

# V.F.W. NEWS

Published Four Times a Year by Marion C. Cranefield Post 1318  
Veterans of Foreign Wars  
Vol 21 No. 4 October/November/December 2021



Greetings Comrades, Auxiliary and Community.

October is one of my favorite months of the year for many reasons. On a personal level, my wife and I both celebrate our birthdays, as well as our wedding anniversary in this month, and from an aesthetic perspective it is the month when we get see Wisconsin's Fall color begin to flourish. As many of you know, you can't keep a meteorologist like me too quiet when transitional seasons occur. Something about the robust beauty of the leaves changing to golds, reds and russets, statewide, offers an opportunity to reflect on the summer months and prepare for the first flakes of snow to fly. Some of our evenings are even beginning to feel a bit cool and crisp, though we continue to see some of the warmer Summer-like days remain. Such is the nature of transitional seasons; a little remainder of what's left behind us and a hinting glimpse of what lies ahead. This month of transition is so much bigger than a meteorological change of seasons for VFW Post 1318. As we close the doors to our longtime home on Lakeside Street and make the move to our new location on Ski Lane, one can almost not help but draw the connection between Summer and Winter, just from the street names: we can relate Lakeside to Summer months and Ski Lane to Winter. Sure, you can tell me that plenty of people WATER SKI in the Summertime, but I'm from New Mexico, where we don't really have water or lakes, so I don't understand or engage in these "water sports" that threaten to ruin the metaphorical theme of my article. And ice fishers out there, feel free to hold your tongue about whatever it is you do on the frozen destitution of our lakes in the Winter, and just stick with me here. So, let's just relate Ski Lane to snow skiing, and Lakeside to Summer fun and activities, for my sake. Thanks for understanding. While we have many amazing memories of the place, we have called home for so long, it is important to look ahead and prepare for new beginnings at our new home. This is an opportunity to modify who we are, how we represent Veterans and how we choose to connect to the community. It is a fresh start at a new season and how we choose to engage. Will we keep using the same old buckets and sand shovels we used to play with at the beach, or will we be fully equipped with plows and snowman kits to face the season ahead? (Don't worry, I'll try not to beat this seasonal metaphor into the ground before I'm done.) We've enjoyed our time by the lake and now it's time to embrace the Winter. How will we choose to embark on this new beginning? As I ask these questions, I am certain that many of your minds are already moving ahead, identifying if and how we will adapt, and developing new plans and ideas.

(continued on page 3)



Commander Carlos Tucker

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### November

- 1<sup>st</sup> - Post Meeting - 6:00 pm
- 2<sup>nd</sup> - Auxiliary Meeting - 6:30 pm
- 13<sup>th</sup> - Rolling Thunder - 10:00 am
- 23<sup>rd</sup> - House Committee - 6:00 pm
- Events Committee - 7:00 pm

### December

- 1<sup>st</sup> - Badger Honor Flight - 6:00 pm
- 6<sup>th</sup> - Post Meeting - 6:00pm
- 7<sup>th</sup> - Auxiliary Meeting - 6:30 pm
- 11<sup>th</sup> - Rolling Thunder - 10:00 am
- 28<sup>th</sup> - House Committee - 6:00 pm
- Events Committee - 7:00 pm

### January

- 3<sup>rd</sup> - Post meeting - 6:00 pm
- 4<sup>th</sup> - Auxiliary Meeting - 6:30 pm
- 8<sup>th</sup> - Rolling Thunder - 10:00 am
- 25<sup>th</sup> - House Committee - 6:00 pm
- Events Committee - 7:00pm

Post is closed on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesday

The following groups will meet again when allowed:

Madison Veterans Council 6:00 pm

**POST OFFICERS**

Commander -----Carlos Tucker  
 Sr. Vice Commander-----Edward Maiolo  
 Jr. Vice Commander -----Steven Eisenhauer  
 Quartermaster-----Gundel Metz  
 Adjutant -----Joseph Hines  
 Judge Advocate -----Bob Evans  
 Chaplain -----Rose Doucette  
 Surgeon -----Rose Doucette  
 Trustee, 3yr -----Kyong Clawson  
 Trustee, 2yr -----William Muether  
 Trustee, 1yr -----Andrew Lochner  
 Officer of the Day----- Elisabeth Harman  
 Service Officer-----Will Atkinson  
 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-----Andy Mansfield  
 Voice of Democracy -----Joe Hines  
 Youth Activities-----Joe Hines  
 Historian-----  
 House Committee ----- Bob Evans, Carlos Tucker, Edward Maiolo, Steve Eisenhauer, Ray Trent, John Kraak, Rose Doucette, Gundel Metz, Brad Thompson, and Greg Burr and Permanent Guest - Auxiliary Representative  
 House Committee and Events Committee meets on the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of every month at 7:00pm

**AUXILIARY OFFICERS**

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

**CANTEEN**

**CANTEEN HOURS**

Mondays – Tuesdays closed  
 Wednesday: Closed  
 Thursday: 11 am to 11 pm  
 Friday & Saturday: 11 am to Midnight  
 Sunday: 11 am to 8 pm

Canteen Specials:

Thursday is \$.75 Wings

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

Check the board for our daily specials.

Trivia every Thursday at 7:00 pm and Karaoke every Friday at 6:30 pm

Plus we have the weekly draw on Fridays.

WACKO – Every Sunday

Stop on by and meet our staff, Kate, Vicki, Erica, Nate, Steve and others. Plus Greg is there almost every morning cleaning up.

**WE ARE STILL UNDER COVID 19 RESTRICTIONS**

As Always call the Post if you want to know what is going on that day.

**Find us on FACEBOOK and TWITTER**

**Facebook:  
The VFW, Cranefield’s  
Post 1318**

**TWITTER@VFWPOST1318**

**WEB ADDRESS**

**VFW1318.ORG**

**Telephone: 608-255-5955**

**Email: vfw1318@hotmail.com**

V.F.W. NEWS DEADLINE IS JULY 10<sup>TH</sup>. 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**

V.F.W. NEWS is the official publication of Cranefield VFW Post 1318. V.F.W. NEWS is published quarterly by V.F.W. Post 1318,

Annual membership in VFW Post 1318 includes subscription to the V.F.W. NEWS through email or postal mail.

**V.F.W. Post 1318  
2740 Ski Lane  
Madison, WI 53711**

Questions or comments about the Newsletter?  
E-mail: [VFW1318@hotmail.com](mailto: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 you want information for the on-line Post meetings, please contact the Post Quartermaster at [vfw1318@hotmail.com](mailto:vfw1318@hotmail.com). All Post meetings are hybrid, some members at the Post and the others via internet.**

(Commander's column continued)

This is the beauty and strength of our organization of Veterans and our experiences. We are a collectively diverse group, with a common bond, that makes us truly unique and effective. We are poised to adapt and actively engage and excel in new environments and circumstances. I would like to look at our new move as a grand opportunity to redefine ourselves and reassess our effectiveness. Are we happy with our operations, our performance, our connection to the community? Are there opportunities to improve?

This move to Ski Lane, is a new opportunity to foster strength, growth and community. It is a new beginning where the Ski.... I mean SKY, is the limit, whether it be filled with sunshine and mosquitos or snowflakes and windchill. It is our chance to embrace the past and define our future.

If you have any fresh new ideas (or even old crusty ones), thoughts or fears on changes ahead, or simply would like to express your love or hatred of meteorological metaphors, my ears are always open. Shoot me an email at [carlosdylan@gmail.com](mailto:carlosdylan@gmail.com). As always, it is an honor to continue to serve, shoulder to shoulder, with such an incredible group of Veterans. Warmest regards in any season,

Respectfully,

Carlos Dylan Tucker  
Commander

## EVENTS

BY BOB EVANS

The activities committee is active and looking forward to our new location. We are looking at what we want to do for the coming year. There are four reasons this committee exists: To display our support for Veterans and the broader community, raise funds for VFW support initiatives, engage VFW membership and internal VFW community building, and communicate to potential new members the value-added to their lives of being a VFW member.

We are planning a grand opening for our new facility, the initial introduction to 1318 members, present customers, contractors that have contributed to the new facility, and a few others. This introduction will be a Soft Opening. A more elaborate opening will occur later once we have everything working smoothly.

Activities for the new facility on Ski Lane will take advantage of the upgraded building and introduce us to the new community that we are in. We will do some testing to see what the demand is in that location. Although the new facility is smaller in square footage. Improved traffic flow, easy access, and an outdoor patio should give the Post more usable space for activities than we have now. As a result, we should be able to operate more efficiently than we can at present. This improvement will allow us to consider activities that we could not manage previously.

As 1318 moves on, we are looking for activities that will support the criteria at the beginning of this article. If you have any ideas, please bring them to one of the house/activities committee members.



## AUXILIARY PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Hello Everyone,

As we approach the fall season, we will soon be in our new home. The going away party for the current Post home was a wonderful success. Jesse Garon, a fantastic DJ, was there for us as he always is, brats on the grill and some great photo albums showing the history of the Post on Lakeside St.

As the new home is nearing completion, it is an anxious time. Lakeside St. has served us for many, many years, through generations of Veterans and their families. Now, we can look forward to moving over and carrying on the same traditions along with anticipating the beginning of new ones. For some, change is not easy. To them, I say let's go forward together, and rest assured that our new home will be a beautiful, comfortable place to gather with your comrades, families, neighbors and friends. As they say, "the more things change, the more they stay the same". Our mission as an Auxiliary is the same, to help Veterans and their families. It doesn't matter what our address is. It matters what is in our hearts and minds. That remains the same.

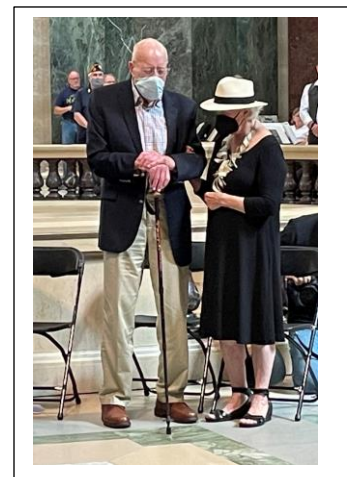
We want more eligible family members to join our Auxiliary. It is open to men and women. Please contact myself or the Post for more information or to answer any questions.

Thank you, and we will see you at our new home soon!

Ellen Evans  
President  
Post 1318 Auxiliary

**WE ARE MOVING TO  
OUR NEW HOME 2740  
SKI LANE AT THE END  
OF OCTOBER. COME  
AND VISIT US AT OUR  
NEW LOCATION.**

Post Member –  
Former State  
Senator Fred  
Risser and his  
wife attending the  
POW/MIA Chair  
dedication.



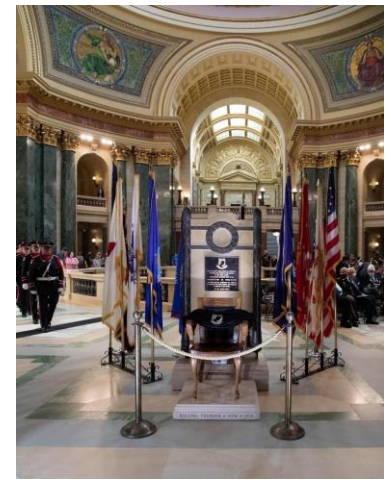
# POW/MIA CHAIR

The Wisconsin Chapters of Rolling Thunder and the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Department of Wisconsin partnered to bring the POW/MIA Chair to the State Capitol rotunda on September 18, 2020. Governor Tony Evers unveiled the Chair with then VFW State Commander, Jason Johns and Rolling Thunder Liaison, Mark Herrmann. Due to the pandemic and restrictions on public gathering, the full dedication was postponed until September 17, 2021 on POW/MIA Recognition Day so that all in Wisconsin could witness this historic event. This chair is dedicated in honor of the 1500 military service men from Wisconsin that have still not made it home to their families. Let this be a constant reminder in Wisconsin that our work is not done until they all come home. We will Never Forget!  
(Reprinted from dedication program brochure)



Left: This monument has been inside our State Capitol since 1982. It was dedicated by the VFW and Ladies Auxiliary (at that time) along with the Service Flags.

Left: This is now the backside of the monument. The POW/MIA Chair was dedicated last year during COVID, and this September was the official ceremony of the unveiling of the chair. A traveling replica will be stored at our Post home.



Left: Mark Herrmann, (President of Rolling Thunder Chapter 5 and Post member) speaking to the audience.

Right: (From left to right) Rod Lehl, Ben Hruz, State Commander Cory Geisler, Mark Herrmann, State Adjutant David Green, CSM Michael Seefeld, PSC Tom Lemmer, Steve Eisenhower and PSC John “Trapper” Schultz

# POST JUNIOR VICE COMMANDER

Greetings Comrades,

I had the opportunity to attend the 122nd VFW National Convention held July 31 – Aug. 3, 2021, in Kansas City, Missouri. As a relative “Newbie”, this was the first National Convention I was able to attend. I planned to go last year but, as we all know, circumstances prevented that. Our National Council of Administration voted to have a much-needed Business Only version this year. It is my understanding that, this meant some of the pomp and circumstance was cut out. Initially, I didn’t quite grasp the importance of this. After attending the convention, I “get it” now.



Unfortunately, I was not able to attend the Big Ten Conference meeting. I did, however, attend as many sessions as I could. Since this was an abbreviated conference, there were a lot of things happening at the same time, so one had to pick and choose. I decided to attend the following: The Membership Workshop - Post Development, Programs Dashboard Training, Membership Workshop, The National By-Laws, Manual of Procedure and Rituals committee meeting and the Business meeting on Monday.

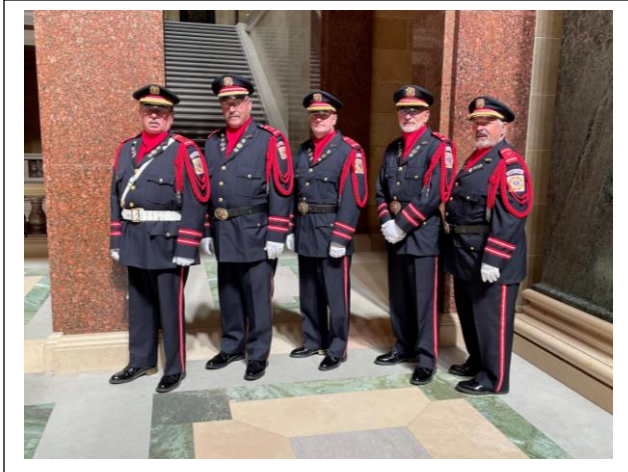
I obviously cannot compare this year’s conventions to past ones. What I will share with you is, there was a lot of informative sessions taking place in a very short period. Unfortunately, I could not attend everything I wanted to but, our Wisconsin delegation pretty much covered all the sessions.

If you are interested in a recap of the convention or highlights from the convention log into our National Web Site. <http://vfw.org/media-and-events/122nd-vfw-national-convention>. I would like to publicly thank Gundel Metz, our State Line Officers, and the rest of the Wisconsin delegation for taking me under their wing. Guiding and mentoring me.

If the opportunity ever arises for you to attend the National Convention, I encourage you to attend.

Best Regards Comrades,

Steven J. “Ike” Eisenhauer



Post Junior Vice Commander, Steve Eisenhauer, has become a member of the State VFW Honor Guard. Left to right: PSC John “Trapper” Schultz, Steven Eisenhauer, Ben Hruz, Rod Lehl, and PSC Tom Lemmer

# VFW LEGISLATIVE

BY JOSEPH HINES

Post 1318 members recently participated in the VFW National Legislative Conference and spoke with Congressman Mark Pocan and Senator Baldwin about federal veteran's legislation. This meeting was part of the 2021 VFW National Legislative Fall Conference September 27-29, 2021 that was conducted in a virtual format for the second year in a row. On the first day of this conference, I participated in a Zoom meeting where our VFW National Legislative staff outlined the key VFW Talking Points and the supporting legislation that they wanted the VFW representatives to present to their respective members of Congress. This year those talking points are Veterans Benefits, Veterans Health Care, Retirement and Military Personnel and Economic Opportunity. I orchestrated the Wisconsin VFW's participation in this year's conference as the Wisconsin Representative on the VFW National Legislative Committee. I met via conference call or Zoom with each of the ten members of the Wisconsin congressional delegation along with other Wisconsin VFW members.

I participated in a conference call with Congressman Pocan along with Quartermaster Gundel Metz. During this meeting Gundel and I presented the VFW talking points to Congressman Pocan and answered his questions. Congressman Pocan was very receptive to legislative initiatives supported by the VFW. He currently is co-sponsor of four (4) house bills that are VFW priorities. I also met with Senator Tammy Baldwin via Zoom along with Wisconsin VFW State Commander Cory Geisler. Cory and I also presented the VFW talking points to Senator Baldwin and answered her questions. We both spoke to Senator Baldwin about the Senate Cost of War Act. This act if passed would provide a comprehensive framework which veterans could use to adjudicate and address any possible toxic exposures they may have had during their service. Senator Baldwin was also receptive during this meeting. She is currently a co-sponsor of five (5) senate bills that are VFW priorities. Senator Baldwin and Congressman Pocan both met with Wisconsin VFW members personally during this conference. Most lawmakers have staff members meet with VFW members at these conferences.



Posts newest member Matt Herrmann taking the members obligation

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# POST MEETING UPDATES

BY GUNDEL METZ

The Post Quartermaster has missed Post meetings due to being at the National Convention in August and in September I was at the National Council of Administration Meeting. Financially the Post is doing well. We sold our property at 133 E Lakeside St. on August 26, 2021. The Post Commander, Carlos Tucker, and the Quartermaster, signed all the paperwork for the sale. The sale allowed us to pay down our loan on the new property by \$500,000. Plus, we should be able to pay off all the construction costs that we are incurring with the upgrade of our new building. For the September and October, we have had to pay rent to meet in our current location. On September 25, 2021 we will be moving all our belongings to the new building. We hope to be able to have our first meeting at our new location (2740 Ski Lane) on November 1, 2021. (Will keep everyone informed if there are any changes.)

Since July we have welcomed four new members into our Post - Jeff Beckmann, Tim Schimick, Garrett Page, and Matthew Herrmann (son of Post member Mark Herrmann). We welcome them to our Post. Please introduce yourself to them when you see new faces at our meetings.

At our October meeting we elected a new Chaplain. Our old Chaplain, Patrick Morgan, left WI this summer for another church assignment. Congratulations to Rose Doucette on being elected the Post Chaplain. Rose's father, Past Post Commander Joe Doucette, had been the Post Chaplain for many years. The Commander also appointed a new Service Officer, Will Atkinson. Thank you to both of you for serving our Post.

It was great seeing long time members and past Post Commanders Ray Doucette and Doug Crary along with Paul Doucette at the October meeting. We do not get to see them very often as they no longer live in the Madison area.



While working the VFW recruiting booth at the Harley Davidson Hometown Rally, I was able to attend a Jackyl concert. Left to right: State Commander Cory Geisler, Jesse Dupree (Jackyl), and Gundy.



Also got to meet MC Hammer. Left to right: Past Commander-in-Chief Hal Roesch, Gundy, MC Hammer, State Commander Cory Geisler, and National Deputy Director Membership Rick McKenna



# FEDERAL VA UPDATE

## COVID-19 booster shots

Getting a booster shot:

At this time, the VA can only provide Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 booster shots, based on CDC guidance. The FDA and CDC continue to review data to determine if they'll recommend booster shots for the Moderna and Janssen (Johnson & Johnson) COVID-19 vaccines. We must wait for guidance before we can provide booster shots for these other vaccines.

### Who should get a Pfizer-BioNTech booster shot (only if you received the Pfizer Vaccine)

The CDC recommends that these groups should get a booster shot if they completed their Pfizer-BioNTech primary vaccination series at least 6 months ago:

- People who are at least 65 years or old
- People who live in long-term care facilities
- People who are 50 to 64 years old and have an underlying medical

### Who may opt to get a Pfizer-BioNTech booster shot

The CDC recommends that these groups may opt to get a booster shot if they completed their Pfizer-BioNTech primary vaccination series at least 6 months ago:

- People who are 18 to 49 years old and have an underlying medical condition (based on their individual benefits and risks), **or**
- People who are 18 to 64 years and are at increased risk of COVID-19 exposure and transmission because of their job or living in an institutional setting (based on their individual benefits and risks)

For all those that received the Moderna or Johnson & Johnson vaccines, once a booster shot has been approved by the FDA for them, the VA will contact those individuals who are eligible for those boosters.

If you did not receive your original COVID 19 vaccines at the VA, please contact your medical provider to see if you qualify for the booster shot.

If you have not gotten your vaccine, it is not too late to get the original doses at this time.

Don't forget it the Flu season is upon us, please get vaccinated.



# GOODBYE

**THANK YOU TO OUR PAST MEMBERS WHO SECURED THIS PROPERTY AND BUILT THE POST AT 133 E LAKESIDE ST. WE ARE CLOSING OUR DOORS ON OCTOBER 17, 2021 AND WILL BE MOVING EVERYTHING OUT THE LAST WEEK OF OCTOBER, 2021. WE OWE THOSE THAT SECURED THIS PROPERTY AS IT HAS NOW AFFORDED US TO BUY A NEW PROPERTY AND PUT THE POST ON GOOD FOOTING.**

# A LITTLE POST HISTORY

BY GUNDEL METZ

Our Post has a rich history in Madison. The Post was chartered in January 1925. To the best of my knowledge the first Post home was in the Lorraine Hotel off the square. In 1966 the Post moved to our current location in 1966. We are now going to be moving to our new location at the end of October and start a new chapter for the Post. This is our time to work within our new area.

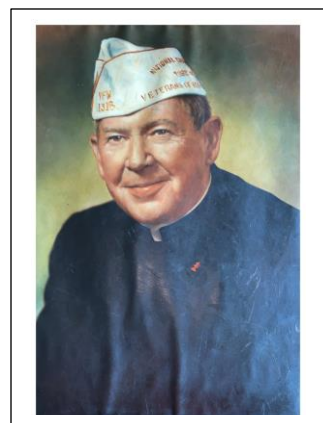
Post 1318 members have been active at all levels of the VFW. We have had one Commander-in-Chief, Lyall T. Beggs, 1948-49. We also had a National Chaplain, Father Henry. The following members have been State Commanders: Lancelot Gordon, 1928-29; Marvin Levenick, 1932-1933; Lyall Beggs, 1941-42; Curt Taylor, 1996-97; and Gundel Metz, 2018-19. Plus, a former member, Don Cunningham was State Commander 1988-89, while with Post 7591. Milo "Mike" Cunningham (younger brother of Don) was State Chief of Staff 1998-99 for State Commander Mike "Gunner" Furgal. Plus Curt Taylor and Gundel Metz have been National Council Members for Wisconsin. (Curt was one of my mentors when I first started in the chairs at the Post. Unfortunately, being a Special Forces Vietnam Vet, Curt passed away too early from effects of Agent Orange.)

Many of our Post members have also been District Commanders. I cannot speak for the past but assume that most of those listed above had been District Commanders. During my time with the Post (since fall 1997) the following have been District Commanders: John Schultz, William Rabuck, Gundel Metz, and Roger Boeker. Both Roger and I were also County Council Commanders. Wisconsin no longer has any County Councils. Many members also worked as Chairman at both the District and State level.

As you can see we do have a rich history. Who will be next to go up the chairs outside of the Post?



Left: Past VFW  
Commander-in-Chief  
Lyall T. Beggs  
Right: Past VFW  
National Chaplain Father  
Henry



**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**

# POST NEW HOME UPDATE

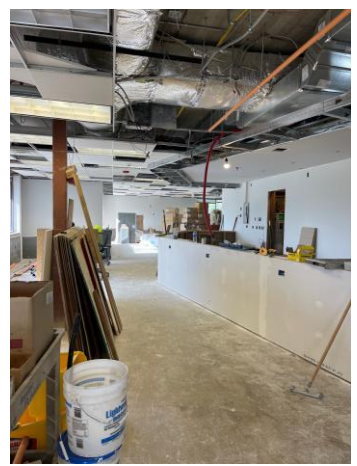


Drywall work

HELLO – NEW HOME  
2740 Ski Lane, Madison



General Contractor Mike Lamont  
with his very hard-working  
assistant, Pip. Thank you for  
everything you are doing for the  
Post.



Drywall work completed  
around new bar



Please send your email address  
to the Quartermaster so we can  
send you the Newsletter  
electronically. Thanks.  
[vfw1318@hotmail.com](mailto:vfw1318@hotmail.com)

## 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