



VFW Post 7401 News

<http://www.vfwpost7401.com> -- "Honor the dead by helping the living" -- 3rd quarter 2009

Commander's Corner

The View From the Top



Tom Welch
Post Commander

I would like to open by saying Thanks to Jim Draves for his past service as Post commander and look forward to using his experience during my term. If you didn't make it to the post during the State Convention held at the San Marcos, you missed some great times with a lot of fun all week long. This year we have a great bunch of Officers and Club Committee members with plenty of new ideas we're putting in motion this month. There is a new chef in the kitchen that really showed his talents during convention week with praise from everyone. I invite you all to come down and try Kurt Kurandt's cooking. Check out the calendar for our new Beer Batter Fish Fry and Mesquite Grilled Rib Eye Steak Fry with Live Entertainment. Hope to see you all at the Post with your family and friends!

† Chaplain's Comments †

Faith and the VFW

John Nelson
Post Chaplain

The VFW National Home in Eaton Rapids, MI continues to do outstanding work and just celebrated their 80th anniversary! The National Home is a multi-faceted facility created to care for the developmental, social and spiritual needs of the children and families of the Veterans of Foreign Wars. Services are also available for children of active duty military personnel. The facility is not an orphanage, but a neighborhood of custom homes, service buildings and recreational land administered by a highly devoted staff and fully integrated into its surrounding community. Please support them!

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1 Commander's Corner
- 1 Chaplain's Comments
- 1 Past Quarter Happenings
- 2 Benefit reminder
- 2 Didja Know?
- 2 Calendar of Events
- 3 Auxiliary Activities
- 4 New Officers and Advertising
- 5 POW/MIA Recognition Day article

Past Quarter happenings

What happened April - June 2009



Jeff DeWitt
Post Adjutant

The second quarter of 2009 was quite busy for the Post and our success was due in large part to the volunteerism from our membership, so a huge thanks to all involved.

April:

➤ The Post 7401 Voice of Democracy Winner, who also won at District and Department levels, went to Washington DC to compete against the other 49 representatives from their states. Sebastian Husein, a senior at Tempe Preparatory Academy, won a \$2,000 Department of New Mexico and its Ladies Auxiliary Scholarship Award!!!

➤ The Post launched a new web page! Check it often for updates at: <http://www.vfwpost7401.com>

➤ Elections were held. Results are on page 4 of this newsletter.

May:

➤ Sergeant Brian Cox of the Chandler Police Department was presented his award as the Post's 2008-2009 winner of the Police/Fire/EMT Citizen of the Year.

➤ A "Welcome Home" Spaghetti dinner was held on May 23rd. A good time was had by all.

➤ New Officers were installed by former Department Commander Ray Thomas in a ceremony in the hall.

➤ A Mother's Day breakfast was held for the ladies of our Post. The guys did all the cookin' and cleanin'!!!

June:

➤ The Department of Arizona convention was held down the street at the San Marcos over four days. The Post saw a huge increase in business and hosted two major events. The kitchen was hopping and kudos to all involved.

➤ It was the ladies' turn to host a Father's Day dinner for our members. Reports are they out-cooked the guys!

A QUARTERLY VFW BENEFIT REMINDER: The VFW and Dell Computers have joined together to offer discounted computer systems to Posts, Departments, Members and Employees.

Details by phone: To order by phone, please call **1-800-695-8133**, and mention ID# **PS30482412**

Details on the web:

<http://www.vfw.org/index.cfm?fa=mbr.level&eid=3762>



DIDJA KNOW?: The legendary Hall of Fame baseball player Ted Williams served in the U.S. Navy from 1942-1946 and AGAIN from 1952-1953 as an aviator.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS - 3RD QTR

JULY 17, 2009 -- CHRISTMAS IN JULY

VFW Post 7401

4:00 - 7:00 W/PARTY AFTERWARDS!

Bring a gift of any value and a side dish and join the fun!

JULY 18, 2009 -- TEXAS HOLD 'EM TOURNAMENT (\$10.00 ENTRY)

VFW Post 7401

7:00 PM / 1900

Match your skills with fellow VFW members!



AUGUST 4, 2009 -- MONTHLY MEMBERSHIP MEETING

VFW POST 7401 IN THE HALL

7:00 PM / 1900

Please attend to see what's going on in your Post. It's also the U.S. Coast Guard birthday. If there are any members who are Coasties, come celebrate your service birthday!

AUGUST 15-20, 2009 -- VFW NATIONAL CONVENTION

PHOENIX CONVENTION CENTER

[HTTP://WWW.VFW.ORG/INDEX.CFM?FA=NEWS.LEVEL&DID=4851](http://www.vfw.org/index.cfm?fa=news.level&did=4851)

It could be a long time until the National Convention is right here in our back yard.

SEPTEMBER 1, 2009 -- MONTHLY MEMBERSHIP MEETING

VFW POST 7401 IN THE HALL

7:00 PM / 1900

SEPTEMBER 18, 2009 -- UNITED STATES AIR FORCE BIRTHDAY! 🎵 OFF WE GO INTO THE WILD BLUE YONDER!

SEPTEMBER 18, 2009 -- NATIONAL POW/MIA RECOGNITION DAY (SEE ARTICLE ON PAGE 5)

THE POST IS IN THE PLANNING STAGES OF AN EVENT TO COMMEMORATE THIS DAY. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO BE INVOLVED, PLEASE CONTACT THE POST.

REMINDERS:

BLOODY MARY SUNDAYS: EVERY SUNDAY 10:00AM - 12:00 NOON

PULL TAB WEDNESDAYS: TRY A CHANCE AT 50 CENT DRINKS; LOOK FOR FOOD SPECIALS TOO...

HOT DOG THURSDAYS: 4:00 - 7:00 HOSTED BY LOU ORTIZ WITH HELP FROM ED AND EILEEN MARTIN

ALSO: MESQUITE GRILLED RIBEYE OR BAKED CHICKEN DINNER FROM 5:30 TO 8:00 ON **FRIDAY, JULY 24 & 31**

AUXILIARY ACTIVITIES



From the President: June was a really busy month but much was accomplished. The Post did us proud during the State Convention. A very BIG "Thank You" to those that helped make the President's Luncheon a real success -- couldn't have done it without you. The Auxiliary received the following district awards at the convention: 1st place for Cancer Aid and Research; Runner Up for Hospital, Americanism and Buddy Poppy and our Treasurer Eileen Martin Won Treasurer of the Year! I really look forward to working with the commander for all the evens this year. Team Work is my goal.
-- Pauline Texter, President

The Ladies Auxiliary had a great 2nd quarter and is looking forward to raising the bar for the 2009-2010 Operating Year. Please contact us for future events. There is strength in numbers, so join the team!!!

The Military Order of The Cooties Auxiliary (MOCA) headed up by President Diana Draves will be holding fundraising spaghetti dinners at the Post once per month to raise funds for their worthy efforts -- the Veterans Hospital and the Veterans Care Center. Please join us on **July 15th at 5:00** for our first dinner that will include a raffle. Cost of dinner is \$4.00 -- what a bargain!!!

 **Post Operating Hours** 

Monday-Thursday & Sunday:
12:00 noon - 10:00 pm
Friday & Saturday:
12:00 noon - 12:00 midnight

 **Phone:** 480-963-1777

 **E-mail:** webmaster@vfwpost7401.com

 **Mail:** 751 S. Arizona Ave., Chandler AZ

We hope to hear from you or see you soon!!!

Post Officers for 2009 - 2010

Commander: Tom Welch
Senior Vice Commander: John Schneider
Junior Vice Commander: Paul McBroom
Quartermaster: Jerry Weagant
Chaplain: John Nelson
Service Officer: Jeff DeWitt
Judge Advocate: Jeff DeWitt
Post Surgeon: Fred Blevins
Adjutant: Jeff DeWitt
1 Year Trustee: Dick Fulton
2 Year Trustee: Will Cador
3 Year Trustee: Jim Draves
1 Year Club Committee: Kurt Kurandt
2 Year Club Committee: John Bodak
3 Year Club Committee: Duke Hicks



Ladies Auxiliary to VFW Post 7401 Post Officers for 2009 - 2010

President: Pauline Texter
Senior Vice President: Diana Draves
Junior Vice: Laraine Hicks
Secretary: Eileen Martin
Treasurer: Eileen Martin
Chaplain: Vickie Welch
Guard: Lynna Bethel
Conductress: Crystal Carney

← LOCAL BUSINESSES WHO HELPED PAY FOR THIS NEWSLETTER. PLEASE PATRONIZE THEIR SERVICES. →

AVON & *Cookie Lee Jewelry*

Laraine Hicks
Independent Sales
Consultant
602-617-6037
dukeandlaraine@aol.com

BAJA POOL CARE

Tom Welch
Total Pool Care Serving
the East Valley
602-332-5342
bajapoolcare@yahoo.com

HONTECH

Honda and Acura Car Specialist
Joe Carney
320 S Arizona Ave, Chandler
480-899-2701
www.hontechaz.com

HEIDI'S EVENTS & CATERING

2095 W 15th Street, Tempe
480-491-5254
www.heidisevents.com

Custom Carpet Cleaning

Jeff Wilkinson
Flood Service, Dyeing,
Repairs, Restretching
Office: 480-988-5976
Cell: 602-565-9246

BRUCE & HIS GUITAR -- BAND

Bruce Marsh - Songwriter/Musician
602-561-9811
bwmarsh@bwmarsh.com
www.bwmarsh.com

COMPUTER TROUBLESHOOTER

Nate Long

480-633-2667
866-280-8834 Fax
E-Mail: Nate@CTMesa.com

PLUMBER

Affordable Rates &
Quality Service
Lawrence Espinosa
602-400-5420

**This space could be
yours!!! Contact the
Post for our low rates!**

What Is POW/MIA Recognition Day?

Submitted by Jeff DeWitt

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

National POW/MIA Recognition Day legislation was introduced yearly, until 1995 when it was deemed by Congress that legislation for special days would no longer be proclaimed by Congress. However, the President continues to sign a proclamation each year. In the early years, the date was routinely set in close proximity to the League's annual meetings. In the mid-1980's, the American Ex-POWs decided that they wished to see the date established as April 9th, the date during World War II when the largest number of Americans were captured. As a result, legislation was passed in 1984 which included a July date, but established April 9th as the commemoration date for 1985.

Subsequently, in an effort to accommodate all returned POWs and all Americans still missing and unaccounted for from all wars, the National League of Families proposed a date in September, usually the third Friday, not associated with any particular war and not in conjunction with any organization's national convention. Nearly all National POW/MIA Recognition Day ceremonies have been held at the Pentagon; however, on September 19, 1986, the national ceremony was held on the steps of the U.S. Capitol facing the Mall, again concluding with a flight in Missing Man formation.

National POW/MIA Recognition Day Ceremonies are now held throughout the nation and around the world on military installations, ships at sea, schools, churches and fire stations. The focus is to ensure that America remembers its responsibility to stand behind those who serve our nation and do everything possible to account for those who do not return.

The story of the POW/MIA flag



The POW/MIA flag is an American flag designed as a symbol of citizen concern about United States military personnel taken as prisoners of war (POWs) or listed as missing in action (MIA). The POW/MIA flag was created by the National League of Families and officially recognized by the Congress in conjunction with the Vietnam War POW/MIA issue, "as the symbol of our Nation's concern and commitment to resolving as fully as possible the fates of Americans still prisoner, missing and unaccounted for in Southeast Asia, thus ending the uncertainty for their families and the Nation."

In 1971, while the Vietnam War was still being fought, Mary Hoff, the wife of a service member missing in action and member of the National League of Families of American Prisoners and Missing in Southeast Asia, recognized the need for a symbol of U.S. POW/MIAs, some of whom had been held in captivity for as many as seven years. The flag is black, and bears in the center, in black and white, the emblem of the League. The emblem was designed by Newt Heisley, and features a white disk bearing in black silhouette the bust of a man (Jeffery Heisley), watch tower with a guard on patrol, and a strand of barbed wire; above the disk are the white letters POW and MIA framing a white 5-pointed star; below the disk is a black and white wreath above the white motto: YOU ARE NOT FORGOTTEN

On March 9, 1989, a league flag that had flown over the White House on the 1988 National POW/MIA Recognition Day was installed in the U.S. Capitol rotunda as a result of legislation passed by the 100th Congress. The league's POW-MIA flag is the only flag ever displayed in the rotunda, and the only one other than the Flag of the United States to have flown over the White House. The leadership of both Houses of Congress hosted the installation ceremony in a demonstration of bipartisan congressional support.

On August 10, 1990, the 101st Congress passed U.S. Public Law 101-355, recognizing the National League of Families POW/MIA Flag and designating it "as a symbol of our Nation's concern and commitment to resolving as fully as possible the fates of Americans still prisoner, missing and unaccounted for in Southeast Asia, thus ending the uncertainty for their families and the Nation." Beyond Southeast Asia, it has been a symbol for POW/MIAs from all U.S. wars

YOU ARE NOT FORGOTTEN

William B. Pate VFW Post 7401
751 S. Arizona Avenue
Chandler, AZ 85225-7519



NON PROFIT
ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT No. 009
CHANDLER, AZ
85225

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

