

Dennis Dole to Lead Arizona 2010-2011



Standing: Surgeon Greg Kozakiewicz, Judge Advocate Tony Mangine, Quartermaster Ski Kuczynski. Seated: Senior Vice Commander Tim Borland, Commander Dennis 'DAD' Dole, and Junior Vice Commander Mike Ferguson



Standing: Guard Suzie Gleason, Secretary Kim Sloan, Treasurer Nancy Kane, Conductress Cathy Seippel and Patriotic Instructor Mariou Peavley. Seated: Chief of Staff Debi Rankin, Senior Vice President Sheila Shutts, President Pauline Servin, Junior Vice President Donna Dole and Chaplain 'Dee' Bong.

This year's 90th VFW State Convention was held Jun 10-12 at the Marriott Hotel in Mesa. With the Outgoing Council of Administration meeting on the 9th, and the Incoming CofA meeting on the 13th, this event actually spanned five days, and they were all rather busy.

National VFW Leaders who attended this convention was Commander-in-Chief Thomas Treadwell (who had to leave on Friday). District-15 Council Member (and PDC of New Mexico) B. J. Lawrence and National Adjutant General Allen 'Gunner' Kent remained for the duration of the convention. Past LAVFW Na-

tional President Lorraine Frier represented the National LAVFW.

Following custom, at the joint opening session a number of distinguished speakers, notably the Governor of Arizona Jan Brewer, entertained the convention with their inspirational remarks. Senator John McCain addressed the convention on Friday. Otherwise, it was all business, with Department awards being presented at various times throughout the sessions. Elections were held Saturday morning and in the evening a reception and banquet were followed by installation of 2010-2011 officers, led by VFW Com-

mander Dennis Dole and LAVFW President Pauline Servin.

Three highlights stand out at this year's convention: Four members of the 'VFW Riders' earned "White Hats" and the 'VFW Rangers' was appointed as the official 'Department of Arizona Mounted Color Guard'. However, the 'fun' activity occurred when PNP Lorraine Frier, President Mercy Montgomery and PDC Betty Gripp arrived at the Convention with a police escort and a convoy of VFW Riders.

Altogether, this was a very productive convention with tons of useful information distributed.

CONGRATULATIONS JOE REAGAN, ALL-AMERICAN DEPT. COMMANDER

ALL STATE COMMANDERS & QUARTERMASTERS 2009 - 2010

The Department of Arizona VFW is proud to have such outstanding Commanders and Quartermasters working tirelessly for the Veterans of Foreign Wars. You truly deserve this award for having such an outstanding year.

ALL STATE DISTRICT COMMANDER

Roger Gowen Post 7968 Apache Junction

ALL STATE DISTRICT QUARTERMASTER

Robert Hysko Post 9400 Sunnyslope

ALL STATE POST COMMANDERS

David Hansen 10342 Huachuca City (Co-Captain)
Don Taylor 3632 Tempe (Co-Captain)
John Sims 285 Surprise
Mike Fisher 8015 Phoenix
George Baker 9400 Sunnyslope
Richard Mills 10386 Kingman
Richard Philippi 1677 Casa Grande
John Morgan 8242 Yuma
Joe Larson 9972 Sierra Vista
Carl Schelin 5990 Marana
Gene Wood 12043 Maricopa

Jim Wilhelm 541 Prescott
John Dalton 1763 Yuma
Larry Williams 3713 Coolidge
Ralph Arvizu 6310 Tolleson
David Hansen 7507 Fountain Hills
Frank Emery 9401 Lake Havasu City
Ken Marshall 8053 Sun Lakes
Mike Davis 769 Quartzsite

ALL STATE POST QUARTERMASTERS

Bob Rankin 9399 Apache Junction
Jim Terry 12043 Maricopa
Marco Vasquez 2066 Nogales
Mary Dallas 541 Prescott
Owen Johnson 9401 Lake Havasu City
Paul Sausedo 6310 Tolleson
Phillip Crowe 5990 Marana
Roland Furst 9972 Sierra Vista
Ronald Gauge 8242 Yuma (Y.P.G.)
Steve Peterson 8053 Sun Lakes
Thomas Jones 3713 Coolidge

Arizona Department Officers 2009-2010

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Dennis Dole 769 Quartzsite
Sr. Vice Commander
Tim Borland 9972 Sierra Vista
Jr. Vice Commander
Mike Ferguson 7968 Apache Jct.
Quartermaster
Ski Kuczynski 3632 Tempe
Judge Advocate
Tony Mangine 6790 Wellton
Surgeon
Greg Kozakiewicz 9907 Show Low
Adjutant
Ray Thomas 3632 Tempe
Chaplain
Janie Miller 1677 Casa Grande
Service Officer
Terry Dalton 3513 Scottsdale

District Commanders

#1 **Tom vonAhlefeld** 6790 Wellton
 #2 **Pete Seippel** 6739 Camp Verde
 #3 **Bobby Jones** 8015 Phoenix
 #4 **George Baker** 9400 Phoenix
 #5 **E. Wendal Hague** 549 Tucson
 #6 **James Campbell** 9907 Show Low
 #7 **Lindsey Botkin** 10342 Huachuca City
 #8 **Frank- Emery** 9401 Lake Havasu
 #10 **Ken Marshall** 8053 Sun Lakes

Auxiliary Officers

President
Mercy Montgomery 40 Avondale
Sr. Vice President
Pauline Servin 1677 Casa Grande
Jr. Vice President
Sheila Shutts 10005 Bullhead City
Secretary
Kim Sloan 10188 Tucson
Treasurer
Nancy Kane 3513 Scottsdale
Chaplain
Donna Dole 769 Quartzsite
Conductress
Dee Bong 40 Avondale
Guard
Catherine Seippel 6739 Camp Verde
Chief of Staff
Ronnie Heinemann 549 Tucson
Patriotic Instructor
Diane Philippi 1677 Casa Grande
Historian
Sharon Diehl 9399 Apache Jct.

District Presidents

#1 **Mary Ann Peck**
 #2 **Christina Vess**
 #3 **Ruth Tamilio**
 #4 **Ethel Rozelle**
 #5 **B. Jean Redmond**
 #6 **Sharon Ashby-Robinson**
 #7 **Sharon Ward**
 #8 **Mary Salisbury**
 #10 **Diane Philippi**

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From the State Commander *Dennis Dole, 769 Quartzsite*
VFW Family Pride



The Veterans of Foreign Wars is the greatest VSO in the world. We may not be the largest but we are the best. The Volunteers help our veterans, work for their families, treat our Soldiers, Sailors, Marines, Arimen and Coast Guardsmen, National Guard and Reserve with respect. We help that their children understand what their parents experience in getting ready for deployment with Operation Kids and Operation Junior Hero's. We volunteer at VA Hospitals and Veterans Homes, assist in our communities, provide

scholarships, get our Vets to the Doctors or hospital for appointments. The Service Officer and his staff provide assistance to our veterans with health care issues to name just a few of our services.

Coming up is the Voice of Democracy, Patriots Pen, Teacher of the Year, and the Gold Medal Awards, (Firefighter, EMT and Police Officer) and it is time to get those programs moving forward. We have a change in our VOD Chairman, Donna Halloway is leaving the state and we wish her all the best and thank her for years of dedicated service. Donna is being replaced by John Beeler from Post 2364. Welcome to the Team John. Don't forget the Dates

to submit your entries.

Membership is always a priority and so far we have 7 qualify for Recruiter Shirts. They are: Lindsey Botkin, Tim Borland, Vinny Rigo, Mike Talerico, Richard Reel, and Bob Rankin. Each of these recruiters have 10 or more new or reinstated members. Lindsey Botkin leads the group with 69 and will be receiving a Aide-de-camp shirt. Way to Go Gentlemen.

We accomplish all of this by the hard work of our Members. Proving "THERE IS NOTHING STRONGER THAT THE HEART OF A VOLUNTEER".

*Yours in service,
 Dennis Dole, Commander*

Renew Your Membership Online

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

1. Go to <http://emem.vfw.org/>
2. Click "Register" (if you are NOT currently registered) and follow instructions. It's that easy and your new card will be sent to you shortly.

State Sr. Vice Commander
Tim Borland, 9972 Sierra Vista



Dear Comrades and Sisters!
 I must say that working for such a great state like Arizona gives me much joy and humbling honor. I want to thank each and everyone of you for your vote of confidence in this year's elections. I will fulfill this year as your Department Senior Vice with respect and professionalism; if I don't know something, I will find out; if you ask me a question and I'm due to give you one, I will. I promise to hold the position as your Senior Vice Commander with honor and respect for all comrades of this State, and I truly appreciate all that you do to include the Ladies Auxiliaries and Men's Auxiliaries; without them, some of our posts would not survive. I challenge all of you to complete your programs and recruit more members this year than you ever have. I would like to see this year be a banner year and stepping stone for the years to follow. I have no doubt that we have the best State in the Na-

tion and it's because we work together and continue to serve our communities with parades, funerals, fund raisers, children programs like Operation Junior Kids both at Luke Air Force Base and Fort Huachuca along with giving needy families and veterans assistance when needed.

Three years ago I promised to do two things for the state or Arizona within the next 5 years in office; first was to recruit as many younger veterans as I possibly could and that I have done now for over 6 years with over 100 recruited 6 consecutive years in a row. The second thing I promise was to help veterans; even if they were not VFW members to file their claims with Veteran's Affairs (VA) and that's why in previous newspapers I have given encouragement for comrades to continue filing appeals with VA and not to ever give up. Well, now I'm starting my special project to reach out not only to VFW members but every veteran in the Nation with my Agent Orange Awareness Bill and my PTSD Awareness Bill which you can find on my Website at

www.tj6enterprises.com. My son Levi and I plan on selling these bills not only to get the word out Nationally about the symptoms and/or ailments of each era but to also encourage all veterans to seek the help they so honorably deserve. All sales from these two bills minus the cost to make and ship them will be donated through the Department Quartermaster to divide evenly to each of the three VA Hospital here in Arizona. The donation will be earmarked for both Agent Orange and PTSD Awareness so that they can be used for only these two reasons. I will continue to donate until the bills no longer sell. I believe these two bills will not only raise funds for these two serious ailments but also awareness to veterans Worldwide that help is out there for them.

In closing, I again would like to thank everyone for their vote and I look so forward to a great year ahead of us and am getting very excited about next year too. Thanks so much for what you do. *Yours in comradeship,
 Tim Borland,
 tangles99@earthlink.net*

State Jr. Vice Commander

Mike Ferguson, 7968 Apache Junction



Without a doubt I can say the start of my state career has been very overwhelming, educational, incredible and enjoyable. I would like to start with saying thank you to everyone who has supported me through these last few years. As promised I've been learning something new every day and working diligently to help our comrades, sisters and families in anyway I possibly can. Again, thank you for the chance and honor to represent you and all the Arizona VFW family. One of my committees is National Military Services, I'm sure everyone is aware of the three groups which makes up NMS – Operation Uplink – Unmet Needs – M.A.P. Together it's time for us to make this year an outstanding year for Arizona. This year we are asking for donations from the ALL Posts, Auxiliaries and Districts for these great VFW programs. New this year for all state judging for Commanders, on the resume form to be sent in there's a section which deals with NMS and needs to be filled out – please do so it's very important. There's no set amount

for this donation – we're just asking for you to do a fundraiser and to send your donation through our Department Quartermaster SKI (except for the Ladies – they send theirs' to their Department Treasurer Nancy Kane) We would like to suggest you make this donation out to NMS (written bottom left hand corner on your check) but you have the option to donate to any of the three groups. **YOUR FUND RAISER – YOUR CHOICE...!!** One last item for NMS – if you do anything – no matter how small or large for adopted unit, uplink, etc. it needs to be reported to me (if not on CS report) which will enable me to add it to my report which goes to National by the 15th of every month. Last year I know we were doing events but my reports showed no activity. Any help you can do on this, will be greatly appreciated. Inclosing, I would again like to thank you for giving me the opportunity to serve you and all the AZ VFW family. I'll do my best. If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to contact me any time – Together it's Time -- *Yours in Service,*
JR-Vice Mike Ferguson

Riding to the Convention in Style



PDC Betty Gripp, LAVFW President Mercy Montgomery and PNP Lorraine Frier arrive at the convention 'in-style', with a police escort and a convoy of VFW Riders

State Judge Advocate

Tony Mangine, 6790 Wellton



I would like to express my gratitude for all the support that I have received and promise that I will work as hard as I can to fulfill your expectations.

I want to be sure that all Commanders, Presidents, Quartermasters, Secretaries/Treasurers are aware of the National Resource web site. Please go to www.vfwdpartmentresources.org and take a look. By going to the ICON for VFW or VFW Ladies Auxiliary

you will find your pamphlets, brochures, etc for all programs. This is a great way to get you documentation and information for your programs, including certificates.

As the Department National Home Chairman, I would like to remind all Posts that we made a commitment to support the Arizona Cottage at the Nation Home. Please send your Post/District check to the Department for \$60.00 payable to Dept. of AZ VFW and indicate that it is for the Arizona Cottage. Ski will do the rest.

Tony Mangine, Judge Advocate

State Surgeon

Greg Kozakiewicz, 9907 Show Low



On 7 July a meeting was held at Camp Navajo Army Depot in Bellemont, AZ. with the Secretary of Veterans Affairs Eric Shinseki, Congress Woman Ann Kirkpatrick, Regional Director VA Health Services Susan Bowers and Director of Prescott VA Hospital Dr. Susan Angel. Along with myself, Billy Weldon and Horace (Mel) Bell were there representing the Veterans Service Organizations. The Secretary made an opening statement covering numerous topics. His first was to thank everyone for getting the Advance Budget Bill passed. He then covered how the increased monies allocated to the VA were going to be spent on programs ranging from Mental Health, Substance Prevention to Veterans Courts and the G.I. Bill. Susan Bowers then stated what was being done to improve service in the region and what she hoped to accomplish with the funding the region had received.

The Q&A session of the meeting started with me asking why the Show Low Clinic was

being controlled by two VA Hospitals to the detriment of the veterans, it was decided that this issue would be looked into. I then raised the issue of Emergency Care which again was a surprise to some of those present. I also suggested that Interns or Resident Doctors be used in the clinics if enough regular Doctors could not be hired by VA, I was informed that this was already being done in the Cottonwood Clinic. Also questioned was the apparent lack of communications between the Hospitals within the State of Arizona. John Dudas of the AZ. Veterans Commission addressed the issue of the homeless veterans and what his agency was doing to help correct this situation and reiterated my concerns regarding health matters. He further stated that his agency has teamed up with the Prescott VA Hospital and Ron Tso, CEO of Indian Health Services, Navajo Nation in a program to combat mental health, substance abuse on the reservation. Billy Weldon called attention to lack of adequate transportation to the hospitals for scheduled appointments and rating exams especially in the rural areas and

covered some the the issues I mentioned earlier. Mel Bell brought up claims and the delays regarding them, this opened a real can of worms, however the Secretary mentioned that 4 programs were currently being tested to help find a cure for this problem. It should be noted that the Q&A session was extended at the request of the Secretary so everyone could present their concerns. In my estimation the meeting made people in positions of authority aware of issues that seem to have not been brought to their attention and was very productive. The Secretary thanked everyone for the information he had received and departed to Flagstaff for another meeting.

As a footnote: The problems of the Show Low Clinic were resolved within a week after this meeting. The Show Low Clinic now falls under the direction of the Phoenix VA Hospital for all funding and medical care. I deeply thank Mel Bell and Billy Weldon for the support.

Respectfully,
Greg Kozakiewicz, Dept. Surgeon

VFW Veterans HELPLINE (800) VFW-1899

District 3 News

Bobby Jones 8015 Phoenix



40 Avondale	2135 Peoria
285 Wickenburg	3715 Phoenix
720 Phoenix	6310 Tolleson
1433 Glendale	8015 Phoenix
1710 Phoenix	10695 Sun City

Greeting Comrades and Sisters, District 3 is off and running, we have had several post sponsor and conducted community service events including 1433 and 285 sponsoring a Blood Drive at Luke AFB where over 160 pints of blood was donated. Post 285 and 6310 Sponsor Bingo Saturdays, at the VA Phoenix hospital for the residents living in the Community Living Centers (Nursing Home). Post 1433 and 1710 had two highly successful dances this year to raised funds to support their various programs. Post 8015 spent their first Saturday of the new VFW year preparing gift boxes to send to the troops overseas. Each

and every post in the District came to the first District meeting or sent a representative, I want to thank all commanders for showing Unity in District 3, for "Unity in the VFW Family Means Unity in the Community", always show "VFW Family Pride".

I invite all to visit the posts of District 3 anytime, any day for we have, "VFW Family Pride". Our district POW/MIA event will feature a nice Dinner and will cost only a 10 dollar donation if tickets are brought in advance, \$12.50 at the door and will be held at Post 1433 on September the 18th, contact Chairman Chuck Bong.

*Yours in Comradeship,
Bobby Jones, Dist. 3 Commander*

District 4 News

George Baker 9400 Sunnyslope



1760 Mesa	7507 Fountain Hills
1796 Black Canyon	9400 Sunnyslope
3513 Scottsdale	12006 Mesa
3591 N. Scottsdale	12031 Anthem
3632 Tempe	

Thank you for electing me as your District Commander for the 2010-11 year. My goal is to have District 4 at 100% by March. I'm sure that, with all posts cooperation this goal can be achieved. At this time I would also like to thank all of the posts in our district that made All State Don Taylor 3632 Tempe, David Hansen 7507 Fountain Hills and George Baker 9400 Sunnyslope. Also posts that made

All American this past year; Don Taylor 3632 Tempe and George Baker 9400 Sunnyslope. It's a sign of good work and effort.

Do not hesitate to ask questions. If I don't know the answer I will get it for you. The biggest goal we have is recruitment and Reports. As a team working together our district could be #1 so let's all join together to make this possible.

George Baker, Dist. 4 Commander

Operation Homefront at Outback

Susan Thompson, the proprietor of the Outback Steakhouse in Surprise invited about 30 Veterans to her restaurant for a meal and to thank them for their military service. Members from seven posts in District 3 attended as well as the Mayor, Police Chief, City Council and some of the Detectives from the City of Surprise. I presented Susan Thompson with a plaque on behalf of the VFW and Post 6310.



6310 Commander Ralph Arvizu presenting a VFW plaque to Outback proprietor Susan Thompson for her work with Veterans. Sgt. Morris with Color Guard members Andy Alcaraz and Simon Amavisca setting up the Buddy Poppy tables in Surprise

District 7 News

Lindsey Botkin 10342 Huachuca City



426 Douglas	6850 Willcox	10342 Huachuca City
836 Bisbee	8667 Rio Rico	10385 Thatcher
2066 Nogales	9972 Sierra Vista	10432 Patagonia
6271 Benson	9977 Pearce	

Comrades; I am looking forward to a good year and so far it has started off that way. We can not forget our reports, so lets really get to work on them. I would like to see all the Post in the district with their programs and reports at 100% by April 1, 2011. I am available if any post needs help in getting these reports in on time.

School is about or has already started. You should have your Patriot's Pen and VOD ready to deliver to the schools along with the applications for Teacher of the year K-5, 6-8 and 9-12. It would be nice to get a teacher in each category. These programs should be back to the Post chairman by Nov.1, 2010 and to District Chairman by Nov.15th, 2010.

If at all possible please see that you get Buddy Poppies ordered (5 per member) as soon as possible and I would like to see all posts have an order this year. The Golden Awards which includes, Firefighter, EMT and Law Enforcement should be out to the applicants soon. I would like to see all the nominees to the Post by 1 Nov. 2010 and to District by the end of November. If you can not find the information on these, you can go to www.vfwdepartmentresources.org. All the forms and reports are on this site.

I realize that it is early in the year but recruiting is so important. We need to think about calling your comrades or visit them and see if you can't get them to renew, this is very important. I would like to see all Post at 100% in membership by April 1, 2011 and I know it can be done if we just get out there and put a little effort into this program. Lets see if we can not beat last year in both program, membership and having all our Buddy Poppies ordered.

Post inspections will begin around the 6th of Sept. There will be two inspectors this year. Splitting up the district Ron Zatochill and Ben Jacobs will be the inspectors and we are looking to have all inspections done by the end of November 2010. Letters will be sent out with the dates your post will be inspected. I plan on a visit to all post in the district at least twice or more this year.

Lets work together and be the top District in the State this year by having all Post complete all our required programs, Buddy Poppies ordered and 100% in membership and have all your committees filled to include the three new ones and they are on your All-State Commanders resume!

*Yours in Comradeship,
Lindsey Botkin,*

Life Membership is a Click Away

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

Age	One Time Payment	12 Month Option
30 and Younger	\$425	\$40.39
31-40	\$410	\$39.02
41-50	\$375	\$35.84
51-60	\$335	\$32.20
61-70	\$290	\$28.11
71-80	\$225	\$22.20
81 and over	\$170	\$17.20

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

Contact your VFW Post today or you can enroll online at <https://emem.vfw.org>. To enroll by mail, call National Life Membership at 1-800-963-3180 for an enrollment form. ***Remember if you move, please contact your Post or National Headquarters at 1-800-963-3180 and update your address.

District 8 News

Frank Emery 9401 Lake Havasu



404 Mohave Valley	6306 Golden Shores	10386 Kingman
2190 Chloride	9401 Lake Havasu	10726 Parker Dam
2555 Golden Valley	9833 Dolan Springs	11014 Meadview
3516 Kingman	10005 Bullhead City	

September will be a busy month for the District. Lake Havasu has been chosen as the official site for the Arizona 9-11 Memorial Site. We are excited to have this honor and are working hard to raise funds to erect the new memorial, which includes two 30-foot towers and a piece from one of the buildings in the base of the memorial. Our annual ceremony will start at 8AM with some much honored guest speakers. We would love to see you there.

The other big event, which includes the Tri-Cities area, Parker and Laughlin is the first annual Patriot Days Event to be held Sept. 17th through Sept. 26th. This will start out with the American Veteran Travelling Tribute stopping in Bullhead City, Golden Valley and Kingman on Sept. 14th. There will be a ceremony at each of these stops. The Tribute will arrive in Lake Havasu on Wednesday the 15th of Sept. with a parade down

Main Street. Set-up will be on Thursday, with opening ceremonies on Friday the 17th. There will be entertainment daily including: a tribute to the different conflicts, a women veterans tribute, Native American veterans and a "Patriot Immigration/Naturalization ceremony". The Patriot Guard and the Vietnam Vets/ Legacy Vets M/C's will have daily rides to points of interest throughout Mohave County. On Sat. Sept. 25th, we will be having one of the biggest Air Shows west of the Mississippi along with a USO tribute show. The Andy Devine Rodeo and Parade in Kingman will also take place on that day, and the Mohave County Fair runs from Sept. 15th through the 26th. So, you can see it will be a fun packed week of patriotic events for all. If you have questions please contact me at home 928-855-7049, or check out the web site www.lhcpatriotdays.com *Yours in Comradeship,*
Frank Emery, Dist. 8 Commander

Terry Dalton
VFW Department Service Officer
3333 North Central Avenue, # 1049
Phoenix, AZ 85304
Phone: 602 627-3316 Fax: 602 627-3320

District 10 News

Ken Marshall 8053 Sun Lakes



1677 Casa Grande	8053 Sun Lakes
3713 Coolidge	9399 Apache Junction
7401 Chandler	12043 Maricopa
7968 Apache Junction	

We started our new year off with a District meeting at the Casa Grande post on July 11, 2010. I'm happy to report that all posts were represented with one post commander having been excused. We were proud to have Department Commander Dennis Dole and several of his chairpersons, including his chief of Staff in attendance. Prior to the meeting a school on instruction was conducted concerning information obtained at the incoming C of A. The interaction between the post commanders and the Department Commander will ensure District 10 of another very successful year.

The District meeting was followed by the District steak fry at the Casa Grande Post on Saturday July 24, 2010. Each post was once again represented and our raffle raised \$300.00 for Operation Kids in addition to the monies we had already pledged. My personal thanks to all who attended these very important functions, without your support, the VFW does not prosper. Myself and my line officers will each attend at least two post meeting per month. We're preparing for a banner year! I would also like to congratulate each and every post Commander in District 10 for being 100% in reports for the new year. *Ken Marshall,*
District 10 Commander

VFW Rangers, Mounted Color Guard

Department Commander Dennis Dole presenting a Silver Oak Leaf to Comrade Madrid. Eligibility requirements to join the VFW Rangers are to own your horse and arrange for your own costume. J P Kaster, Joe Madrid, Jay Wren and "Gubby", Gulbranson. VFW-10254 in Three-Points is home of the VFW Rangers.



Help VFW Win the Pepsi Refresh Grant



The VFW Foundation received a second opportunity to try to win a \$250,000 grant through the "Return the Favor" contest by Pepsi Refresh Grants. You can vote for the entire month of July by going to <http://www.refresheverything.com/ReturnTheFavor>

Your vote will help VFW provide financial assistance to military families in need. The grant will enable VFW help thousands

of military families through emergency financial situations, fund military unit "homecoming" and "sendoff" events, and help allow free phone calls to troops in the field to their loved ones at home. The \$250,000 grant will go a long ways towards helping the Foundation continue providing these free programs for our servicemembers and their families. Please "Return the Favor" and vote for the VFW, and encourage your friends, family and neighbors to do so, too. Remember we need your vote to win!

FaceBook and the Arizona VFW

FACEBOOK has come to the Department of Arizona! If you are already a Facebook member simply do a search for either the Veterans of Foreign Wars - Department of Arizona, or Department of Arizona - Ladies Auxiliary - Veterans of Foreign Wars.

If you are not currently a member and would like to join, follow these simple instructions: Using a Search Engine i.e. Yahoo, etc. find Facebook, and Select SIGN UP. You will only need your e-mail address, and a password choice.

I am not a big advocates of Facebook on a personal level (remember to protect your privacy on-line), but signing up solely for keeping tabs on organizations, and businesses is a 2010+ necessity!

The Department websites will provide information that is in effect for the entire year. Facebook on the other hand provides time sensitive information on Department, Post, and Auxiliary happenings. This includes Program notes, veterans issues, local VFW pictures, and so much more.

Just send me an e-mail should your Post wish a special item added to FACEBOOK.

Lew Shutts, Webmaster - Facebook Administrator, lshutts@citlink.net



STATE CONVENTION 2009-10 MESA, ARIZONA



Arizona Governor Jan Brewer Attends State Convention in Mesa

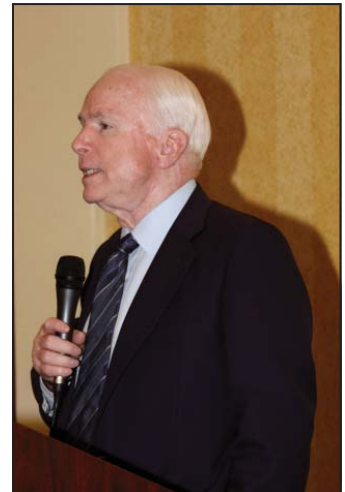
Honored Guests



Governor Brewer at the podium with Dept. Adjutant Ray Thomas and Ladies Auxiliary President Mercy Montgomery. Below are highlights of the Governor's speech.



Thomas Treadwell Sr., VFW National Commander in Chief addresses the crowd at the joint opening of the AZ convention.



Senator John McCain honored VFW and Auxiliary members at the convention in Mesa.

I am honored to have this opportunity to welcome you members of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Department of Arizona to your 90th Annual State Convention.

Here in Arizona, we understand the needs of our veterans ... we understand and, even in these challenging economic times, we do all that we can to meet the needs of our 600-thousand veterans living in the Grand Canyon State.

I am proud to have championed HB 2195 for you – allowing charitable groups to play pull-tabs in their halls – after developing a workable solution this year and, with your help, ensuring that the bill passed through the Legislature.



As Governor, I fully realize that serving our veterans properly depends on a working partnership between the federal government and the state. And, I am proud to say that our Arizona Department of Veterans' Services has an outstanding working relationship not only with the federal VA, but also with the various veterans' service organizations such as the VFW.

The idea for the regiment originated with Bucky O'Neill, the Mayor of Prescott and a famous frontier sheriff. Their executive officer was Lieutenant Colonel Theodore Roosevelt.

Arizonans have answered their nation's call to arms in Korea, Viet Nam, Panama, Grenada, Desert Storm, Afghanistan, and Operation Iraqi Freedom. Today, members of the Arizona National Guard are deployed to Afghanistan and Iraq.

Today, I wish to commend you men and women of the Veterans of Foreign Wars for being among the loudest voices on behalf of our veterans. Our goals are the same and shall always be the same – ensuring that our veterans receive all of the benefits to which their service has entitled them.

God bless you and your families, God bless Arizona, and God bless the United States of America. Thank you.

Buddy Poppy Displays

Category 1

- First Place- 769 Quartzsite Replica of Purple Heart
- Second Place- 9907 Show Low, Publicity of Poppy Campaign
- Third place- 3713 Coolidge, Veteran Proudly Serves

Category 2

- First Place- 12043 Maricopa, Honor the Dead
- Second Place- 11014 Meadview, In Memory of the Brave
- Third place- 6790 Wellton, Memorial to All Services

Category 3

- First Place- 10386 Kingman, Courage & Remembrance
- Second Place- 8242 Yuma, A Pink Ele (Phant)
- Third place- 8015 Phoenix, Cancer Ribbon



On Aug. 4, Governor Brewer signed into law that the POW/MIA Flag be flown at all city & state buildings in Arizona. Pictured are VFW members awaiting the flag-raising ceremony at the Capitol to recognize the law and honor the soldiers it represents.

FALL CONFERENCE & HOSPITAL BANQUET

October 16, 2010

Holiday Inn Casa Grande

777 N. Pinal Ave

Casa Grande, AZ 85222

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

Rooms (Single or Double) \$75.00 + Tax

Dinner Tickets \$25.00

Deadline for Dinner Tickets - Oct. 8, 2010

C of A Meeting is Sunday at 9:00am

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

Mail to:

Ken & Crista Marshall

26428 S. Lakeside Dr.

Sun Lakes, AZ 85248

480-883-2265

kbck1221@msn.com

Voice Of Democracy & Patriots Pen Scholarship Program Banquet



Saturday January 15, 2011

Holiday Inn Casa Grande

777 N. Pinal Ave

Casa Grande, AZ 85222

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

Room for 2 people with breakfast \$79.00 + Tax

Room for 2 people without breakfast \$75.00 + Tax

1600hrs (4:00 pm) Students/Parents/District Commanders & Presidents

Reception in the Citrus Room (Pictures)

1700hrs (5:00 pm) No host cocktails

1800hrs (6:00 pm) Dinner

Buffet Dinner ONLY \$25.00

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

Mail to:

John Beeler

2578 Pinon Dr.

Lakeside, AZ 85929

928-368-6166

fiddlefoot12@yahoo.com

Frank Emery

2813 Palo Verde Blvd. N.

Lake Havasu, AZ 86404

928-855-5374

f-emery@hotmail.com

Suzi Gleason

1640 Navigator Dr.

Lake Havasu, AZ 86404

928-855-0627

suzieg@frontiernet.net

C of A Meeting is Sunday at 9:00am

State Veterans Home Report

Last year was a good year at the state Veterans home there is still much needed programs and volunteering to be done. I will be working closely with the home coordinator to help the veterans with their special needs and would like all post take a part in this project. There a lot of new programs being discussed at the home to help the patients have a better life style. I have also received many calls about veterans in private nursing homes that need assistance. I would like to see each post chairman adopt-a-nursing home in there area and help most of all any veterans that are there with there special needs. Also please help with our Dept. Commanders special project this year for the State Veterans Home which is Titled "Never 2 Late" on the Dept. website. (<http://www.vfwaz.org/>) All donations go to the Dept. Quartermaster earmarked "Never 2 Late"

As you know we have been making a lot of progress at the AZ. State Nursing Home. They have two new pieces of equipment that has greatly helped all the residents with dementia and Alzheimer disease. They currently have only two of each and more is needed for each ward (4). These are the goals I would like to accomplish.

1. Purchase two navigating voyager computers at \$8000.00 apiece
2. Purchase four fiber optic lights at \$800.00 apiece
3. Contact private nursing homes to help resident veterans

We are asking all post & auxiliaries to consider helping to reach these goals. We are excepting donations which will be used strictly for the purchase of this equipment. Also please contact any private nursing home in your district to find out if there are veterans in need and assist them.

If your District, Post Auxiliaries would like to donate monies towards these goals please send donations to Dept. Quartermaster earmarked " Never 2 Late".

For more information please contact:

AZSNH Chairman John Sims at 602-434-9581

or neptunesskipper@cox.net.



Voice of Democracy (VOD) is an annual nationwide scholarship program sponsored by the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW). It is an audio-essay contest for high school students in grades 9-12. The program annually provides more than \$2.3 million in scholarships. The first-place winner, who competes with all the first-place VFW Department (state) winners, receives a \$30,000 scholarship that is paid directly to the recipient's American university, college or vocational/technical school.

Besides competing for the top scholarship prize, as well as other national scholarships ranging from \$1,000 to \$16,000, each Department's first-place winner receives an all-expense-paid trip to Washington, D.C. in March, sponsored by Target.

Patriot's Pen

Patriot's Pen, a youth-essay writing contest is a nationwide competition that gives students in grades 6,7 and 8 the opportunity to write essays expressing their views on democracy. Annually, more than 115,000 students participate in the contest.

Contestants write a 300-400 word essay based on an annual patriotic theme. The first-place winner receives a \$10,000 savings bond and an all-expense-paid trip to Washington D.C. The top national winners each receive a savings bond anywhere from \$1,000 to \$10,000.

State Convention June 8-11, 2011

Fort McDowell Casino/Resort

Make reservations soon, Hotel will fill early (480) 789-5300 code VFW

How to Check the Status of a VA Claim

The US Department of Veterans Affairs provides a wide array of benefits for veterans, active duty service members and military spouses. However, claims applications can take weeks or months to process. Although claim forms are available on the VA website, you can go through the VA's automated phone service to check on the status of claims.

Types of Benefits and Claims

Available benefits include compensation, pensions, health care, vocational rehabilitation, employment, education, home loans, life insurance and survivor benefits. You must apply for each separately. Military members can file for VA benefits up to six months prior to separation under the Benefits Delivery at Discharge program. By taking advantage of this program, you should receive your benefits immediately after you leave the service.

VA Claim Processing Time

Depending on the type and complexity of the claim, the VA may take up to six months to make a decision. See Resources for details.

Checking Claim Status

The only way to determine the status of a pending VA claim is by calling 800- 827-1000 and following the recorded message instructions.

Copies of VA Decisions

Requests for a copy of VA decisions must be made in writing and signed by the claimant. Send the request to your nearest VA regional office. Be as specific as possible about which documents you want.

Additional Contact Information

Other ways to contact the VA include phoning or visiting the VA office nearest you. If you are near a military installation, you can contact the local Transition Assistance Office to schedule an appointment to file a claim or to attend benefits information briefings.

Were You Stop Lossed?

There are millions of dollars waiting to be claimed by service members and veterans who were stop lossed, and time is running out!

Those eligible must submit their claim by Oct. 21, 2010.

The DoD Web site links to service-specific sites, where you can get more information, or begin the RSLSP claim process.

The 2009 War Supplemental Appropriations Act established Retroactive Stop Loss Special Pay (RSLSP), providing \$500 for each month/partial month served in stop loss status. Service members, veterans, and beneficiaries of service members whose service was involuntarily extended under Stop Loss between Sept. 11, 2001 and Sept. 30, 2009 are eligible for RSLSP.

To receive this benefit, those who served under stop loss must submit a claim for the special pay. Throughout the year, the services have been reaching out to service members, veterans and their families through direct mail, veteran service organizations, and

the media.

But there is still money left to be claimed, and the deadline is approaching. We're reminding all service members who are eligible to submit a claim for the benefit available to them. The average benefit is \$3,700.

Tell a Friend

We are also asking all current service members to 'tell a friend' - if you know someone who separated/retired and may be eligible for this benefit, remind them to submit a claim before the deadline!

Note on Eligibility

Effective Dec. 19, 2009, per the Defense Appropriations Act, stop-lossed service members who voluntarily reenlisted or extended their service, and received a bonus for such reenlistment or extension of service, became no longer eligible to receive retroactive stop loss special pay.

APPLY NOW FOR RETROACTIVE STOP LOSS SPECIAL PAY

www.defense.gov/stoploss

"SHE SERVES" Female Combat Vets



She Serves is a recruiting tool. Most female Combat Veterans don't think of themselves as Combat Vets because Americans don't think of them as Combat Vets. The Department of Arizona VFW wants to change this and has risen to the challenge of recruiting and accepting these female Vets into our family. When signing up a female combat veteran put the word "female" on the application and keep track. A report to National will be submitted in October and February. When we get a final report from National it will be disbursed to the Posts.

Patrick Hussey Inducted Posthumously Into AZ Veterans Hall of Fame

Naval Captain Patrick F. Hussey will be inducted posthumously into the Arizona Veterans Hall of Fame on Oct 29th at the El Zaribah Shriners Auditorium. The announcement was made in the Arizona Republic on August 14th by Retired Master Chief Petty Officer Art Sloane, Coast Guard.

Doris Hussey of Las Palmas and their three children survive Hussey, who was a Charter and Life Member of Jack Schroeder Post 12006 Veterans of Foreign Wars,. Doris is currently the President of the Ladies Auxiliary of Post 12006.

Capt Hussey retired in 1975 after serving 30 years, first in the Aviation and then the Ship Divisions of the Navy, a most unusual achievement. During his remarkable career he studied International Relations in England, was Defense Attache in

Denmark in command of the military attaches stationed there during the Cold War era, and was Captain of a four ship flotilla stationed off Ecuador during the tumultuous times in Central America.

The Arizona Veterans Hall of Fame is an extension of the Hall of Fame created by the Disabled American Veterans Department of Arizona in 1978. Following in the footsteps of the Ohio Veterans hall of Fame, Arizona hopes to add its legacy to the eventual establishment of a National Veterans Hall of Fame.

Oversight of the hall is provided by the Arizona Department of Veterans Services. The inaugural induction ceremony was held on May 30, 2001. The 23 members of the class of 2010 will bring the number of members in the Arizona Veterans Hall of Fame to 223.

LIFE MEMBERSHIP The Deal of a Lifetime

HELP RAISE MONEY FOR VETERANS IN NEED.




FAIR-RAISING FUNDS

Questions? Contact:

Frank Leitter
602-254-5752
623-313-1696
msva@qwestoffice.net

Go to azstatefair.com to plan your visit.

Help raise money for Madison Street Veterans Association by buying your State Fair tickets online.

Go to www.azstatefair.com/store and purchase your tickets. Type in promo code: madisonvets2010 at check out and **Madison Street Veterans Association** Will receive 15% of your total purchase. * Also, this promo code will give you a 50% discount on regular-priced admission.

*Promo code must be entered at checkout for organization to get credit for the sale. Fund raiser ends October 14, 2010.

Fair Dates: Oct. 15 - Nov. 7, 2010 • Closed Mondays & Tuesdays • azstatefair.com

OPERATION KIDS

Sat., 23 Oct. 0800-1400
Team Luke and Camp Thunderbolt Bldg. 400 & ATSO
REGISTRATION
 4 Oct. - 8 Oct. 0800 to 1400 at AFRC Bldg 1113
 16 Oct. 0800-1200 at AFRC Bldg 1113
Space is Limited

For children ages 6 - 15 of Luke active duty, Reserve, DoD civilians, foreign nationals, other DoD service members, retired DoD or those associated with Luke. Children must be accompanied by a guardian the day of the event.
 For more information call SSgt Nicole Eisenbarth at the AFRC at 623-856-6550



A special thanks to our partners:








Comrades and Sisters together it's time for us to roll up our sleeves and make this year's department event – Operation Kids - as colossal and distinguished as possible. This event is in its fifth year and we still have members who may not even know of its existence and/or its purpose. Every year for the last four years we have had over 225 kids of deployed military personnel have a day of fun, learning, which helps them cope and understand, a little better what happens when their mom or dad is deployed. This is done in three main stages – deployment, given their mission and welcome home. During deployment kids receive back packs and items of all sorts to put in their packs - this is where we come in – we're handing these items we brought out to them. Followed by the CO of the base explaining their mission, then they are transported to Camp Thunderbolt where they go through different type of classes and training. Finally after a busy day they return to a

welcome home party and given drinks, snacks, certificates, etc., again where we come in – welcoming them home, handing out drinks, etc. Keeping the above in mind we need volunteers for stages one and three.

If you can help or would like to volunteer please give your name and post # or Auxiliary # to myself or Chuck Bong. This list needs to be turned over to Luke AFB no later than 09-25-2010. So, they can make the proper arrangements for entry on to the base. Last but not least, with a \$14,000.00 budget if you can't make it to the event and can make a donation to Operation Kids it would be greatly appreciated – please send to Department Quartermaster Ski ear marked for Operation Kids. Thank you in advance for your help on this event.

For more information or to add your name to the list please contact:

Mike Ferguson 1-480-671-6097
 or Chuck Bong 1-623-925-9418

VFW Department of Arizona
6907 E. Thomas Rd.
Scottsdale, AZ 85251-6828
480-941-5258 fax 480-994-3730

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS DEPARTMENT OF ARIZONA

GENERAL ORDER NO. 1 SERIES 2010-2011 EFFECTIVE JUNE 13, 2010

1. In accordance with the Constitution and By-Laws of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, and having been duly elected and installed as Commander, Department of Arizona, 1, Dennis Dole, hereby assume responsibility for the Department and establish Headquarters at 690 E. Thomas Road, Scottsdale, Arizona, 85251. Phone (480)941-5258. Fax (480)994-3730.

2. The following officers having been duly elected and/or appointed at the 90th Convention held June 10 - 12, 2009 in Mesa, Arizona will be accorded the courtesies due their office in compliance with the provisions of the Constitution and By-Laws and Manual of Procedure of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States and the By-Laws of this Department.

Department Officers

- Commander, Dennis Dole - Post 769
- Sr. Vice Commander, Timothy Borland - Post 9972
- Jr. Vice Commander, Mike Ferguson - Post 7968
- Quartermaster, Leonard "Ski" Kuczynski - Post 3632
- Chaplain, Janie Miller - Post 9400
- Judge Advocate, A.D. Mangine - Post 6790
- Surgeon, Greg Kozakiewicz - Post 9907
- Adjutant, Ray Thomas - Post 3632
- Service Officer, Terry Dalton - Post 3513

District Commanders

- Dist. No. 1, Thomas Von Ahlefeld - Post 6790
- Dist. No. 2, Peter Seippel - Post 6739 9
- Dist. No. 3, Bobby Jones - Post 6310
- Dist. No. 4, George Baker - Post 9400
- Dist. No. 5, E. Wendell Hacue - Post 549
- Dist. No. 6, James Campbell - Post 9907
- Dist. No. 7, Lindsey Botkin - Post 10342
- Dist. No. 8, Frank Emery - Post 9401
- Dist. No. 10, Kenneth Marshall - Post 8053

Convention Committee

- Chairman, John Halstead - Post 3632
- 2 year, Gary Harlan - Post 4903
- 3 year, Dan Ferguson - Post 9972
- 4 year, Frank Page - Post 7968

3. Previous appointments of Officers, Chairmen and Committee members having authority before 13 June 2010, are declared vacant and their term of office expired.

4. Any and all other appointments are printed in the State Roster and have full authority and responsibility of their positions in the Department.

5. All District Commanders will make written reports to the Department Commander each month on the form provided for this purpose. The District Commanders are also requested to send a copy of the minutes from each of their District meetings to the Department Commander at the Department Headquarters.
 6907 E. Thomas Road, Scottsdale, AZ 85251

6. Any officer or individual representing the Department will comply with the dress code. Appearance will be neat at all times and will conform to good business practices in the southwestern United States.

7. Dress code for members of the Council of Administration is "Blue and Gray" for all official Council functions.

8. All correspondence under Department letterhead must have a copy sent to Department Headquarters for the information file.

9. To prevent scheduling conflicts, all invitations requesting a Department Officer to attend a special function must go through the Department Headquarters.

10. All reports will be sent to the Department Headquarters by due dates.

By Order Of:

Dennis A. Dole, Commander VFW, Dept. of Arizona

Department of Arizona Proposed Schedule

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

September 2010

09-12 CIC Homecoming Reno NV
12 - District 1 Meeting @ Post 7061 Parker 11am
16-19 - National President Homecoming Wash DC

October 2010

10 - District 7 Meeting @ Post 9977 Sunsites 10am
10 - District 10 Meeting @ Post 9399 Apache Jct. 10am
10 - District 3 Meeting @ Post 1710 Phoenix 10am
16 - Hospital Banquet @ Casa Grande
23 - Operation Kids @ Luke Air Force Base
23 - District 6 Meeting @ Post 1704 Globe 10am
31 - District 8 Meeting @ Post 9833 Dolan Springs 11am

November 2010

06 - District 5 Meeting @ Post 3578 Ajo 10am
07 - District 1 Meeting @ Post 769 Quartzsite 11am
07 - District 4 Meeting @ 1796 Black Canyon 9am
18-21 Mid-Winter Conference in Washington DC
20 - Dist. 10 Buddy Poppy Ball @ Post 3713 Coolidge

December 2010

18 - VA Xmas Party @ Prescott VA Hospital 12 noon

January 2011

09 - District 7 Meeting @ Post 2066 Nogales 10am
09 - District 10 Meeting @ Post 3713 Coolidge 10am
15 - State VOD Banquet in Casa Grande
30 - District 8 Meeting @ Post 6306 Golden Valley 11am

February 2011

13 - District 1 Meeting @ Post 8242 Yuma 11am
26 - District 3 Meeting @ Post 285 Surprise 10am
05 - District 4 Meeting @ 12006 Mesa 9am
05 - District 5 Meeting @ Post 4903 Tucson 10am
13 - District 1 Meeting @ Post 8242 Yuma

March 2011

05 - Gamble Against Cancer @ Post 9399 Apache Jct.
19 - Dept. Cmdr. Homecoming @ Post 8242 Yuma
26 - District 3 Buddy Poppy Ball

April 2011

10 - District 7 Meeting @ Post 6271 Benson 10am
24 - District 8 Meeting @ Post 9401 Lake Havasu 11am
17 - Dist. 10 Meeting @ Post 1677 Casa Grande 10am

May 2011

01 - District 1 Meeting @ Post 6790 Wellton 11am
01 - District 3 Meeting @ Post 720 Phoenix 10am
01 - District 4 Meeting @ Post 9400 Sunnyslope 9am
07 - District 5 Meeting @ Post 549 Tucson 10am

June 2011

08-11 - State Convention Fort McDowell Casino

State Chaplain

Janie Miller, 1677 Casa Grande



I would like to start out by thanking all my fellow Comrades who voted for me for State Chaplain and had confidence in me to fulfill this job.

For those who did not vote for me: I hope that I will live up to the high standards that you expect and be able to convince you that voting for me wasn't such a bad choice after all.

Our main goal in this organization is taking care of veterans from all walks of life. "[In that] we must be reminded that the Veterans of Foreign Wars is comprehensive in nature, embracing all religions and faith groups (emphasis added) within its ranks. The Chaplaincy, being non-sectarian must minister to the spiritual needs of all, without regard to either church/synagogue/mosque affiliation or non-affiliation. Chaplains will need to provide ministry to people wherever there is a need." This is straight from the Chaplain's handbook. We have to remind all Americans that God is the source of

all rights and privileges, regardless of how they address that God: Lord, Christ, Yahweh, or Allah.

I realize that being Muslim is not a very fashionable religion in this country at this time. However, we have to remember that there are indeed service members of that religion who fight for this great country and do not condone the form of extremism that is supported by some governments or groups. We have to ensure that the fear of extremism does not turn into rejection of all members of a particular group. Membership is our lifeblood: Let us not reject a potential member who fought for the same ideal as we did because s/he belongs to a particular religious or ethnic group and let us not lose that same member through disrespect to that group or religion. For the greater good of this country we do have to remember this famous sentence of President Roosevelt's wartime speech: "We have nothing to fear but fear itself" and rejection of someone or something that is different from us is a form of fear.

Janie Miller, Dept. Chaplain

TAPS



*May These
Heroes
Rest in Peace*

404 Mohave Valley

James Haas
Dale Packard

549 Tucson

Richard Gamez
Hillard Mc Mullen
Sigismund Mizerski
Nils Nilsen

720 Phoenix

John Nelson
1433 Glendale
Arthur Baker
Norm Dixon
Paul Fitzpatrick
Russell Mc Shane

1760 Mesa

Walter Hagen
John Mc Lean
Craig Willbanks

2066 Nogales

Alex Amado
Juan Colunga
Edward Ronquillo

2190 Chloride

Joseph Matranga

3516 Kingman

Henry Ales
Richard Cross
Robert Eubanks
Gene Hahn
3632 Tempe
Francis Walter

4903 Tucson

Hubert Lee Costello

5990 Marana

Richard Kingsborough

6271 Benson

Oakley Bailey
Laverne Lebert

6790 Wellton

Elgene Gillespie

7400 Cottonwood

John Walsh

7401 Chandler

Edward Luthy

7968 Apache Jct.

Donald Clarkson

8053 Sun Lakes

Delmar Maaske

Melvin Stecker

8242 Yuma

Connie Bement

John Donovan

8987 Eagar

Clifford Eagar

J Sherrill

9399 Apache Jct.

Lawrence Knach

Ira Snow

Ronald Van Dyke

9400 Phoenix

Gus Costas
Lionel Dela Rosa
Isaac Hagins
Clive Snell

9401 Lake Havasu

John Bryant

John Mustonen

Joseph Schnoebelen

9632 Page

Henry Moulton

9829 Payson

Richard Holmes

9833 Dolan Springs

Rex Riley

9972 Sierra Vista

Geary Kimmel

Raymond Ramthun

10227 Prescott Valley

Frank Campbell

10386 Kinkman

Jeffrey Cullen

10695

James Mines

10726 Parker Dam

George Martin

Members at Large

Robert Appleton

Michael Brooks

Michael Moysard

Charles Parrott

Patrick Ross

Raymond Schmidt

Edward Whitaker

Lindsey's Personal Crusade Results in Arizona State Law



LINDSEY BOTKIN, POST 10342

CHECKPOINT MAGAZINE JULY/AUGUST 2010 In February, Lindsey Botkin, Commander of Post 10342 in Huachuca City, Ariz., went before his city council to ask that Huachuca City Hall fly the POW/MIA flag every day. The council replied with a firm, "no," saying the city flies it only once

a year and doesn't even have to do it then. "When I left there, I was very upset," said Botkin, a

ernment buildings to fly the POW/MIA flag, Weiers called in colleagues David Gowan and David Stevens. More than an hour later, the lawmakers decided to introduce Arizona House Bill 2684, which required the POW/MIA flag to be flown on all days the U.S. flag is flown. The bill was subsequently approved and the law went into effect on July 29, 2010. It affects the following locations:

- The state Capitol building.
- The superior court in each county.
- City or town halls in each city
- County administrative buildings

"I think now when people see this flag every day, it will jog their memories, they will remember those who suffered and those who have yet to come home."

Vietnam vet who served with A Btry., 7th Bn., 11th Field Arty., 25th Inf. Div. "People just don't recognize this flag. I know there are many who don't even know what it is. Too many have closed their eyes to the price being paid by those serving for all of us." One councilman even told Botkin that Huachuca City isn't a military community.

"I thought, "what difference does that make," Botkin recalled. "Besides, that's not even true. Fort Huachuca (home of the U.S. Army Intelligence Center) is located here."

Botkin took his frustration and turned it into a personal crusade. He scheduled an appointment with state Rep. Jerry Weiers and traveled to Phoenix for what was supposed to be a 15-minute meeting. After Botkin issued his plea for a state law requiring gov-

The law states that when the Arizona flag is flown on the same staff as the U.S. flag, the order shall be: U.S. flag, Arizona flag and then the POW/MIA flag. Botkin wanted the black and white flag flown directly under the U.S. flag, but says he's just happy that it will fly throughout the state daily.

"I think now when people see this flag every day, it will jog their memories," Botkin said. "They will remember those who suffered and those who have yet to come home."

He said he was told Arizona is the first state in the country to pass such a law. Urging VFW members to follow his lead, Botkin said he hopes similar laws are passed in every state.

"I have shown that one person can make difference," he said. "If you just believe in what you are doing and follow through with it."

Ken Buckley



During the past ten years as your Department Chaplain for the State of Arizona, I have had the pleasure of working with so many warm and caring comrades and sisters and, although, I would like to list all of you, there are just too many. I am very proud of you all ! Without the help and patience of our current and past Commanders, I never would have made it... What I am trying to say to all of you is:

"Thank You!"

Sincerely, Ken Buckley

VISIT
WWW.VFWAZ.ORG/
FOR ALL OF YOUR
VFW NEEDS



Fact: We Can't Help Our Heroes *Without You*

Next time you receive a mailing from VFW or Ladies Auxiliary VFW, please don't set it aside.

Veterans, service members and their families need us desperately right now.

Your gifts stay right here in our state, supporting our programs. We need loyal members like you to make our state programs possible.

