

COMMANDER'S MESSAGE

Well, it looks like we are going to start summer early this year. We will kick off the month of April with our VFW meeting on April 4th, and then enjoy Easter with the family on Sunday the 5th. This is the time everyone begins to plan vacations and trips, but it seems like going to the airport might be a challenge until TSA is back up and running smoothly. This year is going to be hot so think of yourself and your neighbors when the heat is on. Drink fluids and rest as needed if you're trying to work outside.

Election season for the VFW is coming. Nominations for elected officers, Commander, Senior Vice, Junior Vice, and Quartermaster are due in April so that we can hold our elections. If you have the desire and drive, and would like to participate in your local VFW, please come forward. As time marches on, many of our members begin to age out, but it is our responsibility to encourage our younger members to step forward and take the reins. There are many members with the corporate knowledge who can pass on their experience so each officer has a positive experience.

It is with great sadness that I share with members that we lost Mike Fay last month. He was ill for only a short period of time, and his family and friends were by his side. I ask you to remember him and his family in your prayers. Planning ahead, please mark your calendar for his Celebration of Life scheduled for May 16th. As family has time to put plans together, we will provide more details.

Many have also asked about Papa Floyd, our 100 year old veteran. He did have a bad fall March 13th and struck his head. He made it through surgery and is alert and talking. He is weak but hopes to return home soon. If you know of any of our VFW members who need our prayers and maybe a visit, I ask that you reach out to the Post Commander or to our Chaplin Mark Grden so that we can follow up with a phone call or visit.

As always, I will continue to remind you about our dinner and lunch meals. Please come out now that the days are longer and enjoy a dinner with friends and family. Thank you.

— CDR sends
Anne Lear
Cmd@vfw7264.org



ANNE LEAR
COMMANDER

IN OUR APRIL 2026 ISSUE:

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AUXILIARY NEWS

DANIELLE TAYLOR, AUXILIARY PRESIDENT

As Auxiliary President, I was happy to know our March meeting was in the capable hands of Sr. Vice Anita Link (as I was out of town). Thank you for taking the helm, Anita!

The Auxiliary was pleased to receive reports on the success of the recent Flying Doctors event, and gratefully received a gift of \$20 worth of blankets donated by regular Taco Wednesdays patrons Diana and Kimmy to add to our donation of supplies to the Joshua Tree No-Kill Shelter. What can we say, our tacos bring out the best in people.

Speaking of tacos: as we head into Spring and Summer, and the season of vacations, the Taco Belles are extra eager to round up a few additional volunteers to help us with Taco Wednesdays. You don't even have to be an ongoing volunteer – we'd love to find people who would work a shift just when one of our regular volunteers is away on holiday. You'd be surrounded by an experienced team who would make your job easy and fun. To accomplish this goal, we are taking the provocative step of reaching out to not just potential Taco Belles, but also to prospective Taco Beaus. So gentlemen (and ladies), if you could help us out with even just a single shift, we would be most grateful.

The Auxiliary is delighted to welcome two new members to our ranks: Craig Ittner, and Deborah Sapiro. Be sure to read about them in the Membership column.

The members present at our March meeting also voted to confirm the District 3 Department Delegates. Congratulations to the new slate!

April brings officer elections, and the Auxiliary is excited about all that lies ahead. Our next meeting is on Saturday, April 11th, and we hope any members who haven't attended recently will seize upon this opportunity to join us.

— Dani

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

MARK GRDEN, CHAPLAIN

It's been a tough year so far. We lost a great Comrade and Friend on March 1st. Mike Fay has departed. He was surrounded by family and friends. Please keep Mike and his loved ones in your prayers. There will be a memorial service at the Post on May 16th. The time has not yet been determined.

Also keep Floyd Dominguez in your prayers. Floyd took a tumble the other day and is at Desert Regional. As of March 18th he was looking good, on the mend, and looking forward to getting home.

And so everyone, try to take care of yourself and your loved ones. Stay positive and stay healthy. As always, looking forward to seeing you around the post.

— Mark



**ALL GAVE SOME, SOME GAVE ALL.
WE REMEMBER AND HONOR
OUR KIA, POW, MIA,
AND WOUNDED.**

IN MEMORIAM

MIKE FAY

JANUARY 9, 1963 - MARCH 1, 2026

As the Chaplain mentioned, on March 1st we lost Mike Fay, one of our beloved members and an all around great guy.

Born and raised in the San Francisco Bay Area, Mike joined the Marines in 1983, and retired in 2004. He was a Desert Storm Veteran, and served as a Machine Gunner, Recruiter, and Explosive Ordnance Disposal Technician — the latter for most of his career. He was recognized as USMC Recruiter of the Year. His awards included multiple Good Conduct Medals, and the Kuwait Liberation and Southwest Asia Service medals.

We'll miss seeing Mike in and around the Post. Over the years he served as an officer of the Post and volunteered countless hours cooking in the kitchen and maintaining the Post.

Mike served as the Senior Vice Commander between June and December 2025 before resigning in preparation to take over the Quartermaster position, a role he had filled before.

Mike would often hang out at the Post on Friday evenings with friends, which always made for a fun and exciting night.

You will be missed, Mike. Semper Fidelis, Marine.



NEW MEMBERS

The Post voted in two new members during the March meeting.



**JOHN KELO
USN**

John is a veteran of the Vietnam war and served in the United States Navy. Thank you for your service, John, and welcome to the Post!



**ROBERT FLECK
USMC**

Robert hails from Twentynine Palms and is a retired Marine Gunnery Sergeant with foreign service in Korea. Welcome aboard, Robert!

Additionally, the Auxiliary welcomed these new members to their roster in March:

CRAIG ITTNER

Lifetime Membership

Son of the late Clyde F. Ittner (US Navy, US Army Air Corps)

DEBORAH SAPIRO

Lifetime Membership

Granddaughter of the late Frank Borghette (US Army Air Forces -- KIA in WWII, plane crash in Germany)

COMMITTEE UPDATES

HOUSE COMMITTEE

JEFF BRUMMER, CHAIRMAN

The House Committee continued to maintain the Post and its facilities with weekly clean up on Mondays 9-11am. We installed a new circuit breaker to the cooler and replaced an operating switch on the pizza oven. We also cleaned and installed new felt pads on the swamp cooler which will make the kitchen cooler for the cooks. We purchased a new TV and mounted it in the dining room as well!

Please remember to keep our post ship shape. If you make a mess, clean it up. If you are interested in participating in House Committee projects, get a hold of an officer of the Post.

FLAG COMMITTEE

ED SHIMKO, CHAIRMAN

In the last month the Flag Committee has collected 97 flags from the Wiefels Cremation and Funeral Service flag collection box in Yucca Valley. All will be retired accordingly. If you know someone who has a flag that needs to be retired, please let them know how to do it properly or drop it off at a collection box for them.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

(This month's report, with tongue firmly planted in cheek.)

Editor: T. J., do you have a Membership Committee update for the newsletter?

T.J.: No. The last drive is in May on the Day of Service!!

(Editor's note: Thank you everyone for helping this Post exceed its membership goal this year! Please continue to recruit and expand our Hi-Desert Veteran family. Good work Post 7264!)

POST PROGRAMS & FUNDRAISING REPORT

Folks, there is not much to report this month.

We are three months away from closing out the 2025/2026 year and all of our Programs are complete except for the Day of Service in May.

We have logged 409 volunteer hours and donated \$933.00 for a total of \$15,162.00 worth of time and money in support of Veterans and their causes.

Our fundraiser to offset meal costs seems to have stalled at \$800.00 which is 7% of our very ambitious goal of \$12,000.00.

SPONSORS

We are grateful to our sponsors for their support of our website and newsletter. Please visit the Post website (<https://www.vfw7264.org>) to read more about these fine companies.



Freedom Mechanical Solutions Inc.



Wonder Electric Co. Inc.

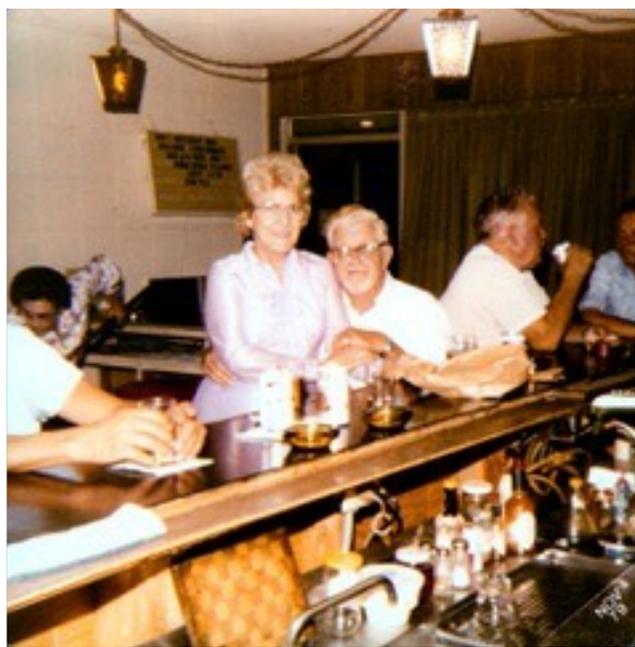
VFW Post #7264

APRIL 2026 CALENDAR

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
29	30	31	1 April Fool's Day Passover Begins Taco Belles' Tacos 11am-1pm (open to public)	2	3 Good Friday	4 Post Mtg. @10am Fish Dinner 5-7pm
5 Easter	6 Post CLOSED	7 Post CLOSED Volunteer Post Cleanup @9am Boy Scout Troop 77 Mtg. @6pm	8 Taco Belles' Tacos 11am-1pm (open to public)	9	10 Karaoke & Pizza 5-7pm	11 Auxiliary Mtg. @10am Burgers & Fries Lunch 11:30am- 1:30pm
12 Orthodox Easter	13 Post CLOSED	14 Post CLOSED Volunteer Post Cleanup @9am Boy Scout Troop 77 Mtg. @6pm	15 Taco Belles' Tacos (this week w/ chicken) 11am-1pm (open to public)	16	17	18 Amore Dinner 5-7pm
19	20 Post CLOSED	21 Post CLOSED Volunteer Post Cleanup @9am Boy Scout Troop 77 Mtg. @6pm	22 Earth Day Taco Belles' Tacos 11am-1pm (open to public)	23	24	25 Steak Hoagies Lunch 11:30am- 1:30pm
26 Scouts USA (TBD)	27 Post CLOSED	28 Post CLOSED Volunteer Post Cleanup @9am Boy Scout Troop 77 Mtg. @6pm	29 Taco Belles' Tacos 11am-1pm (open to public)	30	1	2

A LOOK BACK

Here is a look back across the years of members having fun at our Post!



(Left) A couple at the bar in the early 1980s.

(Below) Is that mustache legal, Comrade? c. 2005.



(Above) How many pins on your hat, Comrade? c. 1995.

(Right) All the ladies love that guy! c. 2005.



POST INFO & VETERAN RESOURCES

POST #7264

OPEN 11am - Closing TBD
Wednesdays thru Saturdays
12noon - Closing TBD on Sundays
CLOSED Mondays & Tuesdays

6402 Veterans Way
Joshua Tree CA 92252
Phone: 760-366-2717

Email: info@vfw7264.org

Website: <https://www.vfw7264.org>

Instagram: [@vfw_post_7264](https://www.instagram.com/vfw_post_7264)

Get the latest news on our Facebook page:

www.facebook.com/vfw7264JT

OFFICERS

Commander: Anne Lear
Contact: Cmd@vfw7264.org

Sr. Vice: Jeff Brummer
Contact: Svc@vfw7264.org

Jr. Vice: Vacant
Contact: Jvc@vfw7264.org

Quartermaster: John Pellior
Contact: Qm@vfw7264.org

Chaplain: Mark Grden

Judge Advocate: John Pellior
Contact: Qm@vfw7264.org

Resource Officer: Anne Lear
Contact: Cmd@vfw7264.org

Adjutant: Ben Lawless
Contact: Adj@vfw7264.org

Surgeon: Mark Grden

1 Year Trustee: Gary Link
2 Year Trustee: Ed Shimko
3 Year Trustee: Michael Harris

COMMITTEES/CHAIRMEN

House: Jeff Brummer
Membership: T. J. Charles
Buddy Poppy: Jeff Brummer
Flag: Ed Shimko

POST #7264 (cont'd)

AUXILIARY OFFICERS

President: Danielle Taylor
Contact: Auxiliary@vfw7264.org
Sr. Vice: Anita Link
Jr. Vice: Candy Jo Keserich
Treasurer: Karen Kluge
Chaplin: Sandy McDaniels
Guard: Marilyn Link
Conductress: Elizabeth Link
Secretary: Candy Jo Keserich
Patriotic Instructor: Eleanor Sherwin
Historian: Cindy Leonard
1 Year Trustee: Susan Lee Smith
2 Year Trustee: Cindy Leonard
3 Year Trustee: Sue Shannon

CANTEEN VOLUNTEERS

Ken Charles
Mark Grden
Danielle Taylor
John Pellior
Stacey Haas
Jeff Brummer

NEWSLETTER

Editor: Ben Lawless
Layout/design: Susan Lee Smith

Email submissions of articles, information, events, or photos to: adj@vfw7264.org
All submissions will be reviewed with Post Commander, and the editor reserves the right to edit articles for space and content.

Deadline is the 21st of the month
for the following month's newsletter.

TRANSPORTATION RESOURCES

Need a ride to the Loma Linda VA?
Contact Darrell Bush at 909-583-6116
to make arrangements.

AREA RESOURCES

HELP FOR HOMELESS VETS
1-877-4AID-VET (1-877-424-3838)

VETERANS CRISIS LINE

Dial 988 & select option #1
Deaf/Hard of Hearing
1-800-799-4889
Or text 838255

CMC VETERAN SERVICES

Lisa Infante
minfante@cmccd.edu
760-366-3791 x0226

VFW TALK RADIO

Mondays @ 5:30pm
TheNationalDefense.com

VA NEWS

veteransaffairs@messages.va.gov

VETERANS AFFAIRS OFFICES

1-909-825-7084

San Bernardino
356 E. Vanderbilt Way
San Bernardino CA 92408
Mon-Fri 8am - 4:30pm

Victorville
15095 Amargosa Road, Suite 107
Victorville Ca 92394
Mon-Fri 8am - 4:30pm

VETERANS CLINICS

Palm Desert
72700 Dinah Shore Dr.
Palm Desert CA 92211
Mon-Fri 8am - 4:30pm

Victorville
14598 Seventh Street, Suite B
Victorville, CA 92395
Mon-Fri 8am - 4:30pm