



Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States Sacramento Mountain Post 11999



What's Happening in the Mountains?

Official publication of the Sacramento Mountain VFW Post 11999, Cloudcroft, New Mexico

February 2008

Volume 2 Issue 2



February Events:

February 1st
National Job Shadow Day

February 10th
MOC Grand Hospital Visit
Albuquerque, NM

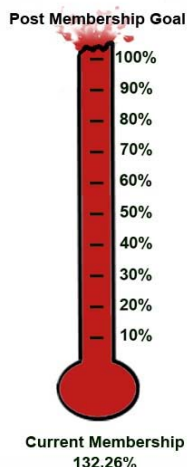
February 11th
MOC PT 20 Scratch
7:00 pm

February 12th
Lincoln's Birthday

February 14th
Valentine's Day

February 15th-17th
MOC/VFW Mid-Winter
Conference, Clovis, NM

February 23rd
Post Business Meeting
Cloudcroft Senior Center,
9:00 am



From the Commander:

Comrades and Sisters,

I hope everyone has been enjoying the "slow" months of our year and are now ready to hit the ground running for what looks to be a very busy end to this potential "All-State" "All-American" command cycle.

The Department Mid-Winter Conference is scheduled to take place this month on the weekend of February 16th & 17th in Clovis, NM. For those of you in the Cooties we will be holding our Grand Mid-Winter Conference on Friday the 15th, also in Clovis. Please see Comrade Donna or myself for additional information if you are interested in attending either event.

The District 3 quarterly meeting was held on January 6th at Post 7686 in Alamogordo. I want to thank the comrades from our post who attended. According to State Senior Vice-Commander Gordon Lam and our District leadership, Post 11999 continues to shine not only at the District but State level, and they wanted to thank everyone for all their hard work. At the meeting, Comrade George Brown from Post 401 in Albuquerque and I both announced our candidacy for the position of State Surgeon. Comrade Brown is an "All-American" Post Commander and his Post is one of the largest in the State, while we are one of the smallest. This should prove to be an exciting race as both of us are highly qualified for the position.

Earlier in January the Department of New Mexico announced the State Winners for Voice of Democracy (VOD), Patriot's Pen & the National Teacher's Awards. You all should be quite proud that the State VOD Second Place winner was our very own Simon Rimmele from Sunspot, NM and Mr. Wendell Lane from Cloudcroft High School was selected the State Winner for the National Citizenship Education Teacher Award. Mr. Lane has moved on to compete at the National Level. Way to go 11999 & Cloudcroft High School!

Comrade Donna continues the arduous task of getting our Ladies Auxiliary started. As of last report she still has only about 13 interested ladies with 15 needed to get the Charter approved. Please encourage your wives, daughters or granddaughters to think about joining our Auxiliary. Those of you VFW members who are of the female persuasion are authorized to be members of both the VFW and its Auxiliary. I want to encourage you to think about joining this fantastic organization. The Ladies Auxiliary can be an invaluable asset to our Post and our community. Anyone above the age of 16 who is a wife, widow, mother, foster or stepmother (who have performed the duties of parent), grandmothers, daughters,

granddaughters, foster and stepdaughters (who attained that status prior to the age of 16 and whom the duties of parent were performed), sisters, half sisters, foster and stepsisters (who attained that status prior to age 16) of persons who were or are eligible for membership in the VFW are eligible to join. Please contact either comrade Donna or myself at (575) 987-2214. Sadly those men who would like to see a men's Auxiliary get started can not dual enroll at this time. This is something that National will be working on in the future.

Speaking of membership, I would like to ask our continuous (annual) members to please consider starting a life membership installment plan. This plan will allow you to make 12 or 24 monthly payments and become a life member of the VFW. This eliminates the large up front sum usually required to become a life member. See Comrade Donna or myself for more information. Also while I hate to place a number on anything surrounding membership, you should be aware that our Post only needs 10 more members to qualify for "All-American" status. This is a prestigious and difficult distinction to achieve, once a Post is "All-American" it will always be "All-American." Let's put in the extra effort to bring in these comrades and not only reach this goal but add the welcome energy of some new members!

Our adopted National Guard units, C & D Companies 2/200th Infantry, are scheduled to return from Baghdad, Iraq early in March. I would love to see as many members of Post 11999 present for their arrival in the airport. We are still waiting for all the particulars on day and time, but we do know that they will be arriving at Biggs Field at Ft. Bliss and NOT the El Paso Airport. The City of Las Cruces is planning a parade for the combined "C Company" unit on the 8th of that month. The families of the D Company soldiers fear that once again D Company will go unnoticed. Our Post has been asked to hold a separate Welcome Home event on the 29th of March at the National Guard Armory in Alamogordo. Several of our Post members are already involved in the planning for this event and we are trying to get as much of Alamogordo and the surrounding area involved. We hope to see as many as 300 people in attendance that day! This could be a fantastic opportunity for the community to give these men a welcome home that many of us never received.

Over the past 7 months our little post has contributed quite a bit to our local communities. As of the end of January our totals are as follows:

Total Number of Projects:	80
Total Number of Hours:	1574
Total Number of Miles:	15,908
Total Donations:	\$2,948.00

Let's keep up the fantastic work for the remaining 5 months of this year!

I would like to recognize as many of you as I can for the efforts and volunteerism you give our community. The only way I will be able to do that is if you let me know what you are doing out there! Please let your Post Adjutant, Comrade Donna, or myself know what you are doing for the community on behalf of the VFW.

I hope this post newsletter is becoming a helpful tool for our membership. I have tried to include a column in this mailing that lists upcoming events and activities. Some of our members do not have access to e-mail or the internet, and I wish to reach as many as possible. Also I know many of you are very busy within your own communities, and if you had a little warning, a list of events might help you find a moment to help us out with some event or activity.

Scott W Millar
Commander