



ALL AMERICAN POST 7909

APRIL MAY 2023

"NO ONE DOES MORE FOR VETERANS"

COMMANDERS CORNER

Our mission is very simple. We foster camaraderie among United States veterans of conflicts overseas, we serve our veterans, the military, and the communities, and we advocate on behalf of all veterans. We ensure that veterans are respected for their service, receive their earned entitlements, and are recognized for their sacrifices that they and their loved ones have made on behalf of this great country.

Our core values are to put the interests of our members first, to treat donors as partners in our cause. We promote patriotism, honor military service, and ensure the care of veterans and their families, and serve in our communities. We always promote a positive image of the VFW and respect the diversity of veteran opinions.

As we are among our members at the Post, take a moment to appreciate our purpose and recognize those around us as the reason we have the freedom we all enjoy. God Bless America!

See you at our Post!

Joe Casey, Commander

Hello VFW family! Spring is upon us! I hope everyone had a magnificent winter season and is transitioning well into 2023. As we move towards this warmer weather, Pup Tent 23 of VFW 7909 continues to be proud of its support for the VA Hospital in Lake City FL. In this new year, Pup Tent 23 will continue to be in a "holding pattern" in terms of being able to visit the VA hospital residents until COVID-19 restrictions allow us to hold events again. But in the true nature of our organization, commitment to "keeping them smiling!", our Pup Tent has been working in close coordination with the Cootie Auxiliary to send supplies and moral boosters to the Lake City veterans through a drop off arrangement we have with VA management on site.

My final announcement for this addition of the Cootie Corner is that my relief has been elected! After two years of serving as Seam Squirrel of this beloved Pup Tent, it's come time to pass the torch. Our new Seam Squirrel elect will be taking over the gavel soon. He is a United States Air Force veteran who deployed to Vietnam in his younger days. He's dedicated and motivated and ready to oversee our commitment to all veterans in need. And in keeping with the highest tradition of not stealing his thunder, I will leave you with a fond farewell and allow him to introduce himself properly in a future addition of the corner.

David Grodt CSC(SS) USN (Ret) Seam Squirrel Pup Tent 23

Quartermaster

The post financials remain stable. There have been some unexpected expenses that had to be dealt with but have all been taken care of. The largest expense was the ATM machine. Our old ATM was having some problems with paying out requested funds. The machine was used when we purchased it years ago and began to give problems for our members. This machine could not be upgraded to meet new Federal Government requirements. In the next few weeks/months new standards will go into effect making the machine obsolete and would no longer accept credit/debit cards from our members. The new ATM cost \$2700 but I expect, with the super support of our members using the ATM that we will be able to recover the cost in 6-8 months. Thanks to all the members that use the post ATM and not an outside one for funds.

On the great side of business the post has enjoyed two great months of income from various sources. Please give yourself a pat on the back for the support you have given in the past and I am sure will continue well into the future. I would like to thank all members of the VFW and Auxiliary for the great support over the last 14 years I have served as your quartermaster. I will officially stand down on 30 June 2023.

John Daniels, Quartermaster

Service Officer

Scott and I are seeing more and more spouses calling, not knowing what to do after their veteran has passed away. Now is a good time to sit down and talk to your spouse about what they need to do once you have passed; such as VA benefits, life insurance, burial and so on. If you are not familiar with the benefits the VA has to offer your spouse, please call and make an appointment with Scott or myself. We will be glad to sit down and explain it to both of you.

Another good Idea is to get a three-ring binder with document protectors or some kind of filing system so your spouse can have everything they need including a DD 214. So often widows come in crying not knowing what to do. I can tell you from experience, when my first wife passed away, using this system sure helped. I had her DD 214 and all the other paperwork that was required to bury her. So please do each other a favor and plan and prepare so each other will not be lost looking for paperwork.

The Post is looking for a friendly, patient, kind and caring person to take over the Service Officer position.

Robert Hernandez

Scott Sutherland

EMPLOYMENT INFO

Jobs for Veterans

The following websites are provided:

Federal Jobs (USAJOBS) <https://my.usajobs.gov>

State Jobs (People First) <https://peoplefirst.myflorida.com/peoplefirst> for help (877)562-7287

Local Jobs (Career Source) <http://www.careersourcenortheastflorida.com> for help (904) 356-5627

VA jobs <http://www.va.gov/jobs>

Employ FL Vets <http://veterans.employflorida.com/portals/veteran/> for more info 1 (866) 352-2345

Transition & Employment Services <http://www.vfw.org> go to Assistance then Trans & Emp Svcs

AUXILIARY NEWS

Aloha All,

Wow! I can't believe that we are almost at the end of another year. I would like to thank all of the officers that gave their time to our Auxiliary this year.

Sr. Vice- Donna Casey

Jr. Vice- Kathy Danahoo

Treasurer- Linda Seiler

Secretary- Fran Cramer

Chaplain- Lola Higgins

Guard- Lori Steichen

Patriotic Instructor- Robyn Manzo

Trustees- Margaret Latimer, Keith Eppes, Robyn Manzo

The district 6 convention will be May 6, 2023 at post 3270 @10am

We will have our district testimonial dinner on May 12, 2023 at post 1988 @6pm. Department convention will be June 15-18, 2023

I want to thank everyone for all of your hard work with our programs and at the post. Keep up the good work.

At our April meeting, we will have our nominations and election of officers for the 2023-2024 year. This is an important meeting so we need a very good turnout. Please think about what position you would like to fill.

When you see a Veteran, thank them for their service!

Loyally,

Leilani Jones, President

**VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS
AND AUXILIARY
All American Post 7909
6204 Blanding Blvd.
Jacksonville, FL 32244**

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

POST OFFICERS

Commander	Joe Casey
Sr Vice	J. D. Steichen
Jr Vice	Bruce Lindsay
Quartermaster	John Daniels
Chaplain	Roger Gregory
Surgeon	J R Wood
Judge Advocate	Dani Hernandez
Adjutant	Scott Sutherland
1st Year Trustee	Howard Maas
2nd Year Trustee	George Higginbotham
3rd Year Trustee	Robert Hernandez

AUXILIARY OFFICERS

President	Leilani Jones
Sr Vice	Donna Casey
Jr Vice	Kathleen Danahoo
Secretary	Frances Cramer
Treasurer	Linda Seiler
Chaplain	Lola Higgins
1st Year Trustee	Margaret Latimer
2nd Year Trustee	Keith Epps
3rd Year Trustee	Robin Manzo
Conductress	Machelle Leverock
Guard	Lori Steichen
Patriotic Instructor	Robin Manzo