



VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS

John H. Kraus Post 454
1006 E. Lincoln St.
Bloomington, IL 61701
(309)-827-9733

Non-Profit Organization
Heyworth, IL
US Postage Paid
PERMIT #19

Robert Sable, Post Commander
C. J. Wahmann, Auxiliary President
Jim Waters, Editor - Quartermaster
E-Mail Address for Post - vfw454@comcast.net
Post Web Page – 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
(Harvest Scarecrow)
Monday, November 18th at 7 pm
To Register Go To:
www.yaymaker.com
Use the Code “CRAFTLOCAL”
For a Discounted Price!**



**Velvet Groove Band
Friday, November 8th
7:30 - 10:30 pm**



**Feather Party
Friday, November 22nd
7:00 - 11:30 pm**

**Band Night & Feather Party
Pop Up Chicken Shop
Serving Fish & Chicken Dinner
5:00 - 7:00 pm**

COMMANDERS COMMENTS

Greetings comrades,
Lots going on with the VFW and the local community this month.

Nov 7th will be the official dedication ceremony for the new Bloomington VA clinic with the public Open House starting at 3 pm. The 9th is the Omega Delta Sigma's (ISU's veterans fraternity) student-veterans 5K run. Then on the 17th is our District meeting in Fairbury.

Don't forget we also celebrate Veterans Day on the 11th beginning with the ceremony downtown at the museum starting at 11 minutes prior to 11:00 am. Next, we move onto Thanksgiving Day on the 28th. Please take time to help support these holidays around the community.

As we pick up speed, December will feature Christmas parties for the residents at the Danville VA (12/15) and the Manteno VA (12/16). Don't let these and other veterans living in nursing homes and care facilities be forgotten. It may be you one of these days. Also if you haven't gotten your flu shots now would be a good time to get them before the severe cold weather arrives.

Robert Sable
Post Commander

AUXILIARY PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

October was again a busy month for us. We were so privileged to attend Bingo with the Vets at Quincy and then a trip to Curtis Orchard in Champaign with the Vets from Danville. As winter approaches we will not travel as much due to the weather.

Our meeting for November is on the 6th at 6:30 p.m. We are always anxious to welcome all members to attend. Be sure to mark your calendar to attend the December 4th meeting since it will be our annual Christmas Party. It's always a fun time.

November 9th will be our next bake

sale and packing service member boxes to send to those veterans serving overseas. Please notice the box in the Post lobby. There is a list of items we still need prior to that date. Your help is always appreciated.

November 17th is the District Meeting in Fairbury. We hope you all can make it. We have two very important dates that fall in November (Veterans Day) on the 11th. Many of our members have events to attend on that day to show our appreciation for the bravery shown by our veterans. The other one is Thanksgiving Day on the 28th.

The year has gone so fast and the holidays are upon us. I cannot express how thankful I am for the daily blessings I have received, and I am so thankful for living in America.

Thank you to all our veterans for your sacrifice so that we can all be free.
HAPPY THANKSGIVING TO ALL.

C.J. Wahmann
Auxiliary President

GENERAL INFORMATION

Bloomington's VA Clinic Open House Takes place on Thursday, November 7th at 3 pm. If you have the time please stop by and tour the facility. Our veterans have waited a long time for this clinic to open. After you tour the new clinic, stop by the Post and share some camaraderie with other veterans and family members. This would be a great time for our members to get together and talk about old times and look at creating some new future memories.

Veterans Day Celebration

As you know, happens every year on November 11th. The ceremony will take place in downtown Bloomington on the front steps of the Mclean County Museum.

Many members from the local veterans groups will be onsite to perform the

ceremony. Everyone needs to be onsite and formed up by 10:30 am. The ceremony will commence 11 minutes prior to 11:00 am. Bundle up for the ceremony because it is usually cold at this time of the year.

Once the ceremony is concluded, the Post will have a Veterans Day lunch ready to serve at Noon. Don't worry, there will be "Hot" coffee waiting for you. We haven't chosen the meal yet, but we can assure you it will be good.

Something new this year, is we are having seven veterans (six men and one woman) along with a couple of care providers from Aperion Care nursing home join us for lunch. The Post and the Auxiliary are putting together a goody bag for each veteran to take back with them. We want to make this day special for all veterans and especially those joining us for lunch. If a lot of our members are planning on attending this lunch, Please contact the Post so we can ensure to have plenty of food for those attending.

As the day continues, members of the Color Guard and others will continue throughout the day with other ceremonies at schools or churches around town. We thank them for volunteering to provide these services.

Other Veterans Day Events & Services

There are many local businesses hosting a variety of events and services on Veterans Day. For example the ARC (in Normal) is hosting lunch and a flag dedication ceremony. There are a couple of local dentists providing certain types of free care to veterans on this day.

Many of the local restaurants are providing free meals. Check out our web and facebook pages for more information. The information is being updated as it becomes available. Remember, if you stop by any of these events or receive a free meal be sure to thank those businesses who are honoring you.

Omega Delta Sigma & ISU ROTC 5K Run

The fraternity and the ISU ROTC is hosting a student-veterans 5K run to raise

money for the fraternity, ISU's ROTC Department and the SGT Josh Rogers Memorial Fund. This event takes place at the Student Fitness Center at ISU on Saturday, Nov 9th at 9:00 am.

Our Commander and Quartermaster, as well as Auxiliary members are attending this event. This is a recruiting opportunity for the Post and Auxiliary, as well as demonstrating support for these veterans and our local community. If you would like to join us please contact the Post and speak with Jim Waters about the details.

Honor Flight Attendees

Are you interested in telling about your trip? If so, go to:
reminisce.com/submit-a-story

Reminisce is North America's top-selling nostalgia magazine that celebrates the good times with fun, engaging stories about what we loved in the past and how it shapes our lives today.

They are preparing an edition celebrating the 75th anniversary of the end of WWII and they want to hear from veterans of any war who have taken an Honor Flight to visit the memorials for the battles they fought. When submitting your story and pictures please label it "Honor Flight". Let's get those stories submitted and share your experience.

Feather Party

Yes, You Know It! It's that time of the year again. The 1st Feather Party takes place on Friday, November 22nd at 7:00 pm. We also have one scheduled in December as well.

It's always a lot of fun. Our Post is filled with laughter, good cheer and the desire to win Turkeys, Hams, Cookies, Candies and everyone's favorite Bacon! Of course let's not forget the other items given away to 12 lucky winners each time the Wheel spins. So bring your smiles, friends, family and dollar bills and win prizes.

Many of you already know, it takes a lot of work to deliver those prizes throughout the night. We can always use more help with running the prizes to the winners. If we could get several more volunteers, it would help cut down on the amount of time each person has to put in to make this all work. Please contact Jim Waters at the Post to sign up for helping that night.

We thank Linda, Dan and their family for putting together this event each year.

Don't forget, the Pop Up Chicken Shop will also be serving dinner from 5 - 7 pm this night.

Marine Corps Birthday Party

Nov 10th at 5 pm in the VFW dining room for a meet and greet. Food is served at 6 pm. Following the dinner is the Commandants message and the cake cutting ceremony. Happy Birthday Marines and cheers to a wonderful event.

Packing Boxes & Bake Sale

The Auxiliary is packing boxes on Nov 9th at 9 am to send to deployed service members overseas. They have collected lots of items and would appreciate all the help they can get. Don't forget the bake sale at 11 am.

Paint Nites

We have more dates booked into next year, so sign up and create your masterpiece.

Painting Name

November 18th Harvest Scarecrow

Register at www.yaymaker.com
Use the Code "CRAFTLOCAL" for a discounted price.

Upcoming Musical Entertainment

| | |
|----------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Nov 8 th | Velvet Groove |
| Dec 6 th | Retrofit Band |
| Dec 31 st | The Bygones (New Years Eve Party) |
| Jan 17 th | Audio Faction |

Don't forget, The Pop Up Chicken Shop

will also be serving fish & chicken on band nights 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 was Saturday, October 12th. Members of the Post and Auxiliary attended the event and played bingo with the residents. The residents were very grateful that people took the time to share some fun and good cheer with them. If you have never been, you should consider going next year and sharing a little time with our fellow veterans.

Operation Honor Guard

We would like to thank all the Post members that took time to support this fund raiser. Each year Operation Honor Guard helps raise funds for our color guard uniforms and other supplies needed to provide services for deceased veterans.

2019 Viva La Flora Open House Event

The local veterans groups have teamed up with Viva La Flora for an open house and give back to veterans event running Nov 11th - 16th. Viva La Flora is located at 1704 Eastland Dr, Suite 8 in Bloomington.

They are helping collect items for troop boxes as well as items that can also be shared with local nursing homes and veterans hospitals. You bring in a donation and receive a certificate for \$10 off your purchase in their establishment. You can donate daily but only receive one certificate per day. All veterans receive 20% off their purchases. For more information check out the website:

https://vlfnow.com/2019_Open_House_Event/

IN MEMORY OF OUR DEPARTED COMRADES AND SISTERS

Don Bratcher (Sep)

Peggy Pyeatt (Sep)



NOVEMBER 2019

| SUN | MON | TUE | WED | THUR | FRI | SAT |
|---|--|---|---|---|--|--|
| | | | | | 1 | 2 |
| | | | | | VFW Darts 8 pm | Miller BD Party 5 pm VFW Darts 8 pm |
| 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
| | 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 | | Fish & Chicken 5:30 – 7:30 pm Velvet Groove Band 7:30 VFW Darts 8 | Packing Boxes 9 am Bake Sale 11 am CIHN Fund Raiser 5 pm VFW Darts 8 |
| 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |
| Marine Corps Birthday Event 5 pm | Veterans Day Lunch at 12 NALC Mtg 7 pm | Bags 6 pm MCL Mtg 7 pm Pool 7 pm | Twin City Saints Trivia 6 pm Pool 7 pm | Dan Brady Event 5 pm | VFW Darts 8 pm | VFW Darts 8 pm |
| 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| District Mtg Fairbury 11 – 3 pm | Paint Nite Setup 5 pm Starts 7 pm | Bags 6 pm Pool 7 pm | Pool 7 pm | Open Mic Night 7 pm | Fish & Chicken 5 - 7 pm Feather Party 7 pm NO DARTS | Patsy Mayer Event 5 pm VFW Darts 8 pm |
| 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |
| | | Bags 6 pm Pool 7 pm | DAV # 60 Mtg 5:30 pm Pool 7 pm | Happy Thanksgiving Post Closed | VFW Darts 8 pm | VFW Darts 8 pm |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| | 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 | | Fish & Chicken 5:30 – 7:30 pm Retrofit Band 7:30 VFW Darts 8 pm | Dist VOD 8:30 am VFW Darts 8 pm |
| 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
| | NALC Mtg 7 pm | Bags 6 pm MCL Mtg 7 pm Pool 7 pm | Pool 7 pm | | VFW Darts 8 pm | VFW Darts 8 pm |
| 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |
| | Paint Nite Setup 5 pm Starts 7 pm | Bags 6 pm Pool 7 pm | Pool 7 pm | Open Mic Night 7 pm | Fish & Chicken 5 - 7 pm Feather Party 7 pm NO DARTS | VFW Darts 8 pm |