



VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS

John H. Kraus Post 454
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Non-Profit Organization
Heyworth, IL
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 (Autumn Daze)
Monday, November 19th at 7 pm
To Register Go To: paintnite.com
Use the Code "PaintBloNo"
Cost is DISCOUNTED to \$27.00!



Feather Party - Open to the Public
Friday November 16th (7 – 11:30 pm)
WIN WIN WIN
Turkey Ham Bacon Chicken
Many Other Assorted Prizes

COMMANDERS COMMENTS

Hello Everyone,

Well it's that time of the year again where everyone starts talking about moving south to warmer climates and the start of the Holiday season keeps us moving.

Our new tenant in the Kitchen is underway with lunches M – S from 11 am to 4 pm. It is nice to have food at the post again.

We are hosting the 7th District Meeting at our Post on November 18th. If you have never been to a District Meeting come and join us. You might learn something, and since this meeting is at our Post. It would be nice to show our presence.

As a VFW member, remember to volunteer, recruit and get the word out to our community about what we do for our veterans.

November is National Military Family Month. Here are some other significant days in November:

- 4th Daylight Savings Time Ends (Set Your Clocks Back 1 hr)
- 6th Election Day (Exercise Your Right To Vote)
- 10th Marine Corps 243rd Birthday
- 11th Veterans Day Ceremonies (100th Anniversary End of WWI)
- 12th Veterans Day (holiday)
- 16th 1st Feather Party
- 18th District 7 Meeting
- 22nd Thanksgiving Day (Post Is Closed)

In closing, I wish good health to all during the common cold season and for the unlucky ones we wish you a speedy recovery. Hope you all enjoy some time with family during the holidays and if you need a break from the family or in-laws, just bring the family to some of the events like the feather party and we will see you at the post.

Adam Jacobs
Post Commander

AUXILIARY PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings to all Auxiliary members. As you are reading this you are probably thinking the Holidays are almost here. How fortunate we are to live in a Country where we can celebrate as we choose. We know who to thank for our freedoms---our men and women veterans and those who are serving our country today. Remember those serving while you are celebrating with family and friends. Take time to say a special prayer of thanks for their service.

Some key dates this month are Election Day is November 6th. Exercise your right and go VOTE. We will be packing boxes on the 10th at 9 am for deployed members of our military. Also on the 10th we will be having a bake sale from 11 am to 2 pm.

Let's not forget November 11th as we come together to thank all the Veterans who have served in the United States Military, both living and deceased.

Wherever you may be, try to attend a service. On November 12th, Veterans Day Observed, our Auxiliary will be helping to serve breakfast at Hyvee from 7 am until noon.

The first Feather party is on the 16th, a lot of work goes into organizing all this, and, what a fun time it is. The 18th will be the District 7 meeting at our POST 454.

Our next Auxiliary meeting is Wednesday, November 7th at 6:30 pm. Really looking forward to seeing you all.

"HAPPY THANKSGIVING"

Murleen Swafford
Auxiliary President

VFW 454 RIDERS GROUP

Our meetings are held once a month, with our next one on Sunday, November 4th at 12:30 pm in the conference room of our Post.

We are always looking for new members to be part of the Riders Group. If you like to ride and have fun or want to help set up a fund raising event please come to our meetings and join up.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Veterans Day – November 11th

The annual celebration happens on Sunday this year. It will take place at the McLean County Museum in downtown Bloomington. This year marks the 100th Anniversary of the End of WWI.

We recommend that you get there by 10:30 in order to get a good spot to see the stage area. Pay attention to the weather because the ceremony is outdoors. Members of the VFW, as well as other Veterans Group from our local area are participating in this event.

So come out that morning and wave your flags, hold your signs high and show your support for "ALL Veterans". You are the reason Veterans Do What They Do!

Remembering WWI

Post 454 has hosted several special events remembering WWI and finding the gravesites of McLean County service members killed during WWI.

We wish to thank Suzanne Kraus, members of her family and the Lexington Genealogical Society for chairing this project. The project is meant to help inform people about WWI, where our service members are buried, as well as create Grave Adoptions in order to clean the graves and place flags in remembrance of the 100th Anniversary of the end of WWI (November 11, 2018).

Here are a couple of links from articles published in the Pantagraph newspaper about this program.

Early October Pantagraph news article: www.pantagraph.com/news/local/like-family-adopt-a-grave-project-honors-wwi-soldiers-from/article_b826d817-967b-58aa-881c-a23df594b21f.html

October 26th Pantagraph news article: https://www.pantagraph.com/opinion/editorial/editorial-cheers-to-grave-site-hoped-blitz-programs/article_89867497-1d70-5e81-9006-5630b662c388.html

If you haven't seen the articles, please take some time and read them. It would be great to have more people involved.

United States Marine Corps 243rd

Birthday

Saturday, November 10th

5:00 pm Festivities & Food

5:45 or 6:00 pm

Commandants Message

6:15 to 7:30 pm

Ceremonies & Cake cutting

7:45 or 8:00 pm

“Old Smoke” Band plays

(Public Invited For The Band)

Pop Up Chicken Shop Has Opened!

They are well into their 2nd week of food service and everything is going well. The customers have nothing but good comments about the food. If you haven't stopped by to try the Chicken and Waffles, you are missing a delicious meal.

They also served food during our Halloween & Band night costume party on Saturday, October 27th. It sure hit the spot for those who were hungry.

They are in the planning stages of adding things to their menu and preparing for Friday night dinners. However, the Post has several room bookings already for the dining room over the next few months. Once we get past those dates, we should be on track to add in Friday nights.

Pop Up Chicken Shop will be open for the Feather party events. So plan to come early and have dinner with us and be ready for the Feather Party festivities.

Feather Parties

Here they come! The 1st Feather Party is November 16th and the 2nd one is December 14th. They start at 7 pm and run until the prizes run out.

Remember, we need people to help with the setup, ticket sellers (7 – 8 people), delivering prizes (6 – 8 people) and cleanup afterwards (3 – 4 people). Remember folks, these events raise money used to support veterans programs

and local community charities. So please plan to attend and bring your friends to one or both of these events.

Quincy Veterans Home Trip

The annual trip to the Quincy Veterans Home took place on Saturday, October 27th. Many boxes of donated items were delivered for the veterans. Our members also played bingo with the residents. They always enjoy the time we spend with them.

Post Membership

Annual members consider accepting the Post's offer to help you become a “Life Member”. The Post will pay \$100 towards a life membership. Contact the Post at 309-827-9733 and ask for Jim (our Quartermaster). He can help you become a Life Member. There have been a couple of members and a new member that has taken advantage of our generosity. So, if you are an annual member please consider converting to a Life Member.

Auxiliary Annual Dues

Your 2019 annual dues (\$25) can now be paid. Send a check to Diane Hawk, Treasurer, to 1006 E Lincoln St., Bloomington, IL 61701. Become a Life Member and you never have to pay dues again.

Packing Boxes

We will be packing boxes Saturday, November 10th at 9 am at the POST. Our current needs are, hygiene products, food (snack items), socks, batteries, hand warmers and anything else you feel our men and women could use while overseas. This is also our Christmas box mailing. So let's make sure these service members know we care. Thank you for all your help and donations.

Pot Belly's Veterans Fund Raising

Please stop by Pot Belly's at 609 South Main Street in Normal and have dinner on one of the dates shown below. Here are the dates for the rest of this year:

November 14

December 12

Entertainment Events

November 19th is our next Paint Nite. It is titled "Autumn Daze". Many people have expressed a lot of interest in this painting. So don't hesitate on purchasing a ticket to this event. The seats sell out fast. The last Paint Nite of 2018 will be December 10th. Don't miss them. We hope to have more scheduled starting January 2019.

There are several musical events happening over the next few months. **November 10th** right after the Marine Corps birthday event the band “Old Smoke” will finish out the evening with great music. Come out and support one of our own VFW Members (Travis Wheat – current Adjutant) is a member of this band. So let's show Travis and “Old Smoke” that we appreciate them furnishing entertainment to VFW Post 454.

Dec 31st is New Year's Eve with the “Flatland Band”. Help us say good-bye to 2018 and a big Hello to 2019. Come and celebrate with us. Pop Up Chicken will be open and serving up some great food.

District Meetings

Members of Post 454, as you can see the next District 7 meeting is here at our Post. We need to have a big turnout for this event. We are the largest Post in District 7 and should be a leader within our District. So please plan to attend this meeting and find out about what is happening in our District and the State.

Nov 18th

Bloomington (Post 454)

Feb 17th

Pontiac (Post 886)

May 19th

Champaign (Post 5520)

The joint Post and Auxiliary meeting begins at 11:00 am. Lunch is served at noon. The individual veteran and auxiliary meetings begin at 1:00 pm.

IN MEMORY OF OUR DEPARTED COMRADES AND SISTERS

Gary Spurling (Sep)

Rose Schenk (Sep)

Gail Hacker (Oct)

Harry Shultz (Oct)

Maisie McDaniel (Oct)

Robert Zenor, Sr. (Oct)



NOVEMBER 2018

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3
					Retirement Party 5 pm VFW Darts 7 pm	VOD Judging 9 am VFW Darts 7 pm
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Birthday Party 12 pm VFW Rider's Meeting 12:30 pm	House Mtg 5:30 pm AMVETS Mtg 6:30 pm	Post Mtg 6 pm Pool 7 pm	Auxiliary Mtg 6:30 pm Pool 7 pm		VFW Darts 7 pm	USMC Birthday 5 pm Old Smoke Band 8 pm NO DARTS
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Veterans Day Ceremony Downtown 10:45 am		Marine Corps League Mtg 7 pm Pool 7 pm	Pool 7 pm		Feather Party 7 pm NO DARTS	VFW Darts 7 pm
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
District 7 Mtg 11 am Post Closed Until 3 pm	Paint Nite Setup 5 pm Starts 7 pm	Open Mic Night 7 pm Pool 7 pm	Pool 7 pm	Happy Thanksgiving Post Closed	VFW Darts 7 pm	VFW Darts 7 pm
25	26	27	28	29	30	1
		Pool 7 pm	Pool 7 pm		VFW Darts 7 pm	District VOD Judging 8 am Wedding Receipt 4 pm NO DARTS
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
VFW Rider's 12:30 pm Baby Shower 2 pm	House Mtg 5:30 pm AMVETS Mtg 6:30 pm	Post Mtg 6 pm Pool 7 pm	Auxiliary Mtg 6:30 pm Pool 7 pm		VFW Darts 7 pm	VOD Banquet Set up 10 am VFW Darts 7 pm
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
	Paint Nite Setup 5 pm Starts 7 pm	Marine Corps League Mtg 7 pm Pool 7 pm	Pool 7 pm		Feather Party 7 pm NO DARTS	VFW Darts 7 pm
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
		Open Mic Night 7 pm Pool 7 pm	Pool 7 pm		VFW Darts 7 pm	VFW Darts 7 pm
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
	Tom & Jerry's 4 pm	Christmas Day Post Closed	Pool 7 pm		VFW Darts 7 pm	VFW Darts 7 pm

Band Information:

Nov 10th
Dec 31st

7:30 or 8 pm
Flatland Band

Old Smoke (right after USMC Birthday Event)