



Department of Hawaii



“Yanks Down Under” Post AU01



Sydney, Australia

NOVEMBER 2012

WARREN DAY

1917-2012

US NAVY----WWII

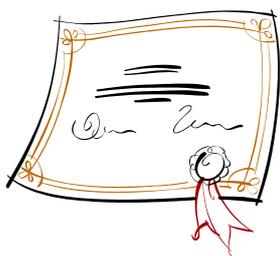


**Warren**, a Post member for 29 years and a Life Member was originally from Springfield, Massachusetts. He served four years in the US Navy during World War 2 on board ships in the Pacific War Zone and also shore installations in New Jersey. He was recruited to join the Legion backing 1984 by a good Friend and neighbour and a former US Navy veteran **Al Belcher** who some of our older members may recall as he was one of the Posts first Finance Officers. After his wife passed away **Warren** moved into one of the RSL Veteran’s Villages near Wollongong. Not happy with life there he moved to Tucson, Arizona to live with one of his daughters. A few years ago he moved back to Australia and lived on beautiful Magnetic Island in Queensland near one of his other daughters. He passed away peacefully in his sleep after a short illness just a month before his 95<sup>th</sup> birthday. Condolences were expressed to both his daughters and his grandchildren on behalf of all Post members. May he rest in peace.

**WE WILL REMEMBER HIM LEST WE FORGET**

Our 2013 membership is well on track to once again gaining a 100% award from the National Commander, only four more renewals or new members will put the Post in that unique group, but we must have the 100% by December 1<sup>st</sup>. To date we have 97 members paid for 2013, we only need four more to match our membership of 101 in 2012.

The following members have been awarded Continuous Membership Certificates for the years indicated:



- 5 years: Mike Walsh,**
- 10 years: Patrick Curtis, Sam Hilt,**
- 15 years: David Hire, Arthur Hughes,**
- 20 years: Hank Cutchin, Les Davies, Frank Finch, Bernie O'Brien, Jim Tomlinson,**
- 30 years: Emilio Nacua Sr., George Ricciardone, Wray Walker,**
- 35 years: Bob Grindall,**
- 50 years: Vice-Commander Phil O'Hearn** and leader of the pack with
- 59 years Ralph Ferber**, sorry **Ralph** but you get a certificate next year for **60 years!!!**

At the Hale Koa Hotel, Armed Forces Recreation Center in Honolulu, Hawaii, more than 50 recipients of the **Medal of Honor** the highest decoration for valor in combat “above and beyond the call of duty” met for the annual Medal of Honor Convention. There are 81 living recipients of the medal. At last years convention in Louisville, Kentucky there was 85 recipients. Close brushes with death in warfare somehow didn’t claim them, but old age, disease and other factors are now taking a toll on their ranks. In 2010 there were 91, 96 in 2009 and 100 in 2008. Retired Marine Corps Sgt. Major Allan Kellogg Jr. of Kailua, Hawaii remembers there were 157 living Medal of Honor awardees in 1982 the last time the convention was held in Hawaii. There are no living recipients from the Iraq War, 3 from Afghanistan, 54 from Vietnam, 12 from Korea and 12 remaining from World War II. One of the units in World War II that had the most Medals of Honor awarded was Hawaii’s 442<sup>nd</sup> Regimental Combat Team with 13 recipients. This famous Regiment consisted of 2<sup>nd</sup> generation Japanese-Americans. Another Regiment with many medals awarded was the 15<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regt, of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Division. One of the awardees was the late **Audie Murphy** America’s most decorated serviceman during World War II.



As many of our members and their families travel to Hawaii here is a tip for those “elderly” members...meaning over 65. If you are receiving US Social Security you have a US Medicare Card, when travelling on **The Bus** on Oahu show your US Medicare Card and the trip only costs \$1.00, plus they will give you a “transfer” which entitles you to a free return trip within a reasonable amount of time, about 3-4 hours. For that \$1.00 you can travel all the way around Oahu, about 3 ½ hours. Good way to kill time before your flight leaves late in the evening.

Now for some more good news...all you Military Retirees, US Social Security recipients and those receiving USDVA Disability Pensions can now think about that new Mercedes or BMW for their January checks will include a whopping 1.7% cost of living raise.

So, what's coming up for the Post & Auxiliary before the end of 2012?

**Sunday, November 11<sup>th</sup> Remembrance Day (Veteran's Day in the USA and for those that are chronologically challenged, it used to be Armistice Day).** We have been invited by the Bankstown RSL Sub-Branch to attend and lay a wreath for the 94<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the end of “The Great War”, ‘The War to End all Wars” OR World War I. It will be held at the Bankstown War Memorial in Court House Square. If attending please be seated no later than **10:30am**



**Thursday November 22<sup>nd</sup>, our annual Legion Family and Friends Thanksgiving Day luncheon.**  
See details in the attached flyer.

**Friday December 7<sup>th</sup>. Pearl Harbor Day.** Commemoration of the “Date which will live in infamy” The unprovoked attack by Imperial Japan on the US Pacific Fleet and other military installations on the island of Oahu, Hawaii. This is the 28<sup>th</sup> year we have held this ceremony in Bankstown sponsored by The City of Bankstown, The American Legion and the Bankstown RSL Sub-branch to observe this day that changed the world forever. As in past years the ceremony will be held at the Bankstown War Memorial, Court House Square. **The ceremony starts at 10:30 am.** Following the ceremony you are invited to lunch courtesy of The City of Bankstown and the Bankstown RSL Sub-branch. Booking **not** required.



That's all for now until next month. We'll leave you with a bit of good advice, as they would say in the old West “don't squat with your spurs on”



Congratulations ladies, all 37 of our members have renewals for 2013, thank you for your support.

**November 22<sup>nd</sup>, Thanksgiving Day luncheon.**All the details are on the attached flyer. Hope to see you all and your friends on this 391<sup>st</sup> Thanksgiving Day.

**David Raymond - Post Commander  
&  
Sonja Raymond - Auxiliary Unit President**  
**60 Gurney Rd., Chester Hill NSW 2162**  
**Phone (02) 9644-6854**  
**Email: [austraymond@bigpond.com](mailto:austraymond@bigpond.com)**

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**THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT**