

AZ VFW Charities is Now A Reality



Through the hard work and dedication of a few great people we were able to form our own state charities (foundation) organization for the Department of Arizona VFW, ahead of schedule. This year the Veterans of Foreign Wars of Arizona officially formed the not-for-profit 501(C) (3) Veterans of Foreign Wars of Arizona Charities Corporation on August 25, 2011 and it was officially endorsed by our C of A on November 20, 2011. This Corporation was formed to enable us to better assist; disabled or needy Veterans and their families; to be able to promote programs that educate the public concerning the sacrifices made by America's Veterans; the unique and special needs of veterans and their families resulting from their service; the needs of active duty and reserve military personnel and their families; and other issues relating to veterans. The foun-

ation will also promote programs that advise and assist veterans with respect to employment, training, education and much much more.

VFW of Arizona charities (foundation) is something we thought was needed for the Department of Arizona to better help our veterans in many and bigger ways for a very long time. This wouldn't have come about if it wasn't for people with the foresight of where this corporation could go in helping out veterans. The Article of incorporation, the By-laws and the Tax forms filed wouldn't have even got off the ground if it wasn't for the Men's Auxiliary of VFW Post 7968 for their generous donation for all of the legal and filing fees and Robert Wilson for his expertise in tax and corporate laws. Without the help of these two we wouldn't be way ahead of schedule and starting to build our Charities funds up. So, if you see any of them – telling them thanks for their total support and help for our Charities would be great.

As time goes on, the VFW of AZ Charities will be trying to raise monies for our Charities Foundation but this is going to

be a little different then what we're used to. Being a 501 (c) 3 we will be in a position of receiving corporate donations, state, local and private grants, asset donations (houses, etc,) and of course bigger cash donations. With this in mind we believe it'll start out slow but as time progresses, our Charities will become a great asset for our VFW and our veterans. As a clarification this isn't going to be another burden on our local VFW Posts, this is a corporation to help veterans and if the Charities is holding a fund raiser and the local Posts feel that they can't participate at that time – there's no problem because it's not a mandatory VFW program. So, all's well..

In closing there's lots more to explain but not the paper to do so, therefore please remember a couple of things: 1) If you would like more information about VFW of AZ Charities, our headquarters has copies of everything. 2) Although we're working together the AZ VFW Charities and the VFW are two completely separate corporations and work separately from each other. 3) This is a total Win Win plan for our veterans and their families in Arizona. 4) Money is in totally different bank accounts and can't be comingled by either entity. *One Small Step For The Department Of Arizona VFW And One Giant Step For The Veterans And Their Families In Need.*

William A. Thien Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief



William "Bill" A. Thien will be the National VFW's representative at our VOD/Patriots Pen banquet in Casa Grande this year. Bill was elected Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief of the Veterans of Foreign Wars on September 1, 2011, at the VFW's 112th National Convention, held in San Antonio, Texas.

Mr. Thien served in the U.S. Navy from 1969-1974 and served five years in the Indiana National Guard. His decorations include the Vietnam Service Medal with 3 stars, Vietnam Campaign Medal with 1960 Bar, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal (Korea), National Defense Service Medal and several from the National Guard.

He joined the VFW in 1971 at Post 3281 in New Albany, Ind., where he maintains his Gold Legacy Life Membership. He has served the VFW in many leadership positions including All American Post Commander, All State District Commander and All American State Commander. He has also held positions on numerous National committees, including Vice Chairman of Citizenship Education and Community Service and as Chairman of National Scholarship and Recognition.

Mr. Thien attended Indiana University Southeast. He worked as a Team Leader/Shift Supervisor at Duke Energy and is now retired. Mr. Thien is a member of the American Legion, Veterans of Vietnam War Post 1, National Rifle Association, Patriot Guard Riders, Military Order of the Cootie Pup Tent 51 and VFW National Home. He and his wife Linda reside in Georgetown, Ind.

Sherl Ann Daverio National Auxiliary Chief Of Staff



Sherl Ann Daverio, Elk Grove, California, will be the Ladies Auxiliary's representative at our VOD/Patriots Pen banquet in Casa Grande this year. Sherl is currently serving the Ladies Auxiliary to the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States as the 2011-12 National Chief of Staff.

A Life Member of Benicia Auxiliary #3928, she joined on the eligibility of her late husband, Rhett, who served in the U.S. Army in from 1962-1970. She has served in several capacities for the Ladies Auxiliary including Auxiliary, District and State President. On the National level she has served as National Youth Activities Director, National District Council Member and is currently serving her eighth term as Department Secretary-Treasurer.

Retired after 30 years as a Legal Secretary, in her spare time she enjoys spending time with her family and is an avid sports fan. Sherl's family included two children and six grandchildren.

Arizona Department Officers 2011-2012

Commander
Tim Borland 9972 Sierra Vista

Sr. Vice Commander
Mike Ferguson 7968 Apache Jct.

Jr. Vice Commander
Tony Mangine 6790 Wellton

Quartermaster
Ski Kuczynski 3632 Tempe

Judge Advocate
Greg Kozakiewicz 9907 Show Low

Surgeon
Bob Hysko 9400 Sunnyslope

Adjutant / Dist.15 Council
Ray Thomas 3632 Tempe

Chaplain
Janie Miller 12043 Maricopa

Service Officer
Jim Katzenberger 285 Surprise

- District Commanders**
- #1 **Tom vonAhlefeld 6790 Wellton**
 - #2 **Pete Fava 1709 Flagstaff**
 - #3 **L.C. Reed 1710 Phoenix**
 - #4 **Charles Walters 9400 Phoenix**
 - #5 **Gary Harlan 4903 Tucson**
 - #6 **George Baum 9907 Show Low**
 - #7 **Joe Larson 9972 Sierra Vista**
 - #8 **Richard Lathrop 404 Mohave Valley**
 - #10 **Gene Wood 12043 Maricopa**

- Auxiliary Officers**
- President**
Sheila Shutts 10005 Bullhead City
- Sr. Vice President**
Dee Bong 1433 Glendale
- Jr. Vice President**
Catherine Seippel 6739 Camp Verde
- Secretary/Treasurer**
Kim Sloan 10188 Tucson
- Chaplain**
Suzie Gleason 9401 Lake Havasu
- Conductress**
Nancy McKain 3513 Scottsdale
- Guard**
Chris Harlan 10188 Tucson
- Chief of Staff**
Marge Bell 9400 Sunnyslope
- Patriotic Instructor**
Theresa Groupe 7968 Apache Jct.
- Historian**
Terri Pfander 1677 Casa Grande

- District Presidents**
- #1 **Sharon Rapp**
 - #2 **Christina Vess**
 - #3 **Sue Dorn**
 - #4 **Judy Hamlin**
 - #5 **Jane Peterson**
 - #6 **Melody Judd**
 - #7 **Stephanie Morris**
 - #8 **Patricia Emery**
 - #10 **Terri Pfander**

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L. "Ski" Kuczynski
 835 W. Julie Dr.
 Tempe, AZ 85283
 or E-Mail to:
 qmskiaz@gmail.com

From the State Commander *Tim Borland, 9972 Sierra Vista*



I truly cannot believe how fast this year has passed us by; half way there and I don't want it to end. I absolutely love being your State Commander and have met so many wonderful people along the way. There's no doubt that Arizona is the best from the West and our membership only proves it. By this reading, I would hope that our State's membership should be reaching near 90% or more and that our consecutive streak of 45 years in a row at 100% growth will continue. I would like to congratulate two comrades as of this writing for reaching 25 members recruited or more and they are Vinny Rigo and Richard Reel both from VFW Post 9400. These two comrades alone are showing the State of Arizona how recruiting is done. I would also like to congratulate the following posts and commanders for already as of 30 November 2011 reaching 100% in membership. The 1st Post in the State to reach this great accomplishment was VFW Post 12098 (Bill Whiddon) from Buckeye; this is also our newest VFW in the State. Others who have reached 100% in membership are VFW Post 836 (Frank Martinez - Bisbee); VFW Post 10227 (Fred Nelson - Prescott Valley); VFW Post 1796 (Steve Stanger - Black Canyon City); and VFW Post 10005 (John Lovell - Bullhead City). There are also about 6 - 10 posts over 95% so they're not too far behind; congratulations to all.

During my travels, I have visited many posts and districts to include being honored in three parades throughout the State. I would like to thank Shorty Larson and his Color Guard for a job well done in San Simon Arizona to where we honored a High School of only 93 students and believe me, these kids have heart. I visited this High School on Thursday (10 November) then traveled to Tempe for their Veterans parade on the 11th. I visited VFW Post 3632 and a good time

was had by everyone; congratulations to Bill Simmons and his hospitality. On Saturday, 12 November I attended two more parades, one in Anthem and one in Black Canyon City. The Department Commander for the American Legion, his wife, Department President and myself rode in a horse and carriage provided by the VFW Rangers that morning out of Three Points Arizona; thank you VFW Post 10227 for the ride and thanks to Dennis Hider for a well ran parade; very impressive and large. Then there was Black Canyon City that afternoon and again I was pleased to see the turn out in such a small community; thank you Steve for a great day. Throughout my travels that weekend, I carried membership applications with me and actually recruited nine new members for the VFW; this is only prove that recruiting new members can be done anywhere and for any Post. We recruited two for 9400, one for 3632, one for 12031, one for 1796, two for 12098, one for 8769, and one for 285; Bob Hysko even recruited one, congrats! So commanders; when you get these applications, please welcome these young comrades into your posts; one was even a female veteran. Bottom line comrades - carry memberships with you and always thank our veterans for their service.

In closing, I would like to thank the State for their dedication and hard work; without all of you our State wouldn't be great. We cannot forget our Ladies Auxiliaries, Men's Auxiliaries and our VFW Riders for the job they do for us too. I would also like to take this opportunity to announce my candidacy for National Council 2012 - 2016; any support is greatly appreciated. Not everyone finds their calling in life and I have; taking care of Veterans and their families is what I'll do the rest of my life. It's been a fast year and it's only going to get faster as time passes. Keep recruiting and keep thanking our heroes. Thanks again and God bless.

Sincerely,
 Tim Borland, Department Commander

Wishing All of You A Truly Fulfilling 2012
 VFW Dept. Of Arizona

Ladies Auxiliary President, Sheila Shutts *10005 Bullhead City*



HAPPY NEW YEAR COMRADES & SISTERS.....

The Ladies Auxiliary VFW - Department of Arizona is asking for comrade support! We have been charged with raising 72K for Cancer Aid & Research (CAR). This goal is a stretch target for Arizona. Voluntary Post donations can help make it possible! Supporting local Auxiliary CAR Fundraiser's is also a big help! Send a check today to Department Treasurer Kim Sloan, 326 E. Burrows St., Tucson, AZ 85704 earmarked CAR. And don't forget everyone is invited for a fun filled Wanda & Billie Stuart Gamble against Cancer Saturday, February 18th at Post 9399 Apache Junction.

Additionally, National President Gwen Rankin will visit Arizona February 4-6 with a Banquet in her

honor at VFW Post 10005 in Bullhead City. SMILING....across the mighty Colorado River from Laughlin. "Put Me in Coach" is her theme song and will be featured in a special show by the Mohave Valley Startrouper's called "An Americana Tribute." This fantastic group is sponsored by the 404 Men's Auxiliary and includes members are from the Post/Auxiliaries.

During her visit she will make stops at Posts 404, 6306, and 9401. Watch Pin Points for details as they become available. I hope everyone takes the opportunity to meet with Gwen and give her a grand welcome from Team Arizona!

Remember the comrades and sisters of Arizona work as a team to support our veterans, their families, and our active military. Please join us on Facebook for more happenings in this fabulous Sunshine State!

State Sr. Vice Commander

Mike Ferguson, 7968 Apache Junction



I was told when I was elected that these would be the fastest 5 years I ever could remember and so far they're right, although it hasn't been five years yet, time is really flying by. It has really been an honor serving our Veterans here in Arizona. I'm really enjoying my travels seeing all the posts in Arizona and meeting all the VFW Members and Auxiliary members throughout the state.

I'm learning more each and every day on the ways, whys and reasons for some of our rules and by laws and with me understanding them better, the more informative I can be to help where ever needed. One of the few things I have come across in my travels is something that's not new but still happening. The Posts which have canteens need to be able to separate the VFW Post business from the canteen business. It seems as I travel around most of the problems come from the canteen side and then infect the Post side. I'm not going into a lot here because I know everyone knows what I'm talking about so I'm only going to remind everyone – even though

times are hard and canteens really help aid the post and their programs – that we are a VFW Post first with a canteen NOT a canteen with a post meeting there once a month. Again, I know this is old news but every once in awhile a little reminder to all, not just the Officers, can't hurt.

In closing, I hope everyone had a fantastic holiday season. I hope everyone had a gigantic thanksgiving dinner and Santa paid them a visit with their favorite wish being met. I'm here to serve and if anyone has a question, comment or a suggestion please don't hesitate to get in touch with me either by phone 480-671-6097, email usmcmike2@msn.com or in person as I travel. I'm more than willing to help in any way I can. Thank you for the opportunity to be able to serve you as your State Sr.Vice Commander. I'm hoping through my efforts, dedication and driving force to help our veterans here in Arizona, I'm earning your respect, confidence, and hopefully your vote as I'm a candidate for State Commander for year 2012-2013 and would be very honored for your support.

*Thank You
Semper Fi, Yours in Service
Mike Ferguson, Sr.Vice Commander*

"We sleep safely in our beds, because brave soldiers stand ready in the night to inflict violence on those who would harm us."

State Judge Advocate

Greg Kozakiewicz, 9907 Show Low



Comrades and Sisters this will be a 3 part article so I can cover my Committee assignments as well as my primary duties as your Dept. Judge Advocate. As we all know you cannot please everyone all the time, however we must all remember, we are all human and subject to making mistakes.

Constructive Criticism can avoid many of the complaints we have encountered this year. The Department cannot get involved in confrontations resulting from Canteen Activities these must be settled at the Post level. District Commanders are reminded that they have the authority to form an

investigation committee to look into problems prior to forwarding concerns to the Dept. level.

As the Canteen Chairman, I recommended the approval/disapproval of all requests for new liquor licenses or the removal of licenses that bring discredit upon the organization. None so far, thank you.

As Bingo Chairman, I am available to help anyone who requests assistance with paperwork or advise on how Bingo finds can legally be used. As the Loyalty Day Chairman I encourage you to go to our web site for suggestions that will be available shortly. Sorry this is short but Charlie are in the middle of the Panama Canal and miss all of you.

Greg Kozakiewicz, State JA

State Jr. Vice Commander

Tony Mangine, 6790 Wellton



The Holiday season is upon us and lest we forget those veterans who are currently unable to meet with us or join in the festivities. We have an opportunity to take the time to visit a housebound or hospitalized veteran to show that we are a caring and devoted organization. Just a handshake at the hospital and a cherry greeting goes a long way. Usually the nurse can tell who is a

veteran, but don't ignore or forget the other patients in the area. They need care and love also. Every visit, every hello, goes a long way. By visiting the homebound and hospitalized we also help the families of the afflicted veteran. Please make a point, especially this month, to visit a hospital or assisted care facility in your area. Also remember the families of deployed service members, they need our support as well. Happy Holidays to all.

*Tony Mangine,
Dept. Jr. Vice Commander*

State Surgeon

Bob Hysko, 9400 Sunnyslope



I would like to talk about a subject very important to me and one that I think can be very rewarding to you if you participate, and that is being a Blood Donor. In Arizona we have two (2) organizations that collect blood from donors and that is United Blood Services and the American Red Cross. I have made donations to both of these organizations with full confidence. A lot of people are unable to donate blood because of medical or health reason but many people who can donate find many excuses not to. One of the biggest reason why a person will not donate blood is they are afraid of the needle. This was the reason I did not donate until I was in Army Basic Training and the whole company was volunteered to give blood. Donating blood can be a very rewarding experience as I learned in

Vietnam when I was called upon to give blood to a wounded soldier in surgery who needed my blood type. This experience changed my thinking forever on why I donate blood. When you donate blood you are giving the gift of life to a needy person. You have no idea who you are helping but it's helping someone in need, this is your reward, and yes, you are a real Hero! Donating blood is easy just call to make an appointment. Please bring photo ID and your donors card (if you have one) to your appointment. Eat a low fat meal and make sure you drink plenty of liquids (no alcohol) prior to your donation. Don't forget you can take credit on the Post Hospital Report for \$69.99 per unit donated, please include hours volunteered, and miles traveled.

In closing my family and I wish all of you a Merry Christmas, Happy New Year, and may 2012 be successful for everyone!

Yours in Comradeship, Doctor Detroit, Bob Hysko / State Surgeon

LIFE MEMBERSHIP The Deal of a Lifetime

State Inspector *Frank Page 7968 Apache Junction*



Well comrades it looks like most of the inspections are done, or should be by the end of the year. That's the good news, but that's not the end of the job. Now it's time for you district commanders to look at your copies of the post inspection reports, and see if there is anything

that you should be concerned with. As always, I'll help in any way I can, all you need do is call. With that said here's hoping your Christmas and New Years were all you hoped for, and that you were able to share it with friends and family. That's all for now, hope to see you all in one place or another in our great state.

*Yours in comradeship, Frank Page
State Inspector*

District 1 News

Tom vonAhlefeld 6790 Wellton



769 Quartzsite
1763 Yuma
2357 Bouse
3708 Salome

6790 Wellton
7061 Parker
8242 Yuma

District One has been busy so far this year. Leadership has changed, but the goals have remained the same. We have tried to reach out to our fellow Veterans who are in need. We have worked with the Crossroads Mission, Veterans support centers, and other veterans organizations. We are striving to complete our VFW programs. We have participated in local parades, Membership drives and several school patriotism programs.

We are planning membership drives at the county fairs, high schools, local colleges, and local car shows. We are looking forward to the Holidays and beyond. The new year 2012 is almost upon us. We are looking forward to the new year and challenges that will come before us. Look forward to seeing all of you next year. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to one and all.

District 1 Commander,
Tom T. vonAhlefeld

District 4 News

Charles Walters 9400 Sunnyslope



1760 Mesa
1796 Black Canyon
3513 Scottsdale

3591 N. Scottsdale
3632 Tempe
7507 Fountain Hills

9400 Sunnyslope
12006 Mesa
12031 Anthem

Hi ! This is District 4 Commander of the District is doing very well . We have one Post in District 4 at 100% in membership it is Post 1796 of Black Canyon City . I would like to see all the rest of the posts in the District 100 % by March . At this time I would also like to congratulate all volunteers & employees that was recognized at the VFW Hospital Banquet at Casa Grande. District 4 is in third place in De-

partment of Arizona in membership at 88.14 % as of November 28 , 2011.

Do not hesitate to ask questions . If I don't know the answer I will get it for you . The biggest goal we have is recruitment and reports.

As a team working together our district could be # 1 so let's all join together to make this possible.

Charles Walters ,
District 4 Commander

District 6 News

George Baum 9907 Show Low



1441 Miami
1704 Globe
2364 Pinetop/Lakeside
3584 Superior

8807 Tonto Basin
8987 Eagar
9829 Payson
9907 Show Low

I hope everyone had a good Veterans Day and that all posts celebrated all of our veterans, both past and present. Veterans Day is always special to my wife and me. I know of several ceremonies throughout the district and I thank you all for organizing observances.

Show Low Post 9907 has resurrected Pup Tent 6, Mountain Foul-Ups, of the Military Order of the Cootie (MOC). Membership in this Pup Tent is open to any worthy comrades in the district. Again if you would like to join the MOC, please contact me. I will also be sending applications to all post commanders. Comrades wishing to be members, must be voted in by their home post.

District six is still in the process of organizing a VFW Riders Chapter. Members can be comrades, sisters and men's auxiliary members. If you would like to join, please contact me at: 520-237-1152. I will also be sending applications to all post commanders.

I hope everyone had an enjoyable Thanksgiving and that you all have a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

In comradeship, George Baum,
District 6 Commander

District 7 News

Clarence Larson 9972 Sierra Vista



836 Bisbee
2066 Nogales
6271 Benson

8667 Rio Rico
9972 Sierra Vista
9977 Pearce

10342 Huachuca City
10385 Thatcher
10432 Patagonia

Greetings Comrades and Sisters from District 7, the month of November is Veterans Awareness month. November has been very busy with several Veteran related events in which district #7 VFW posts were heavily involved. Veteran's Day has a widespread observance as all veterans, veterans' organizations, and entire communities join hands in the common purpose of celebrating Veterans. It is only fitting that the Voice of Democracy (VOD), Patriots Pin Presentation (PPP) and Teacher Awards Judging begins in this month of November.

On November 10th I had the great honor along with Department Commander Tim Borland and the Cochise Warrior VFW State Color guard, to participate in San Simmon's High School Veterans Day Appreciation ceremony. (See

photo below) This was one of the most moving displays of gratitude and patriotism from a school that I have ever seen. San Simmon High School K-12 patriotism is the ultimate tribute to our veterans.

A Special congratulation to Post Commander Frank Martinez for being the first post in the district to reach 100% membership. Membership drives continue to be challenging in this recession but remember there are benefits in being part of an elite group of veterans. An updated list of these benefits can be found by visiting www.vfw.org.

Visit District #7's website for up to date information, forms, and announcements. <http://vfwazdistrict7.yolasite.com>
In Comradeship, Joe Larson
Commander, District #7
"Honoring Those Who Have Served Our Country"



District 8 News

Richard Lathrop 404 Mohave Valley



404 Mohave Valley
2190 Chloride
2555 Golden Valley
3516 Kingman

6306 Golden Shores
9401 Lake Havasu
9833 Dolan Springs
10005 Bullhead City

10386 Kingman
10726 Parker Dam
11014 Meadview

All Posts and their Men's Auxiliary inspections have been completed and to all, thanks for a job well done and keep up the great work you do.

I'm honored and proud to announce that District 8 now has instituted and installed the VFW District 8 Riders. Our new chapter is the Colorado River Riders and are planning on doing many rides for the district and within the state. For those who may be interested the rider membership is open to Post and the Ladies and Men's Auxiliary members.

Post 10005 now has a Men's Auxiliary, and as you know, both the Ladies and Men's Auxiliaries are a big asset to every Post.

Communication and cooperation within the Post is a must in making a Post a success.

Congratulations go out to Post 404 for taking first place in the Bullhead Tri-State Veterans Day Parade. The float was exceptional as was the performance of their honor guard.

Always keep in mind we are a veterans service organization dedicated to supporting veterans, deployed service members, as well as their families, and to do so we need members. Please work on your Post membership and lets get District 8 membership to 100 percent as soon as possible.

In Comradeship, Rick Lathrop,
Commander, District 8

Gwendolyn Rankin, National Ladies Auxiliary President Will Visit Arizona



Gwendolyn Rankin will visit Arizona February 4-6, 2012 with a Banquet in her honor at VFW Post 10005 in Bullhead City. SMILING....across the mighty Colorado River from Laughlin. "Put Me in Coach" is her theme song and will be featured in a special show by the Mohave Valley Star-

trouppers called "An Americana Tribute." This fantastic group is sponsored by the 404 Men's Auxiliary and includes members from the Post and Auxiliaries from Mohave Valley.

Gwendolyn Rankin of Sacramento, California, was elected National President of the Ladies Auxiliary to the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) of the United States at its 98th National Convention in San Antonio, Texas, on September 1, 2011.

Life Membership is a Click Away

The Life Membership plan can be joined anytime of the year. Member is not required to be a currently paid annual member. The plan features a 12 month payment schedule. Member will elect, upon receipt of first monthly invoice to pay via CHECK, CREDIT CARD, or ACH

| Age | One Time Payment | 12 Month Option |
|----------------|------------------|-----------------|
| 30 and Younger | \$425 | \$38.64 |
| 31-40 | \$410 | \$37.27 |
| 41-50 | \$375 | \$34.09 |
| 51-60 | \$335 | \$30.45 |
| 61-70 | \$290 | \$26.36 |
| 71-80 | \$225 | \$20.45 |
| 81 and over | \$170 | \$15.45 |

DEBIT. An automatic payment option is available. The \$35 down payment can be made via check or credit card. (Post may accept cash) Member will receive upon processing of down payment, a provisional "Life Membership Card." A regular "Life Membership Card" will be issued upon completion of the installment payment plan. Each invoice will include a payoff amount for the member to use if paying early.

Contact your VFW Post today or you can enroll online at <http://www.vfw.org/>. To enroll by mail, call National Life Membership at 1-800-963-3180 for an enrollment form.

Need Help With a VA Claim?

Jim Katzenberger VFW Service Officer
 3333 N Central Ave, Ste 1049
 Phoenix, AZ 85304
 Phone: 602 627-3316 FAX: 602 627-3320

National Military Services

Mike Ferguson 7968 Apache Junction

As chairman, of National Military Services, I would really like to take this opportunity to point out how well, as a state, we're doing this year. We have improved on our reporting, donations and helping Veterans with Unmet needs programs. As always our Adopted Unit and the MAPS grants for hosting events with our troops are really up. This is just a great sign on how terrific our Arizona Veterans community really is. Your caring, dedication and never ending hard work in many different ways shows why our state is

the "BEST". I don't have to tell our Arizonians veterans and auxiliary members the feeling you get when we helped one of our troops no matter how small or big the event. Their facial expression is more than enough to let you know they care.... am I right..!!!? We still have another half of the year left to go, so, please let's keep up the great work and make this one of the best years ever for Arizona's National Military Services. Thanks, again for everything you do. *Mike Ferguson, Chairman*

Convention Committee

Dan Ferguson 10342 Huachuca City

State Convention

Currently 27% of contracted rooms have been reserved (cut off is Sun May 6, 2011 – please make reservations now so we are the only ones at the hotel!!!)

To register on line go to vfwaz.org and click on links, Dept. Convention, then click the "register here" picture.

Phone number for reservations (480) 789-5300 (code AZVF12) District Commanders will be putting out activity lists, if interested contact Dan Ferguson at Dan Ferguson, danfergusonvfw@yahoo.com cell (520) 236-9909

Districts get with Jerry Miller for assignment of hospitality rooms. His number is 520-426-0457 (we have 5 rooms set aside as Hospitality rooms at no cost to us) we will have the outside set up same as last year for drinking, smoking, and karaoke.

No Installation banquet, we will do a reception Saturday afternoon the same as last year. More info to follow at the VOD Banquet

Renew Your Membership Online

Pay your annual dues, become a Life Member or change your mailing address online. VFW's web site has made renewing membership so easy, even a caveman can do it. All you need is your VFW membership card and a credit card.

1. Go to <http://vfw.org/>, then create an account (it's free.)
2. Follow instructions

It's that easy and your new card will be sent to you shortly.

Convention Book Advertising Opportunity

2011-12 Arizona VFW State Convention

June 6-9, 2012 Fort McDowell Casino/Resort

Take this opportunity to promote your business, candidate, or publicize a Post/District in the 2011-12 convention program.

All participants of the 92nd annual convention of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Arizona, will receive this book. We are expecting over 1500

people again this year. This program book lists all scheduled activities and is used as a guide book. Simply complete this form and mail it along with a CAMERA READY AD COPY. Please no color copy.

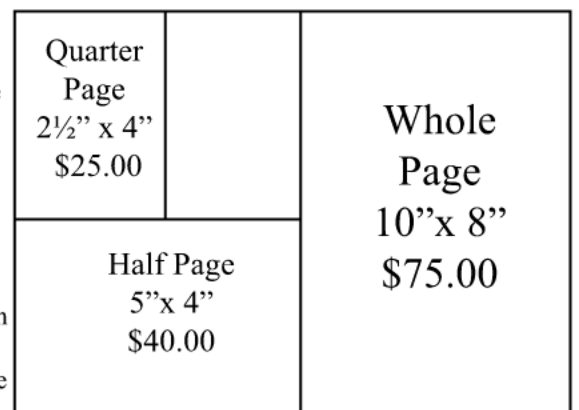
Materials must arrive at the Arizona VFW state office by May 1, 2012 to be included in this book. Payment must accompany the ad copy. We have the right to refuse ads not conforming with VFW viewpoints and values.

VFW Dept. of AZ is a 501(c)(19) tax exempt organization. #86-0076886. Upon request a receipt will be mailed to your address listed below.

Questions may be directed to Ski Kuczynski, at the state office by calling 480-941-5258

- _____ One-quarter page (\$25.00)
- _____ One-half page (\$40.00)
- _____ Full page ad (\$75.00)

Checks should be made payable to:
 VFW Dept. of Arizona
**note convention book*
 Mail to:
 VFW Dept. of Arizona
 6907 E. Thomas Rd.
 Scottsdale, AZ 85251



Name (Contact Person) _____ E-Mail _____
 Address _____ Phone _____
 City, State, Zip _____

Hospital Banquet/Fall Conference

On Saturday November 5, 2011 at the Holiday Inn in Casa Grande the Department of Arizona's VFW & it's Ladies Auxiliary put on a spectacular program to recognize the "Outstanding" employees and volunteers from the Veterans Administration hospitals in Phoenix, Tucson, and Prescott. The day started off with a school of instruction on the state programs which was packed with tons of information and ended with a fantastic meal and tribute to the men and women employees and volunteers from the three VA Hospitals.

Volunteers are an invaluable resource for the Department of Veterans Affairs. It is impossible to calculate the amount of caring and sharing that VAVS volunteers provide to veteran patients. VAVS volunteers are a priceless asset to the Nation's veterans and to the Department of Veterans Affairs.



Fred Nelson
Outstanding Volunteer



Marie Tsaguris
Outstanding Volunteer



Cheryle Phelan
Northern Arizona



Diana Kellermeyer
Blind Rehabilitation



Kevin Haegele
Outstanding Volunteer



Kristin Fray
Outstanding Employee



Sharon Taylor
Outstanding Volunteer



"2012" STATE CONVENTION RADISSON FORT MCDOWELL CASINO/RESORT

Wednesday June 6 thru Sunday June 9, 2012

10438 North Fort McDowell Road Scottsdale, AZ 85264

<http://www.fortmcdowellcasino.com/>

Phone reservations 480-789-5300 or 1-800-528-8071 Group Code: AZVF12

Room Rates: Deluxe King/Double Queen \$79.00

Deadline for Reservations is May 6th, 2012

Rooms at the Casino are going fast, make your reservations now!!!



Post 12098 Celebrating Their 1 Year Anniversary in Buckeye



Post 6310 Leading the Veterans Day Parade in Goodyear



The Town of Fountain commemorated Veterans Day with the traditional Veterans Day memorial ceremony at the town's Veterans Memorial at 9 a.m with Congressman David Schweikert (CD-5), as the keynote speaker. VFW Post 7507's Color Guard presented and retired the Colors to start and end the ceremony. Most of the attendees wore Red Shirts that say "Thank you Troops" on the front and "Home of the Free Because of the Brave" as a part of Red Shirt Friday movement. The highlight of the event was a fly-over by a WWII vintage B-17 named Sentimental Journey at the same time that the town's famous fountain was turned red for the first time in history.

Speakers included Congressman David Schweikert; State Representative John Kavanagh (Fountain Hills) and Army vet; Maricopa County Attorney Bill Montgomery, a VFW member, West Point graduate, Iraqi war vet and Bronze Star awardee; Pinal County Sheriff Paul Babeu, a National Guard Major before retiring, Mayor Jay Schlum, and the Arizona National Guard's Chief of Staff and Colonel Jeffrey Tipton, a Bronze Star recipient. *Photos by Fountain Hills Times.*



Buddy Poppy Princess Contest

The following rules are for the Department Contest. Make sure that both Post/ Auxiliary are aware of rules if you plan to participate at Department.

Department Rules:

Each District may submit one Buddy Poppy Princess for judging. The District Commanders/ Ladies Aux. Presidents are responsible for choosing the judges for their Buddy Poppy Princess and forwarding the entry to the Department Buddy Poppy Chairman.

ENTRY MUST INCLUDE:

Sponsoring District, Post/Auxiliary 2

Picture of Buddy Poppy Princess wearing Dress.

(Dress cannot be shorter than "T" length which is below the knee and above the ankle).

Princess Name, Address, and phone number

Age and grade in school

Dress or costume must have a minimum of 150 Buddy Poppies with one in original form including tag.

Remember that you can use the Commemorative Poppy's

Princess must be at the age of 13 to 17 and in school or home schooled

All entries must be sponsored by a VFW Post or a Ladies Auxiliary. But they are not required to be related to a VFW/Auxiliary member or a member of the VFW/Auxiliary.

Entries must be to the Department Buddy Poppy Chairmen no later than May 18, 2012.

The VFW Department Buddy Poppy Chairman will notify the finalists and give the day and time for the finalists to come to the Department Convention for judging.

If you have any questions contact the Department Buddy Poppy Chairman.

Thank you and Good Luck With Your Program,

Department Buddy Poppy Chairman

Chuck Bong

Phone 623-377-0704 i .

Email: kcbong@hotmail.com

17567 W. Bridger St.

Surprise, Arizona 85388

A brand-new Army officer was determined to make a sharp impression in his first assignment. Reporting to the division commander, he snapped his finest salute, causing one of his second-lieutenant bars to pop off his shoulder and land on the major's desk. "Well, pick it up, son," the major said. "The last thing we need around here is another 'half-brassed' lieutenant."

VFW Riders

Currently 7 active/sanctioned Chapters (one Chapter being reformed) District 2 Chapter is being reformed and brought back to life.

Direct any VFW Rider related issues to Dan Ferguson for resolution

District POC's for VFW Riders

District 1- Borderline Chapter – **Jeff Sorenson**

928-916-7474 Anaconda_666th@hotmail.com

District 2 – Chapter name change in progress-**Forrest "Duffy" Lame**

928-277-3157 duffyvfwrider@yahoo.com

District 3 – White Tanks Chapter - **Josh Bujanda**

623-293-3761 josh258us@yahoo.com

District 4 – Thunder Mountain Chapter

District 5 – Old Pueblo Chapter - **Terry Brown**

520-248-0069 a7dtucz@yahoo.com

District 6 – no Chapter – contact **Tom Judd** if interested in forming a chapter – 928-537-3666 tjudd1@frontiernet.net

District 7 – Sky Islands Chapter - **Don "Bayonet" Hyland**

520-226-5157 bayonet6768@aol.com

District 8 – Colorado River Chapter - **Bobby DeBoard**

928-542-7534 bobbydeboard@yahoo.com

District 10 – Picacho Peak Chapter - **Fred Hisle**

602-318-6840 fred8512@orbitelcom.com

National Cemetery Needs Volunteers

VFW Memorial Squad at the National Cemetery Needs Help

We are looking for male and female members to pay final honors to our fallen comrades at the National Memorial Cemetery of Arizona at 23029 North Cave Creek Road, Phoenix, AZ 85024. Our comrades have earned and deserve to have Honors preformed. This is truly a labor of love for our fellow Veterans.

The Squad operates Monday through Friday between the hours of 0800 to 1400 during the months of February, May, August and November. The Squad provides the same Military Honors as preformed at Arlington National Cemetery.

Each member wears a VFW provided uniform with military pride. Volunteers are provided lunch at a local café as well as a stipend to assist with travel expenses.

If you would like to volunteer to serve our comrades, contact Squad Captain, Pete Rosales at 623-247-3352 or Department Headquarters at 480-941-5258.

Department of Arizona Proposed Schedule

The following is the proposed Department schedule for the upcoming months. Please check with the respective Chairmen and/or Posts in the event of changes or cancellations.

January 2012

08 - District 7 Meeting @ 9977 Pierce 11am

08 - District 10 Meeting @ 7401 Chandler 10am

14 - VOD Banquet Holiday Inn Casa Grande

15 - State C of A Meeting Holiday Inn Casa Grande 9am

21 - District 6 Meeting @ 9829 Payson Elks 10am

21 - Cootie C of A / Homecoming

28 - District 5 Meeting @ 10188 Tucson 10am

28 - District 10 Steak Fry @ 1677 Casa Grande 5pm

29 - District 8 Meeting @ 10726 Parker Dam 11am

February 2012

2-4 - National President's Visit, Bullhead City

11 - District 10 Buddy Poppy Ball @ 7401 Chandler 5pm

12 - District 1 Meeting @ 8242 Yuma 11am

12 - District 4 Meeting @ 3632 Tempe (Am. Legion)10am

12 - Cootie Steak Fry @ Tucson VA Hospital

25 - District 5 Meeting @ 8015 Phoenix 10am

March 2012

3-6 - National VOD Contest, Washington DC

3-6 - National Legislative Conference, Washington DC

10 - District 3 Poppy Banquet @ 1433 Glendale

17 - State Commander's Homecoming Sierra Vista

April 2012

28 - All State Judging @ Department Headquarters

28 - District 2 Convention @ 9632 Page 10am

28 - District 5 Convention @ 549 Tucson 10am

29 - District 7 Convention @ 9972 Sierra Vista 11am

29 - District 1 Convention @ 6790 Wellton 11am

29 - District 8 Convention @ 404 Mohave Valley 11am

29 - District 10 Convention @ 3713 Collidge 10am

May 2012

6 - District 3 Convention @ 720 Phoenix 10am

6 - District 4 Convention @ 9400 Sunnyslope 10am

19 - District 6 Convention @ 9907 Showlow 10am

18-19 - Cootie Grand Convention

June 2012

6 - Outgoing C of A @ Ft. McDowell 5pm

7-11 - State Convention @ Ft. McDowell

12 - Incoming C of A @ Ft. McDowell 9am

Dedicated to Service—
Just Like Today's National Guard
 VFW was founded by veterans for veterans. We recognize that America depends on the National Guard like never before. We want you to know that the VFW is for citizen-soldiers like you.

- An extended family—that's what the VFW can be for you. Feel at home with other veterans who understand what you've been through.
- Join with others from your unit or start a new Post.
- Assistance for the Home Front—programs to help members and families connected during deployments. Assistance for the family while home.
- Get the benefits you deserve—We can help you get the benefits that you have earned, including the 21st Century GI Bill, home loans and service-connected disability.

For all veterans of overseas conflicts, whether you still wear the uniform or not. Stop by your local post or join online.

Learn more at **JoinVFW.org**
 1.888.JOIN.VFW



Membership

Lindsey Botkin 10342 Huachuca City



Comrades;
 As many of you know membership has been very difficult this year.

Our annuals are not renewing and it is a National problem not just our state. I realize that we are not concerned about the other states except to wish them the best of luck. Where I live which is close to Ft. Huachuca, we are losing two battalions to Ft. Bliss and Ft Sam Houston. Just an example, over Thanksgiving the Ft. Chaple gave out over 560 turkeys to needy families who could not afford to buy the food for dinner, and already have over 600 names on the list for Christmas because they can not afford to get christmas for their families. These solders who have requested help for the holidays range from PVT. to SSG. I can understand why they can't renew their membership dues but we are not giving up and will continue to march forward in and effort to reach our goal. I was told that it is

going to take close to \$40,000 in donations to fulfill the request just for Christmas. Just an example to show you how tough things are getting. Don't give up, keep going out and do your best to recruit new and reinstated members.

We have over 3300 relocates who are VFW members and I sent out emails to each District Commnader to try and get the ones who are living in their area. I know I have sent out over 350 emails and have made over 125 phone calls and with all this effort I received one reply to transfer to AZ. One is better than none and more than we had when this list came to us.

In closing please keep our Armed Forces in your prayers and may they return home safely to their loved ones and for the ones who can not afford Christmas for their children.

My family wishes you have a Merry Christmas and a blessed New Year. *Yours in Comradeship,*
 Lindsey Botkin,
 Dept. Membership Chairman

Contested AZ VFW Candidates 2012-13

National C of A



Dennis Dole
 Post 769
 Quartzsite



Tim Borland
 Post 9972
 Sierra Vista

State Chaplain



Janie Miller
 Post 12043
 Maricopa



Forrest Barker
 Post 9829
 Payson

State Surgeon



Tom vonAhlefeld
 Post 6790
 Wellton



Lindsey Botkin
 Post 10342
 Huachuca City

Uncontested Candidates (as of Dec. 31, 2011)

Commander
 Mike Ferguson

Sr. Vice Commander
 Tony Mangine

Quartermaster
 Ski Kuczynski

Jr. Vice Commander
 Greg Kozakiewicz

Judge Advocate
 Bob Hysko

Your picture here

Voice Of Democracy & Patriots Pen Scholarship Program Banquet



Saturday January 14, 2012

Holiday Inn Casa Grande
 777 N. Pinal Ave

Casa Grande, AZ 85222

520-426-3500 800-465-4329 Rate Code "VFW"

Room for 2 people with breakfast \$79.00 + Tax

1600hrs (4:00 pm) Students/Parents/District Commanders & Presidents Reception in the Citrus Room (Pictures)

1700hrs (5:00 pm) No host cocktails

1800hrs (6:00 pm) Dinner

Buffet Dinner ONLY \$25.00

Make Checks Payable to: **VFW Dept. of AZ**

Mail to: Tom T. von Ahlefeld
 9351 E. 28th Street
 Yuma, AZ 85365
 928-271-9988

"C of A Meeting is Sunday at 9:00am"

"WANDA & BILLIE STUART" GAMBLE AGAINST CANCER Casino Night



SATURDAY FEBRUARY 18, 2012

4:00PM -MIDNIGHT

MORE INFO CONTACT:

AMY TIMBES - 480-560-8863

THETIMBESFAMILY@MSN.COM



VFW POST 9399
 133 N. SAGUARO DR.
 APACHE JUNCTION, AZ 85117

Dino Ribs & fixins' \$10.00
 Dinner Reservations Required

Post 404 Receive CPR and First Aid Training

Members from the VFW Post 404 in Mohave Valley, AZ recently attended First Aid, CPR and AED Training after their regular schedule meeting in September 2011.

A total of 22 members took the training in three different training days, 7 from the post, 5 from the Mens Auxiliary and 10 from the Ladies Auxiliary, which included the Commander from the post, and both Presidents from the Mens and Ladies auxiliaries.

Dick Bean, Commander from Post 404, stated he like the Continous Compressions CPR. It's eaiser to perform and more effective. Becky Nyard, President of the Ladies Auxiliary of Post 404, stated, not only can I help my family in case of an emergency, now I can also help a member of my community if needed, and that feels good.

Bobby DeBoard, President of the Mens Auxiliary of Post 404, stated, he has heard of an AED (Automatic External Defibulator), now he knows when and how to use one.

Post Adjutant and Service Office, George DeLeon, is a certified CPR instructor with the American Heart Association and he provided the training to all members for free, which we were grateful for, stated Junette Allison, member of the Ladies Auxiliary.



VFW Department Of Arizona
6907 E. Thomas Rd.
Scottsdale, AZ 85251
(480) 941-5258 Fax (480) 994-3730
vfwhdqtrs@gmail.com

Commander Borland's Homecoming in Sierra Vista

*Come and enjoy the festivities of our state commander Tim Borland's Homecoming.
Our theme is Margaritaville "It's Five O-Clock Somewhere"*

FRIDAY, 16 March 2012: Steak Dinner at VFW Post 9972 for only \$8.00 a plate (Members Only) and \$9.00 a plate (Non-Member & Guests). Dinner Starts at 05:00pm and ends at 07:30pm. There will be entertainment that night with plenty of fun and dancing.

SATURDAY, 17 March 2012:

07:00 AM – Handicap Golf Tournament at Ft. Huachuca's Golf Course. This is a handicap tournament so please bring your handicaps with you or provide them on the registration form. If you have never played before and honestly have not, then we will ensure you get the proper handicap. This tournament is for all of us to relax and enjoy the company of other veterans and family members of veterans. This tournament is open to everyone, VFW, Ladies Auxiliary, Men's Auxiliary and family members. For more information on the Golf tournament, go to www.vfwpost9972.org and click on information tab. Also, donations are needed to sponsor a hole for this golf tournament; minimal donation of \$100. This is a great opportunity for your VFW Post or Ladies Auxiliary to be recognized for your generous donations. Donation forms are also on the VFW Post 9972's Website. Please register your team ASAP; for we will only be entering 18 teams.

11:00am - Lindsey Botkin and Dan Ferguson will be selling tickets for the Homecoming at the door of the VFW. Bar opens in the back at **5:00pm**, Canteen in the front is open all day!

6:00pm - State and Post Color Guard along with the VFW Rangers will post Colors; Dinner will start after the posting of the Colors. (Dinner will be a Hawaiian Style Buffet)! Dress is casual, if you have a Hawaiian Shirt where it. Where shorts if you like, just relax!

7:00pm: Band will start. They can play almost any song you request. Bring your dancing shoes or go barefoot; just have fun!

8:15pm - Commander's opening of gifts. In addition to the band in the back, there is also Karaoke with Terry in the front bar from 8:00pm to?

SUNDAY, 18 July 2012 – The best Breakfast in town.

08:00am – 11:30am: If you birthday is in March, the breakfast is on us. If not, breakfast runs anywhere between \$2.00 up to \$5.30 depending on what you order. We have a full menu to choose from.

Banquet tickets are \$15.00 each or \$25 per couple. Please make reservations early so we can get a good head count on how many dinners are to be served. Send all checks to:

Lindsey Botkin, 2512 N. Calle Siete, Huachuca City, AZ 85616
Ear mark in memo section "Homecoming Banquet 2012" and make checks payable to VFW Post 9972; or email Dan Ferguson with your name and how many guests plan to attend. Dan will keep a database so that when you arrive, you can pay at the door that day. Dan's email address is: danfergusonvfw@yahoo.com, put on the Subject line (ATTN: State Commander's Homecoming Banquet Tickets).

The following motels will be available at discounted rates:

America's Best Value - 50 rooms blocked (One block and a half from Post)
1 bed 2 people \$57.99
2 beds \$67.99
Phone # 520-459-5380; Code "VFW"
Cut off and rooms go back to motel 1 March 2012

Windermere Hotel - 50 rooms blocked (Four Miles from Post)
\$75.00 per night; Hot Breakfast Every Morning
Phone: 520-459-5900; Ref. # 57652 Code "VFW"
Cut off- Feb.15th, 2012

Super 8 - 50 rooms available 201 W. Fry Blvd. (Behind the alley and across the Street)
Starting rate at \$45.00 + tax; with tax total cost is \$50.65
Contact # 520-458-6711 Code: VFW
Cut Off- Feb. 15th, 2012

10 free non-hookup RV spots beside the VFW for parking and if an Elk, there are 12 - 14 spots at the Elks Lodge for \$12 a night with hookups. All rooms are to be reserved by 15 February 2012 or they will go back to the motel and rooms will only be available at regular rates with first come depending on availability.

Everyone who is selling Tim's Homecoming Pins, all money needs to be sent with all checks being made out to Sierra Vista VFW Post 9972 and in memo please State H/C Pins; to:

Lindsey Botkin, 2512 N. Calle Siete, Huachuca City, AZ. 85616

"Leadership is the art of getting someone else to do something you want done because he wants to do it."

State Chaplain

Janie Miller, 12043 Maricopa

"No man would listen to you talk if he didn't know that it was his turn next."

W. Howe



By the time members read this, the holidays are over, programs have been completed. Last year this time, the new members of Congress were seated, this time the clamoring is well on the way for the 2012 election: no relaxing times for the weary but we can get back into the normal groove!

So what should I talk or write about? About programs? Most are over and many don't remember that it is therefore time to start planning for the upcoming year. About elections? Maybe that would be a good thing because it seems that on election day there are many blank blocks on many election reports. About membership? It is important but everyone else does and I have always done things different.

Maybe about friendships and helping others. These words are thrown around plenty during the holidays and then quickly forgotten. We at the VFW – I think – are better at that than many. We are bonded together because of our military experiences and while we often call each other swabies, jarhead,

flyboys, and ground pounders we still share that common experience that makes this organization so special. We help each other, the veterans community, and active duty service members. We send money to Eaton Rapids, Madison Street, and Mary Ellen's place. But I think (so bad for a Cootie!) that makes things so impersonal. How many have actually gone to Michigan? To those shelters? Too few have been there. Too few help with Stand Down. Too few visit other organizations that we support. Not even all Post chaplains visit people in hospitals or if they do they surely aren't writing it down!!!! It is just too easy to write a check and drop some cans in a box. Spread the personalized friendship to our fellow citizens – and not just to the legal ones, but to all who are in need. Make help and support more than a piece of paper in an envelope!

Finally: yes, I am a candidate for Department Chaplain for the 2012-13 year and I hope for your trust in me. I just want to keep working for you all and all who need help and friendship.

Janie Miller, State Chaplain

SportClips

HAIRCUTS

Sport Clips is proud to be the Official Haircutter of the VFW. Sport Clips is now the VFW's largest single-donation free call day sponsor, having donated almost \$500,000 to Operation Uplink since 2007.

Sport Clips, where the barbershop meets the sports arena, is offering haircut discounts to VFW members when they show their VFW membership card. The friendly, relaxed sports-themed company, which targets men and boys, provides high quality haircuts in an exciting sports environment, complete with sports-tuned television sets at every stylist's station.

TAPS



*May These
Heroes
Rest in
Peace*

404 Movhave Valley

- Robert Baker
- Gabriel Gabriele
- George Hart
- 541 Prescott**
- George Anderson
- Francis Burton
- Jerry Davinroy
- Robert Seitzberg
- Loren Varvais
- Robert Wooten
- 549 Tucson**
- Walter Burks
- Harold Carney
- Frank Flores
- Willard Haley
- John Hegemann
- David Hinzman
- Carl Jorgensen
- Robert Ledin
- James Massie
- Ronald Mayer
- Roy Romero
- Fred Smith
- Ronald Sucharzewski

- Wayne Umphress
- Willard Haley
- Wayne Umphress
- 720 Phoenix**
- William Baker
- Martin Cullinan
- John Ettari
- Christian Hammond
- Sam Harville
- Kenneth Heisch
- Kenneth Schueler
- Robert Snyder
- 1208 Tucson**
- Leroy Darby
- 1433 Glendale**
- Henry Janusek
- 1677 Casa Grande**
- Manuel Acuna
- Rudy Mesa
- 1704 Globe**
- David Burke
- 1709 Flagstaff**
- Clory Duran Jr.
- Edward Fresquez
- Guifford Moore
- Austin Strasser
- Louis Urquides
- John Young
- 1760 Mesa**
- Henry Garner
- Gerald Kearns
- Joe Totusek
- 1763 Yuma**
- Fred Knutsen
- John Wilber
- 1796 Black Canyon**
- John Ward
- 2135 Peoria**
- Richard Siedare
- 2357 Bouse**

- Manuel Vera
- 3513 Scottsdale**
- John Galuski
- Richard Lang
- Dean Paulson
- 3516 Kingman**
- Raymond Pritchard
- Ray Volz
- 3578 Ajo**
- Joseph Mc Laren
- 3584 Superior**
- Gilbert Navarro
- 3632 Tempe**
- Rodney Beardslee
- Norman Ehasz
- Marvin Ux
- 3708 Salome**
- Robert Brownd
- Roger Crossman
- 3713 Coolidge**
- Fernando Rivas
- 4903 Tucson**
- Francis Mackin
- 5990 Marana**
- Fritz Eisermann
- John Westmoreland
- 6271 Benson**
- Robert Coombs
- Robert Gould
- 6306 Golden Shores**
- Charles Shaw
- 6310 Tolleson**
- Benny Gallardo
- 6739 Camp Verde**
- Dan Huyck
- Norman Litt
- William Yates
- 6790 Wellton**
- John Cooney
- Robert Osborn

- Richard Peterson
- 77061 Parker**
- Raymond King
- 7400 Cottonwood**
- Ralph Pittam
- Robert Prosser
- Phillip Smith
- 7401 Chandler**
- James Casey
- John Henry
- David Moreland
- David Yeley
- 7507 Fountain Hills**
- Roger Pranske
- Otto Weeber
- 7968 Apache Jct.**
- William Burtenhouse
- Jack Groshens
- John Hagan
- Joseph Katafias
- Charles Mc Call
- Gerald Monson
- David Oates
- Earnest Pearce
- Ronnie Stauffer
- John Thomson
- Earl Wiggand
- 8053 Sun Lakes**
- Robert Breecher
- Richard Johnston
- 8242 Yuma**
- Woodrow Lewis
- James Mullins
- 9399 Apache Jct.**
- Charles Bergren
- Riley Cross
- Gerald Dickinson
- Jack Grafe
- Marvin Johnson
- Robert Kalal

- Roy Powers
- 9400 Phoenix**
- Robert Antrim
- Lee Ausman
- Keith Betts
- Wayne Moderson
- Norman Wood
- Emil Zawatski
- 9401 Lake Havasu**
- Marvin Bollig
- Henry Gugert
- Peter Pasichnyk
- Arthur Pellerin
- James Smith
- Thomas Thielman
- 9632 Page**
- David Harrell
- 9829 Payson**
- Edward Waer
- 9833 Dolan Springs**
- John Burwell
- Raymond Davidson
- Larry Wallace
- 9907 Show Low**
- Donald Dahlberg
- 9972 Sierra Vista**
- John Covert
- Thomas Ellery
- Frank Feaster
- Charles Hedgpeth
- Nathaniel Mc Millian
- Theodore Skinner
- James Woodruff
- 9977 Sunsites**
- Lee Roy Dover
- Joseph Lindenmayer
- 10005 Bullhead**
- Alexander Daniels
- Oather Farmer
- Robert Miller

- Le Roy Swain
- Luther Swift
- 10015 Tucson**
- Mike Bracamonte
- Fermin Coronado
- Herman White
- 10188 Tucson**
- Roy Hasenheyer
- Adolfo Martinez
- Harlan Rath
- 10227 Prescott Valley**
- Robert Callison
- Ulderic Jarvis
- 10254 Three Points**
- Adalberto Vasquez
- 10342 Huachuca City**
- Clifford Lavinder
- 10385 Thatcher**
- Raul Ogas
- 10386 Kingman**
- Dennis Mellott
- John Morrow
- 10695 Sun City West**
- William Meisenheimer
- 12006 Mesa**
- Raymond Craine
- James Maloney
- 12031 Anthem**
- Rolf Waaqe
- Members at Large**
- Charles Byers
- Richard Davis
- Tony Glavan
- Wayne Kennedy
- David Lusby
- Talmage Peters
- Robert Roth
- Jack Salsberry

*Rest in Peace
Brave Warriors*

Freedom Flight to San Antonio, Texas



On November 3, 2011 John Barnard (life member Post 9400) and I departed Sky Harbor Airport for San Antonio, Texas for the 12th evacuation Hospital reunion. John was wounded on January 7, 1967 while serving as an Infantryman with Company A 1/5 (Mech), Z5" Infantry Division, and was Med Evac to the 12th Evacuation Hospital at Chu Chi, South Vietnam, where he was treated for shrapnel wounds received from command detonated Chinese claymore mine. As a result John lost both eyes, his hearing in his right ear, and mobility in his left arm (almost amputated). At the young age of 19 years John left Vietnam to began his long journey of rehab and recovery. When I told John about my units reunion, John stated he would like to attend, so he could

meet and thank both the Army Doctors and Nurses who saved his life, I agreed, and this began our pilgrimage to San Antonio, Texas. During our stay at the El Tropicana Hotel on the river walk, John talked to several of the attendees and found several of the Nurses who may have cared for him that day he was wounded. As planned John was given the opportunity to address the entire group of attendees at the banquet to tell his story, thanking all for saving his life, and all of the great care he had received while at the 12th Evacuation Hospital. After John's 30 minute speech was over he received a standing ovation from everyone in the room. Although John could not see it, there wasn't a dry eye in the room. At this moment I realized that these doctors, nurses, and corpsman needed a former patient to say "Thank You".

I want to thank John for allowing me to be his escort and sharing this very special weekend which I will never forget "Thank You John". If you ever get to meet John you will meet a very special Veteran who will brighten your day. John is a very positive person who has a good sense of humor and likes a good joke. Although John has a disability he is not disabled! *Yours in Comradeship, Bob Hysko & John Barnard*

VFW Store

One stop shopping for all your VFW and Patriotic needs.

*Quality Merchandise for your family
*Brand Name goods for your home
*Fast friendly service

1-800-821-2606
vfwstore.org

WALLOW FIRE RELIEF HELP VETERANS IN NEED

We would like to thank the following for their help in the Wallow Fire Relief: Floyd & Deb Lowe, White Mountain Moose Lodge 2650, VFW Post 9907, VFW Post 6310, VFW Department of Arizona, VFW National Headquarters, VFW Department of Arizona Homeless Fund, VFW Department of California and VFW Post 8987 Commander Quinn Green, Quartermaster Charles Sones, and a special thanks to Service

Officer Dan Cochran. A total of \$17,050.00 was donated. All the money went to help in the Wallow Fire Relief: we helped 56 VFW members, 8 Ladies Auxiliary members, 5 Men's Auxiliary members, 2 widows of VFW members and 40 Veterans in Alpine, Nutrioso, Springerville and Eagar. **Total spent: \$17,023.91**
John M. Beeler, Quartermaster, VFW Post 2364, Pinetop-Lakeside, Arizona

Wounded Warriors Bond With Post 9632 at Lake Powell

I had the honor to help with the Wounded Warriors Project, and Operation Outdoors, Along with the Lake Powell Park Rangers, and Jarrett Edwards Outdoors.

The Wounded Warriors Arrived in Page on Monday Sept. 26, 2011 Tuesday with their escorts did the North Rim of the Grand Canyon, Wednesday they spent the day on the lake fishing with 5 fishing guides & captains, Wednesday evening VFW Post 9632 Page, AZ along with the Lake Powell Park Rangers set up and had a barbeque and bonfire on lone Rock Beach, Thursday they rafted down the Colorado River from Page to Lees Ferry.

At the bonfire and barbecue the Warriors were happy to bond with us older veterans, each one wanted to take photos with us. Some of these mighty War-

rriors this was their first time out of their Apartment since returning home. Two of them had Campion dogs with them and quite a few amputees. This was the second year for them coming to Page and going to make it an annual event and hope to make it bigger every year and hope more VFW members will join us at the bonfire & barbeque. It was over whelming to me how thankful these Wounded Warriors were to us, to be able to open up and bond with us, when we owe them.

Please visit <http://www.jarrettedwardsoutdoors.tv/home.html> and <http://www.woundedwarriorproject.org/> to find out who made this happen.

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