VFW POST 3904 NEWS YOU CAN USE

STEWART-WENDELL DISPATCH

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 2 **NOVEMBER 2022**

VETERANS DAY NOVEMBER 11, 2022

Also known as Armistice Day, Veterans Day is celebrated on November 11 usually at 11AM

Armistice Day is so called to the mark the armistice between the Allies of World War I and Germany at Compiegne, France signed at 5:45am stating hostilities would end of the Western Front of World War I at 11:00am - "the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month" of 1918. The formal peace treaty ending World War 1 was signed in 1919.

In the United States, the name was changed from Armistice Day to Veterans Day. This change was spearheaded by World War II Veteran Raymond Weeks who had the idea to celebrate all veterans not just those from World War I. Weeks then led a delegation to General Dwight D Eisenhower who supported the idea.

President Eisenhower signed the bill into law on June 1, 1954.

Weeks celebrated the first Veterans Day in Birmingham, AL in 1947. He continued the celebrations until his death in 1985. Weeks went on to receive the Presidential Citizenship Medal from President Ronald Regan in 1982.

Please join us on November 11, 2022, at 11AM at Veterans Memorial Park to celebrate veterans and their service to the country.

UPCOMING EVENTS WITH POST 3904

The Post is bringing events in November and December for your enjoyment.

November 12—Burger Burn at Winery on the Bay. Another Chance Rescue will have some dogs up for adoption. Post member Monty will be doing his "have Beer with a Veteran" table.

December 3—Tropical Christmas. Post members will be on the Festival Grounds to answer your questions, provide information and talk to anybody and everybody. We will also have a small Christmas tree raffle.

December 9—Painting with Aubrey. Begins at 5:30PM and bring your favorite bottle of wine. Your $40 ticket price includes all painting supplies.

(continued on page 3)

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- *US Marine Barracks bombing in Beirut Lebanon October 23, 1983*
- *Beginning of Operation Enduring Freedom*
- *Defense POW/MIA Accounting Service*

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

INSIDE STORY	2
INSIDE STORY	2
INSIDE STORY	2
INSIDE STORY	3
INSIDE STORY	4
INSIDE STORY	5
INSIDE STORY	6

VET CENTER EVENT A BIG SUCCESS

Post members at the Vet Center Event

On October 29, 2022, VA sponsored Vet Center of Corpus Christi was at the Post to answer questions and set up referrals for veterans in need of assistance with VA programs. Also in attendance was the Texas Veterans Network. Nine veterans were assisted receiving a total of 15 referrals.

Art Montiel with the Vet Center said his was excited to be on site in a VA underserved County and cannot wait to come back.

There were many who came to the Post to see our new Post home, chat with our members and get a burger or hotdogs at the Burger Burn in the evening.

Post Commander Katy Jackson was thrilled with the event. The Post acquired three new members during the event and their were a few people who just wanted to know what was going on, where we were at with the renovations for the Hall and very interested in progress towards Bingo.

PRESIDENT SIGNS VETERANS LEGISLATION INTO LAW

"VETERANS' GROUP LIFE INSURANCE COVERAGE INCREASES TO $500,000"

"President Biden signed into law two VFW-supported bills. The Solid Start Act requires the VA to reach out to newly separated veterans three times within their first year of separation to check in and help connect them to VA programs and benefits. It is open to all newly separated veterans regardless the type or characterization of service. Finally, Supporting Families of the Fallen Act will increase the automatic maximum coverage under Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance and Veterans' Group Life Insurance from $400,000.00 to $500,000.00."

(https://www.vfw.org/advocacy/grassroots-efforts/vfw-action-corps-weekly)

The Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States continues to support legislation which supports veterans, their spouses and orphans along with legislation which ensures continued improvement in the quality of life of active duty member, reservists and the various National Guards.

SUBMISSIONS RECEIVED FOR YOUTH SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMS

Post 3904 is thrilled to announce the receipt of 122 Patriot Pen entries from the Rockport-Fulton Middle School. The Post also received 22 Voice of Democracy entries from high school students throughout the area. Also received was a Citizenship Teacher entry from Austwell-Tivoli High School

Post Adjutant/Quartermaster Stacey Andrew is the Post's VOD/PP/Teacher Chair. She is thrilled with the response this year.

"These programs help teachers to bring patriotic essays into the schools and provide an avenue to monetary awards and scholarships. The Post members and I are beyond excited with the number of entries received.

Now, the Post will rank all entries with the top two VOD and six Patriot's Pen essays will move on to the District Competition. The winner of each for the District will then move to the State Competition. The winners of the State Competition will move on to the National Competition.

RENOVATION EFFORTS AT THE POST

Renovations are underway at the Post in preparation for the start of Charitable Bingo.

We are in progress of a complete electric installation, building bathrooms, erection of a cash cage/office, insulation removal for furthering spray foam insulation and installation of our HVAC system, audiovisual equipment to support Bingo operations and other minor renovations for the safety and comfort of our patrons.

If you can assist with labor, please email 3904Commander@gmail.com with your name, good contact information and skills you bring to the table.

If you would like to donate to our renovation efforts, we are able to accept cash, checks and checks. You can mail a check to us at PO Box 184 Rockport, TX 78382. Cash should be brought to us at the Post (916 S Bronte Street). Please email to email address above for credit or debt card instructions.

We are working hard to get the Post ready for Bingo operations, Hall rentals, large events and, eventually, a full commercial kitchen.

Post Junior Vice Commander Nick Vegkley dressing out for safe insulation removal

UPCOMING EVENTS

(continue from page 1)

There will be door prizes, a 50/50 raffle and snacks. Only 20 tickets available!

Please go to our Facebook event page for more information.

December 10—Christmas in the District. Come down to the Heritage and do some local Christmas shopping.

The Post will be cooking burgers and a small Christmas tree to raffle. We will have the time we will be in the District soon for this event.

December 17—Christmas with Santa! Santa will be at our Post on December 17 from 9AM—noon. More information and ticket information is available at our event page on Facebook.

Please like out Facebook page and/or follow us on the web at www.vfwpost3904.com.

We look forward to providing more events and things to do with the Post in the year to come!

VFW ACTION CORPS—HOW YOU CAN SUPPORT VFW EFFORTS

The VFW Action Corps in an avenue for grassroots support of VFW actions on Capitol Hill.

By signing up for the VFW Action Corps, you can add your voice to more than 1.5 million veterans to ensure veterans get the benefits they were promised.

On the Grass Roots page, sign up for the Action Corps Weekly to receive weekly updates and alerts of action needed.

The VFW Action Alerts are an easy way for you to contact your Senators and Representative to demand their support on the various legislation which is VFW supported. If you sign up for the Actions Corps Weekly, you will automatically receive the action alerts.

What better way is there to support veterans than to ensure they receive the benefits they were promised?

VFW Post 3904

November 2022

October '22

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

December '22

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

January '23

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
6 Daylight Saving	7	8	9	10	11 Veterans Day Ceremony 11AM Veterans Memorial Park	12 Burger Burn 10am-3pm Winery on the Bay
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21 Post meeting 1900	22	23	24 Thanksgiving	25	26
27	28	29	30			
		Notes Storefront will be closed Nov 11-13 and Nov 24-27 Storefront Hours are 7am-1pm Mon, Wed and Fri 9-11am Tues and Thurs				

ASK THE COMMANDER

Ask the Commander! Commander Katy Jackson will answer questions about Post happening, all things VFW, VA and Veteran.

Please email your questions to 3904Commander@gmail.com. Please indicate if you would like a private answer. Please ensure your email includes your name and City. You full name will not be printed in the Ask the Commander articles.

Question: How can I keep up to date on what is going on at the Post?

Answer: We can be found on Facebook at https://www.facebook.com/VFW.Post.3904 and on the internet at www.vfwpost3904.com

Question: Could you explain the VFW National Home and how can I support their efforts.

Answer: Thank you for the great question!

Founded on January 7, 1925, the VFW National Home assists the VFW pledge to "honor the dead by helping the living". Located on 472 acres of land near Eaton Rapids, Michigan granted by Cattleman Corey Spencer, the VFW National Home gives families of veterans a place to while they rebuild their lives after the loss of their veteran.

The campus currently has 42 single family homes, a museum, scout cabin, child care and early child education center and many other facilities to support those families needing the Home's assist. The Texas VFW House is supported by the VFW and VFW Auxiliary members of Texas.

You can help with a one-time gift, recurring gift and other ways. Please visit https://vfwnationalhome.org for more information.

THE BEIRUT BARRACKS BOMBING OCTOBER 23, 1983

One of the purposes of the VFW is to provide historical information. Of recent significancy is the bombing of the Marine Barracks in Beirut, Lebanon on October 23, 1983.

During the middle of the Lebanese Civil War (1975-1990) between the Israelis and Palestine Liberations Organization (PLO). Though a cease fire had been signed, the assignation of the Lebanese president-elect Bashir Gemayel on September 14, 1982 reignited hostilities.

When US gunships shelled Syrian-backed Druze militias, the peacekeeping forces were deemed to have chosen a side in the Civil War.

On the morning of October 23, 1983, a dump truck with an estimate 12,000 pounds of explosives crashed through the front gates of the US Marine Barracks in Beirut. The explosion moved the building from its foundation and killed 241 Marines and Sailors. This was the largest loss of life for the marine Corps since the Battle of Iwo Jima in 1945.

Within four months of the bombing, parts of the multinational peacekeeping force began to withdraw to ships offshore. The last Marine left Beirut on February 26, 1984.

Long live the memory of the Marines and Sailors who died far from home in the service of their country!

Remains of the US Marine Barracks in Beirut, Lebanon

BEGINNING OF OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM

The events of September 11, 2001, are etched in many of our memories. This act was deemed a declaration of war by President George W Bush's Administration and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO).

In direct retaliation for the lose of almost 3,000 lives, Operation Enduring Freedom launched on October 7, 2001 US and Coalition Forces.

The beginning of the Campaign saw the Taliban regime brought down 102 days after September 11, 2001. The Campaign also saw a serious undermining of Osama bin Laden's Al Qaeda network.

The US and Coalition Forces proceeded to hunt down al-Qaeda and Taliban forces into the mountainous regions of eastern Afghanistan.

Operation Anaconda was begun to continue the efforts and eventually led to the death of Osama bin Laden.

Thank you to everyone who served during Operation Enduring Freedom for your efforts and sacrifice on behalf of a grateful nation

DEFENSE POW/MIA ACCOUNTING AGENCY

The recovery of American service members who went missing or were kept as prisoners of wars overseas in past conflicts is the mission of the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA).

Headquartered on Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam and activated in 2015, the DPAA mission is an integral part of "no one left behind". To aid the mission, the lab in Oahu is the largest forensic anthropological skeletal laboratory in the world.

To date, there are over 81,000 US service members still missing from 1941 to present with about 41,000 of those being lost at sea.

The VFW is diligent in its work to ensure DPAA is always fully funded in the Defense Authorization Act passed every year. Those still listed as missing are a major priority of the VFW and we will not quit until everyone comes home.

For more information on DPAA and its mission, visit their website.

Dr Janet Finlayson of DPAA and US Ambassador Peter Haymond to the Lao PDR look over a recovery operation site in Laos Oct 2022.(credit: SSGT Blake Gonzalez, USAF)

STEWART-WENDELL POST
3904 VETERANS OF FOREIGN
WARS OF THE UNITED STATES

PO Box 184
Rockport, TX 78381

Email: vfw.post.3904@gmail.com

WE ARE ON THE WEB!
WWW.VFWPOST3904.COM

NO ONE DOES MORE FOR VETERANS.

The purposes of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States are patriotic, historical, charitable and educational, and are:

1. To preserve and strengthen comradeship among its members;
2. To assist worthy comrades;
3. To perpetuate the memory and history of our dead and to assist their surviving spouses and orphans;
4. To maintain true allegiance to the Government of the United States and fidelity to its Constitution and laws;
5. To foster true patriotism;
6. To maintain and extend the instructions of American freedom; and
7. To preserve and defend the United States from all enemies.

From: Congressional Charter - Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United Stated. Incorporated on May 28, 1936 and last amended on December 4, 2014

Election Day is November 8, 2022

One of Americans most important civic duties in to vote in elections.

Early voting will be at the Election Administration Office at 602 East Concho Street (enter through side) at the dates and times as listed below

November 1 & 2, 8AM to 5PM

November 3 & 4, 7AM to 7PM

On Election Day, November 8, the polling places will be open 7AM to 7PM at the following locations:

Fulton FD - 401 Googles Cole BLVD Fulton, TX

Rockport GI Forum - 1911 Hardee Street Rockport, TX

Rockport FD - 212 Gagon Street Rockport, TX (use back entrance)

Rockport Service Center - 2751 HWY 35 Bypass Rockport, TX (in the lobby)