

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 23 No. 2 April/May/June 2023



Greetings Comrades!

Happy Spring! This will be short as Spring is the season where family activities really begin to ramp up in my household. Between hockey, swim, gymnastics and volleyball, our daughters are keeping us on our toes. The good news about this season, is my ability to be present. As many of you know, the past year and a half has been a rough one for me.

As I've been winding down and moving toward retirement in my military career, many of my own personal demons from 20 years of war have begun showing up. The good news is that I have been heavily invested in treatment through the VA which has been invaluable in my healing journey. And while things have been very tough at times, the growth, healing and enlightenment I have experienced keep making the next step an easier one. My optimism is high and I am gaining a great foothold in feeling more and more complete as a human. Also instrumental in my healing has been the VFW.

Personally, the effects of PTSD felt extremely isolating. Speaking with other members about their own personal experiences with therapy helped me to feel less alone. Simply interacting with other veterans helped me feel a sense of belonging, camaraderie and empowerment, bolstering my dedication to therapy and improvement in mental health.

In keeping this short and to the point, thank you all. Thank you for your dedication to serving the community and other veterans. Those are the reasons why I joined the VFW in the first place, and now, I have inadvertently become one of the veterans who has personally benefited. So I thank you all again.

Let's look forward to warmer weather, sunnier skies, and a great future for VFW Post 1318. The latest post elections are bringing a lot of great opportunities for continued growth as an organization with adjustments in leadership structure. Let's make the best of this season and keep leaning forward with fresh ideas for engagement with the community and veterans' service.

As always, it is an honor to have served as your Post Commander. I am looking forward to the changes ahead under new leadership!

Gratefully yours,
Carlos D Tucker, COMMANDER



Commander Carlos Tucker

UPCOMING EVENTS

May

1st – Post Meeting – 6:00 pm
2nd – Auxiliary Meeting – 6:30 pm
13th – Rolling Thunder – 10:00 am
23rd – House Committee – 6:00 pm
Events Committee – 6:30pm
28th – Pancake Breakfast – 8:00-11:00 am
29th – Memorial Day Services

June

5th – Post Meeting – 6:00 pm
6th – Auxiliary Meeting – 6:30 pm
10th – Rolling Thunder – 10:00 am
25th – Pancake Breakfast – 8:00-11:00 am
27th – House Committee – 6:00 pm
Events Committee – 6:30 pm

July

3rd – Post Meeting – 6:00 pm
8th – Rolling Thunder – 10:00 am
11th – Auxiliary Meeting – 6:30 pm
23rd – Pancake Breakfast – 8:00-11:00 am
25th – House Committee – 6:00 pm
Events Committee – 7:00pm

Post is closed on Mondays

The following also meet at the Post:

Madison Veterans Council
VFW 1318 Band for Rehearsal
Madison Navy League
Riders United

POST OFFICERS

Commander -----Carlos Tucker
 Sr. Vice Commander-----Steve Eisenhauer
 Jr. Vice Commander -----Venus Hilgart
 Quartermaster -----Gundel Metz
 Adjutant -----Joseph Hines
 Judge Advocate -----Bob Evans
 Chaplain -----Rose Doucette
 Surgeon -----Rose Doucette
 Trustee, 3yr -----Andrew Lochner
 Trustee, 2yr -----Kyong Clawson
 Trustee, 1yr -----William Muether
 Officer of the Day-----Ray Trent
 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/PP-----Joe Hines
 Youth Activities -----Jason Homer
 Historian-----William Muether
 House Committee -----Bob Evans, Carlos
 Tucker, Steve Eisenhauer, Venus Hilgart, Ray Trent,
 Sharon Warsaw, Rose Doucette, Gundel Metz, Bill
 Austin, and Joseph Hines and Permanent Guest -
 Auxiliary Representative
 House Committee and Events Committee meets on
 the 4th Tuesday of every month at 6:00pm

AUXILIARY OFFICERS

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

Find us on FACEBOOK and TWITTER

Facebook:

www.facebook.com/vfw1318

TWITTER@VFWPOST1318

WEB ADDRESS

VFW1318.ORG

Telephone: 608-255-5955

Email: vfw1318@hotmail.com

V.F.W. NEWS DEADLINE IS JULY
 4th. 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



CANTEEN

CANTEEN HOURS

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

Canteen Information:

Food Specials:

Taco Tuesday's
 Wrap Wednesday
 Trivia Thursday Nachos
 Friday Fish fry

Happy Hour Specials:

Tequila Tuesday
 Top Shelf Whiskey Wednesday
 Thirsty Thursday
 The Boyle Fridays

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

Plus we have the weekly draw on
 Fridays.

WACKO – Every Sunday

Stop on by and meet our staff, Kate,
 Erica, Allison, Nicole, Scott, Flip,
 Michael, Anna, and others.

Saturday evenings we may have a band,
 singer or paint night.

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

**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.**

FROM THE VFW DC OFFICE

PRESS RELEASE

The Washington Post Editorial Board Wants Veterans to Forfeit Earned Benefits

VFW Executive Director Ryan Gallucci: 'If the editorial board is so worried about moral responsibility, maybe they should pick up a weapon and stand a post'

WASHINGTON (April 4, 2023) — Yesterday, The Washington Post Editorial Board suggested America [balance its budget on the backs of veterans](#). The VFW has heard these tired arguments before but was shocked to see them endorsed by an institution like the Washington Post.

According to their public bios, none of the 10 members of The Washington Post Editorial Board have spent a single minute serving this country in uniform unlike those who have earned the benefits the Board quickly dismisses as charity and essentially a waste of public money. The impudence with which these individuals enthusiastically signed their names to criticize the care and benefits our service members earn, while enjoying the very freedoms our service members defend, should bring shame upon them as both journalists for a once-revered institution like The Washington Post and as fellow Americans.

This lazy opinion piece from The Washington Post Editorial Board is a recycled compilation of anti-veteran talking points against which the VFW has fought for years. The VFW would have welcomed the opportunity to refute these unjustifiable points if approached to do so. Yet, those of us who represent millions of veterans are now forced to react to hatchet journalism. Had the elitist Editorial Board chosen to reach out to anyone who assists veterans in navigating these hard-earned benefits, they may have learned about the true hidden costs of more than 20 years of war, and why our nation's commitment to care for both the visible and invisible wounds of war is crucial to our long-term national interest.

If The Post's esteemed Editorial Board wants to take a shot at veteran benefits, they should at least provide original thoughts and ideas, and not the scraps of other writers or proposals that the VFW dismantles on a regular basis. Veterans' benefits cost more than they did in years past. That is the price of war. It is also the price of peace and the price of defending misguided free speech – such a paradox for those of us who swore to defend the very Constitution that protects such vitriol.

However, this cost is not only a reflection of more Americans surviving the battlefield, but it is also our country recognizing the inherent danger of military service. Last year, the Honoring Our PACT Act rightfully expanded toxic exposure benefits to veterans who have suffered debilitating illnesses, some dating

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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 over \$240 right now. You have to be present in person to win.



AUXILIARY PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Hello everyone,

Ready for Spring! We are getting new members and that gets us very excited! We have just had elections for the new year, which for us begins in July, strange, but that's how it is. Our Officers are as follows:

President: Ellen Evans
Sr. Vice: Rose Doucette
Jr. Vice: Elizabeth Moore
Secretary: Ada Foerster
Treasurer: Melissa Crary
Chaplain: Rose Doucette
Conductor: Mike Rowland
Guard: Mike Rowland

We are all gearing up for a great year and preparing for our Pancake Breakfast Sunday, April 23rd. It is our turn to do the breakfast and we love doing it. It runs from 8:00 to 11:00am and it is fantastic!! Be sure you are there and bring your friends and family. The cost is only \$7.00. What a deal!

New members are always welcome. You can contact me or the Quartermaster at the Post.

We are discussing a number of possible activities to have at the Post this summer. If you have any thoughts, please let us know.

Consider joining us as a member, and we will see you at the Pancake Breakfast!

Ellen Evans
President
Post 1318 Auxiliary

SENIOR VICE COMMANDER

STEVE EISENHAUER

Greeting Comrades,

I would like to change things up a bit and talk about Activity Reporting. For those that may not be familiar with Activity Reporting, it is how we record our volunteer time supporting Veterans, their families, and our community.

Why is this report important? As a 501(c) 19 Non-profit organization, reporting and recording our volunteer time enables us to retain that status as well as provide statistics to further show what we do to support the veteran's, their families, and our communities. So, what does that mean? The implications are far reaching. When our leadership at the State and National level can inform Politicians of the numerous hours and equivalent monetary value of our selfless efforts, based on reported activity, it, in recent cases, has been a major wake up call for some politicians.

I would ask all members to take a step back for a moment and think about what you do from day to day. You do not need to be someone who attends Post meetings or gets involved in Post Activities on a regular basis to be actively involved. Do what you can, when you can, but please report your efforts. Nothing is insignificant. Everything is important.

I am respectfully asking all members to please email our Post Adjutant Joe Hines (joebyronhines@gmail.com) or myself (s.eisenhauer.22@gmail.com) to let us know what you are doing.

Best Regards Comrades,
Steven J. Eisenhauer
Senior Vice-Commander

POST SCHOLARSHIPS

ANDREW LOCHNER

Hello Comrades.

As winter subsides, it's time to start thinking about who you know who may be attending college this fall. The post scholarship fund originally started with the generous donation by Percy H. Maw. In addition, numerous members have added to the fund each year. We expect to have at least \$6,000 to divide amongst a few hard-working students. Qualifying educational institutions could be technical colleges or technical training schools in addition to 4-year colleges and universities. To qualify, the student must be an immediate relative of a Post or Auxiliary member. If you need an application or have any questions about qualifications, let me know. The scholarship committee will be collecting applications until June 30th. Contact me if you would like to get an application at: andylochner@gmail.com.

Andy Lochner

THE 'V' POST 1318 PRESENTS:



\$2
PER
PADDLE

MEAT RAFFLE

JOIN US ON APRIL 22
STARTING AT 3 PM

2740 SKI LANE, MADISON



(Continued from DC Office page 3)

all the way back to the 1950s. Does The Washington Post Editorial Board prefer these veterans, their families and survivors continue to suffer in silence as they have for years? Should those who defend the very institution and profession that printed these words continue to suffer and die because it might be too expensive?

It is laughable that the employees of one of the richest individuals in the world have the audacity to suggest disabled veterans should be the persons responsible for balancing the federal budget – instead of their wealthy billionaire benefactors who notoriously [skirt their tax liabilities](#).

You would think with all the collective Ivy League degrees held by The Washington Post Editorial Board they would understand basic economics. Instead, they recommend that veterans be subjected to means tests or outright forfeit their earned benefits if they manage to constructively cope with these life-altering disabilities.

Sadly, it seems those degrees only served to inspire the Editorial Board to take the easy way out and renege on promises made to veterans, their family members and survivors. If the Editorial Board is so worried about moral responsibility, maybe they should pick up a weapon and stand a post.

Ryan Gallucci is the executive director of the VFW Washington Office where he is responsible for the organization's legislative advocacy efforts on Capitol Hill and the VFW's global network of benefits representatives who are accredited by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs to assist veterans, eligible family members, and survivors in the preparation, presentation, and prosecution of benefit claims before the agency.

-vfw-

About the VFW: The Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U.S. is the nation's largest and oldest major war veterans organization. Founded in 1899, the congressionally chartered VFW is comprised entirely of eligible veterans and military service members from the active, Guard and Reserve forces. With approximately 1.5 million VFW and Auxiliary members located in nearly 6,000 Posts worldwide, the nonprofit veterans service organization is proud to proclaim “NO ONE DOES MORE FOR VETERANS” than the VFW, which is dedicated to veterans’ service, legislative advocacy, and military and community service programs. For more information, or to join, visit our website at vfw.org.



CiC Tim Borland, Post
SVC Steve Eisenhower, 1st
District Commander Manny
Salas and State Commander
Michele Rathke

House Committee Chair
Ray Trent who works
countless hours to keep
the Canteen running.



ROLLING THUNDER® INC. WISCONSIN CHAPTER 5

BY JAMIE HERMANN

2023 Thunder Run:

Rolling Thunder®, Inc. Wisconsin Chapter 5 is hosting their Second Annual Thunder Run: To Prevent Veteran Suicide and Help Veterans with PTSD. The goal is to raise awareness of the seriousness of the Veteran suicides and help Veterans with PTSD by teaming up with Wisconsin VFWs, American Legions and other businesses on the 2023 Thunder Run.

The Thunder Run Ticket Booklets will be for sale at VFW Post 1318 (or any of the businesses on the 2023 Thunder Run) for \$25. Half of the money raised will go towards cash/prizes and the other half will go towards local organizations helping Veterans in need. Only 1200 books sold. The business on the 2023 Thunder Run that sells the most books will be the final drawing party location for the following year.

For more information please go to our Facebook Group: Thunder Run Wisconsin

Accident Scene Management class:

April 15th, 2023, Rolling Thunder Wisconsin Chapter 5 will be hosting the Advanced Accident Scene Management class and certification. If you are interested in participating, please contact Paul Fazekas at medicyoda08@yahoo.com

Contact us:

If you would like to participate in any of these events or have questions about current events or Rolling Thunder®, Inc., please contact us at: rtmadison5@gmail.com



Chili Winners: Dean Jasper/Brigit Ballweg (2nd), Jamie Herrmann (1st), Jason Homer (3rd), Kate Anderson (2nd)



Center and right pictures from the Meat Raffle

EVENTS

JAMIE HERMANN

We start the year with many new events

- Designer Purse Wacko where participants had the opportunity to win a Designer Purse. Money raised from Purse Wacko was donated to the VFW Community Assistance Fund.
- The Great Sing Off Finale with final compilation performances from the groups and individuals who had been participating the months prior.
- The Pancake Breakfast started back up in January. Breakfast is held the 4th Sunday of each month from 8 am – 11 am.
- We held our first chili cookoff with 13 different chilis for customers to judge. Prizes were handed out to the first, second and third place chili's.
- The first Great Game Night was a fun evening of board games, card games and electronic games. There was a variety of games for all ages. People who attended are already asking when the next one will be! Currently the next Great Game Night is planned for October, however there are board games in the hall that people can come and play anytime.
- Our first meat raffle at the current location was success. There will be one in April and then we will take a break for the summer and reconvene in the fall.
- We have been added as a stop on the Thunder Run, hosted by Rolling Thunder. This is the second annual Thunder Run event. We have books available for \$25 each. If you are interested in participating, please stop by and see a bartender for more information.

What for events coming up in the next quarter:

- April 15th, An Evening with Donny and Trish from 6 pm – 9 pm. Music duo Donny and Trish return for another round of music and entertainment as they play the hits you love to sing along to.
- April 22nd, Meat Raffle from 3 pm – 5 pm. Join us for an exciting afternoon and your chance to win meat. Please note this will be the last Meat Raffle until we reconvene the Meat Raffles in the fall of 2023.
- April 23rd, Pancake Breakfast hosted by The VFW Auxiliary. Breakfast hours are 8 am – 11 am
- May 9th, we will be holding our second Designer Purse Wacko, sign up at the VFW or on our Facebook event
- May 28th, Pancake Breakfast from 8 am – 11 am
- June 17th— we will be hosting a brat fry at Metcalfe's Market at Hilldale
- Weekly Thursday night Trivia and Friday night Karaoke with Host Jesse Garon and Sunday Wacko has been going strong!

To keep up on the latest bands and events happening at The "V" follow our Facebook page: The VFW – Post 1318 and website calendar: <https://vfw1318.org/>.

(Events continued on Page 10)

(Events continued)

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



Left & center are pictures of the Great Sing Off. Right: Pancake Breakfast



Left: Pancake breakfast participants. Center & right Chili Cook off



All three pictures are from the Posts first game night. Center is our great DJ Jesse. Jesse is a big supporter of our Post. When you see him, please thank him.



VFW POST 1318 PRESENTS:

PANCAKE BREAKFAST



4th SUNDAY

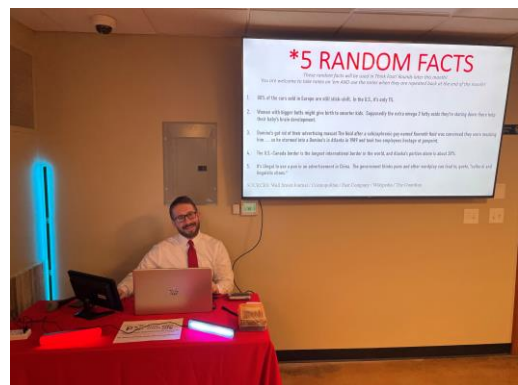
EACH MONTH FROM 8 am - 11 am

THE 'V' POST 1318
2740 SKI LANE, MADISON

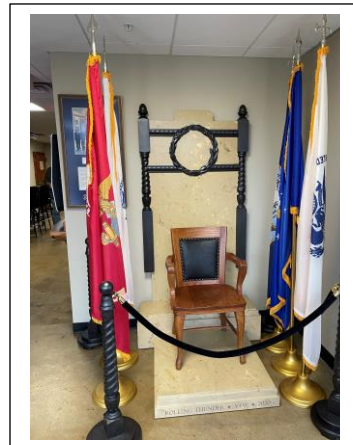
MEMBERS CORNER



Left: Mark Hermann, Rolling Thunder and Carlos Tucker present a combined check of \$1000 to Chuck Kazenski for the UW MIA Recovery Project. Right: Post Members assisted Quarts in raising the US Flag for the first time.



Left: Jesse Garon our great DJ who does both Trivia night and Karaoke. Right: The Post is home to the replica of the POW/MIA chair that is in our State Capitol.



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