

VFW Bert Fuller Post 9578

news & updates

September 2020 Alpine, CA



Commander's Message



Important Messages for Our Members & Guests

COVID-19 has been a challenge to work around and causes hardships on some of our Post Members.

Please let me know of anyone needing help. We will do all we can you are all important to us.

Meal service on Friday, Saturday, and our Sunday Breakfast on some days set new records for the number of meals we serve. Thanks to all that have supported the Post. That being said, wait time for some during that period takes longer. Please be patient with us we will get the meals out as fast as we can.

The wave of the future for post meetings is following the examples set by distance learning and Zoom Calls; so the post has installed two new Cat5 cables to support remote access. Once we get our personnel trained, we will be offering an option for members unable to attend the Post to join in on the meeting through Zoom.

Upcoming Post Events

See what's happening this month on our Facebook page! Please click this link:



Quartermaster's Report

Your Post continues to operate under the strict COVID-19 guidelines required for establishments to provide food & beverage service. Although this situation makes life more difficult with no end in



sight, the Post management and staff wants to thank our members, their invited guests and members of the public who continue to visit the Post for their food & beverage of choice.

Special thanks to our Post volunteers who have really stepped up to help out during these troubled times. Our dedicated bar staffers have worked to provide customer service excellence while meeting the County's guidelines for social distancing and surface cleaning. Please come out and enjoy our food & beverage service - you will be supporting our Post and getting a great meal. A special shout out to the Alpine Fire Dept which has given us meal visits and support.

I would like to personally thank all those who stopped by the Post on **August 22** to wish me a very happy **78th birthday**. And also, thanks to the Post for the wonderful birthday cake - I had no idea that a cake could hold so many candles!

We are gaining new members weekly in both VFW and Auxiliary. If you know people who you believe may be eligible for membership, please let me know and I will contact them and work to bring them into our great Post.

POW/MIA Day will be acknowledged by the Post on **Friday the 18th** with an evening remembrance ceremony on the deck.

Please keep in mind - if you know of any veterans (who may or may not be current members) in the local area who need help, please let **Post Quartermaster Carl** or I know and we'll arrange to get them the help they need.

So please do your best to comply with state and county guidelines at all times and **do not, under any circumstance, attend a Post activity or event if you or a member of your family unit are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms**. If you have questions on the guidelines please call the Post at **(619) 445-6040**.

Please continue to stay safe, follow the health guidelines and limit any exposure.

Jack

Post Commander
Jack Gauthier

Vincent "B.J." Lawrence
Executive Director
Washington Office Veterans of
Foreign Wars of the United States

Before the United States House of
Representatives Committee on
Oversight and Reform
Subcommittee on National Security
With Respect To The Defense
POW/MIA Accounting Agency:

Bringing Our Nation's Heroes Home

WASHINGTON, D.C.

Chairman Lynch, Ranking Member Hice, and members of the subcommittee, on behalf of the men and women of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States (VFW) and its Auxiliary, thank you for the opportunity to provide remarks regarding our partnership with the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA) and its noble mission to account as fully as possible for America's Veterans unreturned from our nation's past wars and conflicts.

Currently, 1,587 from the Vietnam War, 7606 from the Korean War, 126 from the Cold War and 72, 641 from World War II, for a total of 81,960 US servicemen and civilians, are still missing in action, 75 percent of whom are located in the Indo-Pacific Region, and more than 41,000 are

Members: Please attend our **monthly meeting September 12th**. We will soon have the capacity to present our meetings to members online, which will provide a very convenient way to participate in Post operations when you can't get to the Post for the meeting.

I am always available 24/7 to you in my capacity as **Post Quartermaster**.

Carl

Quartermaster
Carl Silva

VFW Post 2111 Chula Vista Veteran Home Virtual 2020 Vet Walk



Chula Vista Veteran Home
VIRTUAL
2020 VET WALK
Saturday, November 7th at 9 AM
How do you support this year's Vet Walk?

1. Take a walk in your favorite Veteran, Military, or past Vet Walk t-shirt!
2. Take a Selfie or quick Video showing your support!
3. Submit your media to vfwpost2111.org by 2pm on December 1st!

**THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING OUR SENIOR VETERANS
2020 HOLIDAY PARTY!**

For more information or to make a monetary donation, please contact us at theveteranswalk@vfwpost2111.org or visit our website VFWPost2111.org

House Committee Report

On behalf of the Post, I would like to thank our Post members who pitched in to clean the Post Kitchen recently:

Allisen Earls
Dan Fought
John Rizzo



We are always looking for volunteers to help out with House projects. Please reach out to me at your convenience!

John

House Committee Chair

assessed as being lost at sea during **World War II**. Since 1929, the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States (VFW) has been intimately involved in the Full Accounting Mission. Stemming from priority raised in 1982, the focus was accounting for Vietnam War missing, but it is now the mission of the DPAA to recover missing personnel listed as prisoner of war (POW) or missing in action (MIA), from past wars and conflicts in countries around the world. Within that mission, DPAA coordinates with countries and municipalities worldwide to recover missing US personnel.

Our nation's ability to bring home our fallen heroes is a national commitment, but is extremely limited by the lack of funding and the dwindling numbers of eyewitnesses who can provide information useful in identifying possible incident sites, among other factors. That is why the VFW has been partnering with DPAA and its predecessor organizations to work with foreign governments to help American researchers gain access to foreign military officials and archives and past battlefields. Since 1991, the VFW is the only veterans service organization to return to Southeast Asia, Russia, and China, and has made it our goal to not rest until we achieve the fullest possible accounting of all missing American military and civilian personnel from all past wars.

The process to bring a missing service member home often takes years and requires predictable funding. Before a field team is deployed to a potential site, highly trained specialists have to examine a counterpart nation's archives, investigate leads in Last Known Alive cases, and interview counterpart-nation military and civilian officials, as well as local citizens, who may have relevant information about a particular region or battle. Investigative Teams will follow up on leads through interviewing potential witnesses, conducting on-site reconnaissance, and surveying terrain for anomalies, as well as safety and logistical concerns.

Once a site has been located, recovery teams, which may include intelligence specialists, archaeologists, anthropologists and other specialists, are deployed to conduct field operations. Each mission is unique, but there are certain processes each field operation has in common. Depending on the location and methods necessary on-site, the standard field recovery missions last 35 to 60 days. Recovery sites can be as small as a few meters for individual burials to areas

John Rizzo

Auxiliary President's Message

Hello to all for September, autumn is coming soon!



Our August session was via teleconference, with 11 folks attending.

The District inspection has been rescheduled for 9 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 3rd with with outside guests and our District line officers in the same area on the upper deck.

Updates and News

- **Bob** (Treasurer) to investigate various local companies who can provide quotes/prices for 20+ memorial plaques for deceased members.
- Future officer position will be available as soon as I have a resignation letter from the person wishing to step down. Email will go out for everyone to consider the position.
- **Anna** (Secretary) spent \$50 towards necessities and personal items for the **California Veterans' Home**, as we learned some of the recent transferred folks could not take any items due to COVID-19 issues. Report/photos pending.
- **Bob** (Treasurer) and trustees **Maggie** (#1), **Nancy H.** (#2) and **Pat** (#3) compiled the required audits for April - June 2020 for all monies. Audits are required for upcoming District inspection. Thanks for all your efforts and dedication!
- August 1st **Cookie Bake Off** was a success! Winners included 1st place **Linda** (not sure of last name), 2nd place **Tom Hirzel** (new comrade joining us) and 3rd place **Nancy Bailey**. We are pending final count of monies received for distribution to appropriate account.
- **Anna** (Secretary) has stepped down from her role, and we will be making inquiries of the group for a new secretary. This position is appointed, not nominated/elected. On behalf of the Auxiliary, I want to extend our personal note of thanks to **Anna** for handling all the minutes, reading of letters, etc. for the last few months. She did the job with grace and style to help us get through some rough times.
- Five new member apps were reviewed and approved. As soon as I have the new email addresses, I will send out messages to the folks to have them join us for initiation

exceeding the size of a football field for aircraft crashes. When artifacts or remains are located, they are transported to DPAA's main Laboratory at **Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam** in Hawaii, where artifacts and possible remains are analyzed and DNA testing is conducted.

DPAA has the largest, most diverse, and admired skeletal identification laboratory in the world and is staffed by more than 30 anthropologists, archaeologists, and forensic odontologists. Due to DPAA's efforts, 218 Americans were identified and accounted for in fiscal year 2018. However, government budgetary uncertainty prevented DPAA from identifying more fallen heroes. During a government shutdown, DPAA personnel are furloughed and forced to leave an incident site, which results in delays.

The VFW thanks **Chairman Lynch** for introducing **H.R. 4879, Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency Support Act**, which would exempt DPAA employees who are conducting accounting missions from being furloughed in the event of a government shutdown. The VFW urges Congress to consider and pass this important legislation as soon as possible. Congress and the White House must provide DPAA, as well as its supporting agencies, full mission funding and personnel staffing because it is the right thing to do for our missing and unaccounted-for service members and their families.

Republic of Korea

The VFW was also the only organization to engage with **President Trump** regarding the return of Korean War remains prior to his Singapore Summit last year. Our actions resulted in the transfer of 55 boxes of remains by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK), and opened the door for Joint Field Activities to resume in North Korea in the near future. Some see DPRK's decision to do so as nothing more than an empty gesture or one meant to only placate. However, to the families of the 5,200 service members who never came home from the Korean War, those boxes represent hope and closure.

That is why the VFW asked our members and supporters to provide DNA samples to DPAA so it can continue to identify the services members who were returned home in the 55 boxes. The VFW urges Congress to amplify our call-to-action and also provide DPAA the necessary resources to expand recovery operations into North Korea and to

as new Auxiliary brothers/sisters on either Sept. 5 or Oct. 3.

- September 5th meeting will be held at the Post, downstairs outside the meeting room area. Everyone is welcome to attend and assist with the set up and break down of tables and chairs for everyone. All in attendance must comply with the 6' apart distancing and wear masks.

- For year 2019 - 2020: Our Auxiliary earned awards to include **Circle of Excellence**, **Americanism**, and a **Citation for Flag Education**. Participation awards were presented for **Scholarship** and **Buddy Poppy**. (Thanks to **Gloria Rivera** for her wreath last time!)

- Email and follow up letter were sent to **Alpine Boy Scout Troop 105**, who had two young men participating in last year's flag retirement ceremony, learning how to retire a flag and earn a badge at the same time.

- **Stand Down for Veterans** will be held from 7:30 a.m. – 4 p.m. on Sunday November 22 at San Diego High School's Upper Athletic Field. Everyone is welcome to participate and assist with homeless and/or at risk veterans and families.

- **Rick Stanley** is now back on our Auxiliary roster rolls. His son **Sheldon** (part of our Auxiliary) was helpful in reaching out to his dad to get in touch with me to resolve the issue.

- Prayers to our comrades **Denny Hagar** and **Larry Grogan**, both having serious illness issues.

- District inspection rescheduled for 9 a.m. Saturday, October 3rd with District attending for audits, minutes, and other documentation from last year to current.

- As I have District duties to attend to, **Linda Pipkin** (our Sr VP) will be covering the **September 5th meeting** on discussion of specific items and new information received. Remember – 6' distance and masks are required!

- September 18th is **POW/MIA** day, pending events for same.

Happy **Labor Day** and **Patriot's Day**; 19 years since the **NYC World Trade Towers** were destroyed. Stay vigilant!

Any questions or concerns, please let me know. I am reachable via email at **sheilajo9578@cox.net** or by phone at (619) 990-0536.

Please stay healthy and safe, we need everyone!

Respectfully submitted,

Sheila Jo
Auxiliary President

support the remains recovery mission in DPRK.

Locating, identifying, and recovering the remains of those who paid the ultimate sacrifice in the service of our country from conflicts spanning nearly 80 years is a difficult and hazardous mission, but it is one of the most important obligations that we have as a grateful nation. It is a promise to those serving in uniform today that no matter what, we will travel to the ends of the Earth to return you home to your families. As a veteran who served in Korea, I am honored to have played a role in reuniting fallen veterans, whose remains left behind enemy lines in North Korea, with their loved ones.

U.S. - Russia Joint Commission

Just as we have sent VFW senior leadership to Southeast Asia every year since 1991, so too has our leadership visited Russia since 2004 to highlight the importance of DPAA's mission on a vet-to-vet level. Further, at the invitation of the U.S. Co-Chairman of the U.S.-Russia Joint Commission on POW/MIAs (USRJC), and with the concurrence of the Russian Co-Chairman, the VFW was invited to participate as an observer to the XXI Plenum of the Commission in Moscow, Russia, November 7-11, 2017.

The USRJC was established in 1992 by **President George H. W. Bush** and **Russian President Boris Yeltsin**. Its purpose is to determine the fates of missing and unaccounted-for American and Soviet service members from World War II, the Korean War, the Cold War, and Vietnam, as well as unaccounted-for Russians from their 10-year war in Afghanistan.

After an 11-year break, the 21st plenum was the second consecutive meeting to be held since the sessions resumed in Washington, D.C. Through most of the interim years, VFW senior leadership had traveled to Moscow to urge the Russian government to re-establish their side of the Commission. We had met with Russian veterans, members of their Duma, Federation Council, and Ministries of Defense and Foreign Affairs to solicit their assistance and commitment to this humanitarian mission. I and my VFW colleagues were pleased to host the Joint Commission to a reception at the conclusion of the Joint Commission's 22nd Plenum last November. We are also pleased the Commission is now meeting on a more regular basis.

District 1 Auxiliary Chaplain 2019 - 2020
Sheila Jo Toor-Snyder

A great way for members of the Alpine community to support their **Bert Fuller VFW Post 9578** is to join the post auxiliary. Check the Auxiliary Facebook page for details; click on this link:
[VFW Post 9578 Auxiliary](#)



Auxiliary Chaplain's Message

I recently read this message from the **Saskatchewan Knights of Columbus** – 9/2019 and found it to be timely, eye opening, and spot on:



“At the Convention this past August, it was announced the theme would be principle of Unity. As part of this theme, it was also announced a program to encourage civility in political discourse, between communities in our society, and particularly important, amongst the members of the Order.”

“... perhaps most disturbing of all disunity is the recognition of the lack of civility in discussions...” In addition, “It is one thing to recognize that politicians or societal groups do not see eye to eye, but we must be very careful about the message we are sending ... Honest debate is always encouraged but name-calling and verbal attacks are detrimental to all people involved.” Adding “we hope we’re going to be with each other in heaven. So, we ought to try and treat each other a little better on earth.” – **Father Edward Gibney**

And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity.
Colossians 3:14

Dear Lord, we ask that you help us to truly live a life of love in communion with all our

Vietnam

The VFW has and will continue to support the DPAA efforts to locate the **1,587 Americans who are still missing from the Vietnam War**. The challenges DPAA faces in Vietnam include underwater recoveries, weather, terrain, economic development, soil acidity, and aging witnesses. Its goal is to increase the underwater investigations, identify new strategic partners, gain more access to the Vietnamese National Archives for case research, and cultivate new leads from American veterans of the Vietnam War.

The VFW has played a vital role in advancing the POW/MIA missions. Last July, during the 120th VFW National Convention in Orlando, Florida, I asked Vietnam veterans to send in documents that might help the Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam to determine the locations of burial sites in order to find their estimated 300,000 missing soldiers, and personal effects that might help bring comfort to their families.

Our VFW members and their families answered the call. On October 25, 2019, the VFW provided documents, artifacts, and personal effects to DPAA, which had the locations of battlefields and grave sites of Vietnamese soldiers. Returning these items to the Vietnamese government has helped improve the relationship with the United States. This display of diplomacy will not only help in our efforts to reach our true goal and promise to our families affected by the Vietnam War, but help us gain access to future recovery sites. Additionally, the VFW strongly believes that by maintaining a vet-to-vet relationship with Southeast Asian governments from a non-bureaucratic and non-political perspective plays a critical role in conducting humanitarian and recovery missions.

VFW senior leaders have traveled back to Vietnam every year since 1991 to help DPAA locate missing and unaccounted-for service members. During our trip last March, the VFW linked up with the **U.S. Army Research and Investigation Team** and the deputy commander of the **Marine Corps** and staff to visit active recovery sites. The VFW also met with the Defense Attache' and **U.S. Ambassador Dan Kritenbrink** at the U.S. Embassy in Hanoi to discuss ways the U.S. is rebuilding our relationship with Vietnam. One such way has been helping to clean up former Agent Orange sites around the country, which has been seen by the Vietnamese as a very positive development.

sisters and brothers. We are grateful that you are always with us to give us purpose and hope. We are all Americans; we are all your Children. Please guide us and give us the strength to only speak with love, respect, and kindness. Amen

Labor Day is celebrated on Monday, September 7th. This day is a yearly national tribute to the contributions workers have made to the strength, prosperity, and well-being of our country. Happy **Labor Day**!

Be safe and well out there! God Bless America! With Blessings and hope,

Jan

Post 9578 Auxiliary Chaplain
Jan Bazdorf



Post Has Received Several Scooters To Be Donated To Our Members

Attention Post Members: Our Post has received several scooters for donation to our members. If you are interested, please contact the Post Commander or Quartermaster as soon as possible.

Donation requests will be handled on a first-come, first-served basis.

P.S. - One of the donated scooters is not working, so we would appreciate anyone who can volunteer to repair it so that we

As a result of such efforts, the perception of America by the Vietnamese people has improved. However, the Vietnamese government has expressed concern over China's growing military and economic influences in Southeast Asia. Vietnam is the fastest-growing economy in Southeast Asia and tourism is big — as is U.S. investments. The Vietnamese population is young and well- educated, and transportation, energy, and information technology are growing. Therefore, the U.S. must continue to improve its relationship with Vietnam and other Southeast Asian countries.

China

In 2017, the VFW traveled to China, where we joined the U.S. Army Attaché. We worked with six members of the **People's Liberation Army's (PLA) Office of International Military Cooperation** and the PLA archives to advance the DPAA mission of identifying and returning home the remains of WWII and Korean War veterans.

Archival cooperation began in 2008, which not coincidentally is when the VFW began adding China to its annual MIA fact-finding mission itinerary. Chinese military officials claim more than 100,000 documents have been searched, which resulted in more than 50 valuable clues being passed to U.S. researchers. In conjunction, the head of the North American and Oceania Bureau, People's Liberation Army's Office of International Military Cooperation, asked if the U.S. could provide family reference samples (DNA) of our missing near the North Korean/Chinese border to expedite their own recovery efforts.

China has always searched for American MIAs since we were allies during World War II. Everyone recognizes that returning the fallen to their families is a humanitarian, not political, mission. For the VFW, it is important the MIA mission is not impacted by political events between our two countries. We also laud the Chinese government for creating a special office with 16 officers and professionals to help with the DPAA mission in China.

With more than 83,000 U.S. service members still unaccounted-for globally, Congress must support full mission funding and personnel staffing for DPAA, as well as its supporting agencies, such as the Armed Forces DNA Identification Laboratory and the military service casualty offices. The fullest possible Accounting Mission remains a top priority for the VFW and we will not rest until we achieve all possible missing

may get it donated ASAP.

Canteen Manager's Message



Due to popular demand, we have added **Game Night** for **Wednesday** nights along with **Tuesday** nights! Come on out and be sure to bring your best "game face!"

We very much appreciate your continued support (and patience!) during this time of uncertainty.

Please continue practicing safe distancing and wearing your mask while entering the Post and moving around.

Canteen will continue its normal business hours for outdoor dining on our beautiful Patio with its great scenic views. Entertainment is still restricted till further notice. Hopefully entertainment will be back soon; events will resume when the San Diego County Health Department COVID-19 restrictions are changed.

Remember that the Post conducts a raffle basket once a month, so I am looking for donations - if you have anything to donate, please bring it to the Post. Thank you for helping our Post!

For Post Raffle and 50/50 tickets: please put your name and contact number on all Post Raffle and 50/50 tickets that you purchase since you do not have to be "present" to win!

Kimberley

Canteen / Entertainment Manager
Kimberley Rivera

FYI for Post Members!

House Committee Meetings are held every **second Saturday of the month** at **10 a.m.**

Post Member meetings are held **every second Saturday of the month** at **11 a.m.**

Show your pride in our Post by letting people know you are a member of our VFW!

Labor Day is Monday, September 7

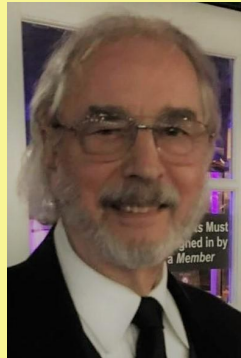
American military service members brought home.

The VFW knows supporting this mission is something we can all agree on, and it is why we urge Congress to ensure this important mission can continue in perpetuity, and regardless of any lapse in government funding. It is insufferable that recovery missions or Joint-Field Activities, which take an enormous amount of time, energy and resources to plan and must be conducted during certain times of the year, are suspended simply because Congress cannot do its job. To that end, I once again plead for your support in passing **H.R. 4879, Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency Support Act**, which would exempt DPAA employees who are conducting recovery missions from being furloughed in the event of a government shutdown.

Mr. Chairman, this concludes my statement.

Chaplain's Message

Our Nation is observing **Patriot Day** on **Friday, September 11th** to commemorate the 2001 terrorist attacks against America in New York, Pennsylvania and Washington, DC. For the past two years, your Post's Color Guard has made well-received presentations to the students at **Alpine Elementary School** and **Joan McQueen Middle School** in Alpine. Unfortunately, because of the COVID-19 situation, we will not be able to participate this year.



Dear Lord, as we remember the tragic events of September 11th, 2001, let us turn our hearts and minds towards the good found only in you; be close to those who mourn the loss of a loved one;

Embrace this grieving nation, and let time never lessen the impact of this day; may we never forget;

Protect those who go in harm's way to save others, and those who suffer and die to safeguard our nation; Give wisdom to our leaders, that they may make choices that prevent another day such as this;

Convert the hearts of those who seek our destruction, and banish from the world the

Labor Day pays tribute to the contributions and achievements of American workers and is traditionally observed on the first Monday in September. It was created by the labor movement in the late 19th century and became a federal holiday in 1894.

Labor Day weekend also symbolizes the end of summer for many Americans, and is celebrated with parties, street parades and athletic events.

Why Do We Celebrate Labor Day?

Labor Day, an annual celebration of workers and their achievements, originated during one of American labor history's most dismal chapters.

In the late 1800s, at the height of the Industrial Revolution in the United States, the average American worked 12-hour days and seven-day weeks in order to eke out a basic living. Despite restrictions in some states, children as young as 5 or 6 toiled in mills, factories and mines across the country, earning a fraction of their adult counterparts' wages.

People of all ages, particularly the very poor and recent immigrants, often faced extremely unsafe working conditions, with insufficient access to fresh air, sanitary facilities and breaks.

As manufacturing increasingly supplanted agriculture as the wellspring of American employment, labor unions, which had first appeared in the late 18th century, grew more prominent and vocal. They began organizing strikes and rallies to protest poor conditions and compel employers to renegotiate hours and pay. Many of these events turned violent during this period, including the infamous **Haymarket Riot of 1886**, in which several Chicago policemen and workers were killed.

Others gave rise to longstanding traditions: On September 5, 1882,

darkness that allows such intolerance to grow; let your love rain down upon us, and let your peace flourish on the earth. AMEN.

Also in on **Friday, September 18th, National POW/MIA Recognition Day** is observed. We will have a brief ceremony on the patio deck at sunset to acknowledge all **POWs** and **MIAs** to ensure them: “You are not forgotten”!

Heavenly Father, we pray for those who are missing or have been taken captive in war. Give them the courage to persevere and also the knowledge that they have not been forgotten.

May our Nation’s leaders find ways to rescue them safely and quickly. Guide our political negotiators in their resolute efforts to gain the freedom of these courageous people.

We pray that they will not be used as pawns to the advantage of our enemies.

When their freedom is restored, let our POWs walk with pride and dignity because of the suffering they have endured.

We ask for more efficient ways of tracing and identifying those who are missing in action. Let them not be forgotten; fill them with the hope of freedom and the knowledge that their loved ones and comrades anxiously await their return.

Lord, we pray that you give each missing serviceman or servicewoman courage and strength to persevere. Give them peace in knowing you’ll never leave them. We also pray that you clear their minds of stress so they may focus on finding their way to safety. AMEN.

Theo

Post 9578 Chaplain
Theodore Bazdorf

10,000 workers took unpaid time off to march from City Hall to Union Square in New York City, holding the first **Labor Day** parade in U.S. history.

The idea of a “workingmen’s holiday,” celebrated on the first Monday in September, caught on in other industrial centers across the country, and many states passed legislation recognizing it. Congress would not legalize the holiday until 12 years later, when a watershed moment in American labor history brought workers’ rights squarely into the public’s view. On May 11, 1894, employees of the **Pullman Palace Car Company** in Chicago went on strike to protest wage cuts and the firing of union representatives.

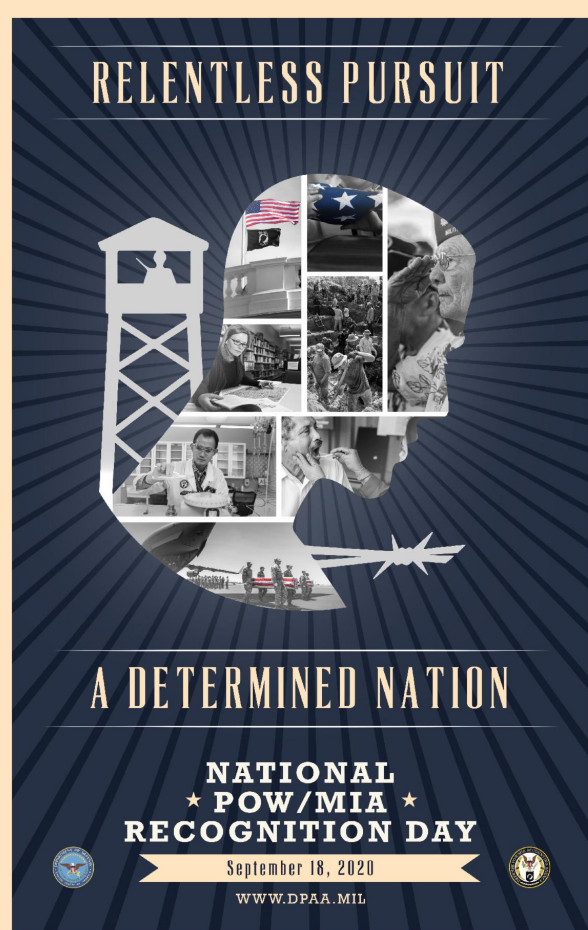
On June 26, the **American Railroad Union**, led by **Eugene V. Debs**, called for a boycott of all Pullman railway cars, crippling railroad traffic nationwide. To break the Pullman strike, the federal government dispatched troops to Chicago, unleashing a wave of riots that resulted in the deaths of more than a dozen workers.

Who Created Labor Day?

In the wake of this massive unrest and in an attempt to repair ties with American workers, Congress passed an act making **Labor Day** a legal holiday in the District of Columbia and the territories. On June 28, 1894, **President Grover Cleveland** signed it into law. More than a century later, the true founder of **Labor Day** has yet to be identified. Many credit **Peter J. McGuire**, cofounder of the American Federation of Labor, while others have suggested that **Matthew Maguire**, a secretary of the Central Labor Union, first proposed the holiday.

Labor Day Celebrations

Labor Day is still celebrated in cities and towns across the United States with parades, picnics, barbecues, fireworks displays and other public



National POW/MIA Recognition Day

National POW/MIA Recognition Day was established in 1979 through a proclamation signed by **President Jimmy Carter**. Since then, each subsequent president has issued an annual proclamation commemorating the third Friday in September as **National POW/MIA Recognition Day**. A national-level ceremony is held on every **National POW/MIA Recognition Day**. Traditionally held at the Pentagon, it features members from each branch of military service and participation from high-ranking officials. In addition to the national-level ceremony, observances of **National POW/MIA Recognition Day** are held across the country on military installations, ships at sea, state capitols, schools and veterans' facilities.

No matter where they are held, these **National POW/MIA Recognition Day** ceremonies share the common purpose of honoring those who were held captive and returned, as well as those who remain missing.

Source: Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency. Order posters at:

Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency Annual Posters Available - click here

gatherings. For many Americans, particularly children and young adults, it represents the end of the summer and the start of the back-to-school season.

Source: [History.com Labor Day](https://www.history.com/learn/labor-day)

VFW 9578 ALPINE



SATURDAY DINNER MENU

5-8PM

• **Ribeye Steak, Baked Potato, Corn and Dinner Roll** **\$15**

• **Shrimp Skewer** **\$5**



Stay Connected with our up to date Facebook:

[@AlpineVFW9578](https://www.facebook.com/AlpineVFW9578) or: www.vfw9578.com

VFW 9578 ALPINE

SUNDAY BREAKFAST MENU

• **Bacon, Eggs, Potatoes & Toast**
• **Sausage, Eggs, Potatoes & Toast**
• **Chicken Fried Steak, Eggs, Potatoes & Toast**



\$10

• **Biscuits and Gravy** **\$5**

• **Ribeye Steak, Eggs, Potatoes & Toast** **\$15**

9:00-12:30

Open to Public for Meals

Stay Connected with our up to date Facebook: [@AlpineVFW9578](https://www.facebook.com/AlpineVFW9578)

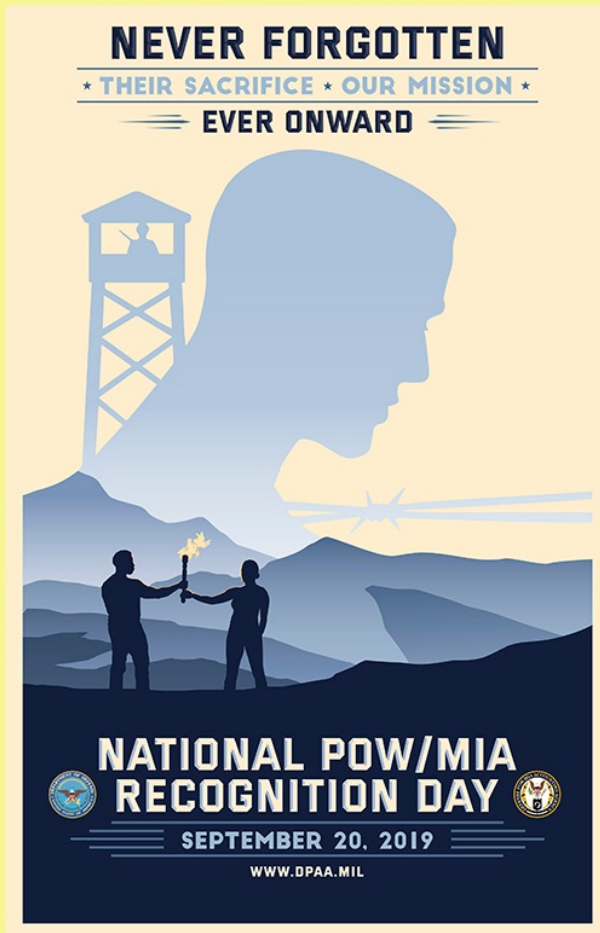
or: www.vfw9578.com

Meet Your VFW Post Canteen's Volunteer Bartenders

Bert Fuller VFW Post 9578 Canteen



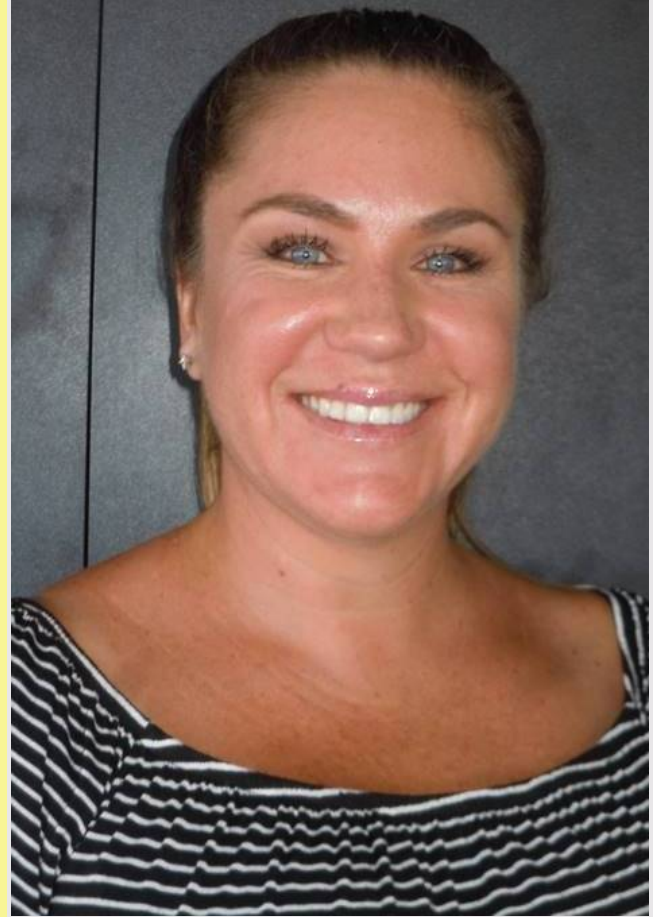
staffers who provide excellent service while adhering to state and county guidelines for hospitality service.



Dani



Holly

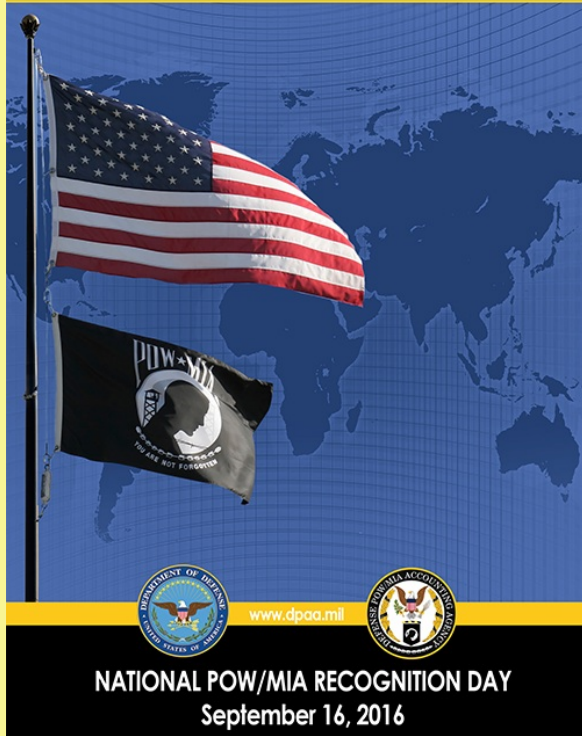


Jessica

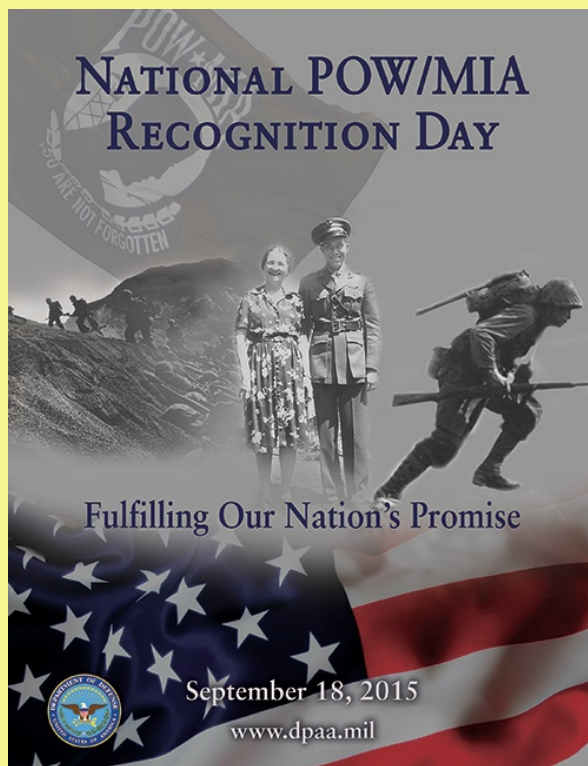


Julie

FULFILLING OUR NATION'S PROMISE



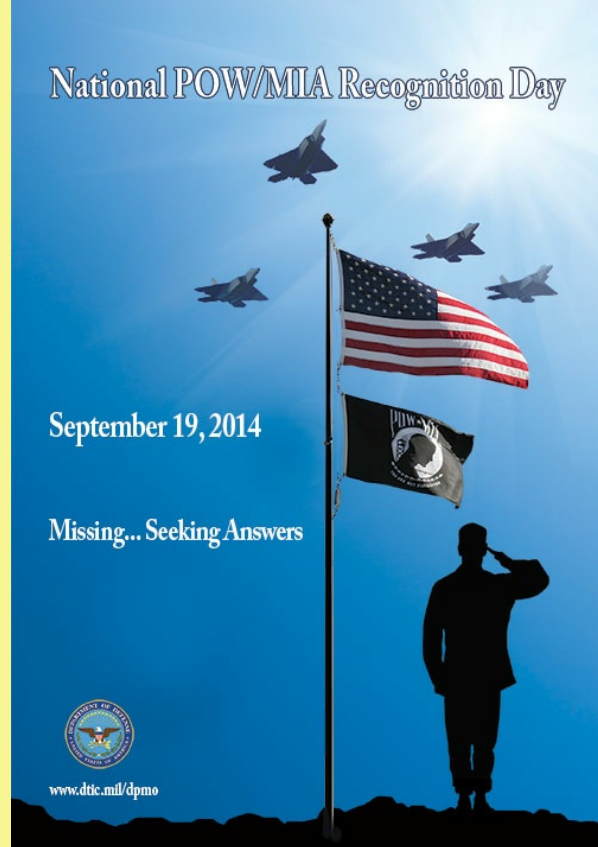
Sandy



Yvonne

PATRIOT'S PEN ESSAY COMPETITION

PROGRAM **DESCRIPTION:** Conducted nationwide, this VFW-sponsored youth



essay competition gives 6th-, 7th- and 8th grade students an opportunity to write essays expressing their views on an annual patriotic theme. This year's theme is, **What is Patriotism to Me?**

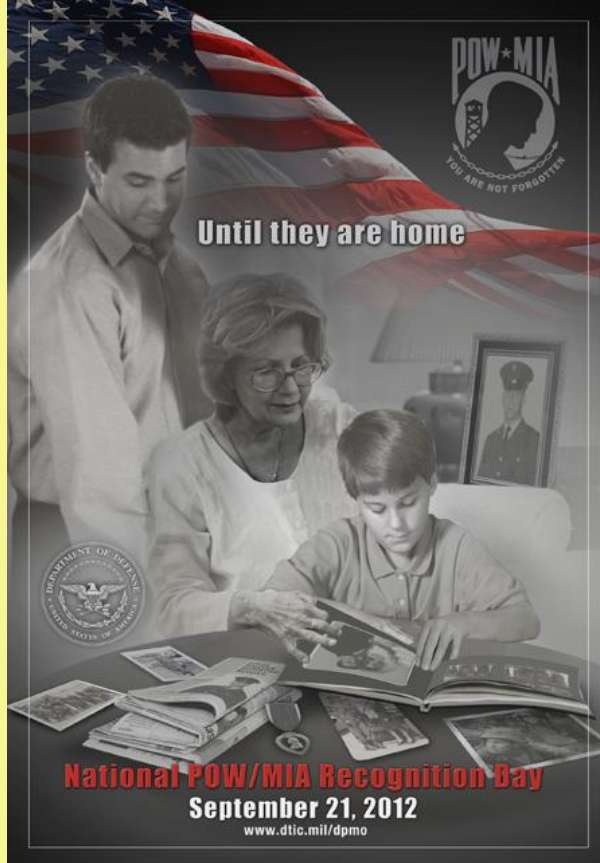
CRITERIA: The **Patriot's Pen** is open to students in grades 6 - 8, who are enrolled in a public, private or parochial high school or home study program in the United States, its territories and possessions. Although U.S. citizenship is not required, students must be lawful U.S. permanent residents or have applied for permanent residence (the application for which has not been denied) and intends to become a U.S. citizen at the earliest opportunity allowed by law. Foreign exchange students and former winners that placed in the National contest are excluded from the contest.

HOW TO SUBMIT: Essay length: 300 – 400 typewritten words (+ or – 5 words max). You must write your own essay. All essays should be typed in English with no color or graphics and cannot be less than 300 words or greater than 400 words in length. (Essays under or over these word amounts will be eliminated.) Every word is counted regardless of length. The essay title (theme) or added footnotes do not contribute to the word count.

In no way may contestants identify themselves within their essay (including, but not limited to, your name, school, city, state, race or national origin.) Do not put your name on your essay. The entry form is your essay's cover sheet. Secure the **Official Student Entry Form** with a staple or other fastener on top of your essay. Contestants are allowed to enter only once each year if otherwise eligible (one Post competition). Contestants found in violation of this rule will face elimination from the competition and will be required to return any and all prize money awarded or received.

The essay must be a contestant's original work and a product of the contestant's own thinking. The approach to the Patriot's Pen theme should be positive and clearly focused. Poetry is not acceptable. Quotations may be used sparingly if plainly identified wherever used. A contestant's teacher, counselor or parent may check the essay for punctuation, grammar and/or spelling, but the content must remain the contestant's. Contestants will be judged on the basis of their essay alone and are not required to present the essay orally.

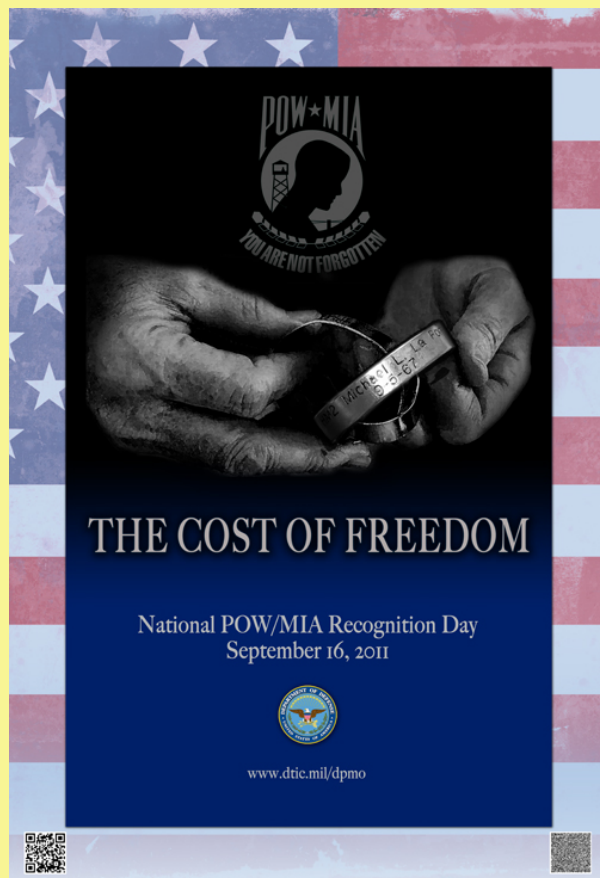
DEADLINE: The following deadline shall be adhered to:

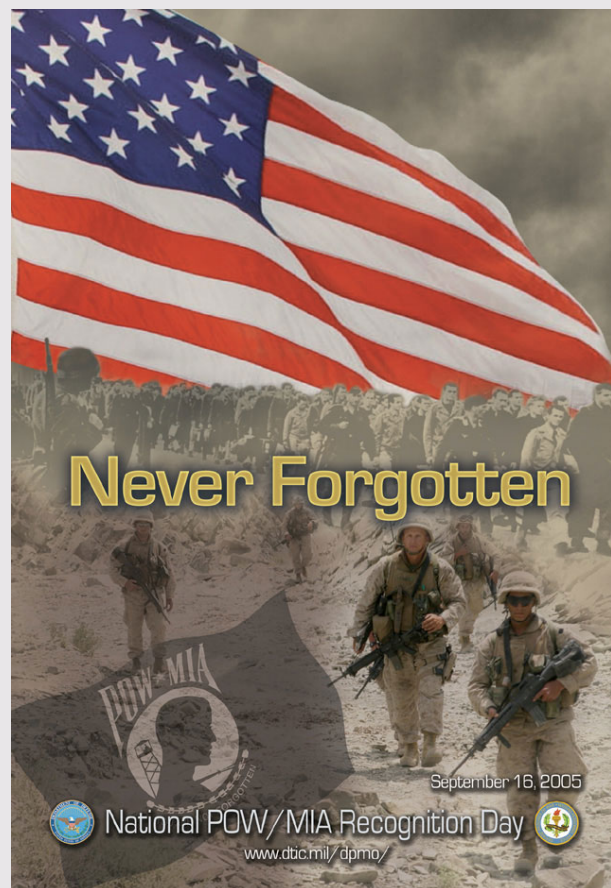
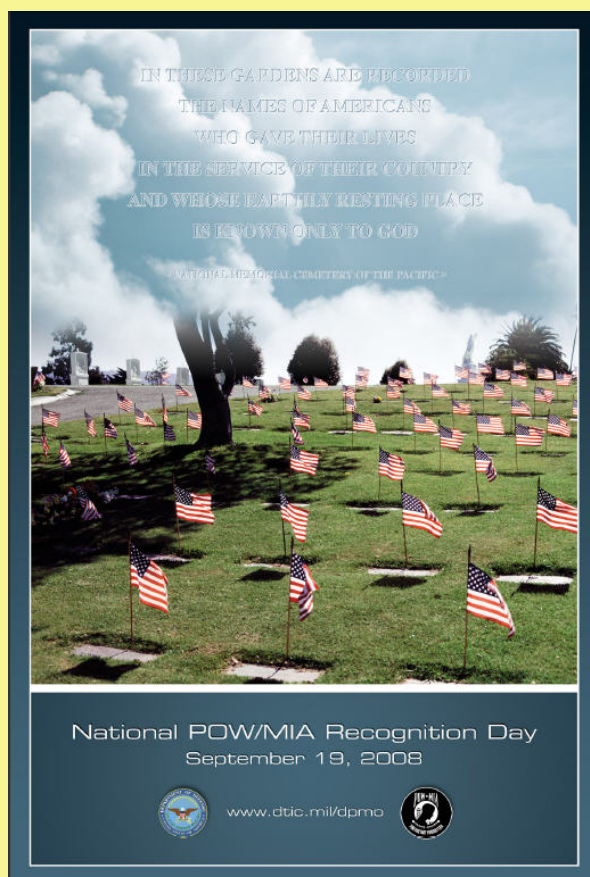
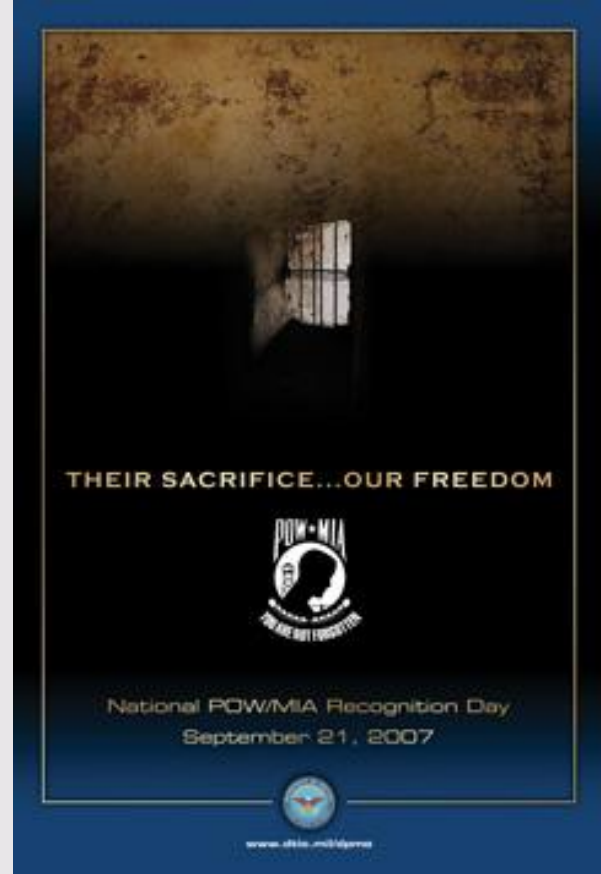
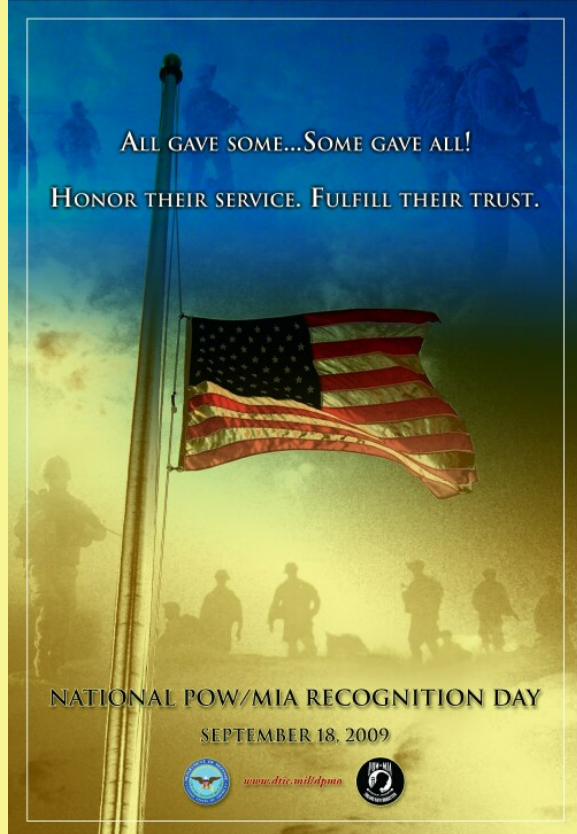


October 31st: Student entries to the Post

Online information:

[Patriot's Pen "What Is Patriotism To Me?" Patriotic Essay Writing Competition Application](#)





Honor Their Service



Fulfill Their Trust



National POW/MIA Recognition Day
September 15, 2006

T. J. McElroy

T. Weber sp.

However Long It Takes, Wherever It Takes Us,
Whatever the Cost, However Long It Takes, Wherever
It Takes Us, Whatever the Cost, However Long It Takes,
Wherever It Takes Us, Whatever the Cost,
Our Solemn Pledge
However Long It Takes, Wherever It Takes Us, Whatever the Cost,
However Long It Takes, Wherever It Takes Us, Whatever the Cost,
However Long It Takes, Wherever It Takes Us, Whatever the Cost,

September 14, 2004

National POW/MIA Recognition Day

www.dtic.mil/dpmo/

September 14, 2004

National POW/MIA Recognition Day

www.dtic.mil/dpmo/

September 19, 2003



National POW/MIA Recognition Day

www.dtic.mil/dpmo/

Their Service . . .

Our Duty

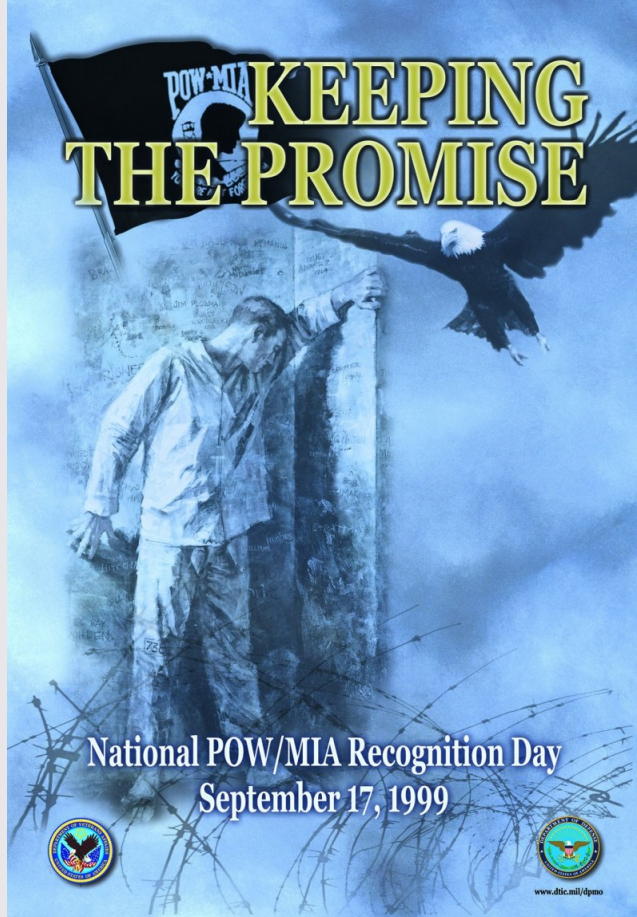
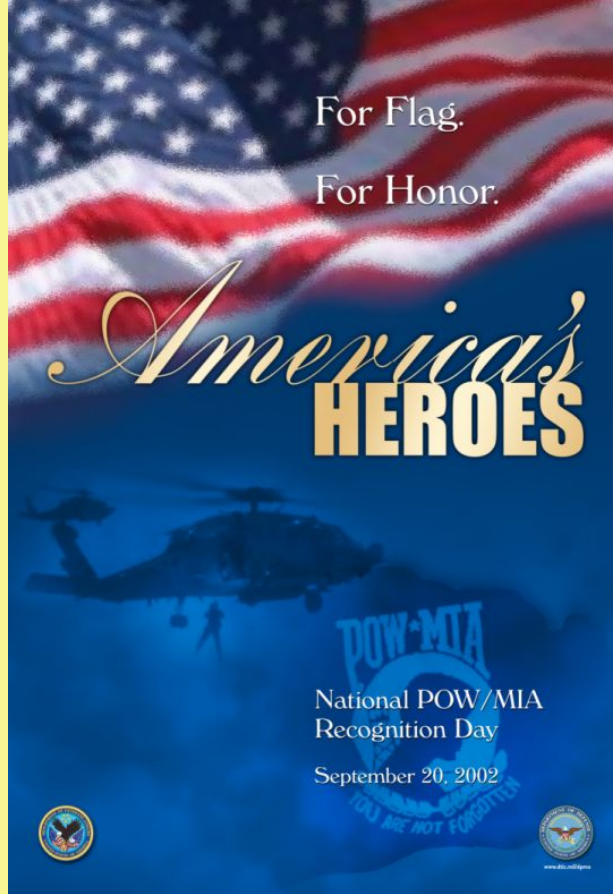
National POW/MIA Recognition Day
September 21, 2001

www.dau.mil/gpmc

Our Duty

National POW/MIA Recognition Day
September 21, 2001





PATRIOT'S PEN



2020 - 2021 Theme "What is Patriotism to Me?"

Student Entry Deadline: October 31, 2020

Patriotic Essay Writing Competition Grand Prize: \$5,000 Award

What Is Patriot's Pen?

Conducted nationwide, this VFW-sponsored youth essay competition gives students an opportunity to write essays expressing their views on an annual patriotic theme. We invite you to join the more than 138,000 students who participated last year in this contest. The national winners will receive at least \$500. The first-place national award is currently \$5,000.

The National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP) has again approved this contest for its National Advisory List of Contests and Activities.

Big National Prizes

National awards total: \$55,000

Prizes include the various amounts listed below:

1st: \$5,000	7th: \$1,750
2nd: \$4,000	8-10th: \$1,500
3rd: \$3,500	11-12th: \$1,250
4th: \$2,750	13-23rd: \$1,000
5th: \$2,500	24-25th: \$750
6th: \$2,000	26-53rd: \$500

The Internal Revenue Service requires that any recipient that receives more than a \$599 award should receive a Form 1099 identifying the proceeds as taxable. This may require the winner to provide their social security number.

How Does the Contest Work?

All entries begin at the Post level. The only exception is where schools/classes/youth groups have large numbers of students and wish to conduct their own competition, submitting one winner for each 15 students to the local VFW Post competition. Individual students may submit their entry directly to the Post. This participating Post should be within your local area and within your U.S. state of residence.

The contest consists of four levels. The first level (entry) is sponsored by local VFW Posts. Post winners advance, one for every 15 entries, to the VFW District (regional) level where the one first-place winner is advanced to the VFW Department (state) level. The one first-place winner at the Department level is then advanced into the VFW national competition. The winner from each Department (state) then competes for the national prizes.

Who Can Enter?

Patriot's Pen is open to 6th-, 7th- and 8th-grade students enrolled by the Oct. 31 deadline in public, private or parochial schools in the U.S., its territories or its possessions. Home-schooled students also are eligible. Although U.S. citizenship is not required, students must be lawful U.S. permanent residents or have applied for permanent residence (the application which has not been denied) and intends to become a U.S. citizen at the earliest opportunity allowed by law. Dependents of U.S. military or civilian personnel in overseas schools can participate, too. (Foreign exchange students and former winners that placed in the National contest are excluded from the contest.)

Official Student Entry Form Patriot's Pen Competition

Entry Form Must Be Completed by All Contestants Please Print or Type Clearly

Name: First, M.I., Last _____
Address _____
City, State, Zip _____
() _____
Phone _____ Email _____
Date of Birth (mm/dd/yy) _____ Gender _____ Grade in School _____ Essay Word Count _____
School Name, City, State _____
Teacher's Name and Email (if applicable) _____
Parent/Guardian's Name Phone/Email _____

I Have Read and Understand the Contest Rules

Signature of Student Participant _____ Date _____

To Be Completed by the VFW Post

I certify that this student has an authorized entry in our VFW Post Level Patriot's Pen Competition.

Post Commander's/Chairman's Signature _____ Post # _____

VFW Auxiliary President's/Chairman's Signature _____

Post Address _____ City, State, Zip _____

VFW Post Email _____

No. of students participation _____ No. of winners advanced to District _____

Amt. of Post/Aux. awards \$ _____

Amt. of Post/Aux. additional expenses (banquet, pins, etc.) \$ _____

To Be Completed by the VFW District

I certify that the student named in the previous section is the duly selected winner of the Patriot's Pen Essay Contest District Competition and is our sole entry into the Department finals.

District Chairman's Signature _____ Dist.# _____

Address _____ City, State, Zip _____

() _____

Phone _____ Email _____

To Be Completed by the VFW Department Chairman

I certify that the student named in the previous section is the duly selected first-place winner of the Patriot's Pen Essay Department Competition, and is our sole entry into the National Judging.

Department Chairman's Signature _____

() _____

Daytime Phone _____ Email _____

The winner ☐ has been ☐ will be (check one) notified that they are the first place Department winner on _____. Note: National Headquarters will contact your winner after this date to notify them of their national placement.

VOICE of DEMOCRACY CONTEST

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION: Since 1947, the **Voice of Democracy** has been the **Veterans of Foreign Wars'** (VFW's) premier scholarship program. Each year, nearly 57,000 high school students compete for more than \$2 million in scholarships and incentives. Students compete by writing and recording an audio essay on an annual patriotic theme. This year's theme is, **Is This the Country the Founders Envisioned?**

CRITERIA: The **Voice of Democracy** is open to students in grades 9-12, who are enrolled in a public, private or parochial high school or home study program in the United States, its territories and possessions. Although U.S. citizenship is not required, students must be lawful U.S. permanent

residents or have applied for permanent residence (the application for which has not been denied) and intends to become a U.S. citizen at the earliest opportunity allowed by law. Foreign exchange students, students age 20 or over, previous Voice of Democracy first place state winners, GED or Adult Education Students are not eligible for entry.

HOW TO SUBMIT: Record your original 3-5-minute (+ or -5 seconds max.) essay on an audio CD or a flash drive. One student per CD or flash drive. You will submit the recording, typed essay and the completed entry form. Provide these items to your school/group competition or local VFW Post for judging. In addition, you can submit your emailed entry form, essay, and audio file to the VFW Post upon approval.

You must be the sole author of your essay. The recording must be in your own voice and in English. Hearing/speech impaired students should email the Voice of Democracy National Office at youthscholarships@vfw.org for special instructions. No music, singing, poetry or sound effects are allowed. The body of the essay must not identify you in any way, (including, but not limited to your name, school, city, state, race, or national origin) although the recording & typed essay should be labeled with your name, to show ownership. You may enter only one competition at one Post (if otherwise eligible) per year.

DEADLINES: The following deadlines shall be adhered to:

- October 31, 2020 – Student entries to the Post

VFW Bert Fuller Post 9578

Mission Statement:

- To foster camaraderie among United States veterans of overseas conflicts
- To serve our veterans, the military and our communities
- To advocate on behalf of all veterans

VFW Bert Fuller Post 9578 Vision is to ensure that:

- Veterans are respected for their service
- Always receive their earned entitlements
- Are recognized for the sacrifices they and their loved ones have made on behalf of this great country

VFW Bert Fuller Post 9578 Core Values:

- Always put the interests of our members first
- Treat donors as partners in our cause
- Promote patriotism
- Honor military service
- Ensure the care of veterans and their families
- Serve our communities
- Promote a positive image of the VFW
- Respect the diversity of veteran opinions

Post Officers & Trustees

Jack Gauthier, Commander
John Sullivan, Senior Vice Commander
Juan Finch, Junior Vice Commander
Carl Silva, Quartermaster
Theo Bazdorf, Chaplain
Sean Lynch, Adjutant

Important Notice for all Post Members, Auxiliary, invited guests and Visitors:

VFW Bert Fuller Post 9578 is a Drug-Free Zone. If drugs are used on our Post's property, it will put our ABC liquor license in jeopardy, as well as our Post charter with the National VFW.

Please report any violations of drug use on Post property immediately to a post officer. Law enforcement will be contacted and the offender will be subject to criminal and legal consequences. Offenders will lose their post privileges and not allowed on Post property in the future.

Post Hours of Operation *(Effective 5/26/20)*

Monday - Friday: 11 a.m. to Closing (8 p.m.)

Lunch Service: 11 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Dinner Service: 5 p.m. - 8 p.m.

Saturday & Sunday: 9 a.m. to Closing (8 p.m.)

Members Meetings - 2nd Saturday/Month

10 a.m. House Committee

11 a.m. General Meeting

Auxiliary Meetings - 1st Saturday/Month

10 a.m. Auxiliary

Contacting the Post

Phone: (619) 445-6040

Fax: (619) 445-8740

Jim Bilka, Judge Advocate
John Rizzo, Service Officer
Dave Snyder, Surgeon
Charlie Rodgers, 1st Year Trustee
Dave Snyder, 2nd Year Trustee
James Abercrombie, 3rd Year Trustee

Auxiliary Officers

Sheila Snyder, President
Linda Pipkin, Senior Vice
Ed Molloy, Junior Vice
Bob Bealo, Treasurer
(Pending), Secretary
Jan Bazdorf, Chaplain
Sven Ricketts, Guard
Vikki Hemmen, Conductress
Maggie Horde Ortiz, 1st Year Trustee
Nancy Hauer, 2nd Year Trustee
Pat Alston Aldrich, 3rd Year Trustee

House Committee

John Rizzo, Chairperson
Allisen Earls, Member
Dan Focht, Member
Kerry Parsons, Member
John Sullivan, Member

Canteen / Entertainment

Kimberley Rivera, Manager

Volunteer Bartenders

Yvonne Brierley
Holly Campbell
Dani Caton
Sandy Curry
Julie Kalogiannis
Jessica McKittrick

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Jamie Lewis
www.alpineartisticflorist.net

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Jonar R. Bonifacio DDS Dr. "B"
[Alpine Dentistry](http://AlpineDentistry.com)

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Dan Bisher
<https://weareramona.com/listing/bishers-quality-meats-ramona/>

California Signs & Marketing (619) 258-2001
[California Signs & Marketing](http://CaliforniaSigns&Marketing.com)

eMail: csilvasr@aol.com

Newsletter Submissions

Items for consideration may be emailed to csilvasr@aol.com or mailed to the post at:

VFW Bert Fuller Post 9578
Attention: **Carl Silva.**
844 Tavern Road
Alpine, CA 91901

Please note: newsletter submission deadline is the 20th of the prior month.

Our VFW Newsletter Supporters

Please contact our VFW newsletter supporters when you need expert, professional assistance for your personal, home or business needs. They stand ready to serve you!

Post Membership Drive Ongoing

Please help build our Post's membership by referring those persons you know were veterans of foreign wars. Please provide the name, email address and telephone contact information to either **Post Commander Jack Gauthier** or Post **Quartermaster Carl Silva** by calling the Post at (619) 445-6040. They will make contact and get the person started on membership enrollment.

Thank you for supporting our Post!



Chris Wiley

Branch Manager
NMLS License #240137

619.846.8695 direct
800.920.3145 toll free
619.722.6139 fax
cwiley@primeres.com

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Nathan Morton
<http://ecmartialart.com>

Kamps Propane (619) 390-6304
Richard Edwards
www.kampspropane.com

Keller Williams (619) 301-2301
Doris Fifer

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"DR. B"

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ALPINEDENTISTRY.COM

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Nathan Morton

9253 Adlai Road
Lakeside, CA 92040

(619) 627-4850

NathanMorton619@gmail.com

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Christy A. Kohl, E.A.

olbts.com | info@olbts.com

2065 Arnold Way, Suite 103 (619) 445-5523
Alpine, CA 91901 Fax: (619) 445-1421

Tentative

Post Entertainment September Schedule

Before coming to the Post for one of the events listed below, please first check your email for a Post notice that the tentatively scheduled event IS going to take place.

If you are not sure, please call the Post at (619) **445-6040** before attending to ensure that the event is a "GO."

SD County HSD Recommendations

We urge all to follow the basic steps recommended by the San Diego County Health Services Department:

How to protect yourself

Practice everyday preventive actions to help prevent the spread of respiratory viruses, including:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
- If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer. It should be at least 60% alcohol.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- **Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces often.**
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- If you are sick, stay home and keep your distance from others to protect them from getting sick too.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.
- Practice other good health habits. Get plenty of sleep, be physically active, manage your stress, drink plenty of fluids and eat nutritious food.

COVID-19 Resources

California COVID-19 Resources

[CA COVID-19 Resources](#)

CA Dept of Public Health

[CA Dept of Public Health](#)

San Diego County Health

[San Diego County](#)

September 2020 Bert Fuller V.F.W. Post 9578 Events & Activities

(NOTE: Created by Theo. This event schedule is tentative due to S.D. County health department requirements)

September 2020						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
This Schedule is TENTATIVE due to San Diego County Public Health Orders . Please check your email for Post updates or call (619) 445-6040 before visiting!		1 5 p.m. "Fun & Games"	2 5 p.m. "Fun & Games"	3 NO Karaoke until further notice!	4 NO Karaoke until further notice!	5 10 a.m. Auxiliary Meeting (Downstairs!) No Band Scheduled
6 PGA, NASCAR & other sports on 7 TVs!	7 LABOR DAY NO games until further notice!	8 5 p.m. "Fun & Games"	9 5 p.m. "Fun & Games"	10 NO Karaoke	11 PATRIOT DAY NO Karaoke	12 10 a.m. House Comm Mtg 11 a.m. General Meeting No Band Scheduled
13 PGA, NASCAR & other sports on 7 TVs!	14 NO games	15 5 p.m. "Fun & Games"	16 5 p.m. "Fun & Games"	17 NO Karaoke	18 POW-MIA DAY Rosh Hashanah NO Karaoke	19 No Band Scheduled
20 PGA, NASCAR & other sports on 7 TVs!	21 PEACE DAY NO games	22 Autumn Begins 5 p.m. "Fun & Games"	23 5 p.m. "Fun & Games"	24 NO Karaoke	25 NO Karaoke	26 No Band Scheduled
27 Yom Kippor PGA, NASCAR & other sports on 7 TVs!	28 NO games	29 5 p.m. "Fun & Games"	30 5 p.m. "Fun & Games"	COVID-19 S.D. COUNTY HEALTH DEPT NOTICE: Stay home if sick Wear a mask & practice "social distancing" (6' feet) Wash hands/use sanitizer frequently		

September 2020 Bert Fuller V.F.W. Post 9578 Menu

(NOTE: Created by Theo. This menu is tentative due to S.D. County health department requirements)

September 2020						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>This Schedule is TENTATIVE due to San Diego County Public Health Orders. Please check your email for Post updates or call (619) 445-6040 before visiting!</p>		1 11 a.m. \$5 Lunch 5 p.m. \$3 Tacos by Nora	2 11 a.m. \$5 Lunch 5 p.m. Donato's Pizza \$2 per Slice	3 11 a.m. \$5 Lunch 5 p.m. Dinner by Sandy	4 11 a.m. \$5 Lunch 5 – 8 p.m. Fish & Shrimp Dinner	5 11 a.m. – 3 p.m. Grilled Burgers & Hot Dogs 5 – 8 p.m. \$15 Rib-eye Steak Dinner
	6 9 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Breakfast 2 p.m. Lunch/Dinner To Be Announced	7 LABOR DAY 11 a.m. \$5 Lunch 5 p.m. Dinner TBA	8 11 a.m. \$5 Lunch 5 p.m. \$3 Tacos by Nora	9 11 a.m. \$5 Lunch 5 p.m. Donato's Pizza \$2 per Slice	10 11 a.m. \$5 Lunch 5 p.m. Dinner by Sandy	11 PATRIOT DAY 11 a.m. \$5 Lunch 5 – 8 p.m. Fish & Shrimp Dinner
13 9 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Breakfast 2 p.m. Lunch/Dinner TBA	14 11 a.m. \$5 Lunch 5 p.m. Dinner to be announced	15 11 a.m. \$5 Lunch 5 p.m. \$3 Tacos by Nora	16 11 a.m. \$5 Lunch 5 p.m. Donato's Pizza \$2 per Slice	17 11 a.m. \$5 Lunch 5 p.m. Dinner by Sandy	18 POW-MIA DAY Rosh Hashanah 11 a.m. \$5 Lunch 5 – 8 p.m. Fish & Shrimp Dinner	19 11 a.m. – 3 p.m. Grilled Burgers & Hot Dogs 5 – 8 p.m. \$15 Rib-eye Steak Dinner
20 9 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Breakfast 2 p.m. Lunch/Dinner TBA	21 PEACE DAY 11 a.m. \$5 Lunch 5 p.m. Dinner TBA	22 Autumn Begins 11 a.m. \$5 Lunch 5 p.m. \$3 Tacos by Nora	23 11 a.m. \$5 Lunch 5 p.m. Donato's Pizza \$2 per Slice	24 11 a.m. \$5 Lunch 5 p.m. Dinner by Sandy	25 11 a.m. \$5 Lunch 5 – 8 p.m. Fish & Shrimp Dinner	26 11 a.m. – 3 p.m. Grilled Burgers & Hot Dogs 5 – 8 p.m. \$15 Rib-eye Steak Dinner
27 Yom Kippor 9 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Breakfast 2 p.m. Lunch/Dinner TBA	28 11 a.m. \$5 Lunch 5 p.m. Dinner TBA	29 11 a.m. \$5 Lunch 5 p.m. \$3 Tacos by Nora	30 11 a.m. \$5 Lunch 5 p.m. Donato's Pizza \$2 per Slice	COVID-19 S.D. COUNTY HEALTH DEPT NOTICE: Stay home if sick. Wear mask & practice "social distancing" (six feet). Wash hands/use sanitizer frequently.		

VFW Bert Fuller Post 9578
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