



Bert Black Jr. Post 7400 Warrior Journal

Veterans of Foreign Wars

Volume 13 Edition 1
January 2016

From the Commander's Desk

Hello Comrades:

I am continuing to recover from my recent surgery and look forward to returning to my Post activities as soon as is allowed.

I wish all Comrades and Auxiliary members a happy, healthy and prosperous New Year!

In Comradeship,

Alan R. Tobish
Post Commander



*The blind daughter of a deceased veteran of WWII, ETO, sent us the following letter:

I am the daughter Lt. Carl Kiefer, a veteran of the 'Battle of the Bulge' who served with the 82nd and 101st Airborne.

I am personally experiencing a health crisis. Because of the severity of my condition my father would strongly suggest that I reach out to the veteran community for help.

I am in renal failure and need of a kidney from a living donor. I am asking that you, your friends and family consider becoming a donor and provide the kidney that could save my life.

You do not know me, and I know I am asking for a great gift. But I feel I know the character of veterans and their willingness to help others, especially other veterans and their families, through my dad.

My insurance and out-of-pocket compensation will cover all costs. For more information, please contact my husband, Dennis Ladd, at 928-634-0868.

God bless you, Barbara Ladd

(This letter was edited for clarity and not content. Editor.)

Inside this issue

Auxiliary 2

Fallen Comrades and Sisters 2

Service Officer's Corner 3

VFW National and Arizona News 4

Post 7400 Calendar 5

Contact Numbers 6

Special Items of Interest

VA Makes Changes to Veterans Choice Program
Page 3

Tony Mangine, Past AZ VFW State Commander (2013-14) passed away from a heart attack on Friday Dec.4, 2015.

Cards and condolences can be sent to :
The Mangine Family
30203 E. Palo Verde
Wellton, Arizona 85365



From The Auxiliary President's Desk

HAPPY NEW YEAR! I hope all had a wonderful Thanksgiving and Christmas. We have been very busy during the months of November and December. Our Lunch in the Lounge, Friday December 4th, was Chili and corn bread. It was well attended and sold out (next time will have to make two big pots). The meeting in December was well attended by current members and there were some new members also in attendance. We supported four families for Christmas. In addition we are working with Haven and Austin House to provide items for our veterans who are there.



Now on to January: The Lunch in the Lounge has been changed from January 1st to January 8th, so please change your calendars. We will be having Chicken Pot Pie, and dessert.

The initiation for all new members is on January 27th. Please mark this event on your calendars. I would love to have all of you present for this special ceremony. It will start at 11:00 a.m. with lunch to follow. If you have any questions please call me. All new members who have not been initiated will be receiving invitations.

Please remember the following dates: 1/8 lunch in the lounge, 1/11 Auxiliary Meeting, 1/19 Spaghetti Dinner, and 1/16 the Specialty Dinner. On 1/6 and 1/20 Tacos will be served in the lounge. Come and let us do the cooking and clean up. Through your participation in these events you provide very important support to the Post and the Auxiliary. Have a wonderful year.

Helping our Veterans,

Pam Van Winkle
Auxiliary President

A reminder! When sending correspondence to the Auxiliary by mail please address it to:
Auxiliary, Post 7400, P.O. Box 3944, Cottonwood, AZ 86326

Fallen Comrades 2013 - 2016

We are saddened by the passing of our comrades:

A. Cluff
J. Flammia
G. Gocha
O. Gregory
J. McDowell
W. Mitchell
C. Self

C. Smith
F. Spencer
W. Villa
W. Watson
A. Willis

The following comrades are fondly remembered:

L. Atkisson

H. Bean
L. Best
W. Boley
H. Herring, Jr.
D. Johnston
V. Mayer
G. Murray
R. Ochoa
D. Rhodes



Fallen Sisters 2013 - 2015

We are saddened by the passing of our sisters:

Anita Bennett
Susan Biddle
Evelyn Kelly
Burnetta Ooley
Dorothea Sue Rostatter

Bonnie Rognholt
Jennifer Tobish
Bonnie Yarger

The following sisters are fondly remembered:

Beulah Helgeson
Eleanor Hull

Lois Kellenbenz
Vivian Schlagel
Shirley Straube



Service Officer's Corner

VA Makes Changes to Veterans Choice Program

Changes Remove Barriers and Expands Access to Care

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) today announced a number of changes to make participation in the Veterans Choice Program easier and more convenient for Veterans who need to use it. The move, which streamlines eligibility requirements, follows feedback from Veterans along with organizations working on their behalf.

“As we implement the Veterans Choice Program, we are learning from our stakeholders what works and what needs to be refined,” said VA Secretary Robert A. McDonald. “It is our goal to do all that we can to remove barriers that separate Veterans from the care they deserve.” To date, more than 400,000 medical appointments have been scheduled since the Veterans Choice Program went into effect on November 5, 2014.

Under the old policy, a Veteran was eligible for the Veterans Choice Program if he or she met the following criteria:

- Enrolled in VA health care by 8/1/14 or able to enroll as a combat Veteran to be eligible for the Veterans Choice Program.
- Experienced unusual or excessive burden eligibility determined by geographical challenges, environmental factors or a medical condition impacting the Veteran's ability to travel.
- Determined eligible based on the Veteran's current residence being more than 40 miles driving distance from the closest VA medical facility.

Under the updated eligibility requirements, a Veteran is eligible for the Veterans Choice Program if he or she is enrolled in the VA health care system and meets at least one of the following criteria:

- Told by his or her local VA medical facility that they will not be able to schedule an appointment for care within 30 days of the date the Veteran's physician determines he/she needs to be seen or within 30 days of the date the Veteran wishes to be seen if there is no specific date from his or her physician.
- Lives more than 40 miles driving distance from the closest VA medical facility with a full-time primary care physician.
- Needs to travel by air, boat or ferry to the VA medical facility closest to his/her home.
- Faces an unusual or excessive burden in traveling to the closest VA medical facility based on geographic challenges, environmental factors, a medical condition, the nature or simplicity or frequency of the care needed and whether an attendant is needed. Staff at the Veteran's local VA medical facility will work with him or her to determine if the Veteran is eligible for any of these reasons.

or

- Lives in a State or Territory without a full-service VA medical facility which includes: Alaska, Hawaii, New Hampshire (Note: this excludes New Hampshire Veterans who live within 20 miles of the White River Junction VAMC) and the United States Territories (excluding Puerto Rico, which has a full service VA medical facility).

Veterans seeking to use the Veterans Choice Program or wanting to know more about it, can call 1 866-606-8198 to confirm their eligibility and to schedule an appointment.



VFW National and Arizona News

HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM THE VFW

THANK YOU FOR ALLOWING US THIS TIME TOGETHER

The season of giving is upon us once again. For many of us, 'tis the season of joy, peace and happiness. We gather with friends, family and those closest to us to share in a number of cheerful festivities, grateful for the time we're able to spend together.

From the comfort and safety of our own homes, we'll celebrate the holidays and ring in the new year. But more than 200,000 Americans will spend this sacred time in over 150 foreign countries and at sea, separated from family and friends at great distances. For these Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, Marines and Coast Guardsmen, Christmas dinner and the stroke of midnight to ring in the new year will be met only by the memories of the traditional sights, sounds and smells of the occasion.

While our deployed service members commemorate the holidays in their own ways, any veteran who has been deployed during this time will tell you, 'it's just not the same.' This is one of the many sacrifices that our service members, as well as their families make in order to protect and defend our way of life.

This time of year also brings with it unique difficulties for the countless veterans who have returned from their wars, but still bear the wounds both physically and emotionally, as well as for the families who have lost a loved one to America's wars.

We ask that each VFW member, and those who are part of our extended network, to take time over the coming weeks to reach out to a veteran or military family member you may know, extend your warmest wishes to them and thank them for all they've sacrificed.

We wish every service member, veteran and military family a very happy and safe holiday season. And we thank you for all you've sacrificed to ensure we're able to freely spend this time with those we love.



Warrior Journal

Volume 13 Edition 1

January 2016

Page 5

JANUARY 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 10:00 a.m. Koffe Klatch 7:00 p.m. Post Meeting	2
3 12:30 p.m. Bingo 7:00 p.m. Karaoke in the Lounge	4 Service Officer 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m	5 Service Officer 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m	6 3:00 - 6:00 p.m. Tacos in the Lounge	7 8:00 a.m. Post Work Day 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Service Officer in Sedona 5:00 p.m. Karaoke in the Lounge	8 11:30 a.m. Auxiliary Luncheon	9 Post Breakfast 8:00 a.m.- 10:00 a.m.
10 12:30 p.m. Bingo 7:00 p.m. Karaoke in the Lounge	11 Service Officer 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m 2:00 p.m. Auxiliary Meeting	12 Service Officer 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m	13	14 8:00 a.m. Post Work Day 8:00 a.m. Quilters Meeting 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Service Officer in Sedona 5:00 p.m. Karaoke in the Lounge	15	16 5:00 p.m. Specialty Dinner
17 12:30 p.m. Bingo 7:00 p.m. Karaoke in the Lounge	18 Service Officer 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m	19 Service Officer 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m 5:00 p.m. Spaghetti Dinner	20 3:00 - 6:00 p.m. Tacos in the Lounge	21 8:00 a.m. Post Work Day 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Service Officer in Sedona 5:00 p.m. Karaoke in the Lounge	22	23
24 12:30 p.m. Bingo 7:00 p.m. Karaoke in the Lounge	25 Service Officer 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m	26 Service Officer 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m	27 Flag Raising 11:00 a.m. 1973 Vietnam Peace Accord Signing Auxiliary New Member Initiation 11:00 a.m.	28 8:00 a.m. Post Work Day 8:00 a.m. Quilters Meeting 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Service Officer in Sedona 5:00 p.m. Karaoke in the Lounge	29	30
31 12:30 p.m. Bingo 7:00 p.m. Karaoke in the Lounge						

Veterans of Foreign Wars



Bert Black Jr. Post 7400
 P.O. Box 689
 Cottonwood, AZ 86326
 Phone: (928) 634-9769
 Fax: (928) 649-3714
 www.vfwpost7400.org
 admin@vfwpost7400.org



NON-PROFIT ORG
 U.S. POSTAGE PAID
 COTTONWOOD, AZ 86336
 PERMIT NO. 49



Bert Black Jr. Post 7400 Officers for 2015 - 2016

January Dates to Remember	Commander	A. Tobish	284-8820	President	P. Van Winkle	300-6968
January 1 Koffee Klatch 10 a.m.	Sr. Vice Cdr.	L. Stover	634-6348	Sr. Vice	L. White	221-2703
Post Meeting 7 p.m.	Jr. Vice Cdr.	J. Razo	634-6617	Jr. Vice	B. Luce	649-2129
January 8 Lunch in The Lounge 11:30 a.m.	Quartermaster	T. Nester	639-4616	Treasurer	V. Tobish	649-1897
January 9 Post Breakfast 8:30 a.m.	Adjutant	T. Nester	639-4616	Secretary	V. Davis	202-9548
January 11 Auxiliary Meeting 2 p.m.	Chaplain	J. Bryan	649-0642	Chaplain	P. Wright (480)	748-0796
January 16 Specialty Dinner 5:00 p.m.	Judge Advocate	G. Rekow	634-2722	Conductress	D. Norvell	646-5232
January 19 Spaghetti Dinner 5 p.m.	Surgeon	R. Powell	646-6492	Guard	B. Kuzala	646-7166
January 27 Flag Raising 11:00 a.m. Vietnam Peace Accord Signing 1973	Guard	A. Gallegos	634-5802	1 Year Trustee	J. Strande	649-3374
Auxiliary Initiation 11:00 a.m.	1 Year Trustee	D. Finney	639-1526	2 Year Trustee	R. Sperry	639-4753
	2 Year Trustee	E. Uzumecikis	202-2193	3 Year Trustee	S. Whitacre	567-7409
	3 Year Trustee	R. Luce	649-2129	Patr. Instructor	J. Strande	649-3374

Proudly Serving

Service Officers: Ron Luce, Tommy Nester, and Ed Uzumecikis, PhD
 Service Office Hours: Monday and Tuesday 9 a.m.-12 p.m., Thursday 9 a.m.-1 p.m. in Sedona,
 or by appointment.
 House Committee: Don Finney, Bob Powell, Tommy Nester, Al Tobish, Ron Luce, Larry Stover,
 John Razo, and Art Gallegos, Meeting 11:30 a.m. Thursdays
 Work Days: Thursday 8:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m., Phone: 634-9769
 Bingo Manager: Ron Luce
 Bingo Hours: Sunday 12:30 p.m. - 4:15 p.m., Phone: 634-9769
 Honor Guard Commander: Larry Stover, Phone: 634-6348
 Lounge Manager: T. Nester, Phone 639-4616
 Newsletter Editor: Ed Uzumecikis, PhD - Email: editor@vfwpost7400.org, Phone: 202-2193