



United We Stand



Indiana Combat Veteran

Volume 65 Issue 2

September 2022

From the Commanders Desk:



I have been overwhelmed by the encouragement and support from the members of VFW and the Auxiliary in the few weeks since I became the Commander. There is no way for me to thank each of you personally, so “Thanks”. The only other way I can think of is for me to do the absolute best I can for the members of the VFW and the Auxiliary during my year as Commander, that’s a promise.

The National Convention in Kansas City was back to its normal full-blown celebration of the VFW and the Auxiliary. Without a doubt our hospitality suite was absolutely the best one I visited; an opinion shared by many. Our hospitality team Dave Fradenburg and Cheryl Brown worked their butts off making it the best. A very heart felt thank you to both, all the volunteers who pitched in and to our partners from Michigan. Hopefully all who attend the Convention learned something to make their Post, District or Department better in the coming year.

The Post in Vincennes had a very “hot” golf outing. It’s a wonder they could even have one after all the rain in the week prior to and even the day before. But all in all, the golf was good, considering I was probably one of the worst golfers out there. The Post had great food and some excellent entertainment in the evening for everyone. Some of the golfers on Sunday morning may have enjoyed the Post a little bit too much.

Some brief updates:

The VFW Service Office now has an office in the Indiana Veterans Center at Building 777 on North Meridian. This office is manned two days a week allowing Veterans to apply for VA benefits without the hassle of the Federal Building. Plans are to have a Service Officer in Roudebush Department of Veterans' Affairs Medical Center as soon as we can work out the details. Call the service office to see when they are available to help you with your VA benefits -317-916-1937.

The Department Council of Administration has approved our new Standard Operating Procedures.

The newly approved SOP will hopefully make operation of the Department more consistent.

The line officers and many of the Committee Chairperson’s developed Indiana’s first ever Commanders Manual. The manual provides a comprehensive guide for Post Commanders, including the 2022-2023 All-State Membership Program and the updated Department Awards program. The manual was given to all Post and District Commanders and is available at www.vfwin.org under the Resources tab.

The School of Instruction was extremely well attended, the majority of attendees being first timers. Jerry Blake the Dean of the School did an outstanding job preparing the agenda and the instructors for a day of learning more about VFW programs. All the Instructors where well prepared and presented up to date information in a very professional manner. The HQ staff worked hard getting everything in place and the lunch was worth standing in line for. Thank you to everyone involved – I think it was a very successful

Terri and I had the very unique opportunity this past week to delivered supplies to the flood victims of Eastern Kentucky on behalf of the Department of Indiana Veterans of Foreign Wars. On Monday evening myself, Greg Osborne and Mike Seeman went to a warehouse in downtown Indy operated by the Veterans Support Council of Indianapolis. Don Hawkins donated the supplies, then him and his crew helped us load my trailer and completely fill my pickup truck including the backseat. We loaded everything from water and meals ready to eat, baby food, blankets and hair brushes, just to name some of the items. Tuesday morning at 0630 hours Terri and I headed for VFW Post 7387 in Hazard, Kentucky. We arrived at the Post right after lunch and started unloading with the help of local volunteers. The closer we got to Hazard the worse it got, the damage was just unbelievable.

In this part of Kentucky, it is very mountainous. On one side of the road are mountains and the other is a river, typically the riverbed is 25-30 feet below the road. In several places the flood waters had washed over the road, sadly marked by a large collection of debris. Everything from cars to large parts of houses and many unrecognizable items. In many places you could tell where a house once stood but nothing remains now except a foundation! In and around the rivers beds you could see all types of flood debris – cars and trucks, chunks of houses, appliances, clothes, kid’s toys, a trailer house, parts of everything. Some of the debris well over 25 – 30 feet up in the trees.

Local volunteers at the Post told us what we saw was nothing compared to the back country. At county crossroads were once stood a few houses, normally a convenience store and maybe a church. There is nothing now, nothing at all. In some places you can’t even find the foundations, they are buried in the mud! We heard stories of triumphs, like a young man saving one woman’s life and kidding he got to second base with her while rescuing her, I don’t think she minded. To absolutely horrible unbelievable stories of a husband and wife trying to save their four small children but sadly losing all four to the flood waters. Jerry, the Post Commander an old Vietnam Veteran like myself said there are 39 confirmed dead, but close to hundred still missing, he lamented that “some will never be found”.

They still need lots of help but probably not the kind of help we were lucky enough to deliver. What they told us they need now are cleanup supplies. Brooms, mops, shovels, rakes, squeegees, wet/dry vacuums, power washers, dehumidifiers and all kinds of cleaning supplies. I would recommend purchasing these items at your favorite online store and shipping them directly to the Hazard VFW Post 7387.

I look forward to all the Post anniversaries coming up in the next couple of months. We have several Posts celebrating 100 year anniversaries, some with 75 year anniversaries and a few 50 years. What a great accomplishment maintaining a Post to celebrate serving Veterans and your Community for a Century. I look forward to all the events I have the privilege of attending on your behalf. In September we have V-J Day, POW/MIA ceremonies, 9/11 Remembrances, the National Home, State Campout and District meetings. It’s going to be a busy month.

One thing I mentioned many times at the School of Instruction and at the Council of Administration meeting was the Stats membership numbers. At the end of VFW year 2021-2022 the State was at 24,545 members! Just a few years ago we were over 40,000 members, during Buzz’s year, we are losing about 2000 members per year. That’s not deaths, it is simply members not renewing, we have to fix this and soon. Our Membership team has some great plans and are working hard but they can’t do it alone. I have said it a thousand times, MEMBERSHIP IS EVERYONE’S RESPONSIBILITY! If each of us sign up just one new member or get one prior member to come back to the VFW, the State would be near 50,000 members at the end of the year. Just think about it – ONE NEW MEMBER!

The Auxiliary President Harriet Figg and I are working together on every aspect of the VFW of Indiana. We share many of the same aspirations for the Department and are determined to have a successful VFW year. But, we can’t do it without every member working with us.

Yours in Comradeship,

Richard Leirer, Commander

Department of Indiana VFW



Greeting Comrades,

Thank you once again for electing me to the office of Senior Vice Commander. It really is an honor to serve you in this position. Since the summer convention in June we have been busy! Commander Leirer invited the District Commanders and top line officers to the Carmel post for training. Many of us attended the National Convention in Kansas City. The State Golf outing and the School of Instruction. Your state officers have been attending district and post meetings/functions. I do not see things slowing down this fall. If you want a State Officer at your function please reach out to State Headquarters for assistance in getting us scheduled.

The state hosted two distinguished guests in the Month of August. Auxiliary President Jane Reape and Supreme Commander for the Military Order of the Cootie Dwight Hora. It was an honor meeting both of these individuals.

Membership is a hot topic this year and this will continue for the next several years. National's goal and our goal for membership is 102%. The total number of VFW members for 2022 shrank to 942,686. We must get our membership to above 1 million! At the rate our numbers are shrinking our days as an organization are numbered. If each of us goes out and recruits **just one** member we will smash that goal! The membership team is very active this year and will help in any way they can. Do not hesitate to reach out to your membership team, district or state officers for assistance.

As a reminder if you have a concern follow your chain of command. Many of the concerns are due to personality issues and should be addressed at the lowest level possible. You may need to ask an impartial person to step in as a mediator. Start at the Post level, if this doesn't work go to District and then to State.

The motto of the VFW is "**No one does more for Veterans.**" If you find a veteran in need, assist them. Find out why they are in need and how you can help them. Do they need someone to talk to? Do they need assistance with filing a disability claim? Do they need to know what resources are available? Find out what the veteran needs and then put that Veteran in touch with someone that can assist them. Do you know a veteran that has an illness and can't get out? Call, text, email or visit this veteran. It is the little things that make a difference!

Yours in Comradeship,

Sheila Corcoran

Sheila Corcoran
Senior Vice Commander
Veterans of Foreign Wars Department of Indiana



PETTY JEALOUSIES AND TRIVIAL PERSONALITIES

Our bylaws state: “Do not let petty jealousies or trivial personalities influence our deliberations.” At some point in time, each of us has most likely been in a position that we have either acted in this way or had to deal with a comrade that acts this way. Petty jealousies and trivial personalities can lead to toxic environments. Our own human nature can sometimes lead us to engage in gossip and toxic talk, but for the good of the organization, we need to continuously strive to be better. If you are approached with gossip, rumors or toxic talk of any kind, you do not have to engage with the individual. “I have no opinion on that matter” is an easy statement that can be used to disengage from the conversation (even if you may have an opinion on the subject). Another good step when dealing with toxic talk is to redirect the individual back to the source or to address the source of the information yourself. Nothing good comes from toxic conversations. They will only degrade our organization and could push potential leaders away because of their perception that the membership is full of drama. In saying all of this, I have found myself in situations that I know I could have handled better, and I do my best to learn from those mistakes and move towards a more positive direction. We are all human and we are all subject to mistakes. We are also entitled to our own opinions, and it is OK to disagree with someone. I just ask that we try to do a better job in this area, and shut down toxic talk when it comes our way. It will take all of us acting together in order to shut down these issues, one person alone will not be able to correct our course.

Yours in LOTCS,

Cory Mahan
Department of Indiana
State Junior Vice Commander



Greeting Comrades:

We are well into the year, and we have held our School of Instruction. I hope all who attended returned to share the information with your Post and Districts.

Let us all work hard on membership and VFW programs! We can make this a great year for the Department of Indiana and Commander Leirer.

Post and District Adjutants make sure you have access to the Dashboard. To gain access go to www.vfw.org and click on login and follow the prompts to create an account.

I hope to see everyone at the National Home on 25 September, the Indiana Veterans Home on 23 October and the Fall Conference 28 – 30 October at the Indianapolis Marriott East.

Remember “Every Veteran Counts” and **NO ONE DOES MORE FOR VETERANS** than the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

Yours in Comradeship,

Rebecca Murphy
State Adjutant



More Than 170 Veterans Receive VFW, Sport Clips Scholarships

Nearly \$800,000 in college scholarships awarded for the fall semester

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (Aug. 17, 2022) – The Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) is proud to announce that 172 service members and veterans were selected to receive a VFW’s “Sport Clips Help A Hero Scholarship” for the upcoming fall 2022 semester. The student veterans will receive nearly \$800,000 in postsecondary scholarships.

See the [full list of 2022 fall semester Help A Hero Scholarship recipients](#).

Established in 2014 through a strong relationship with Sport Clips Haircuts, the Help A Hero Scholarship was created to help ease the financial burden service members and veterans face when achieving their postsecondary educational goals.

“Every year we hear from student veterans whose education benefits have run out before they’ve earned their degree,” said VFW National Commander Tim Borland. “This scholarship allows us the opportunity to provide them with real assistance, and ensure they achieve success in their postmilitary careers.”

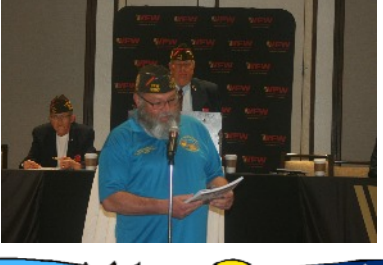
“When we established this scholarship program nearly ten years ago, we knew it was something special, but I don’t think we realized the impact it would have on so many veterans and service members,” said Gordon Logan, Air Force veteran, VFW Life member and founder and chairman of Sport Clips. “These scholarships enable veterans to achieve the education they need for their career goals without excessive student debt. Sport Clips is proud to sponsor this program with the VFW Foundation to express our gratitude for the sacrifices our veterans have made for us.”

The Help A Hero Scholarship is solely funded through donations from generous Sport Clips team members, clients, individual supporters and corporate sponsors. To date, the Help A Hero Scholarship program has awarded more than \$11.4 million in scholarships to nearly 2,400 student veterans. Applications for the spring 2023 semester are currently being accepted. To find out more on the Help A Hero scholarship or to apply, visit vfw.org/Scholarship.

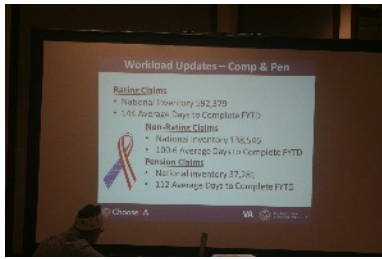
About Sport Clips Haircuts: Sport Clips Haircuts is headquartered in Georgetown, Texas. It was established in 1993 and began franchising in 1995. The sports-themed haircutting franchise, which specializes in haircuts for men and boys, offers [online check in](#) for clients, and ranks #24 in the *Entrepreneur* “Franchise 500” for 2022 and is listed in Franchise Direct’s 2021 “Top 100 Global Franchises”. There are almost 1,900 Sport Clips stores open in the U.S. and Canada. Sport Clips is the “Official Haircutter” of the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW), offers veterans preferential pricing on haircuts and franchises, and was named a 2021 Top Franchise for Veterans by Entrepreneur. Sport Clips provides “[Haircuts with Heart](#)” through its annual Help A Hero fundraiser that has contributed \$11.4 million to the VFW; national partnership with St. Baldrick’s Foundation, the largest private funder of childhood cancer research grants; and other national and local philanthropic outreach. Sport Clips is a proud sponsor of NASCAR’s Joe Gibbs Racing team and SRX Racing, and partners with other NCAA and professional sports teams. To learn more about Sport Clips, visit sportclips.com.



State Convention 2022



State Convention 2022



State Convention 2022



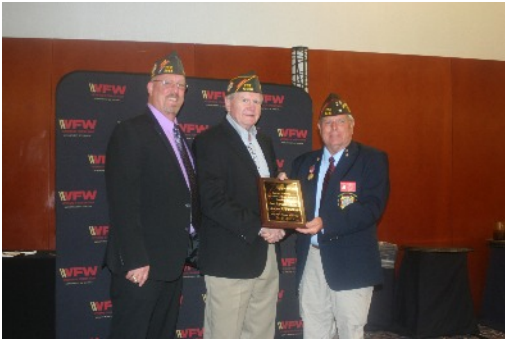
State Convention 2022



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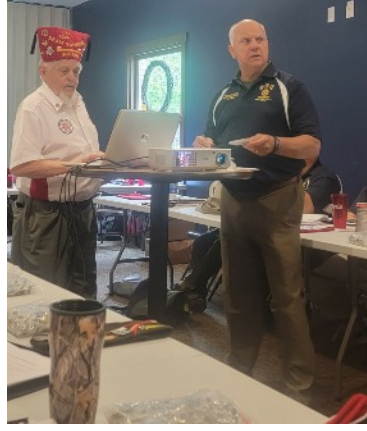
State Convention 2022



State Convention 2022



District Commanders Training



2022 National Convention



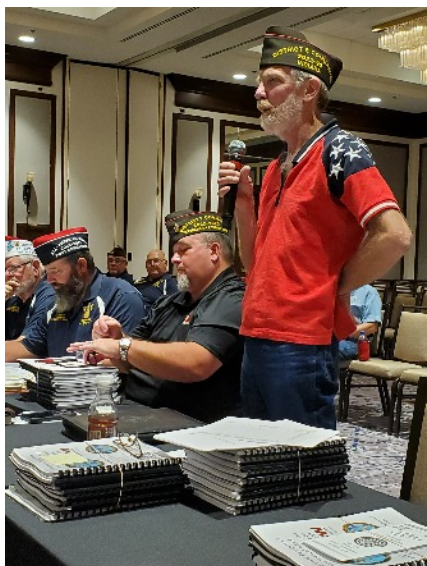
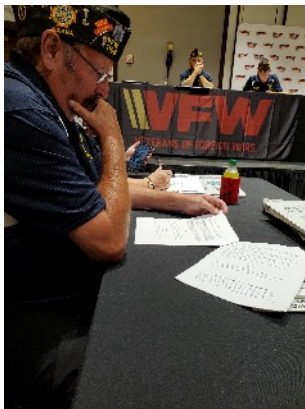
2022 National Convention



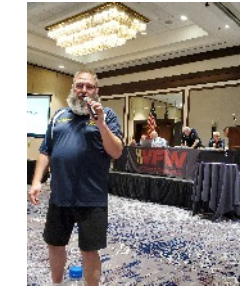
2022 National Convention



School of Instruction 2022



School of Instruction 2022



MESSAGE FROM THE COOTIES

Greetings Cooties and Cuties!!

Finally attended my first Supreme Convention!! Our Pup Tent received an award for membership! It was a lousy time in Kansas! There were only 3 hospitality rooms, but I did my job making sure that no Cooties drank alone!! The newly installed Supreme Commander Dwight Hora visited our Pup Tent in August. He was impressed with our efforts to get more pup tents in Indiana so we can once again have a Grand in our State.

We will be running some raffles in the next couple months. Our last raffle on a gun raised \$500!! Not bad for a 3-day event. The next raffle will be an autographed bottle of Jesse James bourbon and a really nice Kbar with Jesse James and VFW logos (See below pictures). Tickets will be \$5 ea or 5 tickets for \$20. Raffle will start September 5th.

Contact me if you are interested in getting tickets!

Our Pup Tent is doing very well, but I would love to get the other Pup Tents going soon! It is imperative that we regain Indiana's Grand!!



Remember, our goal is to reproduce and multiply, so lets get out there and recruit! This includes signing up members for the VFW! If you are a Cooie, Nit or Greyback and you recruit a new VFW member, notify the CCDB so you get credit from our crummy fraternity!!

We will be attending the bus trip to the VFW National Home, and our Pup Tent will be presenting a check. The amount is classified (meaning the amount is unknown at this time), but the amount will depend on the success of our raffle ticket sales. We will also be represented at the visit to the Indiana Veterans Home. If you have never been to one of these events, put it on your bucket list! We always have a lousy time visiting these facilities.

Our MOCA has been doing well, and they always have a lousy time at there scratches. I was appropriately boo'ed at our last panty raid!

Please keep our hospitalized veterans in your prayers. Our ability to visit our brothers and sisters in the VA Hospital is still hampered by the strict visitation limits placed on us by the VA. We can still keep them "Smiling in beds of white" by donating items (or cash) to VA voluntary Services! Don't forget our vets in nursing homes!!

Yours in LOTCS,

Larry Patch, Seam Squirrel, Indy Racers Pup Tent 11



Cootie Pictures



MESSAGES FROM OUR AUXILIARY

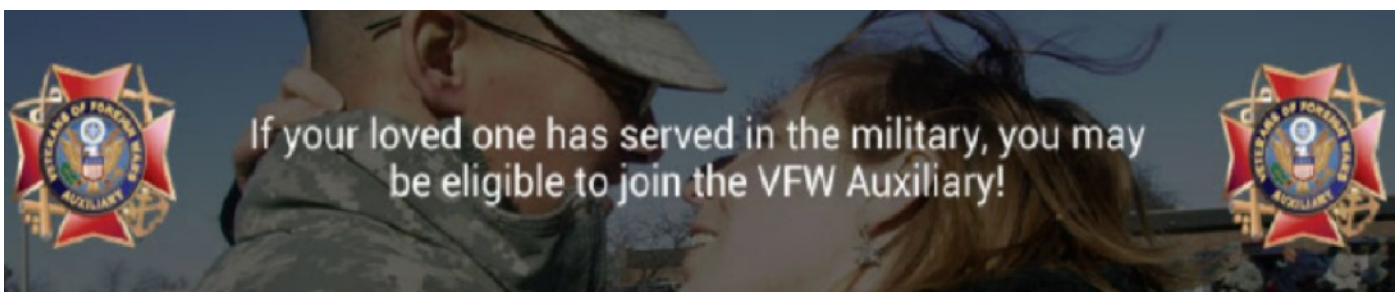
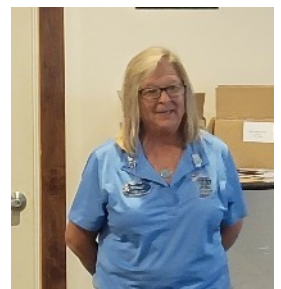
Hello Indiana Combat Veterans:

My year as the VFW Auxiliary President is flying by so fast. Busy times for all of us for sure. Our Auxiliaries are working hard for you!

We had a wonderful time celebrating our National President, Jane Reape, visit to Indiana. Our schedule was short, but we managed to include visits to the VFW Post 1587 and was welcomed there with an amazing luncheon and “flags of honor”! Our guided tour of the Indiana War Memorial was breathtaking. Jane and all of us were amazed that the Museum’s was so full of memorabilia from the Civil War to the War on Terror. The Indy Metropolitan Honor Guard graciously escorted our National President with honors. My hometown of Gosport welcomed us “home” with an escort by the Gosport Volunteer Fire Department and the VFW Post 1405 Motorcycle Club. Our Town Park was decorated like it was the 4th of July! I truly was so proud and happy our State Commander, Richard Leirer could be with us at this event.

Being the Department President, this year has made me think a lot of my big Brothers, USAF Retired, Robert E. Wall and Harry “Steve” Wall, both served in Viet Nam. I was just a teenager when they were in Viet Nam. Yes, I missed them terribly because I could see the fear in our mother’s eyes the whole time they were gone. But at the time, I also didn’t realize the risks or the dedication, and the bravery needed to be a Combat Veteran. I wish I had taken more time to talk to them, discuss the good times and the bad times because I did see the crap on the tv at the time. It’s something that I will have to live with I guess that I didn’t just “take the time” back then to ask! We shared a lot of time and working together for our VFW and Auxiliary! I miss their guidance, their “pecking me” on the back of the head when I get in trouble, but most of all I miss their big “bear hugs”! Here’s wishing you good times to come and I hope the rest of your Summer is filled with a lot of happiness and good health.

Harriet L. Figg, President
VFW Auxiliary
Department of Indiana
“On the Road Again for Our Veterans”



NATIONAL VFW AUXILIARY PRESIDENT JANE REAPE INDIANA VISIT



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NATIONAL VFW AUXILIARY PRESIDENT JANE REAPE INDIANA VISIT





Commander in Action



VFW Post 1587



VFW Post 1152



VFW Post 1110



Crown Hill Cemetery, Indianapolis



VFW Post 1550



VFW Post 261



VFW Post 138



Spencer, IN



VFW Post 10003



VFW Post 1157

Commander in Action



Gosport
VFW Post
7850, VFW
National
Auxiliary
President
Jane Reape
visit

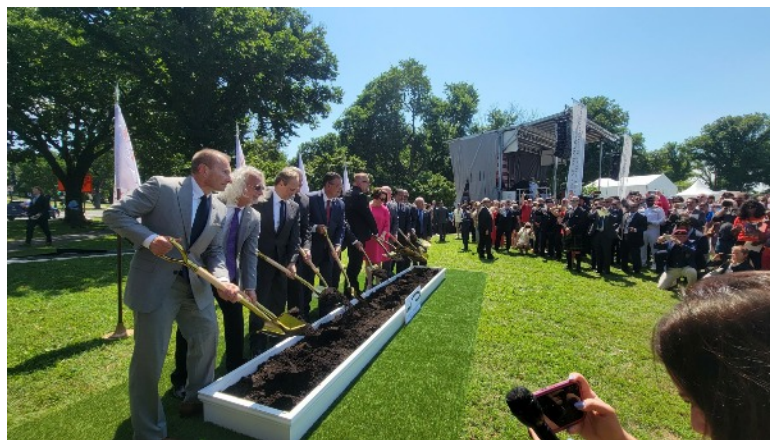
Commander in Action



Comma
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Home
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National Desert Storm & Desert Shield Memorial Dedication



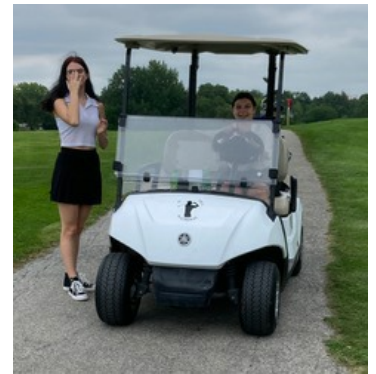
1st District



The Dyer 6448 & Saint John 717 Posts were asked to post Colors at the July 3rd First Annual 'Freedom Festival' in Saint John, IN.



Saint John VFW Participated in the Crown Point 4th of July Parade... about 3 weeks went into bringing our trailer back to life!



Saint John VFW Post 717 did their first ever Family Golf Scramble on 8/14/22! 29 Veteran & first-time golfers, aged 7 & up, came out to Oak Knoll Golf Club and played 9-holes of golf. \$275 was raised for the VFW National Home!

At the Lake County Fair, Lowell & St John VFW posts sponsored a membership booth. Volunteer members from different Posts got to know each other a little better while talking to fair-goers. The event generated about 30 membership leads via sign-up sheets. We engaged many folks by asking the simple question "What does the acronym VFW stand for?". Many did not know but they do now!!



5th District

Greetings my Comrades,

I am pleased to announce that our District Inspector Dave Capshaw is busy inspecting posts. If your post hasn't been inspected yet I assure you that Dave will contact you soon. Every post in the 5th should have received the work sheets so that your post will be prepared.

As commander I want to emphasize that each post appoints a community service and membership chairmen. Last year there were only 2 posts "on record" that turned in community service reports. Personally, I believe that is unacceptable. For the 2022-2023 year our Department Commander is expecting every post to get 102% or more in membership, and I believe that is an obtainable goal.

Our next 5th District meeting will be held at the Peru Post 2067. The regular meeting will start at noon. Please be there by 11:00 AM as we will have a short "school of instruction" at 11:00 AM.

At the meeting we will have directories and commander manuals to distribute to each post commander. This year we are planning to raffle an AR-15 rifle, and we will provide more information on that at the meeting.

Yours in comradeship,

John Ayres
5th District Commander 2022-2023



5th

District

VFW REDD PROGRAM

On 21 May 2022, Prior to the Dept. Of Indiana 5th District meeting held at VFW Post 1152, Kokomo, IN. Post Commander John A Meeks II introduced the newly created VFW Program. "This program is very near and Dear to my Heart. It mean a Great Deal to me" John Commented as he opened the Ceremony with the playing of video of Commander-In-Chief Fritz Michelcic and Lynn Rolf explaining the program. John then told a little history of the Military Working Dogs and his experiences as a Scout Dog handler in Vietnam. "I owe Artus so much and I give him all the credit for allowing me to come home without a scratch"

Three Certificates were presented to John. The 1st was for MWD Artus, the dog he had in Vietnam. The other two Certificates were for the two retired MWD that John had adopted. Sgt. Abel that had past in 2017 and his present MWD, SFC Brutusz. "Our dogs in Vietnam were credited with saving over 10,000 lives. They were known as America's Forgotten Heroes. So anytime that we can recognize or talk about our Military Working Dogs it just more awareness of how these dogs have and are serving our Country with Courage, Loyalty and Honor" John continued " I want to Thank the Chief Fritz, Lynn and Project K9 Hero for making this program a reality. It's very special and just another reason why I am proud to be a member of the VFW."

Also participating in the Ceremony along with John and SFC Brutusz was the Department of Indiana Sr. Vice Commander Richard Leirer and past State Commander David Capshaw.



5th District**SGT. ABEL****N247**

Sgt. Abel was born on 1 Dec. 2007. He was inducted in the United States Army on 8 Dec. 2008. He was trained at Lackland AFB. As a Patrol and Drug Dog. He gained his eligibility for the VFW REDD program when he was Deployed to South Korea. He served with the 55th Military Police BN at Camp Casey and the 544th MP Bn. At Camp Humphries. He was retired on 23 Aug. 2016. John was able to adopt Sgt. Abel and he, along with the United States War Dog Association paid \$1500 to have Sgt. Abel returned back to the United States. Due to a Medical issue, Sgt. Abel Passed on 7 Sept. 2017 and received full Military Honors on 19 Sept. 2017.



5th**District****“ARTUS”****K012**

Artus was born in Dec. 1965 in Germany. He was purchased for 500 Deutsche Mark, which was worth \$125 in 1966, and was Inducted into the US Army on 19 Dec. 1966. He trained at Fort Benning Ga. As a Scout Dog. He gained his eligibility for the VFW REDD Program when he was deployed to Vietnam in July 1966. While serving in Vietnam, he was assigned to the 42nd Scout Dog Platoon which was attached to the 101st Airborne Division. John was his 6th handler and he credits Artus with allowing him to come home without a scratch. Artus was Killed In Action on 11 December, 1970.



5th**District****SFC. BRUTUSZ****T434**

SFC. Brutusz was born on 3 April 2011 in Germany. He was inducted in the United States Army in Sept. 2012. He trained at Lackland AFB as a Patrol Explosive Detection Dog. After his training he was assigned to 520th Military Police Detachment in Schofield Barracks Hawaii in Oct. 2013. He gained his eligibility to the VFW REDD Program when he was deployed to the Sinai Peninsula in May 2017 until Feb. 2018. While there he searched over 5,000 vehicles at the North Camp. During a "Passing of the Leash" Ceremony on 2 Nov. 2018 at Schofield Barracks, Hawaii, SFC. Brutusz was awarded a Certificate of Meritorious Service



5th District

PORK CHOP DINNER



Friday, September 2nd

5 - 7 PM (WHILE THEY LAST)

2 CHOPS 3/4" THICK

PLUS 2 SIDES & ROLL

COST: \$12

CARRYOUT AVAILABLE

VFW POST 1152

920 N. WASHINGTON ST.

KOKOMO, IN

765-452-1521



KARAOKE 7 - 11 PM

11th District

Flag Day @ local Nursing Home



Flag retirements at two local Nursing Homes by members of VFW Post 1587 & Indy Racers Cootie Pup Tent 11



11th District



VFW Post 261 5TH Annual Golf Tournament Saturday, September 3, 2022

Winding Ridge Golf Course
Florida Scramble
Shotgun Start 10:00 A.M.
\$65 Per Person/\$260 Per Team

**Prizes for Lowest Total Score & Most Honest
Long Drive and Closest to the Pin (\$20 per team)**
Plus More Prizes, 50/50 Drawings, Dinner following @ Post 261
Sponsorship Opportunities – BRONZE \$50 – SILVER \$250 – GOLD \$500

Proceeds to sponsor various charities, and support the following:

HONOR AND REMEMBER

VETERANS FOUNDATION OF INDIANA

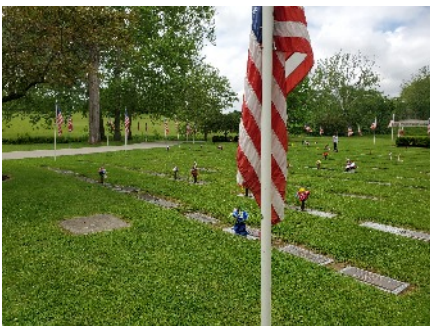
To Register or Sponsor contact at QMVFW261@gmail.com, Jim Stone at 317-919-8977 at stonej3925@att.net
– Or – Visit Post 261 @ 10550 Pendleton Pike, Indianapolis, IN 46236 317-823-0481

Department of Veterans Affairs Job Fair at VFW Post 1587



11th District

VFW Post 1108 - Richmond Frank Strayer Day



11th District



VFW Post 98 Fundraiser for VFW National Home!

11th District

HOT RODS FOR HEROES 2022



SEPTEMBER 18TH 2022

10:30AM - 4:00PM

GOOD FOOD, GOOD TUNES AND A GOOD TIME!

AWARDS, DOOR PRIZES, RAFFLES AND 50/50

REGISTRATION \$20.00 PER CAR, INCLUDES DASH PLAQUE

CONTACT INFORMATION: JIM @ (317)690-4780

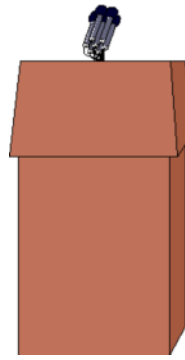
**LOCATION: POST 1587 - 5139 W. 10TH STREET INDY
46224**

OPEN TO ALL CARS, TRUCKS, AND MOTORCYCLES

ALL PROCEEDS RAISED WILL GO TO VETERAN SUICIDE

PREVENTION





Angola VFW Post 7205
Presents



3rd Annual Veterans Suicide Awareness benefit

September 24th 2022 Starts at 1pm

Live Auction 5pm!

ALL proceeds going towards
Suicide Prevention



Magic Show, Vendors and Guest speakers all scheduled

North Wayne Cruise-In Car Show

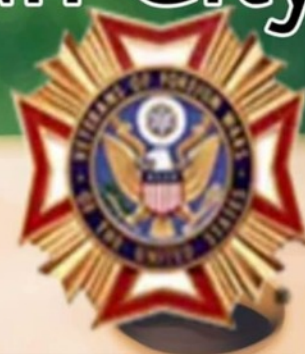
Band Black Moon Revival starts at 6pm

% of the days profits will go towards the event



1101 Earl Rd, Michigan City

VFW



VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS

Sept 17 - 2nd Annual - @ 2:00 pm

Beers, Bags, and BBQ

Outside Beer garden and full inside bar

Music/Entertainment

Mouthwatering BBQ

Cornhole Tournament \$50 entry per team

2 person teams 24 teams - CASH PRIZE

See bartender for sign up



VFW POST 2695

games

1622 EAST ST. RD. 44

SHELBYVILLE, IN

317-398-0812

fun

MILITARY APPRECIATION DAY

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2022

2:00 PM - 6:00 PM

music

food

raffles

friendship

bounce house

dunk tank

open to all military personnel, Veterans
and their immediate families.

VFW Auxiliary Post 1108, Richmond, Indiana



This is dedicated to women who serve our county with pride & honor. We were so very honored to design and place this in our Veterans Memorial Park to thank you all.

**Benefit for
HVAF
Helping Veterans
and Families**

JOIN US!

**VFW 261 Auxiliary
Family Freedom Festival
September 17, 2022 - 3 - 10 PM**

10550 Perzleton Pike Irzps IN 46256 317-823-0481

Reverse Raffle
Music - Food - Dunk Tank
Bounce House - Crafts
& 2nd Annual Corn Hole
Tournament
with \$\$ Prizes

ANNUAL POST PICNIC
 SEPTEMBER 5TH 2022
 11AM TILL 3PM
 AT THE POST
 Post will supply Hot Dogs,
 Hamburgers, Potato salad
 And Baked Beans.
Foam party and Bouncy house
For the kiddos
Fun and games for all
 please bring a covered dish

Hello Department of Indiana,

I was asked to submit an article about the submarine force. Hopefully I can give you some insight on Submarine history and the men and women that serve on them.

The United States Submarine Force started in April of 1900 when an Irish immigrant name John P Holland was awarded the contract for our first submarines. The Holland class boats were crewed by 4 to 6 men and an officer and powered by gas engines. They were not the first submarines used in warfare by the United States. As far back as the Revolutionary War, The Turtle made the first attack against a man of war unsuccessfully.

In the Civil war the CSS Hunley successfully attacked and badly damaged a Union man of war. But the crew of the Hunley did not survive.

The Modern submarine force started with Holland class submarines and took a different breed of men to serve on them. Joyce Brothers a famous TV Psychologist was asked what kind of men serve on these boats. To paraphrase her analysis, the men that serve on submarines are not foolhardy far from it, they are more self-aware than most people. They understand the risks and dangers serving on these ships. They do not volunteer to prove something; they do not do it for bravado. They do it to challenge themselves and to understand the dangers and overcome them. They know they can do everything right and still be claimed by the sea. She said this shortly after the loss of the USS Thresher. The first of two nuclear powered boats lost and on eternal patrol.

The Men and women of the submarine force are some of the most intelligent people you will meet especially the “nukes” the people that operate the reactor on the boats. All personal that report to a submarine must “qualify” and earn the Undersea warfare pin (dolphins) They have a year to do so. To qualify they must have a thorough understanding of all the ships systems and be able to explain the operation and location of all the components of those systems to a subject matter expert. Once they have a checkout on all the systems on board, they must go on a walk thru with a senior enlisted crew member and get a checkout from him, the next step is a board. Consisting of 3 to 5 enlisted personal and 1 officer, the board will test the knowledge and demeanor of the individual. That individual will have to draw any system asked of him and the physical location of all its components. They are asked what to do in emergency operations and how to isolate any component on the boat. This board can take anywhere from 2 hours to 2 days. Once this is done there is a Captain’s interview. All this is done so the crew can learn to trust and be able to depend on the individual reporting onboard.

The military bearing on a submarine is a little lax. Any crew member can correct any other. That means a lowly seaman(E3) could callout the Captain if needed. Casualties onboard a submarine can cause its loss in seconds. A small fire in its biggest compartment could become untenable in as little as 2 minutes. So, reactions have to be second nature and correct every time.

The boats and their crew are dependent each other and tight knit very much like special forces, squad level infantry and have a esprit da corps that rival the United States Marines.

These Boats and crews carried the war in the Pacific after the Pearl Harbor attack in December of 1941. Admiral Nimitz A submariner himself knew this was going to be the case, so much so his change of command was held on the deck of a submarine. The US submarine force was comprised of less than 2 percent of the U.S. Navy during WWII but sank more than any other units or force of the Navy, over 60 percent of the Japanese shipping that was loss was due to these Boats and their men, but at a heavy cost 52 boats are on Eternal Patrol by the wars end. The Casualty rate was 1 in 4 men. That is higher than even the loses of the Eight Air Force during the war.

John F. Kennedy once said “A nation reveals itself not only by the men it produces, but also the men it honors, the men it remembers”.

Shortly after WWII a group of these men formed a Veterans organization that would become the USSVI or the United States Submarine Veterans Inc. The Creed of this organization is:

Our purpose is to perpetuate the memory of our shipmates who gave their lives in the pursuit of their duties while serving their country. That their dedication, deeds and supreme sacrifice be a constant source of motivation toward greater accomplishments. To pledge loyalty and patriotism to the United States of America and its Constitution.

The men and women of the USSVi honor those losses with Toiling of the boats before every meeting for the boats lost during that month in history. They hold ceremonies every Memorial Day weekend to toil all the boats and shipmates lost. They erect memorials and displays around the country to remind the people of the submariners and the boats. I have the honor of commanding the Hoosier Base of the USSVi here in Indiana. By an act of congress each state was assigned a boat on eternal patrol from WWII to honor those men and their boat. Indiana's boat is the USS Greyback (SS-208) Lost on 26 February 1944 with her entire crew of 80 men. The Hoosier base is the keeper of their memorial. It is located at the Indiana Military Museum in Vincennes, IN. We also erected a display consisting of the USS Indianapolis (SSN-697) Sail in the parking lot of the museum. The USSVi is open to any man or woman that Qualified-on submarines and anyone that would like to be an associate with a sponsorship of a member are more than welcome.

As our Memorial Day ceremony states as long as two comrades are there to remember those before them so too does the USSVi remember our shipmates.

I hope this long winded article helps you understand the submariners in your life and help us to remember our shipmates.

Yours in LOTCS,

Patrick Mann (Bubbles)
CCDB Indy Racers Pup Tent 11



Deadline for January 2023 Indiana Combat Veteran articles/pics is December 15th!!

Let's share our special events to everyone! I will need all articles, pictures and special event fliers to me by December 15, 2022 for our January 2023 Combat Veteran newsletter! As far as format goes, articles can be in Microsoft word, Email text or Adobe PDF file. Pictures should be in JPEG but I have a pretty large selection of photography programs so I should be able to accommodate most formats. Fliers can be in Word, PDF or any Photo format. Please submit the items for the Newsletter to me at: (ljpatch@mail.com) or send to me at 9034 Eiderdown Way, Indianapolis, IN 46234. If you have any questions please Email me or call me (317)450-9408.

Yours in LOTCS,

Larry J Patch

Larry J Patch

Combat Veteran Editor





I am seeking your support for the High Office of Indiana Department Chaplain 2023-2024. I am a Gold Legacy Life member from Frank T Strayer VFW Post 1587. I earned my eligibility for the VFW serving as a USAF Security Policeman at Tan Son Nhut AB, RVN from 9/1967 – 9/1968. I retired from the USAF in 1986. I joined the VFW in 1986 and became a life member in 1987. I retired from the Department of Veterans Affairs with 21 years of service in 2007.

Below is a consolidated list of the offices and appointments I have held in our great organization:

Prior to transferring my membership to Indiana in 2013, I held the following positions in Alaska:

VFW Post 2509: Charter Commander (3 years), Quartermaster (2 years), Service Officer, Trustee, Department Surgeon, Judge Advocate, Jr Vice Commander and Commander (1987-1993)

I earned All American AK State Commander (92-93). I was appointed as Department Inspector 94-95.

I had multiple appointments to committees at National conventions & Washington conferences. I

received an appointment as Vice Chairman for the National VFW Safety committee 93-94.

Military Order of the Cooties Pup Tent 2, Artic Fox-1992-95.

Since I have been in Indiana, I have held the following offices at VFW Post 1587:

Commander, Service Officer (4 years), Chaplain (5 years), Trustee (3 years), Canteen Manager (4 years) Post Community Activities Chairman (8 years); National VFW Outstanding Community Service Post (2)

I held the following positions in District 11:

District Chaplain 2015-2019; District Community Activities Chairman (5 years); District POW/MIA

Chairman (3 years); District VOD/Patriots Pen Chairman

VFW Military Order of the Cooties Pup Tent 11, Indy Racers-Seam Squirrel 2020-2023

Indiana Combat Veteran newsletter editor

I have received 2 appointments as National Aide de Camp.

I have attended all of the VFW National Conventions as a delegate of my post since 2015. I have also attended all Indiana VFW Conferences and Conventions except 1 since 2015.

I have attended 6 Chaplain Workshops at National Conventions. Past National Chaplain Peter Hook put together an outstanding Chaplains Guide which I refer to frequently. I am now an ordained minister. Over the past 5 years I have been called on to perform several funeral services and many Celebrations of Life/Memorial Services. Additionally I have done many grief counseling's. I have the support of my family and my Post in seeking this position. If you have any questions please call or Email me. I am very proud of our organization, and have been active at the Post, District, State and National level. I believe I could be an asset to our organization in the role as your next Department Chaplain.

Yours in LOTCS,

Larry J. Patch

(317) 450-9408 (ljpatch@mail.com)

**ALL MEN & WOMEN
ARE CREATED EQUAL**

AND THEN



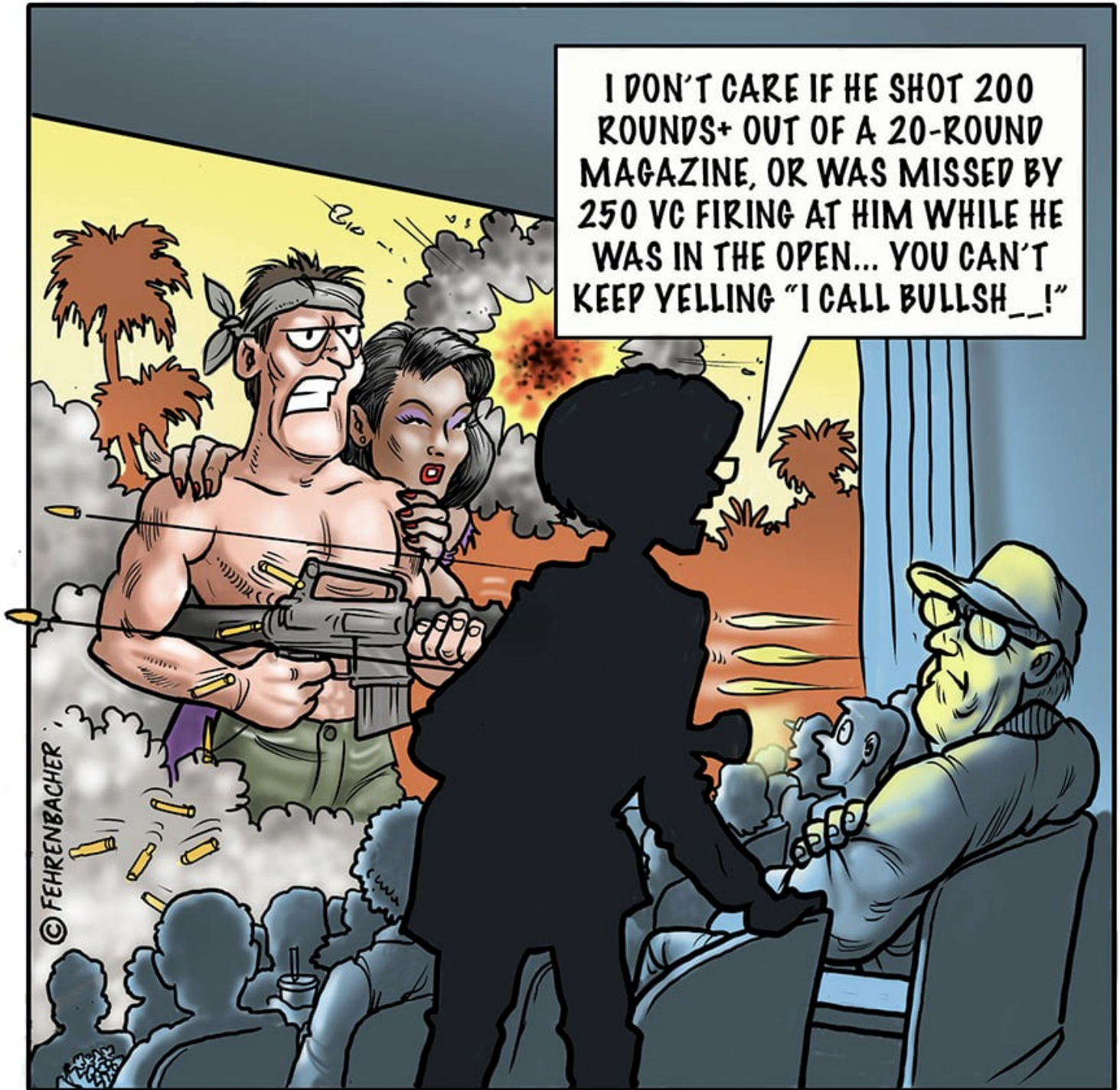
A FEW BECOME

BROTHERS & SISTERS

mcd

MILITARY HUMOR

IN-COUNTRY VET



SISKEL & EBERT...MEET FRANK OF THE 105TH!