

State Headquarters News Update



Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States Department of California

Sacramento, California

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NOVEMBER 17, 2008

UNITED AS ONE – SERVICE FOR ALL

NEW QUARTERMASTER- ADJUTANT FOR THE DEPARTMENT

At the October, 2008 Council meeting in Woodland Hills, CA long time Quartermaster-Adjutant John Lowe tendered his resignation as he has accepted a position with the VFW National Headquarters. State Cmdr. Nick Guest announced the appointment of Past State Commander James R. Rowoldt as the new Adjutant for the Dept. of California. Jim was elected as Dept. Quartermaster at the October Council meeting. The members of the Department of California wish Jim much success in the coming year and offer best wishes to John Lowe on his new venture with the National Headquarters.

DEPT. COMMANDER HOMECOMING

After the Council of Administration Meeting on October 4th, members, friends and guests enjoyed a Homecoming Celebration in honor of State Commander Nick Guest. The event was held at Nick's home Post 2805 in Canoga Park.

January Council of Administration Voice of Democracy Banquet

Plans are currently underway for the 3rd Council of Administration Meeting to be held at the Hilton Hotel in Sacramento, California January 23-25, 2009. Please go to www.vfwca.org and click on "Council Meetings". You will be able to download forms for the banquet, hotel as well as accessing a tentative agenda.

WESTERN CONFERENCE



San Diego, California was the host for the 2008/2009 Western Conference. Past State Cmdr. Walt Hamilton, State Sgt. At Arms Ed McCoy and Past Dept. President Reta Butler as well as the entire Mighty 1st District made sure that all needs were met. The Conference turned out to be one of the best. Congressman Bob

Filner was on hand at the opening to address the audience with items having to do with veterans' needs. National Commander In Chief Tommy Tradewell was the guest speaker and National Representative.

SB 1455 – GOLD STAR LICENSE PLATES

Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger announced he has signed SB 1455 by Senator Dave Cogdill (R-Modesto) authorizing the creation of the California Gold Star Family License Plate. The legislation paves the way for families who have lost loved ones in current and prior wars to obtain license plates honoring the sacrifices their families have endured.

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE VISITS CALIFORNIA SENATORS IN WASHINGTON DC

September, 2008 California's Legislative Committee visited lawmakers on Capitol Hill. Members of the Committee include Dept. Jr. Vice Cmdr. Denis Wells, Dave Ramsey, John Smith, Ray Wong and Larry Connolley. Look for a more detailed report in the upcoming California Veteran.



Dept. Jr. Vice Cmdr. Denis Wells, Ray Wong, Sen. Feinstein, Dave Ramsey, John Smith and Larry Connolley



Dept. Jr. Vice Cmdr. Denis Wells, Dave Ramsey, Sen. Boxer, John Smith and Ray Wong

THANK YOU

On behalf of the family of Karen Smith and myself, we want to thank you all for the phone calls, cards, well wishes and love you showed during Karen's recent cancer illness. As you know, Karen lost her battle to cancer in September.

Thank you once again for all your kindness.
Pete Smith and Karen Smith's Family

CHARIAMSNIP CHANGES

Please note the following change in Chairmanships:

Gerry Blake , MAP Chairman

9525 Crenshaw Blvd. #3, Inglewood 90315
(310) 988-8716

Bobby Price, Citizenship Chairman

121 Orange Avenue #25, Chula Vista 91911
(619) 954-1183

Jim Rowoldt, Publicity Chairman

1510 "J" Street, Suite 110, Sacramento 95814
(916) 449-8850

Change in E Mail:

Richard Fenn (Teacher Award) has a new e mail:

Richardfenn@verizon.net

E-MEMBERSHIP

What's new at eMembership for Post & Department Quartermasters?

- Payment Profile. You can now create a payment profile in eMembership and use it to make on-line dues payments. As a Quartermaster, you can tell us what

account you prefer for making payments, and we'll keep it securely on file electronically, saving you from having to enter it each time. Go to "Manage Account" and "Add Your New Payment Profile." You can enter a bank account or a credit card account number. Then when renewing members or adding new members, select your payment profile to make the payment.

- New member form. When entering new members, the qualifying information is now provided in a drop down menu format. This makes the on-line form similar to the new written application. This change helps us to keep the data uniform, and it makes completing the form faster and easier.
- Entering member credit cards. Quartermasters are no longer required to have CVC/CVS codes when entering member credit card numbers. We ask that you verify the card holder's number and enter it accurately. Please handle and store applications appropriately to protect your members' sensitive information.
- New, improved email confirmation. When you complete a transaction on eMembership, you will immediately receive an email summarizing your transaction. This confirmation email includes the names of members renewed and the total amount of the charge.
- New features available for members. Our members can now make installment plan payments on line. We've also made it easier for them to set up a profile and use it to automatically pay on their installment plan or their annual dues.

DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS THANKS CALIFORNIA

The Department of California recently sent \$10,000 from our Relief Fund for assistance from damage caused by Hurricane Ike. They would like to convey their heartfelt thanks to everyone.

COMMANDER'S ITINERARY 2008/2009

January, 2009

- 2-4 District 4 Official Visit
- 9-11 District 7 Official Visit
- 16-18 District 2 Official Visit
- 19 Martin Luther King Day, Office Closed
- 23-25 Mid Winter Conf., Sacramento
- 301 District 1 Official Visit

February, 2009

- 1 District 1 Official Visit
- 13-15 District 25 Official Visit
- 10 President Day Office Closed
- 27-1 District 14 Official Visit

Be sure to check the website for hotel information, itinerary, banquet, etc. for upcoming Official Visits.

DEADLINES

Be sure and check the Program Guide to make sure you are in compliance with all deadlines on VFW programs. Additionally, please use the Form 12 provided on the website and send ALL REPORTS to the DEPARTMENT CHAIRMEN – not to DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS. You can access a copy of the Dept. Roster by going to www.vfwca.org and clicking on the correct category.

CALIFORNIA FIRES

Devastating fires have swept through the Southern California area causing widespread damage. If you know of a heartwarming story where someone has been affected, helped someone, etc. please contact Stephanie Martin at martin@vfwca.org so this news can be printed in the upcoming California Veteran. If you have suffered any damage, see your Post Commander for details on how to apply for assistance.

LOOKING FOR NEWSWORTHY ARTICLES FOR OUR PAPER

Attention District Commanders – please send a short summary of any highlights during your official visits. I would like to publish in our California Veteran (martin@vfwca.org). Also if one of your Posts has a special program or events, please get an article and pictures to me.