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Commanders Message

November 2011

Commander Bobby Jeans - I trust everyone had a healthy summer and fall and enjoyed their vacation time with family and now I hope you ready for the holiday rush. The newsletter will cover all of our upcoming events and for additional information on most events refer to our calendar on our web page. **Baskets for the needy** will be put together at the KVC on Tuesday November 22nd starting at 4pm. Anyone wishing to help see me or Ed Miller. The post will be celebrating the Holidays with a party at the conclusion of our December meeting which will be held at the KVC in the Kennedy Room on Thursday December 8th at 7pm. Please feel free to bring your family. This has been an extremely successful year thanks to all of you we not only accomplished and reached our goals but far surpassed our wildest dreams.

St. Patrick's Day and Parade Sunday March 17th the St. Patrick's Day Parade will kick off at 11am at the KVC. All those marching will muster in the main hall. Transportation will be available to the starting point of the parade and returning to the KVC after the parade. Festivities will continue at the KVC as usual for the after parade party. Anyone wishing to march or to ride on our float please contact Bobby Jeans. Family of Veterans are also welcome to march or take a vacant place on the float. For members please wear your VFW hats or KVC berets.

Rib Night Monday November 21, 2011 at the KVC main hall all the ribs you can eat while they last, beer, wine and soda for all with refills \$15.00 per person. Those that wish to enter the rib contest pick up your ribs at the KVC on Friday November 18th, 2011 after 2pm. No entry charge for contestants.

Flag Deployment - started off on Saturday November 5th at 0800 hrs. at the KVC with our usual home cooked breakfast fit for a king followed at 0900 hrs. by placing flags on our Veterans gravesites at Graceland Memorial Cemetery in Kenilworth. All volunteers returned to the KVC for refreshments and a light lunch many of whom gave thoughts to not only our departed veterans but also exchanged information and stories with fellow veterans on their experiences in the military. This day was surely a day of reflection for all who participated. Many non veterans who assisted in flag deployment listened to those stories with open ears and aching hearts. God bless our veterans and those who are currently serving.



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Veterans Day - Our Veteran Day services will begin at 1100 hrs. at the KVC on Friday November 11th, 2011. The ceremonies will be followed by light refreshments at the KVC.

Dedication of Kenilworth Memorial Park to Commander Robert E. Jeans Sr. Memorial Park will take place during our Veterans Day ceremonies. On hand for the dedication will be the Union County Police and Fire Pipe and drums Band, VFW Post 2230 Officers and members, KVC officers and members, Rev Joseph Bejgrowicz and Rev. Jose Erlito Ebron from the Church of St. Theresa, Honorable Mayor Kathi F. Fiamingo, Union County Freeholders, Kenilworth Police Chief Kenneth Grady and many other distinguished guest and speakers. All are welcomed to join us in honoring Commander Jeans for his dedication, hard work, support and undying devotion to VFW Post 2230, Kenilworth Veterans Center and our Community.

Maintenance Chairman Bill Sinkowitz Thanks to everyone for their help in making repairs or just assisting me in maintaining our building and grounds. With the help of many I have been able to update wiring, replace equipment, keep the floors shining, the fans running, and the restrooms functioning. Your help is greatly appreciated not only by Bobby Jeans and myself but by all those who use the facilities. Thanks again to all.

BOY SCOUTS – With November on our doorstep we will be starting our Christmas Season. We are hoping for all of your continued support on our Christmas Tree sale which will begin later this month. The dates and times will be posted outside of the KVC when they become available.

Cell Phones For Soldiers - Just wanted to remind everyone that our Cell Phones for Soldiers program is still going strong. If you are disposing of your old cell phone drop by the post and drop it in our basket in the Lounge. If you can't make it to the post call Bobby Jeans and he will make arrangements to have the phone picked up.

Sr. Vice Commander – Rick Harrison – I hope that everyone is happily preparing for the upcoming Holiday season. As you know I now hold the position in the VFW as liaison between the VVA and the VFW/KVC. I will be passing on information and news regarding the VVA and report to the membership at each monthly meeting of the VFW/KVC. I will do my best to get as much information at the N.J.V.V. State Council meetings which are held quarterly throughout the year. As you know, the post can always use volunteers to help out, particularly with the rental season in full swing. Hope to see as many VFW/KVC members as possible at our



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meetings. Enjoy your holidays to one and all. The bus trip in October to Washington D.C. and the Vietnam Wall was a great success. We received many request to run another trip in the near future. I will keep everyone updated as this progresses.

Jr. Vice Commander Paul Campanelli I would like to remind everyone that our holiday season is a festive time of year that is filled with happiness and joy but that can easily turn into sadness and tragedy. With celebrations almost everywhere you go during the holiday season remember to have a designated driver when partying. This is also a time of year for heavy snowfalls remember to take it slow when shoveling. Take care not to overeat and place undue strain on the heart. From my family to yours have a great Thanksgiving, a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Poppies – Ed Sulenski I would like to thank everyone who participated in the 2011 “Poppy Drive”. It looks like another banner year. We will find out our final tally at our next meeting in December. If it weren’t for the post volunteers and committee members we would not have the success with this program as we do. Special thanks to George Klose, Paul Klose, John Genega, Ray Scheuerer, Joe “Tex” Weaver, Tommy Campbell, Harold Scheidegger, Ed Miller, Brian Hirth and Kathy Curren. All of you made my job easier and put a smile on Bob Jeans’ face. God bless you and see you at our next meeting.

Sick Call Best wishes and speedy recovery to Tommy Campbell who recently underwent a back operation. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.

TAPS: Our prayers to Lenore and Bobby Jeans and the family of Ruth L. Morrison who passed away peacefully at age 80 on July 2, 2011. Ruth was a resident of Kenilworth for 58 years.

Quartermaster – Richard Banks – All funds raised are deposited and all outstanding bills are paid. We are preparing for our annual inspection by the State. All documents have been submitted for their review. IRS audit is also being completed and will be reported on at our next meeting. There are currently 67 VFW members who have not paid their dues. Please call Bobby Jeans if you are having difficulty with your payment. We have a fund available to handle these problems.



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Scholarship Programs Children, grandchildren our VFW Voice of Democracy and Youth Essay Patroits Pen scholarship program has started for this year. Pick up brochures at the KVC or see Bobby Jeans for additional information.

KVC NEWS:

President Jerry Dobbins – This year we have three members of the post who are on active duty serving overseas in Iraq and Afghanistan. Please join me in remembering their service Nelson Agurto, Frank Gauthier Jr. and Thomas Roughneen. Although we cannot all be together this holiday season you are in our thoughts and prayers may you all return home safe. May all of you enjoy a Happy Thanksgiving and a Merry and Joyous Christmas and New Year.

KVC Election of Officers 2012 Nominations for KVC officers will be held at our November meeting with elections at our December meeting. There are three seats to be filled our KVC Secretary will list the to be filled seats at our November meeting. Anyone wishing to make nominations be present at our November meeting.

Vice President – George Klose Prices were checked, readings taken on the oil tank and we received our first delivery. All is well, we have enough funds to keep us warm through this winter season. May all of you enjoy a belly filling Thanksgiving and a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Bar Chairman – Gerry Grasso Everything is as good or better than last year. On weekends we have a packed house at the bar and most of the nights during the week have a good size crowd as well. Our rentals are booked solid through December of this year and we have already started to book our halls for 2012. If any of you are planning to use the halls for your events you had better see Bobby Jeans as soon as possible so that you can get the dates that you need.

Treasurer - Bob Schielke All of our books are in order and have been reviewed by auditors and our accountant. No problems all is well. I look forward to serving the post again this coming year and with a little help we should end in great form.

Pull Tab Game I am happy to report we are doing very well and are currently ahead of schedule. For those members who don't know it is equivalent to the NJ lottery rub off. Many of our members play this game daily. Stop by and join in the fun remember you can't win it if you don't play it.



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National Veterans Service Committee - Fred Gorman Please take some time over this holiday season to remember our Veterans at our Veterans Hospital's all over the country. Many of them celebrate the holidays by alone and if it weren't for our VFW programs would have no one to be with during the holiday season.

Secretary – Bill Salzmann I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of those who helped and donated to our “Adopt a Unit” program. Our adopted unit the 10th Mountain Division 1-10 Combat Aviation Brigade Bravo Company serving in Operation Tigershark at Forward Operating Base Salerno in Afghanistan has returned home to Fort Drum New York. During their deployment we sent packages consisting of Christmas Trees, blankets, pens, paper, soft and hard cover books, DVD's (movies & music), Q-tips, cotton swabs, playing cards, betting chips, candy, cookies, toothpaste, toothbrushes, socks, soap, shampoo and many more items. We included in the packages notes and letters from our local school children. Special thanks to Ed Miller, Commander Jeans and Dawn Orlando who spent many hours assisting this effort.

Membership Committee - We currently have 190 VFW members and 56 KVC members. There are still a few VFW members who have not paid their 2011 dues. If you are one of them please send in your dues as soon as possible. Through Commander Jeans efforts we have been at 100% for 12 years in a row and we are working now to make it 13 years in a row. For our KVC members dues letters for 2012 are in the mail your dues cards are ready and as soon as your dues are received at the post you will be issued your 2012 membership card Commander Jeans has them ready in the office.

Welcome New Members - Welcome aboard to our new KVC/VFW members Charles Haller, Ronald Burkhardt, Eugene Herre, Monserrate Pacheco, Norman Kubik, Scott Kubik and Roy Bober.

Prize Winner - For some fun, checkout VFW member Ted Meadowcroft's grandson on U-Tube under the heading of “Shufflin...4 year old style”. He is wearing a striped shirt and shorts. Ted's 8 year old grandson took the pool on the charter fishing boat when he caught a 33 inch Bluefish which weighed in at 11 pounds.



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Kenilworth Veterans Web Page - Just a reminder for everyone to visit our web page at www.kenilworthveterans.com keep in touch with your post and brother members and see what activities are taking place. Events, dates & times, and other info can be found on our calendar.

Ed Miller - Hello to our VFW and KVC members I hope that all of you enjoyed a great summer and pleasant fall. With the end of 2011 on the horizon we here at the KVC are looking forward with great anticipation to the year 2012. Our officers have promised to lead this post to new levels of accomplishments and this cannot be done without setting achievable goals and cooperation of members at large. In paraphrasing the words of our former president John F. Kennedy, "Ask not what the post can do for you, but ask what you can do for the post". Let me reiterate what I have said in the previous newsletters. Our obligation, remember, is to VFW/KVC Post 2230, we have a number of outstanding events coming up starting in November. Our Veterans Day Services combined with the dedication of Kenilworth Memorial Park to be known as Commander Robert E. Jeans Sr. Memorial Park, Thanksgiving Food for the Needy Program, Our Holiday Gift Packages for our troops in all parts of the world, our annual Christmas Party, just to name a few. We must work together as a team and we can't be a team or be considered family without communication from everyone. To you, my fellow VFW/KVC members, I am asking you to seriously take into consideration that family relationship we have been working so hard to achieve. Remember a happy family is made up of joy, memories, closeness and caring for one another. We as members must spread our warmth and affection for one another, share good times, laughter and pride, commitment and love, this is what will make our post a happy family. With all these attributes we can and will be a winner. Last but not least lets not forget to share with our community that we here at Post 2230 are not just card carrying members "We are family". May God bless you all and have a happy and joyous Holiday Season.

Congratulations to Bobby and Lenore Jeans who celebrated their 39th wedding anniversary on September 23rd of this year. On a special note Lenore, don't regard this as the end of 39 blissful years with Bobby look at it as the beginning of a second 39 blissful years. Boy Lenore you sure are one lucky women....

Congratulations to Bobby and Cheryl Vesselli on their 32 wedding anniversary on October 28th. Just think Bobby 3 more years and you can officially be regarded as one of the family.



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Congratulations to Parents Bobby and Kristen, sisters McKenna & Emerson and grandparents Bobby and Lenore Jeans on the birth of Declan Robert Jeans who was born on September 13th, 2011 weighing in at 7 lbs. 5 ozs. And 21 ¼ inches long.

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Congratulations to Parents Gerardo and Lauren Roman and grandparents Bobby and Cheryl Vesselli on the birth of Mason James Roman born on September 2nd, 2011 weighing in at 9 lbs. 5 ozs. And 20 ½ inches long.

Congratulations to Parents Nick And Theresa and grandparents Artie and Michele Vitale on the birth of twins Nick Martin Vitale and Jack Arthur Vitale. Nick entered this world at 4 and ½ lbs. And 17 and ½ inches long and his twin brother Jack entering in at 3 and ½ lbs. And 16 and ½ inches long. Both twins will be celebrating their birthdays on September 26th of each year. Have many good ones guys!!!!

Congratulations to Parents Chris and Kim Weise and grandfather Gary Wiese on the birth of his grandson Eian who was born in September 2011.

Congratulations to Paul Campanelli and Dan Sims on their recent promotions to Sergeant on the Kenilworth Police Department.

Vietnam Veterans of America Christmas Party will be held at the KVC on Saturday December 17th starting 7pm. See Rick Harrison for additional information and tickets.



The *Landing Zone* News



Veterans of Foreign Wars
of the United States
Kenilworth
Post No. 2230



KVC
Kenilworth Veterans Center



Kenilworth, New Jersey