



VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS

John H. Kraus Post 454
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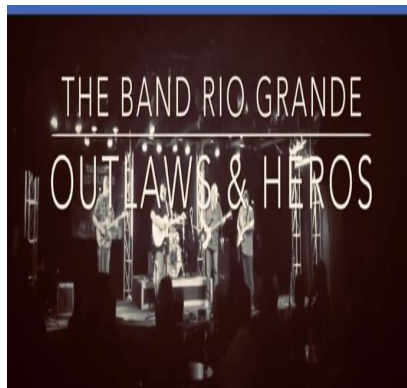
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C. J. Wahmann, Auxiliary President
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Post Web Page ó www.vfwpost454.org

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
(Walk Through Autumn)
Monday, October 21st at 7 pm
To Register Go To:
www.yaymaker.com
Use the Code "CRAFTLOCAL"
For a Discounted Price!**



**Rio Grand Band
Friday, October 11th
7:30 - 10:30 pm
New At The VFW**



**Capt Ron Band
Friday, October 25th
7:30 - 10:30 pm
Put your Toes In The Water
Band Nights
Pop Up Chicken Shop
Serving Fish & Chicken Dinner
5:30 - 7:30 pm**

COMMANDERS COMMENTS

Greetings comrades,
Hope this finds you all in good health. Another month has come and gone. The students are now settled into their routines. Now the farmers in the area are starting to get busy, so watch for slow-moving traffic and increased wildlife activity when travelling off the main highways.

October 2nd is the next upcoming Operation Honor Guard taking place here in Bloomington. Check out the details of the event here in our newsletter.

On the 12th we will be making our annual trip to the Quincy Veterans home, so if you have any last-minute donations to make now is the time. Quincy will accept donations of new T-shirts (large, 1X, 2X and 3X). They will also accept sweat pants in the same sizes.

A veteran's Stand Down is taking place on October 19th at Dozer Park in Peoria. We will post more information about the Stand Down on our website and facebook pages for those who are able to participate.

Those of you that are annual members please check to ensure that your membership is current. VFW National recently purged 88,000 members who are either deceased, inactive or mail was returned. Do your part to stay off this list.

We are also still working through Connect-Transit to obtain a permanent fix for the bus stop problems at the new clinic opening here in Bloomington in November of this year. Any feedback you can give to your aldermen and the mayor's office would be very appreciated.

Also, the VAC office is looking for feedback on a shuttle bus service to the surrounding towns.

For those of you who knew Doc Clark, don't forget about his Celebration of Life on Friday, October 4th at 5 pm.

Robert Sable
Post Commander

AUXILIARY PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Everyone it's time to dig out your sweater. The leaves are turning and the Fall season is upon us.

We are looking forward to a very special night on October 2nd. The National Auxiliary President will visit our Post. Social Hour is at 5:30 pm and the dinner at 6:30 pm. Since this would be our regular meeting night we have rescheduled our October meeting to October 9th at 6:30 pm. Please mark your calendar and attend this meeting as we have so many activities planned for the holidays. This is also the meeting that our District President will be visiting with us and we plan to have a small get together after the meeting to visit with her.

Our annual trip to Quincy is scheduled for October 12th. We will leave the Post at 9:00 am to have lunch at the VA snack bar and play Bingo with the veterans. This is always a rewarding trip so please plan to travel with us that day.

October 17th is our last trip of the year to Danville for lunch with the veterans. We will be meeting them at Curtis Orchard in Champaign, leaving the Post at 10:00 am. This is an event that we will need extra help with. If you can push a wheel chair or pull a small wagon we can use your help.

A number of our members will be helping with a Stand Down at Dozer Park in Peoria on October 19th. Last, but certainly not least, is our annual children's Halloween Party on October 27th. Gather up your kids, your grandkids and your neighbor's kids. This is always a great time with games and an old fashioned cake walk.

Looking ahead at a couple important dates, the next District Meeting is scheduled for November 17th in Fairbury. The 7th District Christmas Party at Danville is December 14th and in Manteno on December 15th. There are so many veterans who have no one to celebrate with them over the holidays so we need to step up, search them out and

be their adopted family this season.

C.J. Wahmann
Auxiliary President

GENERAL INFORMATION

Celebration of Life – Bob “Doc” Clark
Takes place on Friday, October 4th. His family has invited all members of the Post who knew him to come and share in the celebration and what would have been his 70th Birthday.

Many of you know that Doc passed away a few months ago. He served in several officer positions to include Post Commander for 3 years and was serving as our Sr. Vice Commander at the time of his passing. So come out and celebrate his life and enjoy time with the family and friends.

Bloomington VA Clinic

The opening date at this time still appears to be November. We haven't heard anything new from the VA about the clinic. If you or other veterans have never signed up for the VA healthcare system, now is the time to get you enrolled. We will be working with VA reps to get some dates set aside at the Post for you to come and sign up. We will post those dates on our website, facebook pages and publish them in local media to reach as many veterans as possible.

Mobility Connect

If you are disabled and need assistance getting to your local appointments and so forth in the Bloomington / Normal area, now is the time to sign up for Mobility Connect.

This is a service that is required under the ADA. If you have a disability and have no way of getting around town, this may be your answer. There is an application and approval process which could take up to 60 days, but the benefits could outweigh the short wait time. As mentioned, we have copies of the application at the Post.

The way it works is you make a reservation the day before and they will pick you up and transport you. They currently have 17 of these special

transport vehicles. So, if you have a disability and need assistance with transportation please fill out an application and see if this service could benefit you.

Pop Up Chicken Shop

Is open Monday - Saturday 11 ó 4 pm. We still hear from people that have not tried their food. You are in for a treat. They are the Pantagraph's 2019 Readers Choice for fried chicken. So stop by and bring your neighbors to try their food and check up on some of your other friends here at the Post.

Post Membership

We are currently 3 months into the current year and sitting at 89.16%. We have approx 32 to 35 annual members. We need our annual members to go ahead and pay their dues for this year to make us 100%.

We would like to have our Post at 100% each year. We are not trying to win any type of individual award. We just want everyone to know that we can maintain 100% membership.

This brings us to another membership item not talked about very often. Please stay in touch with us. If you move please ensure you pass on that information. Also, please ask your family, in the event you move to a nursing home or pass away to inform us so that we can update our records. Your assistance in keeping our records updated is greatly appreciated.

Our Post has a special program to assist members in obtaining Life Membership. Now is the time to come see our Quartermaster or call 309-827-9733. If an annual member is financially stressed see our Quartermaster about your dues.

Auxiliary Annual 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

The Auxiliary packs boxes every other month to send to deployed service members in a combat area. The next packing is Saturday, November 9th at 9 am. Now is the time to start collecting items for packing. So if there is anything you can donate or spare please drop those items off at the Post.

Entertainment Events

VFW Post 454 would like to offer our sincerest condolences to the family of Patrick Campbell and the Jury's Out Band. Patrick passed away on Friday, September 20th. Jury's Out has played at the VFW several times over the last few years. We will miss their friendship and entertainment.

Join us and let that inner-artist out and paint a masterpiece that can be enjoyed by your family for generations to come.

Painting Name

October 21st Walk Through Autumn

Register at www.yaymaker.com Use the Code 0CRAFTLOCAL0 for a discounted price.

Upcoming Musical Entertainment

Oct 11th Rio Grande
Oct 25th Capt Ron
Nov 8th Velvet Groove
Dec 31st The Bygones

Don't forget, The Pop Up Chicken Shop will also be serving fish & chicken that night from 5:30 - 7:30 pm.

District Meetings

The next District meeting will take place on Sunday, November 17th in Fairbury.

The joint meeting begins at 11:00 am. Lunch is served at noon. Individual meetings begin at 1:00.

Annual Quincy Veteran's Home Trip

The annual trip is slated for Saturday, October 12th. Now is the time to begin collecting donations for those veterans. The Auxiliary is leaving the Post at 9 am that morning if you would like to go along.

Scholarship and Awards Time

There is still time for entries for the Voice of Democracy (high school students) and Patriot's Pen (middle school students) Scholarship Programs. Also for the Teacher of the Year, Scout of the Year and Public Servant. Don't delay, submit them as soon as possible.

The forms and information is on our website www.vfwpost454.org and facebook page.

Operation Honor Guard

Takes place on Wednesday, October 2nd from 6 am ó 7 pm at Carmody ó Flynn Funeral Home at 1800 Eastland Drive. We need as many Honor Guard members as possible to sign up for shifts during the day to help accept donations and also attend the ceremony at the end of the day.

The donations we receive enable us to purchase uniforms, caps, shoes, flags and other items necessary to respectfully perform funeral services for military and veterans, as well as community support projects.

Knee / Hip Joint Seminar

Takes place on October 27th at 5:30 pm at our Post. The medical group is supplying a meal with this seminar. Requires registration. Open to all members, veterans and spouses. More information and flyers will be at the Post, on our website and facebook pages. Also look in the pantagraph for information.

IN MEMORY OF OUR DEPARTED COMRADES AND SISTERS

John Loebach (Jun)
Eileen Bagwell (Jul)
William Kummer (Sep)

Melvin Leake (Jul)
Nellie Lacroix (Aug)



OCTOBER 2019

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
		1 Post Mtg 6 pm Pool 7 pm	2 Aux Banquet 4:30 pm Pool 7 pm	3	4 Bob Clark's Celeb of Life 5 pm VFW Darts 8 pm	5 VFW Darts 8 pm
6 VFW Riders Mtg 12:30 pm	7 AMVETS Mtg 6:30 pm	8 MCL Mtg 7 pm Pool 7 pm	9 Auxiliary Mtg 6:30 pm Pool 7 pm	10	11 Fish & Chicken 5:30 ó 7:30 pm Rio Grande Band 7:30 pm VFW Darts 8 pm	12 Quincy Trip Bowling Banquet 5:30 pm VFW Darts 8 pm
13	14 NALC Mtg 7 pm	15 Pool 7 pm	16 Pool 7 pm	17 Aux Danville Trip 10 am Open Mic Night 7 pm	18 VFW Darts 8 pm	19 Stand Down, Dozer Park Peoria VFW Darts 8 pm
20	21 Paint Nite Setup 5 pm Starts 7 pm	22 Pool 7 pm	23 DAV # 60 Mtg 5:30 pm Pool 7 pm	24	25 Fish & Chicken 5:30 ó 7:30 pm Capt Ron Band 7:30 VFW Darts 8	26 Birthday Party 5:30 pm VFW Darts 8 pm
27 Kids Halloween Party 2 pm	28 Knee & Hip Seminar 5:30 pm	29 Pool 7 pm	30 Pool 7 pm	31 Happy Halloween	1 VFW Darts 8 pm	2 VFW Darts 8 pm
3 VFW Riders Mtg 12:30 pm	4 House Mtg 5:30 pm AMVETS Mtg 6:30 pm	5 Post Mtg 6 pm Pool 7 pm	6 Auxiliary Mtg 6:30 pm Pool 7 pm	7	8 Fish & Chicken 5:30 ó 7:30 pm Velvet Groove Band 7:30 VFW Darts 8	9 Packing Boxes 9 am Bake Sale 11 am VFW Darts 8
10	11 NALC Mtg 7 pm	12 MCL Mtg 7 pm Pool 7 pm	13 Pool 7 pm	14 Dan Brady Event 5 pm	15 VFW Darts 8 pm	16 VFW Darts 8 pm
17 District Mtg Fairbury 11 ó 3 pm	18 Paint Nite Setup 5 pm Starts 7 pm	19 Pool 7 pm	20 Pool 7 pm	21 Open Mic Night 7 pm Pool 7 pm	22 Feather Party 7 pm NO DARTS	23 VFW Darts 8 pm
24	25	26 Pool 7 pm	27 DAV # 60 Mtg 5:30 pm Pool 7 pm	28 Happy Thanksgiving Post Closed	29 VFW Darts 8 pm	30 VFW Darts 8 pm