



# **\*\* VALOR \*\***

**George E. Smith Post 7142, VFW**

**P.O. Box #1251**

**San Clemente, CA 92674-1251**

**JAN-FEB-MAR 2014 – 2015**

**Volume III Issue 2014/15-3**

## **COMMANDER'S COMMENTS**



**IT IS A BRAND NEW YEAR WITH LOTS OF HOPE FOR OUR COUNTRY AND OUR MILITARY AND VETERANS.** The VFW and your membership support the future of the military and veterans by monitoring the pay and benefits . Through the VFW organization and our voices to the our legislatures, we can impact the laws and budgets that matter most to us to keep our Military strong and ready and provide the training and benefits that are needed by our active duty forces. Let us not forget what was promised to the Veterans .

**Thank you All for your Service to your Country and your Continued Service to Support Veterans, their Families, and Orphans.** Our Post has done very well in 2014 to accomplish our Goals and Objectives and we still have time until end of June to do more. Thank you all who participated for a Fantastic Veterans Day Poppy Drive. We have about \$3500 more to make Budget with the Upcoming Poppy Drive. Why stop there? The more we make the more we can help our military, veterans, widows and orphans.

**Speaking of Memorial Day and our Poppy Campaign, please mark your calendars now for the week end of 23, 24, and 25. 2015.** If each one of us would volunteer 4 hours, it would make the load lighter for all.

**The new Co- Chairmen**

**Mike Turner, Senior Vice and Terrell DeVoe, Trustee and Hospital Chairman, have stepped up to the plate to organize and set up.** Mike will be preparing the schedule of workers and Terrell will be eliciting your help to set up and take down tables every day. I will be on vacation at this time, so please help with the work load. A big thank you to Francis Reyes, who for the last three years has set up and taken down at Ralphs Camino de Los, while working on the Saturday at the bank. He also works an eight hour shift on Sunday. Thank you to Jim Carson and Don Young who have worked for years setting up and taking down at the Albertson's. Jim also worked a 4 hour shift alone. Then there are two of members that are always out their every year and have also worked alone - Bob Thole and Sam Thorndyke. Both had other commitments this past Veterans Day, but when I called them Friday night to help me out – they said YES. Then there is Alex Neil, always ready to set up Stater's Brothers and staff a 4 hour Table. He also counts and bags the money – makes the spread sheets and does the banking - Thank you Alex. Please Remember this is the only fund raiser that we do so that we can have a healthy budget to meet our Veterans and their families' needs. A very big Thank you to our Valley Forge Naval Sea Cadets whose augmentation of the Poppy Tables served to increase our revenue. The patrons loved them in their full Military Attire. Not to mention their youth and good looks. Maybe we need uniforms?????

**My continued Mantra every meeting is Recruit, Retain and Support our Veterans' Programs.**

**Speaking of members, if each of you would recruit one new member, it would share the workload, increase revenue, and continue our status as All State Post and maybe All American. I welcome all our new members who have joined this wonderful Post to help preserve the memory of those that fought and gave the ultimate sacrifice for us and our great Country.**

**Blessings and Semper Fi Dee**



**B-Day: 6/14/1775**



**B-Day: 11/10/1775**



**B-Day: 10/13/1775**



**B-Day: 9/18/1947**



**B-Day: 8/4/1790**



## **Now Hear This**

### **SELECTED SERVICE, THE DRAFT and YOUR 18 YEAR OLD**

There has not been a military draft in the United States since the 1970s, but nevertheless, young men are **required to register** with the federal Selective Service when they turn 18, or within 30 days of that birthday. If military conscription is ever resumed again, these men, ages 18-25, will form the draft pool. As a parent, you probably have plenty of questions, so here are answers to most common queries.

1. How does one register? Young men may register online at the **Selective Service web site** or by mail, using a Selective Service postcard available at any post office. Your son will need to have his Social Security number handy.
2. How precise is that 30-day rule? Young men may register up to 30 days after their 18th birthdays, but they can also do it online as early as three months after their 17th birthday. The Selective Service holds them, then processes the paperwork a month before the big birthday and sends out a confirmation card.
3. What if my son is here on a student visa? If he is not an immigrant, then nope. He need not register. ***(But all young male immigrants must register, whether they are documented or not.)***
4. What about my daughter? No, young women do not need to register at this time. And yes, that sounds odd, since women serve in the military, but that's the way the law is written. The law underwent a review by the Supreme Court in 1981 and was reviewed again by the Department of Defense in 1994. Doubtless the issue will be reviewed again at some point, **but as of 2013, women need not register.**
5. What happens if my 18-year-old son does not register? It's a felony to not register. **The punishment includes fines of up to \$250,000 and up to five years in prison.**
6. Are there other penalties? The Selective Service and drivers license application systems are linked in 40 states. You cannot get a driver's license if you have not registered. In all 50 states, students who fail to register are **not eligible for student loans or college grants**, government jobs or federally funded job training. And immigrants who do not register may be denied citizenship.
7. Is anyone exempt? All men, ages 18-25, must register, including conscientious objectors and the disabled. If the draft is reinstated, they can register their objections or handicaps then. Immigrants, including illegal aliens, refugees and men in this country on green cards, are required to register as well. There are a very few exceptions, including young men already on full-time, active military duty, and men in hospitals, mental institutions or in jail, but they must register within 30 days of release.
8. What if we move? You don't need to worry about moves from home to dorm to frat, et al. But you should register changes of permanent address at **the Selective Service web site.**

# COMRADE PROFILES



## **Don Prideaux.**

Don was born Dec. 11, 1931 and lived in Minneapolis until 1945 when his family moved to Glendale. Upon graduating from Glendale High School in 1950, he enlisted in the Naval Reserve and also attended Glendale Community College. While in the Reserve he was first assigned as ground crew in a Hellcat squadron and then to a Grumman Avenger squadron as ground and flight crew (rear gunner). In 1952 he was activated and served on the carrier, USS Princeton when the carrier did a one year tour of duty in Korea. He was part of the crew fueling the planes and making napalm. Upon discharge in 1954 he entered USC and graduated in Jan 1957. Don retired at age 65 after spending 40 years in corporate accounting. He has been married over 57 years to Janet and together raised three children. Don joined the Post in August 2014, immediately signing on as a Life Member.

---



**Terrell R. DeVoe:** He was born in Cocoa Beach, FL and joined the Marines in July 1968 attending Recruit Training at Parris Island, SC. He is a graduate of Food Service Basic Course at Camp Lejeune, NC; Instructor Development Course at Fort Lee, VA. He earned his B.A. in Human Resources and his M.B.A. from Saint Leo Univ. in Florida. His first duty assignment was Edison Range Area, Camp Pendleton as a Food Service Specialist, including stints at Marine barracks in Washington, D.C. He held numerous billets as the Marine Aide to the Commander-in-Chief, US Central Command (Tampa, FL) and with the Commanding General, Marine Corps Installation West

(Camp Pendleton). Terrell also trained soldiers and marines at Fort Lee as Chief Instructor on the Army Culinary Arts Team. His awards & citations include: Meritorious Service Medal, Navy/Marine Corps Commendation Medal, Iraq Campaign Medal, Global War on Terrorism Medal, National Defense Service Medal to name a few. He retired from active duty in January 2009 as a Master Sergeant and resides in San Clemente with his wife, Wendy, and two sons, Darian and Adrian. Terrell is a dependable comrade of our Post, serving as the Post Surgeon and in the Trustee #1 position. His participation in Post Buddy Poppy drives has provided an added benefit to the Post.

(Profiles continued on Page 5)

---

---

## THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where he stands at times of challenge and controversy.

Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

---

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Leo Block, US Navy, WWII and Korea Vet

Irving Slater, Army Air Corps, WWII, transferred in as a Life Member

Ricardo Nicol, US Army retired, Afghanistan Vet.

William T. Tilson, USMC

---

## **Who Said That?**

"I am not bound to win, but I am bound to be true. I am not bound to succeed, but I am bound to live by the light that I have. I must stand with anybody that stands right, stand with him while he is right, and part with him when he goes wrong."

Abraham Lincoln

What counts is not necessarily the size of the dog in the fight – it's the size of the fight in the dog"

General Dwight D. Eisenhower

"Some of you young men think that war is all glamour and glory, but let me tell you, boys, it is all hell!"

General William T. Sherman

"We sleep safely at night because rough men stand ready to visit violence on those who would harm us."

– Winston Churchill

---

## IMPORTANT DATES

1. Jan 27: Signing of Vietnam Peace Accord in 1973.
2. Jan 17: Persian Gulf War began, 1991.
3. Feb 1: National Freedom Day
4. Feb 8: Boy Scouts founded, 1910.
5. Mar 3: Star-Spangled Banner made U.S. National Anthem, 1931.
6. Mar 8: Daylight Savings Time begins.
7. Mar 12: Girl Scouts of USA founded, 1912.
8. Mar 19: Iraq War began, 2003.
9. Mar 24: Kosovo Campaign began, 1999.
10. Mar 25: National Medal of Honor Day



## *In Memoriam*

It is with deep regret that we recognize the passing of Frank E. Denison, a Life Member of our Post.

Frank joined our Post #7142 on October 6, 1982 and was a Post member for over 32 years. He served as Post Commander for multiple years and was also District #2 Commander, also qualifying as an All State District #2 Commander, in 1989—1990. Senior members of our Post will long remember Frank's stories recounting aspects of his combat experiences during WWII and his participation in the Normandy Invasion as a member of the 101st Airborne Division. He was a Purple Heart holder. Frank was 90 years old. He will truly be missed on his transfer to the Post Everlasting.



## **UPCOMING EVENTS:**

**March 11, 2015:** Regular Post #7142 meeting where officer nominations are made for the coming year of Jul 1, 2015 to Jun 30, 2016. Elections will follow at the Post meeting on April 8, 2015. If our Post is to survive it is imperative that brave new blood step forward and help our cause. A few dedicated souls cannot bear the burden, year after year.



### **WHO WILL STEP FORWARD TO RELIEVE THOSE THAT HAVE SERVED SO LONG?**

## **COMRADE PROFILES**

**(Continued from Page 3)**

### **Irving L. Slater and his late wife, Viola**



Irv was born in Los Angeles and graduated from Alhambra High School in 1943. Completed basic training in Wichita Falls, TX, then sent to CTD (College Training Detachment) in Jamestown, North Dakota for Officers Training and Aeronautics school for about 6 weeks. Then off to Aerial Gunnery School in Kingman, AZ for 6 weeks. From there he was sent to Flying and Navigation school in San Marcos, TX, (Randolph Field), where he was hospitalized for a strep throat. They re-assigned him to the 813<sup>th</sup> Engineering Aviation Battalion at Geiger Army Airfield in Spokane, WA where he became a heavy equipment operator. They were shipped out for the Invasion of Okinawa in April of 1945. Codenamed "Operation Iceberg". He was awarded the Asiatic Pacific Campaign Medal, American Campaign Medal and World War II Victory medal. He had to join the 452<sup>nd</sup> Bombardment Wing on reserve status as a Corporal and signed a Category R contract to remain there. In August 1950 the commanding General broke their contracts, ordered the 452<sup>nd</sup> to active service when the Korean War broke out, moved the wing to Itazuke Air Base in Japan in October and began B-26 combat operations over Korea against communist forces. They then moved to Miho Air Base in December. Irv was assigned to the 730<sup>th</sup> Bomber Squadron where they flew medium-level armed reconnaissance, interdiction bombing and close air support sorties. As part of the 3 man crew on the B-26 Invader he was the Senior Turret Specialist or Aerial Gunner and also shot aerial photographs of their reconnaissance missions. He and his crew were awarded "Hero" plaques for completing the 1000<sup>th</sup> sortie of the squadron. On their 13<sup>th</sup> mission in February 1951, his plane, the "Miss Sharon II" sustained anti-aircraft fire to one of the engines, it caught fire and fell off. The pilot managed to crash land the plane back across friendly lines but Irv had to bail out in the area between North and South Korea known as "No Man's Land". He jumped out the bomb bay door and was wounded by shrapnel fire that hit his back and broke his ribs as he parachuted down. He found some Korean children who led him to a South Korean Police patrol that saw their plane get shot down. On this mission they also had a 4<sup>th</sup> man, a crew chief who jumped but they were too low by that time and his chute didn't open so he was killed. After a two and a half hour walk he and the police patrol came upon some U.S. Army combat engineers working on the road. They gave him and the patrol a ride in their truck over to where the plane was. It was pretty well burned up and no sign of the pilot and navigator. The police found out from some other villagers nearby that another patrol took them to Suwon Air Base. The engineers took him there also where he found that they had already been flown back to Miho in Japan. After some deserved R&R and a promotion to Sergeant, Irv and his crew went back on flight status and flew another 37 missions for a total of 50. In one of their most important missions they supported the 187<sup>th</sup> Airborne Infantry Regiment's mass parachute drop over North Korean lines at Munsan-ni in March. In September 1951 he made it home and discharged for good at March Air Force Base. He was awarded the Air Medal for combat, the Korean Service Medal, the FEAF Group Medal (Japan) and the Purple Heart. His wife Viola of almost 60 years of marriage passed away in 2012. She was also a veteran of World War II in the U.S. Coast Guard. She was one of the first SPARS and served from 1941 to 1946 in the intelligence branch in Washington D.C.



Veterans of Foreign Wars  
George E. Smith Post #7142  
P.O. Box #1251  
San Clemente, CA 92674-1251



## VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS

George E. Smith Post #7142

*"We honor the dead by serving the living"*

Web-site: [www.vfw7142.com](http://www.vfw7142.com)

Phone: 949-464-8391

E-mail: [info@VFW7142.com](mailto:info@VFW7142.com)

Facebook: [www.vfw7142.com](http://www.vfw7142.com)

### POST OFFICERS:

Commander:	Dolores J. Padgett
Sr. Vice Comdr:	Mike Turner
Jr. Vice Comdr:	Wayne Greenleaf
Quartermaster:	Alex J. Neil
Chaplain:	Michael Wiechman
Adjutant:	Wayne Greenleaf
Judge Advocate:	Alex J. Neil
Surgeon:	Terrell DeVoe
Trustee #3:	Francis Reyes
Trustee #2:	Barry Trauger
Trustee #1:	Terrell DeVoe
Officer of the Day:	James Ferguson
Service Officer:	Michael Wiechman

