

Serving the Community Since 1925

V.F.W. NEWS

Published Four Times a Year by Marion C. Cranefield Post 1318
Veterans of Foreign Wars
Vol 19 No. 2 April/May/June 2019



Greetings members!

It looks like spring is finally arriving. I hope everyone has recovered from what has been a brutal winter. Inevitably many VFW posts including 1318 slow down a little bit during the winter months. This year's winter weather has made it hard to get out as much as we all would like. In some cases you may not have wanted to travel on the roads any more than we have to and this is understandable. We also had many members move to warmer climates during the winter months or take winter trips that preclude attendance at winter meetings. As a result the attendance at our winter meetings had dropped off a bit. However the essential day to day tasks of this post have still gone on like clockwork thanks to the efforts of many of you that have given your time and effort so freely. I would like to thank you for that. I really saw that we have a noticeable increase in attendance at our April meeting. Spring always brings on new hope, new plans and a new way of doing things.

At our April meeting we elected and appointed the twelve (12) post officers we are required to have on our election report. Thanks to all of you who have agreed to serve this post for another year. Our post-election report is now complete. At our upcoming May meeting we will still need to appoint members to the following positions;

Americanism/Loyalty Chairman

Community Activities
Chairman

Legislative Officer

Newsletter Editor

Public Affairs/Relations Officer

Voice of Democracy/Patriots Pen
Chairman

Historian

Some of the members currently in these positions may wish to remain in these positions and that is great. I do not foresee any problem with a member who would like to remain in his appointed position. The truth is we have some members serving in multiple appointed positions because no one else has come forward to volunteer. Many of the members serving in these positions would readily relinquish these positions if another member would step up. I am serving

(continued on page 3)



Commander Joe Hines

UPCOMING EVENTS

May

- 6th – Post Meeting – 6 pm
- 7th – Auxiliary Meeting – 6:30 pm
- 8th – Badger Honor Flight – 6:00 pm
- 11th – Rolling Thunder – 10:00 am
- 28th – Events Committee – 6:00 pm
- House Committee – 7:00 pm

June

- 1st – Boeker Memorial Dinner – 6:30 pm
- 3rd – Post Meeting – 6:00 pm
- 4th – Auxiliary Meeting – 6:30 pm
- 5th – Badger Honor Flight – 6:00 pm
- 12-15 – State Convention, Appleton
- 15th – Rolling Thunder – 10:00 pm
- 25th – Events Committee – 6:00 pm
- House Committee – 7:00 pm

July

- 1st – Post Meeting – 6:00 pm
- 2nd – Auxiliary Meeting – 6:30 pm
- 3rd – Badger Honor Flight – 6:00 pm
- 13th – Rolling Thunder – 10:00 am
- 20-24 – National Convention, Orlando
- 23rd – Events Committee – 6:00 pm
- House Committee – 7:00 pm

Post is closed on Mondays and the day of our meetings. We have a social hour in the canteen at 5:00 pm. Come and join us.

POST OFFICERS

Commander -----Joe Hines
 Sr. Vice Commander-----Carlos Tucker
 Jr. Vice Commander -----Edward Maiolo
 Quartermaster-----Gundel Metz
 Assistant QM -----
 Adjutant -----Eric Ravnikar
 Judge Advocate -----Bob Evans
 Chaplain -----Pat Morgan
 Surgeon -----Rose Doucette
 Trustee, 3yr -----Andy Lochner
 Trustee, 2yr -----Glen Flanigan
 Trustee, 1yr -----John Kraak
 Officer of the Day-----Michael Parks
 Service Officer-----Glenn Flanigan
 Guard -----Karl Kleemann
 Americanism/Loyalty Day---Bob Evans
 Community Activities -----Bob Evans
 Legislative Officer -----Joe Hines
 Public Relations -----Joe Hines
 Newsletter Editor-----Gundel Metz
 Web Administrator-----
 Voice of Democracy -----Joe Hines
 Youth Activities -----Joe Hines
 Historian-----
 House Committee ----- Bob Evans, Joe Hines,
 Carlos Tucker, Edward Maiolo, Ray Trent, John
 Kraak, Rose Doucette, Gundel Metz, Brad
 Thompson, and Greg Burr and Permanent Guest -
 Auxiliary Representative
 House Committee meets on the 4th Monday of every
 month at 7:00pm

AUXILIARY OFFICERS

President -----Ellen Evans
 Sr. Vice -----Rose Doucette
 Jr. Vice -----Elizabeth Moore
 Treasurer -----Melissa Cray
 Conductress-----Gundel Metz
 Secretary -----Adajo Forester
 Trustee, 1 yr----- NinaSmithback
 Trustee, 2 yr-----Rose Doucette
 Trustee, 3 yr-----Elizabeth Moore
 Chaplain-----Sharon Cray
 Guard-----Nina Smithback
 Historian----- Rose Doucette

CANTEEN

CANTEEN HOURS

Mondays – Closed
 Tuesday – Thursday: 11 am to 11 pm
 Friday & Saturday: 11 am to 12 pm
 Sunday: 11 am to 8 pm

Canteen Specials:

Tuesday is Taco Tuesday
 2 for \$4.00 or
 3 for \$5.00

Wednesday is half price hamburgers till
 8:00 pm

Thursday is \$.60 Wings

Friday is Cod Fish Sandwich or
 6 pieces coconut shrimp for
 \$6.00

Check the board for our daily specials.

Trivia every Thursday starting at: 7 pm

Karaoke every Friday starting at: 7 pm

Plus we have the weekly draw on
 Fridays.

WACKO – Every Sunday of the month.

Several times a month we also have Paint
 Night. Check with the Canteen for dates
 and times and any other activities.

Stop on by and meet our staff, Kelso,
 Kate, Myranda, Vikki, and Nate. Plus
 Greg is there almost every morning
 cleaning up.

Find us on
**FACEBOOK and
 TWITTER**

**Facebook:
 LT Marion C Cranefield,
 VFW Post 1318**

TWITTER@VFWPOST1318

Telephone: 608-255-5955

Email: vfw1318@hotmail.com

V.F.W. NEWS DEADLINE IS
 July 10TH. IF YOU HAVE A STORY,
 AN IDEA A WEBSITE TO SHARE?
 PLEASE SEND THE INFORMATION
 IN AN EMAIL OR THROUGH THE
 POST OFFICE TO THE
 NEWSLETTER EDITOR.

V.F.W. NEWS OFFICIAL PUBLICATION

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**V.F.W. Memorial Hall
 133 E. Lakeside Street
 Madison, WI 53715**

Questions or comments about the Newsletter?
 E-mail: VFW1318@hotmail.com

POST MEETINGS:

First Monday of each month @ 6 p.m.

AUXILIARY MEETINGS:

First Tuesday of each month @ 6:30 p.m.

**DANE COUNTY VETERANS SERVICE
 OFFICE**

210 Marting Luther King Jr. Blvd Rm 108
 Madison, WI 53703
 Phone: 608-266-4158 TDD 608-266-4157
 Legislative HOT-LINE 800-362-9696



If anyone is interested in joining
 VFW Post 1318 color guard,
 please contact the Post at
VFW1318@hotmail.com. The
 Post Color Guard assists in flag
 or veteran related ceremonies.

Commander's column continued.

in four of these positions and will gladly relinquish some of them. These positions are sometimes viewed as nonessential and they do not get the due diligence they deserve. It has been my experience in observing other VFW Posts around the state that when you have members serving in these positions that are active they can make a good post into a great post. Many of you may think the duties of these appointed positions are too difficult or think you may not have enough time. None of the requirements of these positions are difficult or are too time consuming. Most importantly we have experienced mentors available in this post to help. You won't be alone. Check on these positions, ask questions and I would also recommend considering volunteering for a positions that matches your individual skill set or interest. Please consider volunteering for one of these appointments before our May meeting.

We will also need to re-appoint members to our House Committee. As many of you already know our house committee oversees the maintenance and operation of our post home and the operations of our canteen. This committee has served us well and is one of the main reasons for the success of our canteen operations. I plan on reappointing all present members of the house committee to another term if they desire. We could use a few more members and would welcome any new volunteers with fresh ideas so please consider volunteering.

In the past year we have launched an Activities Committee that has been tasked to identify, plan and execute various functions that this post can execute to raise funds and/or increase our visibility in the community. We are supporting a fund raiser with the Underdog Animal Rescue Shelter with Harley Davison Madison. This Activity Committee is also mandated to spearhead the coordination of our post in support of joint efforts with other Veterans Organizations. An example of this is the committee's efforts to support the Ruck 22 March to Raise Awareness of Veterans Suicides with other VFW posts. This committee will also spearhead the coordination of Post 1318 with other veteran's organizations such as Rolling Thunder to support Operation Badger Base in August of 2021. This is a very active committee that has come up with some great initiatives on their own and have identified ongoing activities that this post should support. But we need more members so please consider helping us out. The meetings for both the House and Activities Committees are held on the fourth Tuesday of the month here at Post. These meetings are informal but no less important.

We will be hosting the Department of Wisconsin District 2 Meeting on May 4, 2019 here at Post 1318. This is a great opportunity for any and all post members to attend and see what the VFW does for veterans when we combine efforts with other posts in south central Wisconsin that make up District 2. For example there were several VFW posts in District 2 that supported and participated in the Ruck 22 March to Prevent Veteran Suicide and Operation Badger Base in which we were key sponsors. We also find out about other veteran related events executed by other VFW Posts in our immediate area in which some of our members have been able to participate. It's really been a win/win for all of us. At this upcoming District 2 meeting you will also have to opportunity to see, hear and vote for VFW members that are running for the District 2 Officer Positions. If you are interested yourself in running for a District 2 Officer you are certainly welcome to do so. If you have any questions on how to go about running for District 2 Office please see myself or Gundel Metz.

MEMBERSHIP – Please consider renewing your membership as soon as possible. It would be great if the Post made 100 percent in membership. Or ask the Quartermaster how to become a life member. It has been a long time since we were able to do that. **PLEASE RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP NOW.**



AUXILIARY PRESIDENTS MESSAGE



Hello All,

Happy Spring!

We have had a quiet winter. That's not always a bad thing! In February the winter weather got the best of us and we had to cancel our meeting. Welcome to Wisconsin, right? Safety first. We are so happy that some of our Auxiliary members drive a distance to attend our meetings, but we need to watch out for each other when ice strikes.

Members are always working on making blankets for our Veterans at the VA and King. Cold winter nights are the perfect opportunity to do that. Last year we had, I believe, 44 blankets to give to Vets. We hear back and they are so appreciated!

March 30 our Post had the opportunity to host the Spring Meeting of the 2nd District. There were 40 Auxiliary members from the district in attendance! One of the best attended Spring Meetings. It was great! Elections were held and the Memorial Service took place. We had coffee, donuts, and hard rolls and butter during registration and through the morning. 34 registered for lunch, which consisted a variety of sub sandwiches, pasta salad, chips and brownies or cookies for desert. It really was a great time. Everyone should attend the Fall and Spring meetings. It seems like we always come away learning something new, no matter how long we have been in the Auxiliary.

State Convention is the next big thing we have coming up. June 12-15. It is in Appleton this year. There is always something new going on and what a great opportunity to network! Some of your greatest ideas can come from networking.

At our April meeting we held our elections. Our offices will remain the same as last year. I really appreciate the willingness of our members who step up and take the offices and continue to participate. We do enjoy our 1318 Auxiliary!

We are always looking for new members in our Auxiliary. There is no such thing as too many members. If you know of someone who would be eligible to join us, please give us a call. We would be happy to answer any questions you may have. Remember the Auxiliary is open to both men and women.

That's it for this time. Please keep all our Vets, Soldiers, and their families in your thoughts and prayers every day.

Until next time,

Ellen Evans
Post 1318 Auxiliary President
608-835-5980

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

By Joseph Hines

I was absent from our March meeting as I was attending the VFW National Legislative Conference in Washington D. C. from March 3-7. I do this in my capacity as a member of Wisconsin VFW Legislative Committee. Also attending this conference was our State Commander (and Post Quartermaster) Gundel Metz. This was the first time that I attended this conference and it was really an eye opener. This conference reiterated to me the importance of our organization and it was one of the most important events I have ever participated in my life. The conference shows you the initiatives and efforts that our VFW National Legislative Office coordinates with Congress. More importantly you see the effects and the voice of over 1500 VFW Members from all over the nation first hand as they descend on Capitol Hill advocating for veterans issues. I was part of the delegation of twelve (12) Wisconsin members that traveled to this conference as part of an overall National VFW effort to engage members of Congress on veteran's issues.

At the start of the conference we attended seminars given by the VFW National Legislative Office on the main VFW issues that we should bring up with members of congress. We were instructed on how to address these issues with our congressman. We had five priority goals that we were stressing

1. Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act of 2019 - calling on Congress to pass H.R. 299
2. Veterans Health Care - oversight of the VA Mission Act of 2018, improving health care for women Veterans, addressing the suicide rates.
3. Burn Pits - calling on Congress to pass H.R. 663 or S. 191, Burn Pits Accountability Act
4. Concurrent Receipt - calling on Congress to pass H.R. 303 or S. 208, Retired Pay Restoration Act, and H.R. 553, Military Surviving Spouses Equity Act.
5. Transition Assistance Program - ensuring a seamless transition from Military to civilian life.

We presented and briefed these VFW Priority Goals to the offices of all eight (8) Wisconsin U.S. Representatives and both Wisconsin U.S. Senators. We were able to speak to the Wisconsin U.S. Representative from our district (2nd Congressional District of Wisconsin) Mark Pocan, and U.S. Senator Tammy Baldwin. We also had the opportunity to sit in on the VFW National Commander B.J. Lawrence's address to the combined House and Senate Veterans Affairs Committees. Commander Lawrence's address to these committees was attended by over 1500 VFW and VFW Auxiliary members.

While in attendance at this conference the House of Representatives passed H.R. Bill 303 that increased initiatives to research the effect of Burn Pit exposure on our servicemen exposed in both Iraq and Afghanistan. The details on these VFW Priority Goals have been published in the VFW Magazine and are available on the VFW website.

POST ELECTIONS

Post Elections were held on April 1, 2019 at the regular Post meeting. The Officers stayed the same, Post Commander Joe Hines, Senior Vice Commander Carlos Tucker, Junior Vice Commander Edward Maiolol, Quartermaster Gundel Metz, Chaplain Pat Morgan, Judge Advocate Bob Evans, Surgeon Rose Doucette, Adjutant Eric Ravnikar. A full listing of officers will be in the next Newsletter on Page two. Not much changed.

BOEKER MEMORIAL DINNER



Lt Marion C. Cranefield Post 1318 will host a banquet dinner on 1 June 2019 in memory of comrade Roger Boeker and his Boeker family members who had served in the Military. All were members of Post 1318. Invitations to the banquet will be sent via mail by 22 April 2019 and RSVPs will be due by 22 May 2019. Please send all inquiries for this event to vfw1318@hotmail.com.

LIFE MEMBERSHIP COSTS

Ever wonder what the cost of VFW Life Membership is? If you answered yes, then it means you must be thinking of becoming a life member. There are two ways you can do life membership. One is to pay the amount outright. The second way is to do a 12 month installment plan. If you want to become a life member and are not sure on how to do it, please contact the Post Quartermaster (Gundy). An annual member pays \$40 a year. Take that times 10 and in 10 years you pay \$400. Here are the costs for Life Membership:

AGE	ONE-TIME PAYMENT	INSTALLMENT PLAN
Through age 30	\$425.00	First month \$45, 11 month at \$38.64
31-40	\$410.00	First month \$45, 11 month at \$37.77
41-50	\$375.00	First month \$45, 11 month at \$34.09
51-60	\$335.00	First month \$45, 11 month at \$30.45
61-70	\$290.00	First month \$45, 11 month at \$26.36
71-80	\$225.00	First month \$45, 11 month at \$20.45
81 and above	\$170.00	First month \$45, 11 month at \$15.45



Did you know that if you attend a Post meeting, you have a chance of winning some money? At every meeting all members put \$1.00 into the pot. That evening one person wins half the pot, and the other half goes into a second pot to see which member on our roster is the winner. The second pot is small right now but growing. You have to be present to win.

ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE

BY BOB EVANS

The Activities Committee has been meeting monthly. Now that we have successfully pasted the gloomy winter it was time to welcome Spring! Out last event is proof that Spring is here for sure.

Our latest event was a "Howling" success! On April 6th Harley Davidson of Madison hosted our "Hogs and Dogs" event. Sponsors, if you call it that, were our Post 1318, Rolling Thunder, and Underdog Pet Rescue. It ran from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm Held on the Harley grounds, Rolling Thunder motorcycle club had their meeting there, and had a tent set up to promote awareness of the POW/MIA's that they do such a great job of. They also sold shirts and had a raffle. Underdog Pet rescue brought PUPPIES!! up for adoption. The cutest things and very irresistible. But, I guess that is the point. They also had a 50/50 give away. That was \$220!

We had the cookout food portion. John Kraak was the grill master. Over 200 burgers, brats and hotdogs were sold! Maybe more! It was quite the operation. The grill was fired up the entire time. A highlight was when Johns mother age 92, took a ride on a Harley! She loved it! It was a successful day.

There were Post members, two Auxiliary members and John had two with him helping with the event.

Thanks to Harley Davidson, Rolling Thunder, and Underdog Pet Rescue for making "Hogs and Dogs" a great success.

Our Activities group is always discussing possibilities for activities for the Post. Please feel free to pass on any ideas you have. We are always thinking of Ruck 22, Shop with a Cop, Spaghetti Dinners, Trivia activities and more. Anyone with Social Media knowledge is welcome to help us with getting the word out for anything we have planned. Please let us know if you could help us.

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

by Gundel Metz

As I write this, the Post is very close to being at 100%. We have not been able to accomplish this in a very long time. Under Bob Evans leadership we continued to make improvements. Now under Joe Hines leadership we are continuing to move forward. I am asking our members who let their membership expire to please renew your membership. We need you. Every year when we speak with Representatives and Senators, they want to know how many veterans we represent. So please renew your membership, or become a life member. Thank you.

VFW Post 1318
133 E Lakeside Street
Madison, WI 53715

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

VOICE OF DEMOCRACY WINNER



Commander Joe Hines presenting a plaque and check to the Post, Voice of Democracy winner, Sophia Halverson. In the past Sophia had participated in our Patriots Pen Contest. She is now a senior and will be moving on to college in the fall. She was not sure yet of which college she will attend.

If you know of any your person in High School who may want to participate in next years Voice of Democracy contest, please contact Joe Hines or Gundy so that we can get in touch with that individual. Top prize at National is \$30,000 plus a trip to DC and a trip to Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge.

NEW LIFE MEMBERS



Two new Post life members, Steve and Steve are taking their oath of membership. Yes they both happen to be Steve's. It made it easy for us to remember their first name. The next time you come to a Post meeting please introduce yourself and welcome them to the Post.

HAVE YOU MOVED RECENTLY

Please notify the Post if you have moved or have a new email address so that we can keep you informed and plugged into Post Activities

Please send your email address to the Quartermaster so we can send you the Newsletter electronically. Thanks.
vfw1318@hotmail.com