

V.F.W. NEWS

Published Four Times a Year by Marion C. Cranefield Post 1318
Veterans of Foreign Wars
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Greetings members!

Happy New Year everyone! We will have our challenges this year as we have had in 2020 but things are looking up. With the current approval of two (2) COVID-19 vaccines and the pending approval of others I think we are finally seeing light at the end of the tunnel. On December 28th our post completed the purchase of a building here in Madison. This purchase will ensure we will have a new post home when we complete the sale of our current post home to Avante properties this August.

The Madison VA Hospital received the Moderna COVID-19 vaccine on December 23 and immediately vaccinated frontline staff. They are currently vaccinating those veterans considered at high risk of severe illness from COVID-19. Most veterans will be unable to get vaccinated during this first roll-out due to the current limited supply of the vaccine. Until that time, I urge everyone to continue taking the precautions recommended by the CDC. Wear a mask, watch your distance (stay at least six feet from others) and wash your hands frequently. These are proven scientific steps we all can take to limit the spread of COVID-19 and keep ourselves and others safe. The Madison VA requests that you not arrive any earlier than thirty (30) minutes for any appointments at their facilities to limit the spread of COVID-19. You can review the latest information on COVID-19 protocols at VA facilities by accessing the COVID-19 website at <https://www.va.gov/health-care/COVID-19-vaccine/>.

Our building committee led by Ray Trent and Gundel Metz has worked hard during the last few months searching for properties. The committee (with authorization of the post) agreed to purchase a 12,000 square foot facility at 2470 Ski Drive in Madison, Wisconsin. The first/ground floor will provide us space for our next post home. This floor will require renovation but will eventually enable us to have meeting, banquet and kitchen space for future post activities. It will also enable us to continue to support and host veteran events. The second floor has space that is already being rented out. That rental income provides us an income stream to support post upkeep and activities. This building is located on approximately one-acre lot and also has seventy (70) parking spaces. A lot of details need to be addressed. The first-floor renovations, permitting, zoning and taxing details are all being worked out in the weeks and months ahead.

(continued on page 3)



Commander Joe Hines

UPCOMING EVENTS

February

- 1st – Post Meeting – 6:00 pm
- 2nd – Auxiliary Meeting – 6:30 pm
- 23rd – building Committee– 6:00 pm
- House Committee – 7:00 pm

March

- 1st – Post Meeting – 6:00 pm
- 2nd – Auxiliary Meeting – 6:30 pm
- 23rd – Events Committee – 6:00 pm
- House Committee – 7:00 pm

April

- 5th – Post meeting – 6:00 pm
- 6^h – Auxiliary Meeting – 6:30 pm
- 27th – Events Committee – 6:00 pm
- House Committee – 7:00 pm

Post is closed on Mondays, Tuesdays, & Wednesdays

The following groups will meet again when allowed:

Rolling Sunday – 10:00 am 2nd Saturday

First Wednesday Badger Honor Flight – 6:00 pm

Madison Veterans Council 6:00 pm

POST OFFICERS

Commander -----Joe Hines
 Sr. Vice Commander-----Carlos Tucker
 Jr. Vice Commander -----Edward Maiolo
 Quartermaster-----Gundel Metz
 Adjutant -----Eric Ravnikar
 Judge Advocate -----Bob Evans
 Chaplain -----Pat Morgan
 Surgeon -----Rose Doucette
 Trustee, 3yr -----John Kraak
 Trustee, 2yr -----Andy Lochner
 Trustee, 1yr -----Steve Eisenhauer
 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, 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 – 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 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, 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.

**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

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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



**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)

The committee is also working on plans to move out of our current facility this summer. As always, they will keep post membership informed.

The Wisconsin VFW State Commander Jason Johns recently announced that after consulting with other state VFW leaders that the Wisconsin VFW Mid-Winter conference will be conducted virtually from Manitowoc on Friday and Saturday February 5-6. This recent change is due to the recent uptick in COVID-19 infections across the state and nation. A very limited number of state VFW leadership will attend the conference in person. Log-In information for this conference is available by going to the Wisconsin VFW Website at vfwwi.org then click on the "News" at the top of the page then scroll down to "Announcements" and then open up the "Revised VFW Agenda".

On December 3, 2020 judging for the Wisconsin VFW District 2 Patriots Pen essay and Voice of Democracy speech competitions were conducted at our post home. I am pleased to announce that one of our Post 1318 Patriots Pen essay entries, Clara Insolia captured 1st Place. Clara is an eighth-grade student at Edgewood Middle School. She will advance on to the State Patriots Pen essay competition at the Mid-Winter Conference on Saturday February 6, 2021. Good Luck Clara!

ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE

BY BOB EVANS

The latest news from the activities committee is that we are dormant during the coronavirus. Everyone is aware of this so, It is not much in the way of information. The real news is that we have purchased a new home for Post 1318. This building will give us several advantages over where we are now. Previous membership put us in an excellent position in terms of the value of our current location. We are incredibly fortunate that the Doucette family leadership and determination set the stage for 1318 to take advantage of this opportunity.

With our Quartermaster and House Committee Chairman's leadership, the building committee will highly upgrade the new facility and put us in a future expansion position. The facility will be more convenient in access to membership and for our ongoing activities. It will have much more natural lighting and an outdoor patio accessible directly from the bar. It will be more attractive and better accommodate various activities and organizations that 1318 can host or sponsor.

As the activities committee chairman and as past Commander, I have wanted a facility, along with the rest of the membership, that reflects our efforts' quality and will attract new membership by its appearance. All of us who have taken leadership positions realize that we hold 1318 in trust for veterans' generations that will follow us. This acquisition will put the Post and future members in a great place to carry on our efforts to support the Veteran community.

I look forward to the improvements which will tie up or membership for the next few months. Fortunately, this coincides with the restrictions that have restricted the activities committee to dormancy throughout 2020. When we can begin activities again, it will be with renewed enthusiasm.



AUXILIARY PRESIDENTS MESSAGE



Hello Everyone,

Hope this finds all of you happy and healthy in the New Year.

Even though COVID has kept us from getting together in person, we have had a very successful last quarter. Our meetings are done online and that makes it much easier for some of our members. We actually have more people attend our meetings online. Extreme weather, driving at night, rushing out after work and dinner to get to the VFW aren't issues right now. Quite the advantage. There really is a silver lining to all of this. We also eliminate the chance of exposure to the virus by not having to meet in person. Now, that being said, we really do miss seeing each other in person, and having that face-to-face contact. Maybe in a few months. We all have that to look forward to.

Our group is constantly keeping active by making blankets and quilts for the Veterans at King. In December we delivered, safely, 82 pillow cases, 44 fleece blankets, two quilts and 12 tissue box cover to King. It is such a wonderful feeling to know we can bring such joy to the Veterans that so greatly deserve it. The blankets and quilts are beautiful and we are so happy that we can do this on an ongoing basis.

Looking to the future we are keeping our project going and look forward to the New Year.

We welcome anyone to join our Auxiliary. It is so easy to attend our meetings. You may contact me at 608-217-2057 if you have any questions.

Thank you, and Stay Well!

Ellen Evans
President
Post 1318 Auxiliary

SERVICE OFFICER REPORT

BY BRAD BURT

Overview

Bradley J. Burt shared findings from investigation between the VFW national website, phone conversations with the Madison VA Hospital social worker, VA.gov and You Tube instructional videos. The investigation sought to educate membership regarding specific fundamentals of buddy checking in with the County Service Officer all the way to registering for benefits. The project concluded with a blog to guide veterans who are on-the-fence about utilizing the VA. The blog written on the Service Officer's Social Media Writing final project at www.outpost422.com continues to serve the community as an over watch and guardian angel mission. Post members interested in having a feature story blog to help veterans should reach out anytime at bradburtuww@gmail.com to meet and discuss items needed for visual storytelling. The goal this month teaches Post members the power of virtual buddy checks to include a link from the VFW website explaining the value of interaction on social media. Social media primarily reaches future members indirectly.

Links:

VFW [Why Social Media Matters - VFW](#)

Outpost 422 [Have you checked in with your Veterans Administration social worker? The first stop for a buddy check – Outpost 422](#)

VA.gov [What VA Social Workers Do - VHA Social Work](#)

Service Officer Findings

After meeting with the Madison VA social worker December 29, 2020 via phone call at 1304 hours, the following information shared offered details regarding assisting with finding dental services.

Key takeaways from our conversation:

- Those who are permanently and totally disabled qualify for dental, not spouses or dependents.
- The dental extension at the Madison VA is 17035
- The VA considers dental coverage as nonessential, which limits coverage 100 percent service connected only.
- Social workers work with veterans who wait for services who “literally have teeth falling out of their heads,” according to Heather at the VA.
- The VA doesn't cover major dental work and will pull all teeth at-risk of infection.

Conclusion

The Outpost 422 blog hyperlink takes the reader on a journey to sort out where to locate services. Post 1318 Service Officer investigates information to share with Post members who maybe returning from combat uncertain where to begin with applying for VA benefits. Please reach out anytime to investigate items of interest to benefit the good of the order at the Post to share with the Quartermaster. Our Post thrives when our Service Officer actively seeks information to share with membership regarding open doors to those who serve.

NOTE: As of 0900 hours on January 4, 2020, the Madison VA requires all patients to respect their new appointment policy during COVID-19. The new policy requires patients to check in no more than 30 minutes prior to their appointment.

COVID 19 VACCINE INFO

FROM THE VA WEBSITE: [HTTPS://WWW.VA.GOV/HEALTH-CARE/COVID-19-VACCINE/](https://www.va.gov/health-care/covid-19-vaccine/)

COVID-19 vaccines at VA

We're working closely with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and other federal partners to provide COVID-19 vaccines to Veterans and VA health care personnel. We know you have a lot of questions, and information is changing quickly. Please check back often for updates. We'll continue to update this page as we have new information to offer.

Who will get a COVID-19 vaccine first

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has authorized the first 2 COVID-19 vaccines. We'll have a limited amount of these vaccines to start.

We've worked with the CDC and other federal partners to develop a phased plan. Our goal is to do the most good for the most people during this time.

Under this plan, we're now offering vaccines to these 2 groups:

- Veterans living in our long-term care facilities, **and**
- VA health care personnel. Vaccinating our VA health care personnel helps us continue providing care for Veterans.

We based this plan on these criteria from CDC guidelines:

- Risk of becoming infected with the virus
- Risk of severe illness and death from COVID-19
- Risk of spreading the virus to others
- Risk of harm to society if essential workers, including health care personnel, are unable to work

After these first 2 groups, we'll begin to offer vaccines to more Veterans who are at high risk of severe illness from COVID-19.

Basic information about getting your vaccine at VA

As the supply of vaccine increases, we'll work with our care teams to let you know your options. It's your choice if you want to get a vaccine or not. Your decision won't affect your VA health care or any of your VA benefits in any way.

(COVID Continued)

Where we'll offer vaccines

The first 2 authorized COVID-19 vaccines require special storage and handling. Because of this, we have a limited supply of vaccines. Our VA facilities will provide vaccines to Veterans receiving VA health care who are most at risk.

When more vaccines are available, we'll determine when we can provide vaccines through our community provider network.

Eligibility

When more vaccines become available, we plan to offer a free COVID-19 vaccine to all Veterans receiving VA health care who want one.

Your team will contact you when a vaccine is available to you. If you decide to get the vaccine, your team will help you schedule your appointments.

If you're not currently receiving health care through VA, you can [apply now](#).

YOU CAN CALL 1-800-698-2411 TO REGISTER FOR THE COVID SHOT WITH THE VA IN MADISON

Safety

The U.S. vaccine safety system ensures that all vaccines are as safe as possible. Safety is a top priority as federal partners work to make COVID-19 vaccines available.

Before the FDA authorizes a vaccine for use, they carefully review the available safety data and clinical trial results for that vaccine. To learn more about the safety of the 2 authorized COVID-19 vaccines, read the FDA fact sheets:

- [FDA Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine fact sheet \(PDF\)](#)
- [FDA Moderna COVID-19 vaccine fact sheet \(PDF\)](#)

We'll closely monitor everyone who gets a COVID-19 vaccine for reactions, side effects, or adverse events. An adverse event is an injury or harm that happens to someone after they receive a vaccine, which may or may not have been caused by the vaccine.

We'll report this information in our vaccine monitoring and tracking system. This is the same system we use to monitor reactions to all vaccines, including those for the flu and shingles.

To learn more about COVID-19 vaccine safety, [go to the CDC website](#).

VFW Post 1318
133 E Lakeside Street
Madison, WI 53715

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

(COVID Continued)

Privacy

We'll share the same information with the CDC that we share for other vaccines. This includes the following information:

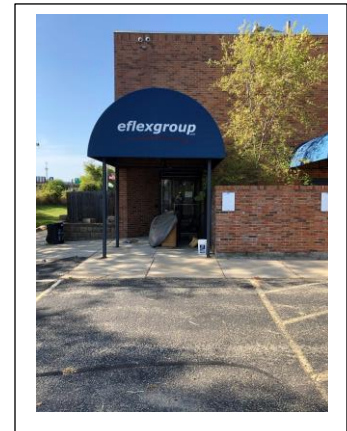
- Demographic information (like age, gender, race, and ethnicity) that helps the CDC understand which groups of people are receiving the vaccine
- Adverse reactions to the vaccine

We won't share names or street addresses.

POST UPDATE



Post future home
2740 Ski Lane, Madison



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