



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
(Festive Wreath)
Monday, December 16th at 7 pm
To Register Go To:
www.yaymaker.com
Use the Code “CRAFTLOCAL”
For a Discounted Price!**



**Retrofit Band
Friday, December 6th
7:30 - 11:00 pm**



**Feather Party
Friday, December 20th
7:00 - 11:30 pm**

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

COMMANDERS COMMENTS

Greeting Comrades. We are now knee-deep in the holiday festivities, as families and organizations gather to celebrate. Let us not forget those who have no one to celebrate with. Visit or write those you know who are away serving or in care centers.

One feather party down and one to go. Thanks to those who helped make the November event a success. Our next one is December 20th and we will need your support for that event as well.

There are Christmas parties scheduled at Danville on Dec 14th and Manteno VA on Dec 15th. If you are interested in helping or attending those events stop by the Post and we will get you the information and times.

Don't forget that we will have Tom & Jerry's on Dec 24th (Christmas Eve) at the Post starting at 5 pm. We normally have a few left over items from the feather party to raffle off, so stop by and enjoy the fun with us.

We are also having a band on Dec 31st (New Years Eve). Come out and ring in 2020 with us.

Take care and enjoy your holiday time with family and friends.

Robert Sable
Post Commander

AUXILIARY PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I hope your shopping is almost done! Christmas is just around the corner and it's the perfect time to honor a veteran in need.

Thank you to all who helped with our bake sale and packing of boxes. We work so hard to make these successful and appreciate anyone who takes part in any way.

A couple of things on the calendar for this month. Our annual Auxiliary Christmas Party is on Wednesday, December 4th. We welcome all our Auxiliary members to attend this event. It is a fun social evening.

The Christmas Party for the Illiana VA in Danville is December 14th and for the Manteno VA is December 15th. These are both great days spent with veterans. If you have never participated in either of these events this should be your year to attend.

Since the first Wednesday of January falls on New Year's Day we will have our first meeting of 2020 on Wednesday, January 8th at our regular time.

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A VERY HAPPY AND PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR TO ALL.

C.J. Wahmann
Auxiliary President

GENERAL INFORMATION

Bloomington's VA Clinic Open House

Took place on November 7th. It was a very cold day, but our color guard and members from other local veterans groups braved the bitter cold and attended the ribbon cutting ceremony. The clinic is now open and seeing patients, so ensure you sign up and be assigned here. It has been a long time coming and we need to show our support.

Veterans Day Celebration

Came in with a freezing storm. It was way too early for snow to be here with a bitter cold. Luckily, it only lasted a day or so and was gone. The ceremonial event was moved inside the rotunda of the McLean County Museum where the attendees welcomed the warmth.

We had a veteran's lunch available to any veteran who stopped by on this day. Everyone that attended the luncheon was happy with the delicious food.

Due to a scheduling conflict with Aperion's bus, the veterans from the nursing home were unable to attend the luncheon. However, in VFW fashion, the goody bags that had been prepared were delivered to the veterans at the nursing home. They were so thankful for the gifts.

Omega Delta Sigma & ISU ROTC
5K Run

Commander Sable, Brent Wick and I attended this event. They had around 120 people signed up and the run was a success for their first fund raising event. We shared camaraderie with fellow veterans in the hopes of encouraging them to seek out membership in the VFW. We look forward to working on other events with these fellow veterans.

Feather Party

At the time of this newsletter, the November Feather Party is just happening. We know these events are always a success and people love to win prizes every time we spin the wheel.

Our favorite number caller (Dan Beard) was not able to attend the November event. He has been recuperating the last few weeks. We want him to know that we hope he is getting his strength back and will be able to attend the December Feather Party which takes place on Friday the 20th.

Paint Nites

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

	<u>Painting Name</u>
December 16th	Festive Wreath

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

We have been scheduling these events in the hopes of providing more events for our member's enjoyment. However, the last couple of events were canceled due to lack of participation. Only your participation can help keep these events at our Post. So please bring your family and friends.

Upcoming Musical Entertainment

As you see by this schedule of musical entertainment, we are bringing events to the Post, but we need our members to come out and enjoy these entertaining functions. We hope to see you here.

Dec 6th	Retrofit Band
Dec 31 st	The Bygones (New Years Eve Party)
Jan 17th	Audio Faction
Jan 31st	Back@cha Band

Feb 28th
Mar 27th

Big On Blondes
Hillbilly
High-Rise Band

person. Let's show these young Americans what we are all about and support them on their night.

drops on us, we know most of us will be shoveling or snow blowing it out of our way. However, do you know that your arteries and veins shrink when they are cold. This is very dangerous for those individuals that have heart conditions or breathing problems. Stay as warm as possible when outside in the freezing temperatures.

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

Tom & Jerry's Event

Is happening on December 24th at 5:00 pm. This has been a tradition at the Post for several years. We will have snacks to go along with your choice of brandy or rum to help kick off the Christmas festivities.

If there are any leftover Feather Party turkeys, bacon, hams or liquors, we will raffle them off as well. This evening is normally a fun time for all who attend. So stop by and share some Christmas cheer with your friends.

New Years Eve at the VFW

Yes, we are having a band for New Years. It is the "Bygones Band" which most of you have heard them many times over the years. They always put on a good show.

We hope to see a lot of our members and community supporters at this celebration event. Help us ring in 2020 by enjoying a fun time at VFW Post 454.

District Meetings

The next District meeting will take place on Sunday, February 16th in Champaign. The joint meeting begins at 11:00 am. Lunch is served at noon. Individual meetings begin at 1:00.

District VOD Banquet

If my memory serves me correctly, this Banquet is to be held on January 19th at the Champaign VFW. I will ensure you have the correct information in the January 2020 newsletter.

If you are planning to attend please let us know. The meal tickets are \$15.00 a

2019 Viva La Flora Open House Event

The Viva La Flora open house was a good event. They received over 200 donations that will go towards boxes for those service members deployed overseas. Our Auxiliary packs those care packages every other month, so be sure to keep bringing in those donations.

We would like to thank Viva La Flora (Brian and his staff) for opening their business to the local veterans organizations and offering another avenue of support to help reach the members of our community and show them the tremendous impact they and the local veterans groups have on our deployed service members.

This was the first event of this type and we look forward to working with Viva La Flora on other veterans projects.

Safety and Winter Weather

You already know that winter is here. However, these are just reminders about how dangerous it can be indoors and out.

First, you need to ensure that your home furnace is inspected and working properly. Often times they break down during the coldest days of the season. Please have it checked and serviced.

Second, check your vehicle. Have it serviced. Check the tires, battery and antifreeze. Don't forget to purchase "subzero window washer fluid". You know the inexpensive liquid will freeze and you won't be able to rinse your car window. It normally happens, as well, breaks down on the coldest day and leaves you stranded on the highway or no way to get to and from work. Don't forget to check the security of the car seats for your little ones.

Third, is your health. If the old snow

Fourthly, ensure that you check on each other through the winter. We all have neighbors or friends that we see outside or occasionally walking down the street. If haven't seen that person or spoken to them in a few days, check on them. They may need your help.

Lastly, as we approach the end of 2019 and prepare to bring in 2020, don't forget to check your fire/smoke alarms and replace the batteries if needed. Too many people lose their lives because these items didn't work when needed.

Video Gaming and National Home

Our video gaming area is one of the nicest in town.

One thing we have done for many years is have a donation can located on top of the payout machine. This can is for anyone that wants to donate their spare change or those left over tickets.

100% of the money collected from the donation can goes to the VFW National Home for Children located in Eaton Rapids, Michigan. These funds are used to support the upkeep of the two (2) Illinois Homes located on the campus.

A large poster of the entire campus hangs on the wall in the gaming area.

We have hung the "Gold Star" plaques on the wall as well. Post 454 has contributed \$2,000 in donations the previous 4 years. This year's plaque is on its way. So thank you all for supporting such a worthwhile endeavor.

IN MEMORY OF OUR DEPARTED COMRADES AND SISTERS

Ink Peasley (Oct)

Anthony Valone (Nov)



DECEMBER 2019

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
1	2 House Mtg 5:30 pm AMVETS Mtg 6:30 pm	3 Post Mtg 6 pm Pool 7 pm	4 Auxiliary Mtg 6:30 pm Pool 7 pm	5 Omeg Delta Sigma Cermony 6 pm	6 Fish & Chicken 5:30 – 7:30 pm Retrofit Band 7:30 - 11:30 VFW Darts 8 pm	7 Dist VOD Judging 8:30 am Graduation Party 6 pm VFW Darts 8 pm
8 Celebration of Life 1 pm	9 NALC Mtg 7 pm	10 MCL Mtg 7 pm Pool 7 pm	11 Pool 7 pm	12	13 VFW Darts 8 pm	14 44th Chemical Unit Dinner 6 pm VFW Darts 8 pm
15	16 Paint Nite Setup 5 pm Starts 7 pm	17 Bags 6 pm Pool 7 pm	18 Pool 7 pm	19 Open Mic Night 7 pm	20 Fish & Chicken 5 - 7 pm Feather Party 7 pm NO DARTS	21 VFW Darts 8 pm
22	23 Paint Nite Setup 5 pm Starts 7 pm	24 Tom & Jerry's 5 pm Post Closes Early	25 Christmas Day Post Closed	26	27 VFW Darts 8 pm	28 VFW Darts 8 pm
29	30	31 New Years Eve Bygones Band	1 New Years Day Post Open	2	3 VFW Darts 8 pm	4 VFW Darts 8 pm
5	6 House Mtg 5:30 pm AMVETS Mtg 6:30 pm	7 Post Mtg 6 pm Pool 7 pm	8 Auxiliary Mtg 6:30 pm Pool 7 pm	9	10 VFW Darts 8	11 VFW Darts 8
12	13 NALC Mtg 7 pm	14 MCL Mtg 7 pm Pool 7 pm	15 Pool 7 pm	16 Open Mic Night 7 pm	17 Fish & Chicken 5:30 – 7:30 pm Audio Faction Band 7:30 pm VFW Darts 8 pm	18 VFW Darts 8 pm
19	20 Paint Nite Setup 5 pm Starts 7 pm	21 Bags 6 pm Pool 7 pm	22 DAV # 60 Meeting 5:30 pm Pool 7 pm	23	24 VFW Darts 8 pm	25 VFW Darts 8 pm