

The Mighty 13th District



Volume 7, Issue 1

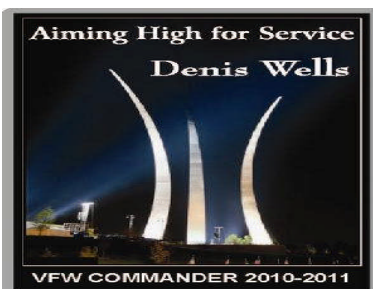
July / August 2010



Livingston/Delhi Post & Aux. 8327

GIVE BLOOD, SAVE LIVES – PINT FOR A PINT

Our next scheduled blood drive will be held at the Livingston Veterans Memorial Hall, 1605 7th Street, Livingston, on August 5, 2010 from 3-7 pm. Please take an hour out of your busy schedule and give someone a chance to live. Your donation does make a difference. There is no substitute for blood, your donation of one pint of blood can save up to 3 lives. One donation can be separated into different components, helping different patients, such as new born babies, those suffering from cancer or leukemia, accident or burn victims, etc. Please drink plenty of fluids before donating and bring your donor card or photo ID with you. Donors must be at least 17 years old, be generally healthy and weigh at least 110 pounds. Donate a pint of blood and receive a coupon for a pint of Baskin-Robins Ice Cream and a coupon for a meal hosted by the Livingston/Delhi Veterans of Foreign Wars and Ladies Auxiliary. Stop by and give the gift of life. For more information or to make a life saving appointment, call Denis or Sue Wells at 394-2059. Walk-ins are always welcome.



Livingston/Delhi Aux. 8327

RUMMAGE SALE

Do your Back to School Shopping With Us!!!

We have everything from furniture to the tiniest baby booties. The Livingston/Delhi Ladies Auxiliary VFW #8327 will be holding a Gigantic Rummage Sale on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, August 4th, 5th and 6th, at the Delhi Veterans Hall, Located at 9799 Stephens Street in Delhi. We have items too numerous to mention here, come by and see us. The sale hours will be 8-5 on Wednesday and Thursday and 8-? on Friday. Everything on Friday will be \$1.00 per bag (we furnish the bag) or half price if it is too big to fit in a bag.

If you have any questions, please call Sue Wells at 394-2059. All proceeds from the sale will go to fund our many programs. All monies will stay within our own community.



Dept. President
Judy Jones
Theme and Symbol

California VFW Legislative Report—7-6-2010
William Manes, State Legislative/PAC Chairman
SACRAMENTO UPDATE

Once again, the State Legislature has missed the Constitutional deadline to pass a State budget. Most Sacramento lawmakers are predicting it will be months before they can find an answer to the \$19.1 billion budget deficit. By all indications, this summer the state will see the same back and forth over the

huge spending cuts proposed by the Governor and the tax increases and elimination of corporate tax breaks proposed by Members of the Legislature. State Controller John Chiang is issuing warnings that the State will run out of cash this summer without

a new budget. Added into the mix, Governor Schwarzenegger plans to cut the pay of many state workers to the federal minimum wage if a budget agreement is not reached soon. The Budget Conference Committee, made up of Members from the State Senate and the Assembly, had

been going over the two draft budgets which had been drawn up by the two houses on a line-by-line basis but had not resolved any of the major issues. With all of that as a background, the Members of the

State Legislature decided to close shop and go home for the month of July.

Normally, the Legislature would have had a Summer Recess from July 17 to August 16, if the Budget

had been adopted and sent to the Governor. July 1-10 would have been an important period of time for the policy committees to finish up their work on all the bills which had been introduced this year.

Presumably, that will now be extended into August.

ACTION ON BILLS

The following bills have been passed by the Senate Committee on Veterans Affairs and moved on to the Appropriations Committee, or to a Floor vote:

AB 1088 Taxpayer contributions: California Veterans Fund. (Nathan Fletcher, San Diego.

Coauthors:

Marty Block, San Diego; Connie Conway, Visalia; Chuck DeVore, Irvine; Danny Gilmore, Hanford; V.

Manuel Perez, Cathedral City; Brian Nestande, Palm Desert)

Would authorize a new income check off for the California Veterans Fund which would replace the previous fund and would have the same purpose of providing support to the MWR Funds for the state veterans homes.

Also passed by the Senate Committee on Revenue and Taxation and sent to Appropriations.

Supported by VFW Department of California.

AB 1644 Veterans remains. (Jim Nielsen, Biggs.

Principal Coauthor: Juan Arambula, Fresno.

Coauthors, Assembly: Sam Blakeslee, San Luis Obispo; Marty Block, San Diego; Robert Blumenfield,

Van Nuys; Steven Bradford, Inglewood; Connie Conway, Visalia; Chuck DeVore, Irvine; Nathan Fletcher, San Diego; Danny Gilmore, Hanford; Diane Harkey, Laguna Niguel; Curt Hagman, Diamond

Bar; Fiona Ma, San Francisco; Roger Niello, Sacramento; and Chris Norby, Brea. Coauthors, Senate:

Sam Aanestad, Grass Valley; Dave Cox, Fair Oaks; Jeff Denham, Merced; Abel Maldonado, Santa Maria; and George Runner, Antelope Valley.)

Would allow specified entities in possession of the cremated remains of a veteran to release the remains to a veterans' service organization. Would require the veterans' service organization to take all reasonable steps to inter remains received and would exempt the organization from storage charges or additional charges of interment.

Also passed Committee on Judiciary and sent to Floor vote.

Supported by VFW Department of California.

AB 1729 Civil service examinations: veterans' preference. (Mariko Yamada, Davis)

Would permit a member of the Armed Forces, upon successfully passing a state civil service examination, to be awarded the additional veterans' credit up to 12 months after the establishment of the employment list.

Also passed by Committee on Public Employment and Retirement and sent to Appropriations.

AB 1757 Veterans cemetery. (William Monning, Santa Cruz)

Current law establishes an Endowment Fund to receive donations for the start up of a state veterans cemetery at the site of the former Fort Ord Army Base in Monterey County.

This bill would now direct the California Department of Veterans Affairs to design, develop and construct the California Central Coast State Veterans Cemetery at this site.

Sent to Appropriations.

Supported by VFW Department of California.

AB 1829 Military decorations: fraud. (Paul Cook, Yucaipa. Coauthors, Assembly: Joel Anderson, La Mesa; Tom Berryhill, Modesto; Wesley Chesbro, Eureka; Chuck DeVore, Irvine; Bill Emmerson, Redlands; Nathan Fletcher, San Diego; Danny Gilmore, Hanford; Kevin Jeffries, Riverside; Ted Lieu,

Torrance; Brian Nestande, Palm Desert; Roger Niello, Sacramento; Anthony Portantino, Pasadena; Jim

Silva, Huntington Beach; Cameron Smyth, Santa Clarita; and Audra Strickland, Camarillo.

Coauthors,

Senate: Lou Correa, Santa Ana; and Mark DeSaulnier, Antioch.)

Provides that any person who, orally, in writing, or by wearing any military decoration, falsely represents himself or herself to have been awarded any military decoration, as specified, with the intent to defraud, is guilty of a misdemeanor.

Previous legislation made the offense merely an infraction. This bill is an attempt to make the offense a more serious affair.

Also passed by Committee on Public Safety. Sent to Appropriations.

AB 1925 Diversion: veterans Veterans Courts. (Mary Salas, Chula Vista)

Would authorize superior courts to develop and implement veterans courts with the objective of creating

of a locally developed collaborative court-supervised veterans mental health program or system that

leads to the placement of as many mentally ill offenders who are veterans, including those with posttraumatic

stress disorder, traumatic brain injury, military sexual trauma, substance abuse, or any mental health problem stemming from military service, in community treatment as is feasible and consistent with public safety.

Also passed by Committee on Public Safety. Sent to Appropriations.

Supported by VFW Department of California.

AB 1944 Vehicles: special license plates: disabled veterans. (Nathan Fletcher, San Diego)

Has gone through a series of amendments with the basic objective of modifying the current procedures for veterans to obtain disabled veteran license plates or placards to permit them to use the certification of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs concerning their disability rather than requiring an additional examination and certification by another medical provider.

Also passed by Committee on Transportation and Housing. Sent to Appropriations.

In the Assembly:

SB 1057 State holidays: Veterans Day: state office closure. (Jeff Denham, Merced. Coauthors, Senate: Abel Maldonado, Santa Maria; Patricia Wiggins, Santa Rosa. Coauthors, Assembly: Anthony Adams, Hesperia; Mike Davis, Los Angeles; Chuck DeVore, Irvine; Danny Gilmore, Hanford; Stephen Knight,

Lancaster; and Jim Nielsen, Biggs.)

Existing law requires all state offices, and the University of California, to be closed on the State holiday,

Admissions Day. The law also requires all states offices, except the University of California, to be closed on Veterans Day. In 2009, the State Senate refused to close on Veterans Day.

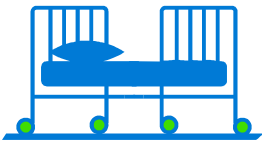
This bill requires Veterans' Day to be observed by all state agencies on the actual date of November 11.

If this date falls on a Saturday, the holiday will be observed the previous Friday. If the date occurs on Sunday, the holiday will be observed on the following Monday.

The bill states the intent of the Legislature that the University of California be closed on Veterans Day. Passed by the Assembly Committee on Business, Professions, and Consumer Protection and sent to Appropriations.

Since the Legislature is taking a vacation, I will do the same. I expect that the next report will be issued early in August when the committees resume their hearings.

Complete information on all state legislation involving veterans issues is available at the website: <http://www.califveterans.com>



**Hospital - VAVS
Shirley Calvert**

The hospital volunteer work is the heart of our commitment, dedication and providing our veterans with love, understanding and encouragement. Recruiting volunteers is a priority of the VAVS Hospital Program.

Our Department Hospital/VAVS representative is Rebecca Pellechi 1267-17, 916-688-8974
8707 Freesia Drive, Elk Grove, CA 95624, Email Rpellechi@yahoo.com

At the School of Instruction you will receive a package containing our Department Hospital/VAVS information sheet, Criteria for approving Medical Assistance Grants and the form to use. The Hospital Evaluation Guide for Donations to Hospital Programs, the Volunteer Pins Request Form, Application for Auxiliary Hospital Service Pins and the Outstanding Hospital Volunteer National Award in each Membership Group form.

If you are hospital, chairman for your Auxiliary, contact your Auxiliary President and Request the information that was handed out so that you are able to pass this on to the members in your auxiliary.

Dates to remember: As always, ALL are welcome

October 16th – Livermore VA Picnic - could use volunteers, fruit, and monetary support to cover the cost of the lunch that the VFW/AUX provides. If you wish to donate condiments, soda, etc, let me know. I'd like to coordinate so that we are not cut short on any of the items.

November 19th State Commander Denis Wells & State President Judy Jones will visit the Livermore VA Community Living Center. After that, the agenda prepared by District Commander Russ Friday and District President Joyce Friday will go into affect.



**Brief Editor
Rhonda Montgomery**

| Received by 10 th of Month | Information for the months of: |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| | |
| June | July - Aug. |
| | |
| Aug | Sept.- Oct. |
| | |
| Oct. | Nov. - Dec. |
| | |
| Dec. | Jan - Feb. |
| | |
| Feb. | Mar - Apr |
| | |
| April | May - June |
| | |

District Brief articles are due by the 10th of the month to Rhonda Montgomery.

I will send out a reminder email out on the first of the month that it is due.

Please use Times New Roman font and size 10.

It is the Post/Auxiliary District Chairman's responsibility to send in the information regarding their program.

Post and Auxiliaries are encouraged to send in articles.

Keep in mind in order to keep the cost of printing down, articles will be on the District web sites but not on the printed copy.

Rhonda Montgomery
Home: 209-983-0466
Fax: 209-983-0492
Montygal1@aol.com



**Community Service
Gaylene Ramos**

Sisters,

There are now to additions to the Community Service program which are Patriotic Holidays Education and Community Safety.

Patriotic Holiday Education Yes, Patriotic Holiday Education could be considered Americanism but it is also Community Service. Educating the people of what this means. Which is part of our ritual. We have many people that don't know the true meaning of patriotic holidays such as Memorial Day, Independence Day, Loyalty Day, Flag Day and Veterans Day. When we celebrate these patriotic holidays by both sponsoring and working with other organizations to promote these activities such as: parades, memorial services, flag events or award ceremonies we are educating our communities.

Safety. Safety is always of utmost importance in every community. Recognized our unsung heroes. Such as police officers, firefighters, military, first responders, E.M.T., civic leaders and outstanding citizens. You can promote fire prevention in the home and home security programs. Form a Neighborhood Watch group in your area. Child Safety – host bike rodeos, and fingerprinting days or light-a-bike program. Road Safety – host drive-to survive or defensive driving programs not just the holidays but all year round. You may want to start a Designated Driver program. Especially during the holidays or when you are hosting a large event. You may also want to hold Hunter Safety Classes or Boating Safety Classes.

Volunteer with/for your local Police Dept., Sheriff's Dept. or Highway Patrol Office can be a valuable asset for both of you.

The main thing to remember is that all projects must be conducted for those NOT AFFILIATED with the VFW or Ladies Auxiliary along. All Community Service projects must be approved on the Aux. floor

and recorded in the minutes prior to the project and not after.

Send in your reports both to me and the Dept. Chairman, Rhonda Montgomery as soon as you have completed your project. Count all hours, miles and members. Include pictures, newspaper articles or programs.

Dates to Remember:

Make a Difference Day – Oct. 23, 2010
Wreaths Across America – Dec. 11, 2010

**HOMELESS VETERAN
STAND DOWN
FRIDAY, SEPT. 24, 2010**

**SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY
WORKNET OFFICES
526 S. LINCOLN STREET
STOCKTON, CA 95203**

FROM 9 AM TO 3 PM

We will be providing:

- Backpacks**
- Personal Hygiene Kits**
- Medical & Dental Exams**
- Legal Services**
- Employment Information**
- Housing Information**
- Veteran Services**
- And Many Other Services**
- Free of Charge**

Luneta Post & Auxiliary # 52
Veterans of Foreign Wars
513 N. Center St.
Stockton, CA 95202

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Stockton, CA 95201

Return Service Requested



The 13th District Brief

DISTRICT 13 MEETING

Sunday Aug. 15, 2010

District 13 Post Commanders, Auxiliary Presidents & All Members Welcome
(You do not have to be an officer to attend this meeting)

The 1st District Meeting for the 2010/2011 VFW year will be held at the
Turlock Post & Aux. #5059, located at 1405 E. Linwood Ave., Turlock, CA 95380

ATTENTION EVERY POST & AUXILIARY: If the Commander or President is
unable to attend, it is your responsibility to send a representative to attend in your place.
All Posts and Auxiliaries should be represented at this important meeting.

Coffee & Donuts: 9:00 AM (Donation) --- Meeting: 10:00 AM
Lunch: Follow meeting