

December 2020 Post Newsletter

WesternSpringsVFW.org

Commander's Stuff

By Esteban Lopez

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November is almost gone and we feel the strong winds of autumn settling in. Warm days are becoming another memory as we prepare for the frigid days of winter.

The upside is that November marks the beginning of the holiday season. Nov. 10 is the Marines birthday and Nov. 11 is Veterans Day also known as Armistice Day. This year we celebrated the 245th anniversary of the Marines and 102nd anniversary of the armistice signed between the Allies of World War I and Germany for the cessation of hostilities on the Western Front of World War I. And Nov. 26 is our harvest festival with the culmination of the family dinner we call Thanksgiving.

December is fast approaching with other holidays, and as we get closer to those days, lets take time to think about our blessings this year. Although we have lost some comrades this year, we still can honor them by continuing our job of supporting our veterans.

This year, the holidays may be harsher for some because of the current state of the pandemic. Many of our comrades

Save the Dates

Dec. 8th – 7:30 p.m. **Post Regular meeting** at Grace Lutheran Church
Dec. 11th – deadline for January newsletter
Jan. 12th – 7:30 p.m. **Post Regular meeting** at Grace Lutheran Church

and friends might feel isolated for the lack of family contact, travel restrictions, and boundaries imposed by COVID-19. Remember to send a message via text, email or place a call to check that all is well. Greetings cards may be of special significance this year as we share a little of ourselves with others. Probably a gesture of kindness can change someone's life.

VA News

Resources for veterans

Caregivers will now be included in veterans' health care teams, VA Secretary Wilkie announced on Oct. 19 as part of the Inclusive Care Program. The Elizabeth Dole Foundation also offers no-cost, short-term aid from at-home care professionals to help with bathing, cooking, exercising, transportation and companionship, among other tasks. Caregivers in every

state can now apply for no-cost professional caregiver support made possible through the cooperation and donations of CareLinx, Wounded Warrior Project, AARP and the VA.

NCA unveils “Find A Veteran, Post A Tribute” campaign

VA’s National Cemetery Administration (NCA) launched its new “Find A Veteran, Post A Tribute” campaign. The effort intends to increase awareness of the Veterans Legacy Memorial (VLM) – the nation’s first digital platform dedicated entirely to memorializing more than 3.7 million veterans interred in VA’s national cemeteries. For more information visit www.va.gov/remember.

See you at our next meeting

Ad Maiora

Quartermaster Report

By Mike Winner

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Statement of funds as of 11/10/20:

Post General Fund	\$6,362.73
Post Relief Fund	10,410.10
TOTAL:	\$16,772.83

Flag etiquette

How long and for whom is our nation’s flag lowered to half mast as a gesture of mourning? Thirty days following the death of a current President or President-elect is the longest period of mourning as prescribed under Title 4 of the United States Code. Our flag is lowered for presidents, vice presidents, former and current state officials, and members of the armed forces who have died in active duty. We also lower our flag for Memorial Day

until noon. And on Sept. 11, we remember the attacks on 2001.

As of this writing, Illinois has been at half staff for EIGHT MONTHS because “It’s the right thing to do” as deemed by the Governor of Illinois. Will lowering our flag have the same meaning following his eventual decree to raise our flag? If interested, voice your opinion at:

<https://www2.illinois.gov/sites/gov/contactus/Pages/VoiceAnOpinion.aspx>

Semper Fidelis!

Hospital Chairman Report

By Walt Bergenthal

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Our sympathy to the family of Life and Charter Member Jack Lund, who recently passed away. Jack was a Navy medic serving aboard a ship in the Pacific during World War II. He also was a Past Commander of our Post.

Also our condolences to the family of Life Member Jack Schaus who recently passed away. Jack served in the Army in Korea during the Korean War. He was instrumental in selections of the Burr Ridge Patriot Award each May, and he saw to it that the Marines birthday cake was at our November Post meeting in celebration of their anniversary.

Food idiom

Cup of tea: Something that suits a person's disposition. The expression is used in both positive and negative contexts:

"A Mozart concert? Just my cup of tea!"

"A Bears game? Sorry, football is not my cup of tea."