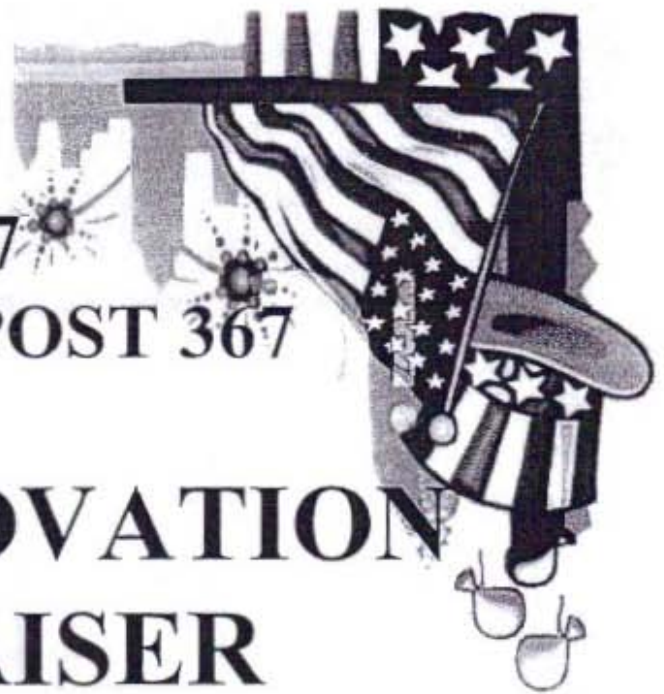
MARCH 5, 2010
5:00 PM TO 8:00 PM

ADULTS \$10, KIDS \$5
\$12 AT THE DOOR

RAFFLES – 50/50 – MUSIC

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

12650 Lindo Lane, Lakeside
619/443-0556





Join us for a Great Mexican Dinner Fundraiser

8th Grade Educational East Coast Trip for Ernie Garcia Jr.

Friday, March 12th starting at 4:00 pm – 8 pm

Cost: \$8.00

VFW – Lakeside

12650 Lindo Lane, Lakeside

(Southside of Lindo Lake)

MENU:

Beans

Rice

Mexican Meat

Salads

Please spread the word!!!

*With your help and support,
this event will be a great fundraiser!*

“WE APPRECIATE YOUR SUPPORT FOR THIS SPECIAL EVENT –

The Garcia & Rodriguez Family



**COME AND JOIN US FOR CORNED BEEF
AND CABBAGE**

ST. PATRICK'S DAY

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 17, 2010

5:00 PM (UNTIL WE RUN OUT)

**CARTER SMITH VFW #5867
12650 LINDO LANE
LAKESIDE, CA 92040
(619) 443-0556**

\$5.00 AT THE DOOR

April 2010

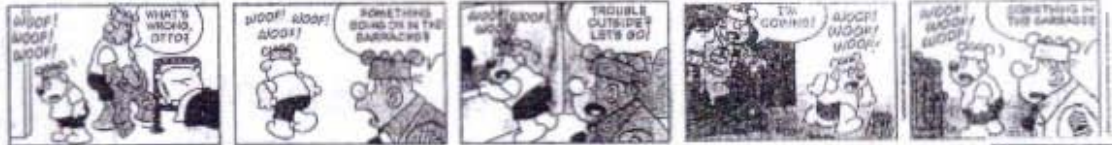
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2 Good Friday	3 AM VET LADIES BURGERS
4 EASTER! * * * AM VET LADIES BREAKFAST	5	6	7	8	9	10 AM VET MEN BURGERS
11 AM VET MEN BREAKFAST	12 HOUSE COMMITTEE MEETING	13	14 VFW & VFW AUXLY GENERAL MEETING	15	16	17 VFW BURGERS
18 VFW BREAKFAST	19	20	21	22	23	24 SONS OF AM VETS BURGERS
25 SONS OF AM VETS BREAKFAST	26	27	28	29	30	

SPECIAL EVENT PHOTOS by Norma Zahn, Editor (volunteer)

In support of the VFW Carter - Smith Post 5867, we are offering our members of the VFW and AmVets copies of event photos taken at the VFW for a minimal fee. All proceeds go directly to the Post. If you are interested, please stop by the Canteen to view the collection. Contact me at normadawn@cox.net or by telephone at (619) 913.1600 for detailed info! Thank you!

JOKES & FUNNIES!

MORT WALKER'S BEETLE BAILEY! by Mort, Greg and Brian Walker



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