



**ALL AMERICAN POST 7909  
DECEMBER 2022 JANUARY 2023  
"NO ONE DOES MORE FOR VETERANS"**

**COMMANDERS CORNER**

As the year comes to a close, I would like to thank everyone for the help throughout 2022. Our volunteers make everything happen at the Post and in the community. Our Veterans, Auxiliary, the Pup Tent, and the Riders Group have all been tremendous! We have enjoyed good times at the Post, supported those in need when Hurricane Ian caused damage in Florida, raised money for the community, supported our Troops, visited nursing homes, helped the homeless, worked with the Girl Scouts and helped each other in times of need. We are truly blessed to have such a large group of caring members! Thanks to all and keep it going! See you at our Post!

**Joe Casey, Commander**

***MERRY CHRISTMAS  
AND  
HAPPY NEW YEAR  
FROM YOUR VFW POST  
AND AUXILIARY***

## SERVICE OFFICER

Have you heard about the new **TOXIC EXPOSURE SCREENING**?

If you're enrolled in VA health care, you can now receive the toxic exposure screening at VA medical centers and clinics across the country. If you're not enrolled but meet eligibility requirements to enroll, you will receive the screening after you enroll.

During your screening, you'll be asked if you believe you experienced toxic exposures during your military service. If you answer yes, you may be connected to support and resources, including a review by your primary care team or provider.

### THE PROCESS

As the screening becomes a regular part of your health care, you may have some questions that take around 5 - 10 minutes to answer. It documents a variety of exposures. Types of possible exposures or hazards you may have experienced during your military service are:

- Agent Orange
- Gulf war related exposures
- Burn Pits
- Airborne Hazards
- Radiation
- Camp Lejeune contaminated water exposure
- Others that may not be listed here

This screening helps your VA care team know what toxic exposures you may have been exposed to during your military service, and better treat you for these exposures.

You'll receive additional information after you are screened such as benefits, registry exams and clinical resources to address any concerns you may have.

You can ask about toxic exposure screening at your next VA healthcare appointment. If you do not have an upcoming appointment or want to be screened sooner, contact your local VA facility and ask to be screened by the Toxic Screening Navigator.

You'll be screened at least once every 5 years. Even if you don't have concerns today, you may in the future. This helps keep your records up today and ensures exposure concerns are part of your long-term care plan. You can also decline and choose to be screened the following year.

Any questions please contact your Service Officers.

**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,

It is very hard to believe that the holiday season is already upon us. With the new year quickly approaching, I want each of us to remember our blessings. This year I am thankful that I have been gifted with such amazing friends and family through OUR Auxiliary. God is good ALWAYS!!

Did you know that each eligible veteran has up to twelve family members that are eligible for the Auxiliary? Joining is easy. Applications are available at the canteen from the bartenders. I recommend that every member check out the <https://vfwauxiliary.org/> website. Go to MALTA Member login in the upper right-hand corner and create an account. Here you will find that you can pay your dues, change your address and much more.

The Department of Florida has a new website. Check out <https://vfwauxfl.org> for all of the latest news. Please join us for our Mid-Winter Conference January 20<sup>th</sup>– January 23rd at the Westgate Lakes Resort in Orlando, Florida. Attending a conference is a fantastic way to see what the Department of Florida is doing and to make new friends. This year's theme is Mardi Gras and we are having a mask contest. What a great way to bring out your creative side.

Mark your calendars ...The District 6 Auxiliary meeting will be February 11, 2023 at post 8255 (Middleburg) at 10am. Please plan on attending. This is a great opportunity to meet other members in our surrounding area.

### **CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS!!!!**

HELP is ALWAYS needed in the kitchen. We have many chances for you to lend a helping hand. Wednesdays are poor man's dinner, Thursdays are pizza, Fridays are home cooked meals and Sunday mornings we have breakfast. There are many ways to help. Washing dishes, pizza prep, pancake flipper and so much more. Ask how you can help TODAY!!

Our Auxiliary has been blessed with the gift of growth again this year. I want to thank all of our members who have paid their dues and for continuing to support the Auxiliary. I invite each of you to bring a friend to become a part of our family.

**ANNUAL DUES MUST BE PAID BY DECEMBER 31. IF YOU HAVE NOT PAID YOUR DUES, PLEASE DO SO NOW.** If you create an account in Malta you can pay your dues online.

Mele Kalikimaka & Hau'oli Makahiki Hou!!! (Merry Christmas and Happy New Year) to each and every one of you, I hope that you all continue to remain healthy and safe during the holidays.

With much Love,

**Leilani Jones, Auxiliary President**

## **Military Order of the Cootie (MOC)**

Hello VFW family! As this year comes to a close, I hope it's been prosperous and safe for all. I wanted to take this opportunity to wish each and every one of you a MERRY CHRISTMAS! and HAPPY NEW YEAR! As we move towards this Holiday Season, Pup Tent 23 of VFW 7909 continues to be proud of its support for the VFW National Home for Children in Eaton Rapids Michigan. The holiday party at the home has been a Military Order of the Cootie tradition for decades. The families at the home who take part are provided with holiday meals and a visit from Santa himself. Going into 2023, Pup Tent 23 will continue to support our local veterans in need as well as our comrades in the care of Lake City VA Hospital. So as we all enjoy our own holiday festivities, please keep all of our comrades in distress in your hearts. Now being a Navy man myself, it was always a tradition for whomever had "the watch" on New Year's Eve to make the New Years entry into the log in "verse". With that in mind, I will close with a memorable one from my seafaring days.....copied in the same line format as the old log book entry.

I have the new year before me;  
an infant bawling loud  
The old one behind me;  
dead stiff and proud.  
I have the watch  
first one of the new year.  
While the world is at parties  
swapping tales and drinking beer.  
It is not my first one;  
certainly not my last.  
I remember the one behind  
in the dim unforgotten past.  
The watches of the future  
whatever they may be.  
Are yet before me  
upon the briny sea.

**David Grodt CSC(SS) USN ret.  
Seam Squirrel MOC PT23**

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

**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**

**POST OFFICERS**

<b>Commander</b>	<b>Joe Casey</b>
<b>SR Vice</b>	<b>Bernice Gorman</b>
<b>JR Vice</b>	<b>Bruce Lindsay</b>
<b>Quartermaster</b>	<b>John Daniels</b>
<b>Chaplain</b>	<b>Roger Gregory</b>
<b>Surgeon</b>	<b>J R Wood</b>
<b>Judge Advocate</b>	<b>Dani Hernandez</b>
<b>Adjutant</b>	<b>Scott Sutherland</b>
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Year Trustee</b>	<b>Howard Maas</b>
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Year Trustee</b>	<b>George Higginbotham</b>
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Year Trustee</b>	<b>Robert Hernandez</b>

**AUXILIARY OFFICERS**

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