

V.F.W. NEWS

Published Four Times a Year by Marion C. Cranefield Post 1318
Veterans of Foreign Wars
Vol 22 No. 1 January/February/March 2022



Greetings Comrades, Auxiliary and Community.

I hope that the Holiday Season was a good one for you all. As we leave the last year in our rearview mirror and venture into 2022, we have plenty to look forward to! The biggest elephant in the room is clearly the opening of the doors at a brand-new location!

Excitement has been building as construction winds down at our new Post Home on Ski Lane. For those who have not seen the progress so far, it is truly becoming a very impressive space! The interior been completely reconstructed into a beautiful new environment featuring natural stone. NATURAL STONE, everybody! And there's a lot of it!! If those words suddenly have your imagination conjuring images of big, ugly, river stone laden accent walls, fear not!! You can rest assured that this isn't anything like a bad Brady Bunch living room, or a dark 1970s piano lounge. When I heard there was natural stone getting installed, I immediately panicked and pictured the old Gobbler Supper Club and Motel in Johnson Creek! As luck would have it, we are NOT entrenched in the questionable confines of aesthetic taste, circa our Nation's Bicentennial. In fact, it is quite the opposite! We are pretty much right at the cusp of both elegance and excellence in the niche world of VFW Post interior design. If the VFW had a competition surrounding which Post had the best interior, we'd win. Hands down. Does national have an award for that? If they don't, they probably should get that started up, right away. Everything looks bright, clean, tasteful, and modern. You'll soon be able to have a look for yourself. Get ready to be impressed!

Aside from the new interior, we've heard about the updates and upgrades made to the building's infrastructure, ensuring we shouldn't have to worry about any "big ticket" repair expenses anytime soon. This will allow us to focus our future endeavors and funds where they count most; in serving veterans and the community. Keep on the lookout for new opportunities and endeavors where we may be most helpful. While the world around us has been rapidly changing, it is important to remain flexible, in our approach to serving others, and proactive in generating ideas to not only adapt, but also carry us into the future. Are there any old practices that may be traded for new ones? Do we have any opportunities to pivot or expand? In this new year, lets continue to exercise our flexibility and

(Continued on page 3)



Commander Carlos Tucker

UPCOMING EVENTS

February

- 1st – Auxiliary Meeting – 6:30 pm
- 2nd – Badger Honor Flight – 6:00 pm
- 4-5th – State Mid-Winter - HoChunk
- 7th - Post Meeting – 6:00 pm
- 12th – Rolling Thunder – 10:00 am
- 22nd – House Committee – 6:00 pm
- E vents Committee – 7:00 pm

March

- 1st – Auxiliary Meeting – 6:30 pm
- 2nd – Badger Honor Flight – 6:00 pm
- 7th - Post Meeting – 6:00 pm
- 12th – Rolling Thunder – 10:00 am
- 22nd – House Committee – 6:00 pm
- E vents Committee – 7:00 pm

April

- 4th – Post meeting – 6:00 pm
- 5th – Auxiliary Meeting – 6:30 pm
- 6th – Badger Honor Flight – 6:00 pm
- 9th - Rolling Thunder – 10:00 am
- 26th - 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 4th 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 Information:

Friday is Cod Fish Sandwich

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.

**WE ARE STILL UNDER COVID 19
RESTRICTIONS**

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

As we prepare to open the new location,
we will update the menu and any specials
that we may have.

**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
April 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

V.F.W. NEWS is the official publication of
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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

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. All
Post meetings are hybrid, some
members at the Post and the
others via internet.**

(Commander's column continued)

adaptability, fine tuning what we do and how we do it. There's always opportunity for improvement. What better way to start the New Year, than with a New Building, and fresh New Ideas? If this sounds familiar, there's a good chance it's because I've mentioned this before, the only reason being, that I've made this my personal goal as Commander of our Post. You've probably heard me say it before.

I feel that there's value in sticking to what's always worked in the past but leaving room for change; constantly assessing potential value in improvement and seeking out those opportunities. Should there be a trade-off, reducing less than fruitful efforts in favor of investigating new endeavors, there's no penalty in seeking potential. This is only my goal, and therefore, the reason you will hear me repeat it in various verbiages, casual conversations, and occasionally deliberate dialogue. Stagnation is comfortable and history is educational, but failure in flexibility is fundamental futility.

This is an exciting time for VFW Post 1318; so much potential in a new year and in a new home. I personally cannot thank everyone enough that has had a hand in navigating this transition and helping to firmly set our new physical foundation. Even more important than our physical location is we, the physical people; family, friends and comrades, of The Post. Our ideas, experiences, energy and efforts define us as so much more than just a well-appointed, modern Bar and Grill with outstanding attention to practical aesthetics in interior design. (Seriously, we deserve an award for how great our new home is going to look.) Our collective strength remains a product of our continued allegiance to our brothers and sisters in arms and the future of VFW Post 1318.

New Year, New Home, Better 1318!

I'm looking forward to stepping foot in our newly completed home, looking forward to eventually, and safely, reconnecting with everyone in our meetings, and can't help but express a bit of excited energy over the new road ahead for VFW Post 1318 in 2022.

Very Respectfully,
Carlos D Tucker
COMMANDER

ROLLING THUNDER

Rolling Thunder Wisconsin Chapter 5 had their annual Holiday Extravaganza December 11th, 2021. This event usually takes place at VFW Post 1318 in December and is one of the main fundraisers for Rolling Thunder Wisconsin Chapter 5. Money raised each year goes to help publicize and educate the public on the POW-MIA issues, help local Veterans and to be on one of the sponsors of Operation Ruck 22 of Wisconsin to end Veteran suicide.

Thank you to VFW Post 7591 for donating their hall this year, so the event could happen while VFW Post 1318 was under construction.





AUXILIARY PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Hello all from the Auxiliary,

Happy New Year! We are looking forward to the best year ever!

The remodel is still ongoing, and everyone is chomping at the bit to get it over and done with, myself included. Progress is being made every day, and it is going to be a beautiful and functional place to hang our hat. It will be a location we will all be proud to call home for decades and decades.

A sad note to pass along is, that we lost our Auxiliary member Mary Owens, a few weeks ago. She was always a lively person to have at our meetings and first and foremost, she and her sister Rita, were our most successful "Poppy Ladies" ever! They must have gone through hundreds and hundreds, if not thousands of Buddy Poppies over the years. Saturdays at the Farmers Market or at the Veterans Museum, Mary and Rita were there. We will definitely miss her laughter and commentary. Mary asked that memorials be made to the VFW Post 1318 Auxiliary.

As we look ahead to our new home, we are also looking for new members to join us there. The VFW Auxiliary is open to eligible men and women. Please consider it.

We meet the first Tuesday of each month at 6:00 pm, and are now able to meet in person and virtually. That is a huge advantage for anyone that lives a distance but may still want to join us in our meetings. Fill out an application, and we can help with the rest.

We want everyone to join us as we support our Veterans and their families.

Thank you for your continuing support and patience during our gigantic remodel. The end is in sight!

Ellen Evans
President
Post 1318 Auxiliary

IN MEMORY

Mary M. Owens, age 87, of Madison, passed away on Thursday, Dec. 9, 2021, at St. Mary's Hospital, following a brief illness. She was born on Aug. 15, 1934, in Dodgeville, to Roy and Marian (Dobson) O'Neill. She was married to Robert "Dwight" Owens.

Mary worked at WPS for many years and was a lifetime auxiliary member of VFW Post 1318. She enjoyed volunteering at the Monona Senior Center, traveling and, in later years, winning the prize for the oldest family member at our family reunions!

Mary is survived by her son, Charlie Owens; stepdaughter, Karen Behling; daughter-in-law, Karen Owens; sister, Rita O'Neill; sisters-in-law, Dorothy O'Neill and Vicki O'Neill; and many grandchildren, nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Dwight; stepson, Richard Owens; brothers, Donald and Charlie O'Neill; and her sister, Linda O'Neill.

Services will be held at GUNDERSON EAST FUNERAL AND CREMATION CARE, 5203 Monona Drive, Madison, at 1:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Dec. 15, 2021. Burial will be held at Prairie Mound Cemetery in Oregon, Wis.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations can be made to VFW Auxiliary Post 1318. Online condolences may be made at www.gundersonfh.com.

We will miss you, Aunt Mary. Until we meet again, "As I was saying...!"

(Past 1318 Auxiliary President Mary Owen)



Rolling Thunder supporting Operation Ruck 22 of Wisconsin by handing out water/Gatorade to marchers, while other members marched in the annual 22 km Ruck.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE UPDATE

For more information go to: <https://www.defense.gov/News/From-the-Services/>

ARMY |

Soldiers Help Restore Village Water Supply in Djibouti

In Djibouti, where the average annual rainfall is 4.7 inches, a reliable water source is critical. When a leak was discovered in the only well providing drinking water in Chabelley Village, U.S. soldiers responded.

MARINE CORPS |

Amphibious Combat Vehicles Return to Unrestricted Ops

Marine Corps amphibious combat vehicles are set to return to unrestricted waterborne operations following the development of a solution designed to address previous issues with the vehicle's towing mechanism.

NAVY |

Poseidon Aircraft Join Multinational Exercise Sea Dragon

Two Navy P-8A Poseidon aircraft joined Australia, Canada, India, Japan and South Korea to begin Exercise Sea Dragon, an annual exercise focusing on anti-submarine warfare.

AIR FORCE

Grant Program Empowers Researchers in Uniform

The Air Force Research Laboratory's Edison Grant Program provides Air Force and Space Force uniformed personnel a year of funding for novel research experiments.

NATIONAL GUARD |

Maryland Guard Activated for COVID-19 Emergency

As many as 1,000 Maryland National Guard soldiers and airmen will be activated to help respond to a surge of COVID-19 hospitalizations in the state.

SPACE FORCE |

Space Force Launches New Public Website

The U.S. Space Force public website is going live as the newest service marks its second anniversary. SpaceForce.com will provide everything future Guardians need to know about careers such as space operations, cyber, intelligence, acquisitions and engineering.

VFW LEGISLATIVE

(Letter was sent to the WI Legislature Leadership team, contact your state representatives if you want to see these bills passed.)

Dear Members of the Wisconsin Legislature Leadership Team,

As the Wisconsin Commanders of The American Legion, Disabled American Veterans (DAV), and Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW), we request you support passage of Assembly Bill 245/Senate Bill 243 (AB 245/SB 243), relating to reducing the eligibility threshold to claim the veterans and surviving spouses property tax credit. These companion bills allow veterans with 70%, 80% and 90% service-connected disability ratings, as determined by the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), to claim the property tax credit equal to the ratio of their service connected disability ratings.

These veterans have honorably served our country, suffering physical and mental injuries that have diminished their choice of career and potential income. According to the VA's Office of Data Governance and Analysis, over half of Wisconsin veterans with a disability rating of 70% or greater are 65 years of age or older. When you include veterans older than 55 years of age, this becomes approximately 70%. Passage of AB 245/SB 243 will help ease the often prohibitive fiscal barrier these veterans face when trying to purchase a home on a fixed income, or lift a huge burden that forces many of our aging veterans to give up the house they are in.

This bi-partisan legislation is our #1 legislative priority for the 2021-2022 legislative session and would provide a real-world significant impact on the quality of life for our members and their families, more than any other piece of legislation that has come before the legislature in years. AB 245 saw unanimous passage out of the Assembly Committee on Ways and Means on October 20, 2021. On SB 243, the Senate Committee on Financial Institutions and Revenue held a public hearing on May 25, 2021.

Currently, the bills' progress has stalled due to concerns expressed about the federal Maintenance of Effort (MOE) requirements which drastically increase the fiscal cost of implementing AB 245/SB 243. Understanding and appreciating this concern, we have worked with the bills authors to draft an amendment that would delay the effective date upon which 70% service-connected veterans may claim their property tax credit until after the MOE requirements expire, resulting in a minimal fiscal increase to the 2021-2023 State Budget.

It is our belief that this amendment should remove any barriers to full legislative passage of AB 245/SB 243, and we look forward to working with you to secure its final passage.

Our collective membership of over 100,000 veterans and auxiliary statewide are watching and counting on you to help relieve the stress that ever-increasing property taxes place upon the fixed incomes of our state's most severely disabled veterans. We welcome the opportunity to discuss this with you further and appreciate your timely attention to this matter.

Respectfully,

Greg Eirch

Matthew Kempainen

Cory Geisler

American Legion
Department of Wisconsin

Disabled American Veterans
Department of Wisconsin

Veterans of Foreign Wars
Department of Wisconsin

EVENTS

BY JAMIE HERRMANN

Happy New Year!

The VFW Post 1318 activities committee has started to discuss and plan events for the 2022 year. We are excited about the opportunities the new location offers for hosting events throughout the year.

Here is a glimpse into some of those events we have started discussing and planning:

- After settling into the new space, there will be a public grand opening which is tentatively planned for end of April/early May 2022
- Trivia and Karaoke is planned to be back at the Post on Thursday and Friday nights once the new location opens
- Operation Ruck 22 of Wisconsin will be holding events at the Post and other sponsor locations throughout the year and we also plan to have a snack and water stop along the ruck 22 march, on October 1st, 2022
- Rolling Thunder Wisconsin Chapter 5 will have their cash for cash raffle drawing event on April 9th, 2022 and their 5th Annual Holiday Extravaganza in December

The objectives of the activities committee are to support Veterans and the broader community, raise funds for VFW, support initiatives and 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.

If you would like to participate in any of these events or have other ideas for events that you would like to see VFW Post 1318 participate in, please contact the activities committee members or Jamie Herrmann directly at: jamieherrmann3@gmail.com



Rolling Thunder Wisconsin Chapter 5 each year gives a helping hand to Veterans and their families that could use a little help during the holidays

FEDERAL VA UPDATE

Myths and Facts about COVID-19 Vaccines: visit <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/facts.html> to read more.

MYTH: The ingredients in COVID-19 vaccines are dangerous.

FACT: Nearly all the ingredients in COVID-19 vaccines are also ingredients in many foods – fats, sugars, and salts.

MYTH: The natural immunity I get from being sick with COVID-19 is better than the immunity I get from COVID-19 vaccination.

FACT: Getting a COVID-19 vaccination is a safer and more dependable way to build immunity to COVID-19 than getting sick with COVID-19.

MYTH: COVID-19 vaccines cause variants.

FACT: COVID-19 vaccines do not create or cause variants of the virus that causes COVID-19. Instead, COVID-19 vaccines can help prevent new variants from emerging.

MYTH: All events reported to the Vaccine Adverse Event Reporting System (VAERS) are caused by vaccination.

FACT: Anyone can report events to VAERS, even if it is not clear whether a vaccine caused the problem. Because of this, VAERS data alone cannot determine if the reported adverse event was caused by a COVID-19 vaccination.

MYTH: The mRNA vaccine is not considered a vaccine.

FACT: mRNA vaccines, such as Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna, work differently than other types of vaccines, but they still trigger an immune response inside your body.

MYTH: COVID-19 vaccines contain microchips.

FACT: COVID-19 vaccines do not contain microchips. Vaccines are developed to fight against disease and are not administered to track your movement.

MYTH: Receiving a COVID-19 vaccine can make you magnetic.

FACT: Receiving a COVID-19 vaccine will not make you magnetic, including at the site of vaccination which is usually your arm.

MYTH: COVID-19 vaccines authorized for use in the United States shed or release their components.

FACT: Vaccine shedding is the release or discharge of any of the vaccine components in or outside of the body and can only occur when a vaccine contains a live weakened version of the virus.

SHOP WITH A COP

Despite our new building still being a construction site, the Auxiliary and Post were able to host Shop with a Cop again this year. This year only the Police Officers from Madison and surrounding communities plus Dane County Sheriffs Department showed up to wrap present. Unfortunately, no kids were allowed to go shopping with the Cops due to COVID-19 concerns. The Auxiliary was still able to set up tables, provide wrapping paper, and pizza for everyone to enjoy. Next year we hope to be back to normal with kids and cops being present.



SERVICE OFFICER

BY WILLIAM ATKINSON

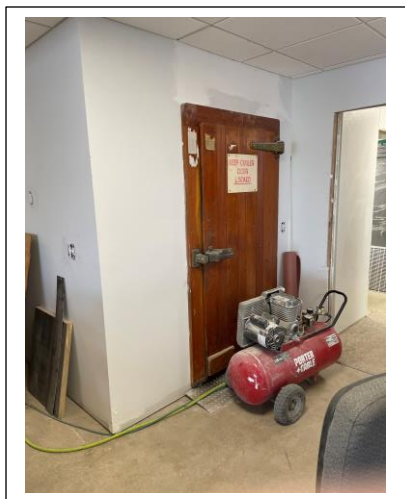
Hello Members of VFW Post 1318,

My name is Will Atkinson and a few months ago I volunteered to step in to the recently vacated Post Service Officer position. Since then, I have completed the training related to that role and reached out to the Department Service Officer, who is the person I would forward veterans benefits claims to for approval and submission to the VA, so that we can become acquainted. I have also maintained relationships with the Team Red, White & Blue chapter in Madison, where I previously served as a volunteer leader for about 6 years, and I continue to sit on the Board of Directors for the Veterans Community Action Network (VetsCAN), the community veteran's engagement board for VISN 12.

Through these connections I hope to stay informed about changes in the veteran issue space, as well as opportunities to interact with other veterans and veteran service organizations. In the coming weeks I will be signing up for the WDVA's ETS Sponsorship program, which connects transitioning servicemembers to people in the community where they will be returning.

I enjoy volunteering, hiking (rucking!), playing rugby, and many other activities, so if you would ever like a buddy to try something new with or have an idea for a fun group event, please don't hesitate to reach out to me! My cell phone number is (920) 691-2513 and I am usually able to respond most quickly to text messages. I am eager to work on projects related to health, data, and policy, as well as continuing to get to know as many veterans in our area as possible! If there's anything you think I missed, please let me know your thoughts on how I can be most effective. I look forward to seeing everyone soon.

Thank you,
- Will



Additional pictures of our new Post home. Left: We saved the older cooler door and it is now on the new cooler. Right: The new set up for Pepsi products.



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

POST NEW HOME UPDATE



Handicapped Bathroom

Prep-kitchen area



Grill, deep fryers and hood for bar



Left: Auxiliary Kitchen by hall

Right: Post meeting room



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