



VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS

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US Postage Paid
PERMIT #19

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All the Newsletter information will be posted on the Post Web Page www.vfwpost454.org . Please go to the Post Web Page and Register to receive your Newsletter by e-mail. Some copies of the Newsletter will be available at the Post Lounge.



**The Next Paint Nite
(Blue Spring Butterfly)
Monday, June 17th at 7 pm
To Register Go To:
www.yaymaker.com
Use the Code “CRAFTLOCAL”
For a Discounted Price!**



**Femme Fatale Band
Tentative Booking (Not Confirmed Yet)
Friday, June 21st
Will Update Facebook & Webpage
Also Check the Pantagraph Week of June 21st**

**Pop Up Chicken Shop Serving Dinner On Band Nights
(Don't Miss Out)**

COMMANDERS COMMENTS

Hello Fellow Veterans,
Our apologies for the newsletter being a little late this month. Most of you know, the last two weeks of May are very busy for the Post.

By the time you get the paper copy of the newsletter, I will have left on another deployment to a land far away. I want to thank everyone for supporting me as the Post Commander during the last year. I enjoyed the camaraderie and the experience I gained from serving in this position.

The Anthony Maddox Highway dedication event on May 18th was well received. The Post and Auxiliary came together to make this event a huge success. The Maddox family has expressed great gratitude in everything "Our Post" did to help honor their son. A job well done by everyone.

A Thank You to all of our members, auxiliary and community volunteers for assisting with the Memorial Day festivities, as well as placing flags on our veterans graves. We couldn't have done it without you. Our Memorial Day veterans meal was truly delicious, so thanks to the Pop-Up Chicken Shop for preparing it for us.

Now that Memorial Day has passed, we look forward to the State Convention. Many of you know that our new State Commander (Brad Gould) and Auxiliary President (Billie Guthals) come from our own 7th District. So please welcome and support them in the coming year. I want to also wish our incoming Post and Auxiliary Officers all the best and hope they have a great year ahead.

Remember that the key to our longevity is increasing our membership and actively seeking new ways to bring change and prepare our younger members to step forward and fill the positions each year. Because in May of 2020, this Post celebrates its 100th birthday. I hope that I am back in time to celebrate with you and take part in being around another century.

As I close, I wish you all a safe Summer

and will see you at the Post when I return.

Adam Jacobs
Post Commander

AUXILIARY PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings to all Auxiliary members. All officers and chairmen are in line for our 2019/2020 year. The year starts in July after our June Department Convention.

May was a busy month and I want to thank all individuals who helped in any way and participated in the many Memorial Day activities.

Thanks to those who are stepping up to fill offices and chairmanships for the coming auxiliary year. I wish them all the best. Help is always needed by our members to assist with all the activities.

Ensure you stay informed about the upcoming July 3rd activities by reading our Post bulletin, checking out our facebook and web pages.

At our May meeting we held our memorial service to recognize those who passed away this year. Thank you Gwen Royalty for conducting our beautiful service.

Thanks to all who helped pack the ten boxes we sent to our service members overseas. Our troops enjoy getting something from home. Mark your calendar, July 13th we will pack boxes and have a bake sale this same day.

Next month CJ Wahmann will write these bulletins that keep everybody updated on our activities and needs.

It has been my pleasure and honor to serve as the Auxiliary President for two years. I am looking forward to continuing to focus my efforts wherever they are needed for our Veterans.

Remember, we must continue to support and assist the veterans who have given us the freedom we enjoy daily by living in this great country.

Our next meeting will be June 5th at 6:30 pm. Hope to see you all there.

Murleen Swafford
Auxiliary President

VFW 454 RIDERS GROUP

The Rider's Group will host another meeting on Sunday, June 2nd at 12:30 pm. Meet at the Post and we will travel to Uitca.

Bring your ideas for fund raising and other rides that we can put together or participate. We are always looking for new members.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Family Freedom Festival

Took place on May 4th. It was the first one for our Post. We learned a lot with this event and are looking ahead to the one next year about the same time.

We had several agencies attend and set up tables, as well as members of the Post, Auxiliary and local community. The weather was just a little nippy that day, but overall it turned out well. Habitat for Humanity, "Heroes Home - Josh Rodgers", constructed the walls right here in our parking lot. Once the framing was inspected, they were transported to the building site. Thanks to all who helped.

Pop Up Chicken Shop

Furnished our veterans meal on Memorial Day. The BBQ, green bean casserole, mashed potatoes and potato salad were delicious. The veterans and auxiliary members enjoyed a good lunch.

They are open Monday - Saturday, 11 am - 4 pm. So come on in and enjoy lunch, and bring your family and friends. Remember, all Post and Auxiliary members receive a \$1 discount on their meals. Just show your membership card when ordering.

Post Membership

We are fast approaching the 2019 - 2020 year. Let's make this the year that we encourage everyone to become "Life Members" of the VFW. Our Post has a special program to assist our annual members in obtaining Life Membership. Now is the time to come see our Quartermaster (Jim Waters) or call 309-827-9733, so he can help you convert to a

Life Membership with the VFW.

So don't wait any longer. Make that jump and be a proud Life Member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars. Veterans do make a difference in this community and our country by Leading The Way!

Auxiliary Annual Dues

Now's the time to start paying your 2019 - 2020 dues. Please send your \$25.00 to Diane Hawk, Treasurer - 1006 E Lincoln St - Bloomington 61701. If you are having financial or health problems, let us know. We have ways to assist you. Call Diane at 309-828-3534.

Packing Boxes & Bake Sale

Thanks to all who helped pack the ten boxes being sent to our military overseas on Saturday, May 11th at 9 am.

Our next date to pack boxes is July 13th. If you have a name and address of someone overseas, please let us know. Drop it off at the Post or send it to the Auxiliary. We are very low on food and hygiene products so any donation will be greatly appreciated.

Don't forget that our Bake Sale is also on this day. It is from 11 am to 2 pm. All you bakers please bring in those delicious summer baked goods.

Entertainment Events & Cook Out

We continue with our Paint Nite Events. We had 17 people attend the May Paint Nite. They had a wonderful time and we got to see some great up and coming artists.

Our next Paint Nite is June 17th and called Blue Spring Butterfly. So go register and paint with us. We know you have the talent. Remember, you can paint that family heirloom for that someone special.

Our dinner and band nights have gone pretty good. We continue to work towards good entertainment to match the good food from the Chicken Shop. Each

of these seem to go hand in hand. So please come out and support these events and bring your family and friends.

Tentative as this time!

June 21st

5:30 - 7:30 Chicken & Fish Dinner

7:30 - 10:30 Femme Fatale Band

Note: Our understanding is that the lead singer of this band was also in the Sister Groove Band that played the local area several years ago.

We had the Double Shot Duo Band on May 24th and many people liked them and requested them to play here again. We will book them again for your musical pleasure. Ensure you read our newsletter, check out our facebook and web pages and the pantagraph newspaper for information about our events.

If you have information on an entertainment event please provide us the information and we will see what we can do to arrange something.

District Meetings

The next District meeting will take place on Sunday, August 18th at Post 8350 in Chenoa. The joint Post and Auxiliary meeting begins at 11:00 am. Lunch is served at noon. Individual meetings begin at 1:00.

This is the first meeting of the 2019 - 2020 meeting. Please plan to attend the meeting on this date and find out what is happening in the District.

Flags Out and Memorial Day Events

Thank You to everyone that helped with these events. Everything went well. The ground was soft and allowed us to place the flags very easily. The parade and ceremonies took place without a hitch.

Best of all the weather played well for us on all the days we had projects planned. It was a nice weekend.

Room Bookings & Events

We rent our dining room for all types of

events. These events help raise money for our veterans programs and local community charities.

We currently have two food establishments inside the VFW, us and the Chicken Shop. Both have food permits that allow us to serve food in this facility. We must take certain precautions when it comes to others serving food in our building. Meaning, we must follow the McLean County Health Department rules.

One of those rules is that outside food must be catered by a licensed business with a food permit issued by the McLean County Health Department. Therefore, no permit, no serving food in our facility.

We have situations come up all the time and people think we are making things up. Any person having a Food Sanitation certificate means they took a one day class and know how to handle food properly. It is NOT a food permit.

Sample Situation: Moe works at Clara's Diner. Moe has a food sanitation certificate. Moe asks Clara if he can cook some food in the kitchen and serve it at his sister's reception at the VFW. Clara gives the okay.

Under McLean County Health Dept rules, this is NOT OK. Moe does not have a food permit. Clara's Diner has a food permit. Since Moe's sister did not contract Clara's Diner to provide food for her event it is against the rules for McLean County.

Situations such as this come up all the time and will cause serious issues for Moe, Clara's Diner and the VFW if we allowed this to happen and people get sick from possibly bad food. We would have to prove it wasn't us preparing the food. This is why we insist on following the rules. We cannot allow others to put our Post or licenses in jeopardy.

IN MEMORY OF OUR DEPARTED COMRADES AND SISTERS

Robert "Doc" Clark (May)



JUNE 2019

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
						1 Celebration of Life 5 pm VFW Darts 7 pm
2 VFW Rider's Meeting 12:30 pm	3 House Mtg 5:30 pm AMVETS Mtg 6:30 pm	4 Post Mtg 6 pm Pool 7 pm	5 Auxiliary Mtg 6:30 pm Pool 7 pm	6 Pool 7 pm	7 Andrews Pool Tourn 6:30 pm VFW Darts 7 pm	8 Bake Sale 11 am VFW Darts 7 pm
9	10 NALC Mtg 7 pm	11 Marine Corps League Mtg 7 pm Pool 7 pm	12 Pool 7 pm	13 Pool 7 pm	14 7 pm Andrews Pool Tourn 6:30 pm VFW Darts 7 pm	15 VFW Darts 7
16	17 Paint Nite Setup 5 pm Starts 7 pm	18 Pool 7 pm	19 Pool 7 pm	20 Open Mic Night 7 pm Pool 7 pm	21 Possible Band Andrews Pool Tourn 6:30 pm VFW Darts 7 pm	22 Remembering Heroes Ride VFW Darts 7 pm
23	24	25 Pool 7 pm	26 DAV # 60 Mtg 5:30 pm Pool 7 pm	27 Pool 7 pm	28 Retirement Party 5 pm Andrews Pool Tourn 6:30 pm VFW Darts 7 pm	29 VFW Darts 7 pm
30	1 House Mtg 5:30 pm AMVETS Mtg 6:30 pm	2 Post Mtg 6 pm Pool 7 pm	3 Cook Out 5:30 pm Pool 7 pm	4 Happy Birthday America Pool 7 pm	5 Andrews Pool Tourn 6:30 pm VFW Darts 7 pm	6 VFW Darts 7 pm
7 VFW Rider's Meeting 12:30 pm	8 NALC Mtg 7 pm	9 Marine Corps League Mtg 7 pm Pool 7 pm	10 Auxiliary Mtg 6:30 pm Pool 7 pm	11 Pool 7 pm	12 Andrews Pool Tourn 6:30 pm VFW Darts 7 pm	13 Boxes 9 am Bake Sale 11 am VFW Darts 7 pm
14	15 Paint Nite Setup 5 pm Starts 7 pm	16 Pool 7 pm	17 Pool 7 pm	18 Open Mic Night 7 pm Pool 7 pm	19 Andrews Pool Tourn 6:30 pm VFW Darts 7 pm	20 VFW Darts 7 pm
21	22	23 Pool 7 pm	24 DAV # 60 Mtg 5:30 pm Pool 7 pm	25 Set Up Aux Garage Sale Pool 7 pm	26 Aux Garage Sale No Darts 7	27 Aux Garage Sale No Darts 7