

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 20 No. 4 October/November/December 2020



Greetings,

I hope all of you are taking care of yourselves, your loved ones and your fellow veterans in what continues to be a trying time. We continue to conduct our Post meetings with our combination in-person and online meeting set-ups. As an example, VFW National and State Level Leaders participated in our last two monthly Post meetings online. During our August 3rd meeting the VFW Commander in Chief (CiC) Hal Roesch II attended online after becoming the 112th CiC of the VFW on July 24th, 2020. CiC Roesch issued Special Order #1, five days before our August meeting on July 29th. This order permits VFW members attending meetings online at post, district, department and national level to vote on VFW business. This order was issued to allow the VFW at all levels to conduct its business at a time when COVID-19 restrictions may not permit normal operations. During our August meeting we had ten (10) members attend in-person and eight (8) members attended on-line. We voted on six (6) motions at this meeting and the process worked out quite well. CiC Roesch had a first-hand look at how his new policy worked at the post level five days after he issued Special Order#1.

VFW Senior Vice Commander Chief (SRVCiC) Chief Fritz Mihelcic and our State Senior Vice Commander (SVCDR) Cory Geisler attended our September 14th meeting online. They participated in several of our discussions and offered us some very valuable advice. SRVCiC Mihelcic praised the way we conducted our meeting in his blog article "Around the World with Fritz". (See page 5) We received SRVCiC Mihelcic's permission to reprint his blog which you can find elsewhere in this newsletter. I hope we conduct our meetings in an efficient manner while at the same time setting a tone where all members feel they have a voice. If you do not feel that we are doing this or have suggestions about how we could do a better job, then please let me know.

Thanks to the efforts of Quartermaster Gundel Metz and House Committee Chairman Ray Trent our canteen operation continues to run smoothly even during this COVID-19 Crisis. We remain open four days a week (Thursday-Sunday) and have maintained our COVID safeguards in compliance with State and Local guidelines.

(continued on page 4)



Commander Joe Hines

UPCOMING EVENTS

November

- 2nd – Post Meeting – 6:00 pm
- 3rd – Auxiliary Meeting – 6:30 pm
- 11th – Veterans Day
- 14th – Rolling Thunder – 10:00 am
- 24th – Events Committee – 6:00 pm
House Committee – 7:00 pm

December

- 1st – Auxiliary Meeting – 6:30 pm
- 7th – Post Meeting – 6:00 pm
Pearl Harbor Day
- 12th – Rolling Thunder – 10:00 am
- 22nd – Events Committee – 6:00 pm
House Committee – 7:00 pm

January

- 4th – Post meeting – 6:00 pm
- 5th – Auxiliary Meeting – 6:30 pm
- 9th – Rolling Thunder – 10:00 am
- 26th – Events Committee – 6:00 pm
House Committee – 7:00 pm

The following groups will meet again when allowed:

- First Wednesday Badger Honor Flight – 6:00 pm
- Madison Veterans Council 6:00 pm

Post is closed on Mondays, Tuesday, and Wednesday

**Post open only Thursday, Friday
Saturday and Sunday**

POST OFFICERS

Commander -----Joe Hines
 Sr. Vice Commander-----Carlos Tucker
 Jr. Vice Commander -----Edward Maiolo
 Quartermaster-----Gundel Metz
 Adjutant -----
 Judge Advocate -----Bob Evans
 Chaplain -----Pat Morgan
 Surgeon -----Rose Doucette
 Trustee, 3yr -----Steve Eisenhoauer
 Trustee, 2yr -----Andy Lochner
 Trustee, 1yr -----John Kraak
 Officer of the Day----- Elisabeth Harman
 Service Officer-----Brad Burt
 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, Joe Hines,
 Carlos Tucker, Edward Maiolo, Ray Trent, John
 Kraak, Rose Doucette, Gundel Metz, Bill Austin,
 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----- NinaSmithback
 Trustee, 2 yr-----Rose Doucette
 Trustee, 3 yr-----Elizabeth Moore
 Chaplain-----Sharon Crary
 Guard-----Nina Smithback
 Historian----- Rose Doucette

**Find us on
FACEBOOK and
TWITTER**

**Facebook:
The VFW, Cranfield's
Post 1318**
TWITTER@VFWPOST1318

**WEB ADDRESS
VFW1318.ORG**

Telephone: 608-255-5955

Email: vfw1318@hotmail.com

V.F.W. NEWS DEADLINE IS
January 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
Cranfield VFW Post 1318. V.F.W. NEWS is
published quarterly by V.F.W. Post 1318,133 E.
Lakeside St., Madison, WI 53715.

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

**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



CANTEEN

CANTEEN HOURS

Mondays – Wednesday Closed
Thursday: 11 am to 11 pm
Friday & Saturday: 11 am to 12 pm
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 starting at: 7 pm

Karaoke every Friday starting at: 7 pm

Plus we have the weekly draw on
Fridays.

Movie Night -- Every Saturday

WACKO – Every Sunday

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

**DUE TO COVID 19 WE HAVE
LIMITED SEATING AND ARE
OPEN ONLY FOUR DAYS**

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

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.



AUXILIARY PRESIDENTS MESSAGE



Hello to all,

The summer has come and gone, but we are still hanging in there! The VFW Post and Auxiliary are still functioning. The canteen is open Thursday through Sunday. We attended Trivia Thursday night and it was so much fun! There is a lot of room in the Hall and everyone was safely distanced. The music was great and everyone had a blast. Give it a try. Trivia starts at 7:00pm every Thursday. Friday is karaoke and Saturday is a fantastic movie double feature. Sunday afternoon is the topper with WACKO! It is becoming a place to go. More than enough room to social distance and everyone is wearing masks.

The Auxiliary is continuing to do our blanket project by making blankets mostly out of fleece, to take to the home at King this November or December. We have done this for the past few years. It is much appreciated by the Veterans at King and we love doing it. We will also have a "Sock Drop" in the lobby at the VFW. Please come and drop off new pairs of socks which we also take to King. Last year we added new sweat pants to our donation that the Veterans absolutely loved. You are welcome to donate those also.

As fall approaches, we are looking forward to the Holidays.

Join us and our group by checking at the VFW website. We always welcome membership eligible men and women to join the Auxiliary. Our meetings have been web meetings for the past few months, and probably will be for a while. It works for us and many other Auxiliaries.

Contact me if you have any questions about membership.

Until next time,

Ellen Evans
VFW Post 1318
Auxiliary President

The Auxiliary is holding virtual meetings at this time.

(Commanders column continued)

We are no longer renting our hall out so that we can have more space to maintain social distancing within our facility. However, we have allowed some other veterans groups to use our facility for meetings as long as they adhere to the COVID-19 safety guidelines. Our staff have placed tables outside where canteen patrons have increased capability to social distance. Our canteen patrons continue to donate to our post.

As I write this article COVID-19 Cases continue to rise in Wisconsin. I participated in a VA Madison Hospital town hall meeting via teleconference today. It was an informative meeting and the health care professionals re-iterated the importance of wearing masks, washing hands, maintaining social distance and avoiding large indoor gatherings. They also outlined the safety procedures that the staff at all of the VA Health facilities (to include the VA Hospital) in the Madison area to ensure patient safety. So far there have been no cases of patients contracting COVID-19 as a result of interaction with staff at any VA health care facility locally. We are all very fortunate to live in an area where veterans care is a priority. However, we all still need to remain vigilant to ensure our own health and the health of those around us.

UPDATE BUILDING COMMITTEE

By Bob Evans

As everyone knows the Post signed an option to purchase agreement in 2014 with Avante Properties after we had a special meeting to discuss the sale of our current property. Since that time Avante has paid the Post \$30,000 a year for the option. We renewed the option in 2017 for five years. The time has now come for the Building Committee to actively seek a place for us to rent or to buy a new building. At this time, we have nothing definite and as stated are actively looking. If you know of someone in the Maison area who may have some business property to sell let us know so we can pursue it. We would like to stay on the south to west side of Madison. We briefed Post members during the September meeting on the status of the building and sale. Our current location is starting to fall apart and we are trying to keep it in good working order for as long as we need it. If you want to learn more about what is going on, please join us for our Post meetings either in person or virtually.

I would like to make the membership aware that a number of service organizations depend on 1318 for support and meeting space. Among these are Honor Flight and Rolling Thunder. This is a significant consideration in looking for a new home for the Post. A foundation for activities is also a consideration. If we continue or expand activities to support Veterans, we need a location with ample space to accomplish this. The challenge to our Post is to find a facility and develop the resources to support our mission.

EVENTS COMMITTEE

By Bob Evans

Unfortunately, due to COVID 19, we have not been able to do any events this year. As the COVID crisis continues, it does not look like we will be able to hold any events. I will keep you posted when we are starting our events back up and what type of assistance we may need.

The information below is reprinted with the permission of Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief Fritz Mihelcic. You can follow his blog: <https://aroundtheworldwithfritz.blogspot.com>



Tuesday, September 15, 2020

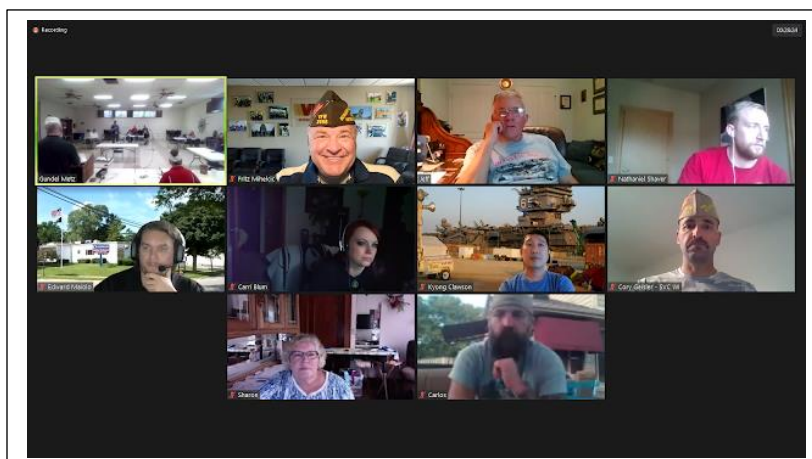
VFW Post 1318 Meeting in Madison Wisconsin

Monday evening found me in front of my computer for several hours as I attended a Post meeting in Madison, Wisconsin. There was a mix of in-person and zoom participants and it went off without a hitch. I think just about everyone in the country is getting used to teleworking and it works! As a National Officer, there's no way I could just pop in and attend a Post meeting in another state on a weeknight. We are getting better at this and we're showing that communication is the key!

Post Commander Joe Hines ran a great meeting and there was a lot of interaction from the in-person crowd as well as the zoom members. They had some serious issues to discuss [VFW business so no reason to put that here] but it's because they have been so successful that they are talking about these things. No worries, all is well at the Marion C. Cranefield Post! Also zooming in and visiting was the Wisconsin State Senior Vice Commander Cory Geisler. In person was none other than their Quartermaster Gundel Metz, who invited me to the meeting. Gundel also happens to be a Past State Commander as well as a current National Council of Administration Member. It was a pretty rank heavy evening but in a Post meeting, rank doesn't give privilege! Everyone has an equal right to the floor to discuss, debate, and vote. It really was a good evening.

Before the meeting started I was chatting with the eight other zoom participants, two of whom were the Post Junior and Post Senior Vice Commanders, and both from the current wars. I asked about the amount of time these eight members [men and women] had been with this Post and the answers ranged from 6 months to 20 years! I didn't get to ask that of the in-person group, but this certainly shows that the VFW isn't just an "old man's club"!

There's a bright future ahead for VFW Post 1318. They have great leadership now and coming up through the chairs. They have a mix of young and old, men and women, and differing Conflicts for eligibility. They certainly are NOT your Grandfather's VFW and I'm really proud of them for that!



Another fun thing about attending a meeting via zoom is that you also get to see cats and puppies in attendance!

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

By Joseph Hines

I recently attended the first ever virtual VFW National Legislative Fall Conference September 21-23, 2020. The Fall conference is usually executed with a representative from each state VFW organization meeting attending a conference with the VFW National Legislative Staff and the National VFW Leadership. This year I attended the conference via Zoom video conference from my home. At this meeting our national 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 and Concurrent Receipt. At this conference we had the opportunity to ask our staff questions about these talking points. Our staff also advised us on how to discuss these talking points with our legislators so that we could gain their support.

After the meeting with the VFW National Staff and Leadership I had teleconference appointments with all eight (8) U.S. Representatives from Wisconsin and both Senators Baldwin and Johnson. During this conference I presented each Wisconsin legislator the Talking Points, and key legislation that supports each talking point. I was able to talk directly with our 2ND Congressional District Congressman Mark Pocan. Representative Pocan is a co-sponsor of H.R. 5995 Major Richard Star Act which is Legislation that supports the Concurrent Receipt Talking Point. He also co-sponsored H.R. 7443, Veterans Claim Transparency Act of 2020 which supports the Veterans Benefits Talking Point and H.R.

I also spoke with staff members that work for Senators Baldwin and Johnson. Both of our Senators supported a recent measure to include bladder cancer, hypothyroidism and parkinsonism as presumptive diseases associated with Agent Orange exposure in the National Defense Authorization Act. Senator Baldwin also co-sponsored S. Veterans Claim Transparency Act of 2020. This legislation supports the Veterans Benefits Talking Point. Senator Baldwin also co-sponsored S.514 Deborah Sampson Act and S.785, Commander John Scott Hannon Mental Health Care Improvement Act which support the Veterans Health Care Talking Point. The support we as veterans garner from our legislators is due to the fact that they know we vote. We more than any citizens have earned the right to vote. Do not waste it!

OPERATION RUCK 22

By Gundel Metz

I hope that you were able to participate in Operation Ruck 22 this year. Due to COVID 19, Operation Ruck 22 was done virtually this year. What that meant is that you could either walk 22 miles in one day or break it down into smaller segments. I walked 22 miles in about 16 days. If you participated please let us know so that we can add it to our Community Service Report. Remember we do this to bring awareness to those veterans who commit suicide every day. We need to help stop this.

MILITARY HISTORY - CIVIL WAR

Since we all are staying safe in our homes, I thought I would use the space for military history.

November 28, 1775 - The American Navy is established by Congress. The next day, Congress appoints a secret committee to seek help from European nations.

December 23, 1775 - King George III issues a royal proclamation closing the American colonies to all commerce and trade, to take effect in March of 1776. Also in December, Congress is informed that France may offer support in the war against Britain.

October 11, 1776 - A big defeat for the inexperienced American Navy on Lake Champlain at the hands of a British fleet

October 28, 1776 - After evacuating his main forces from Manhattan, Washington's army suffers heavy casualties in the Battle of White Plains from Gen. Howe's forces

December 6, 1776 - The naval base at Newport, Rhode Island, is captured by the British.

December 11, 1776 - Washington takes his troops across the Delaware River into Pennsylvania

December 25-26, 1776 - On Christmas, George Washington takes 2400 of his men and recrosses the Delaware River.

October 7, 1777 - The Battle of Saratoga results in the first major American victory of the Revolutionary War as Gen. Horatio Gates and Gen. Benedict Arnold defeat Gen. Burgoyne

November 15, 1777 - Congress adopts the Articles of Confederation as the government of the new United States of America, pending ratification by the individual states..

December 17, 1777 - At Valley Forge in Pennsylvania, the Continental Army led by Washington sets up winter quarters.

October 17, 1779 - Washington sets up winter quarters at Morristown

October 7, 1780 - Gen. Cornwallis abandons his invasion of North Carolina after Americans capture his reinforcements

November 30, 1782 - A preliminary peace treaty is signed in Paris.

December 14, 1782 - The British evacuate Charleston, South Carolina.

October 20, 1786 - Congress authorizes Secretary of War Henry Knox to raise an army of 1340 men

November 26, 1789 - A Day of Thanksgiving is established by a congressional resolution and a proclamation by George Washington.

SERVICE OFFICER REPORT

By Brad Burt

VFW Mental Wellness Campaign

“Overcoming PTSD: assessing VA’s Efforts to Promote Wellness and Healing” located on the national VFW website takes information from research to distribute to share data with VFW, DAV and the American Legion National for posts to share with members. The information and data shared distributes information from private mental health service providers.

Link: <https://www.vfw.org/advocacy/national-legislative-service/congressional-testimony/2017/06/overcoming-ptsd-assessing-vas-efforts-to-promote-wellness-and-healing>

NAMI of Wisconsin

“Painting Away the Trauma” exhibit shares combat veteran art created to manage Post Traumatic Stress-Disorder. The event goes from September 29 to November 10, 2020, at the Lakeside Street Coffee House. The partnership venture with NAMI of Wisconsin is located at 402 W. Lakeside St. in Madison, Wisconsin.

Link: <https://namiwisconsin.org/nami-wisconsin-events/healing-art-show/>

NAMI PTSD Information

Categories: Overview, Treatment, Support Discuss

Link: <https://nami.org/About-Mental-Illness/Mental-Health-Conditions/Posttraumatic-Stress-Disorder>

VFW Painting Away the Trauma

Combat visionary creates therapy to deal with ground zero aftermath of war. Iraq VFW Life Member Pete Damon shares his story in feature profile piece to connect readers with resources.

Link: <https://www.vfw.org/media-and-events/latest-releases/archives/2019/1/painting-away-the-trauma>

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