

Commander's Corner
Al Masonius (916) 838-0334

The Post is looking forward to another great year. Since we changed our Friday night dinners to Thursday night, they are going very well. I will be on vacation so Connie and Rick Clement will be cooking on September 3rd and September 10th. They are great cooks so please come out and support them. Also, remember there is no dinner on Monday, Labor Day, September 7th.

We have many programs that need your support. So come to the meetings and see how the members can help.

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HALLOWEEN
Dinner & Dance
October 31, 2009

Costumes Welcomed
Tri-Tip Dinner
6:00 pm

Live Band
Music at 7:00 pm
"Band to be Announced"

Advance Tickets \$15
(at the door \$20)
Purchase Your Tickets at the Bar

Fair Oaks VFW
8990 Kruithof Way
Fair Oaks, CA
(916) 966-1663

**American Legion Post 383
Commander Bill Heilmann (916) 802-5271**

Our Hawaiian Night dinner party will take place on Saturday, October 24. This will be our major fundraising effort for the year. We'll have a delicious Hawaiian-style dinner, and entertainment will be provided by the Hapa Haole Hula Dancers. Hawaiian Night is open to everyone, so plan on bringing your friends and family to this fun-filled event...and be sure to wear your best Hawaiian shirt!

We could use your assistance with decorating the hall, selling tickets, distributing flyers, and obtaining donated door/raffle prizes from local businesses. Please consider volunteering an hour or two of your time. Contact Ray Howe (725-8490), Ron Stadtman (390-6785), or me if you can help out. Remember to visit our Post website at www.AL383.org. Visit often, and stay informed.

Patriot's Pen

2009-2010 Theme

“When is the Right Time to Honor Our Military Heroes?”

Entry Deadline Nov. 1, 2009

Patriot's Pen, a youth-essay writing contest endorsed by the National Association of Secondary School Principals' contest criteria, 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.

For more information contact VFW National Headquarters or Dr. George Gridley at Post 6158, 8990 Kruithof Way, Fair Oaks, CA 95628, (916) 966-1663, your local VFW Post.

Student Information:

Students can enter by submitting the required entry form, along with their essay, to Post 6158, the local VFW Post.

You may also call the VFW National Programs office during normal business hours at 816-968-1117. Mail entry form and essay to Post 6158, 8990 Kruithof Way, Fair Oaks, CA 95628,

*Historically, the theme (annually chosen by the VFW commander-in-chief) is purposely kept broad in scope to allow the participant flexibility in interpretation to encourage originality. Since the VFW is a patriotic organization, the annual theme always will be related to patriotism.

Voice of Democracy

2009-2010 Theme

“Does America Still Have Heroes?”

Entry Deadline Nov. 1, 2009

Created in 1947, the Voice of Democracy (VOD) scholarship program is an audio-essay contest for high school students in grades 9-12 that annually provides more than \$3 million in scholarships. The first-place winner, who competes with all the first-place VFW Department 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., sponsored by Target.

The VOD program is endorsed by the National Association of Secondary School Principals' contest criteria and is designed to foster patriotism by allowing students the opportunity to voice their opinion in a three to five minute essay based on an annual theme.

How to Enter:

Students can enter by submitting the required entry form (click on the link in the gray bar on the right), along with their essay and recording to Post 6158, 8990 Kruithof Way, Fair Oaks, CA 95628, the local VFW Post.. Mail entry form and audio essay to Post 6158, 8990 Kruithof Way, Fair Oaks, CA 95628, the local VFW post. Further directions are listed on the entry form.

For more information or questions, contact Dr. George Gridley at Post 6158, 8990 Kruithof Way, Fair Oaks, CA 95628, (916) 966-1663, your local VFW Post.

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Teacher of the Year Award

The VFW's National Citizenship Education Teachers' Award recognizes the nation's top elementary, junior high and high school teachers who teach citizenship education topics regularly and promote America's history and traditions. Nearly 1,000 teachers are from every state, the District of Columbia and overseas. Fellow teachers, supervisors or other interested individuals can submit nominations by November 1, Post 6158, 8990 Kruithof Way, Fair Oaks, CA 95628, your local Post.

VFW's National citizenship education teacher awards include:

\$1,000 cash award for professional development to each of the top K-5, 6-8 and 9-12 teachers;

\$1,000 award for each winning teacher's school; and

Plaques for both the winning teacher and school.

Ladies Auxiliary President

Jan Jordan (916) 838-2348

Father's Day Breakfast was a big success. I want to thank all the ladies that helped and of course our Commander Al, who did the cooking.

The State President and Commander and 17th District officers, as their hosts visited our Post. They enjoyed a nice lunch with the help of Al, Connie, Jean, Maree, Shirley and I. Al and I gave them a tour of our Memorial where they took a lot of pictures for the State Commander's album.

Please plan to attend our meeting on September 8th at 7 p.m. It is our yearly inspection with 17th District President, Rebecca Pellechi.

We are in the process of obtaining a building permit to cover our 40 x 40 concrete slab and turning it into a nice pavilion. We hope to eventually add a built-in barbecue.

There is a Halloween Party dinner/dance being planned for October 31st. Hope to see you there.

Auxiliary News

Remember, we are saving Campbell's UPC's and 'Box tops for Education' from General Mills products for the Children's National Home. Also, we will collect the store coupons again, that you get out of the Sunday paper, clipped or not. Then they will be sent to military families overseas. They can be 3-4 months expired. There is an envelope on the bulletin board for your convenience for all these items.

We send our condolences to Bob and Terri Collette. Bob's sister recently passed away. And sadly we announce the death of Auxiliary member, Gerry Stokesberry. Dottie Beirn is back home after surgery. Get well soon, Dottie. Launay Evans is awaiting surgery. Good luck Launay.

We are getting ready to start our membership drive for 2010. Hopefully we will have 100% after our Early Bird dinner, which will be free to everyone that have paid their dues for the new year. Dues are \$29. All life members are asked to pay the Cancer Ins. for 2010 which is \$4.95.

BOOKS

Perhaps some of our members do not realize it, but the Post has a lending library of books for those of you who enjoy reading. This is a free service of the Post and many get pleasure from having this accessibility to the world found only in books.

All we ask is that when you take a book, after you are finished with it, please return it so it may keep on providing pleasure to all our members. And if you have any books you would like to share please bring them. The bookshelves are in the corner of the smoking room.

September 2009

Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 6158 and American Legion Post 383

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Board of Directors 6 PM	2	3 Dinner Chicken Fried Steak 6 PM	4 Cards 2 PM	5
6	7 NO Dinner LABOR DAY	8 VFW Meeting VFW Auxiliary Mtg. 7 PM	9	10 Dinner Ribs or Shrimp 6 PM	11 Cards 2PM	12
13 SICMC Breakfast 9 AM	14 Dinner \$5.00 Fried Chicken 6 PM	15 American Legion Board 7 PM	16	17 Dinner Roast Beef 6 PM	18 Cards 2 PM	19
20	21 Dinner \$5.00 Ham 6 PM	22 American Legion Meeting 7 PM	23	24 Dinner Meatloaf 6 PM	25 Cards 2PM	26
27 Post Breakfast \$5.00 9 AM to 11 AM	28 Dinner \$5.00 Swiss Steak 6 PM	29	30			
Jam Session 12 – 4 PM		Cards 2 PM				

October 2009

Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 6158 and American Legion Post 383

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 Dinner Meatloaf 6 PM	2 Cards 2 PM	3
4	5 Dinner Enchiladas 6 PM	6 Board of Directors 6 PM Cards 2 PM	7	8 Dinner Ribs or Shrimp 6 PM	9 Cards 2PM	10
11 SICMC Breakfast 9 AM	12 Dinner \$5.00 Chicken Breast 6 PM	13 VFW Meeting VFW Auxiliary 7 PM Cards 2 PM	14	15 Dinner Pork Chops 6 PM	16 Cards 2 PM	17
18	19 Dinner \$5.00 Ham 6 PM	20 American Legion Board 7 PM Cards 2 PM	21	22 Dinner Meatloaf or Liver 6 PM	23 Cards 2PM	24 Hawaiian Night 6 PM
25 Post Breakfast \$5.00 9 AM to 11 AM Jam Session 12 – 4 PM	26 Dinner \$5.00 To be announced 6 PM	27 American Legion Meeting 7 PM Cards 2 PM	28	29 Dinner Steak 6 PM	30 Cards 2 PM	31 Halloween Party Dinner 6 pm Music 7 pm Costumes