

Serving the Community Since 1925

V.F.W. NEWS

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Veterans of Foreign Wars
Vol 23 No. 3 July/August/September 2023



Commander Steven Eisenhauer

Greeting Comrades,

I would like to thank the membership for electing me as your Post Commander. I look forward to the opportunity to serve you and help our Post grow and thrive.

Congratulations to Past Commander Carlos Tucker, Quartermaster Gundy Metz, and the Post for achieving All State for the 2022-2023 program year.

I have three goals for this year: Increase our involvement with the surrounding Communities and our Community Service, Facilitate and host family events, and continue to grow our relationship and partnership with the 115th Fighter Wing.

I believe if we focus on these three things, membership will follow. Our actions will speak louder than words and potentially create an environment that younger Veterans will want to become a part of.

As I look over our membership, roughly 70% of our members are Vietnam era Veterans or older. Over the years, these Veterans have done a lot for our Country and Post. It is because of them and their struggles that we have some of the benefits we have today. Passing of the PACT Act is one of the most recent examples. Welcome home Comrades and Thank You. These Veterans are now passing the torch on. Let us not let their sacrifices and struggles, as well as those who came before them, go to waste. It is the strength and numbers of our membership that enable us to continue to advocate for Veterans' rights and benefits.

To our younger Veterans with families and those still serving; as we increase our community activities, all I ask is do what you can, when you can and please remember, family members are always welcome and come first.

I strongly believe in timely and continuous communications, both ways. Please do not hesitate to call, text, or email me if you need help, have concerns, or ideas. It is my goal to respond as soon as possible or within 24 hours.

Yours in Comradeship,

Steve Eisenhauer
Commander
s.eisenhauer22@gmail.com
402-239-3737

UPCOMING EVENTS

August

- 1st – Auxiliary Meeting – 6:30 pm
- 7th – Post Meeting – 6:00 pm
- 12th – Rolling Thunder – 10:00 am
- 19th – Post Golf Outing – all day
- 22nd – House Committee – 6:00 pm
Events Committee – 6:30pm
- 27th – Pancake Breakfast – 8:00-11:00 am

September

- 5th – Auxiliary Meeting – 6:30 pm
- 9th – Rolling Thunder – 10:00 am
- 10th – Post serves breakfast at 115th Fighter Wing – Truax Field
- 11th – Post Meeting – 6:00 pm
- 23rd – Meat Raffle – 3:00 pm
- 24th – Pancake Breakfast – 8:00-11:00 am
- 26th – House Committee – 6:00 pm
Events Committee – 6:30 pm
- 30th – Operation Ruck 22 – 7:00 am

October

- 2nd – Post Meeting – 6:00 pm
- 3rd – Auxiliary Meeting – 6:30 pm
- 10th – Designer Purse Wacko – 5:00 pm
- 14th – Rolling Thunder – 10:00 am
Great Game Night – 3:00 pm
- 21st – Quarter Auction – 1:00 pm
- 22nd – Pancake Breakfast – 8:00-11:00 am
- 24th – House Committee – 6:00 pm
Events Committee – 7:00pm
- 28th – Meat Raffle – 3:00 pm

POST OFFICERS

Commander -----Steve Eisenhauer
 Sr. Vice Commander-----Carlos Tucker
 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-----
 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
 Conductor-----Michael Rowland
 Secretary -----Adajo Forester
 Trustee, 1 yr-----Rose Doucette
 Trustee, 2 yr-----Elizabeth Moore
 Trustee, 3 yr-----Michael Rowland
 Chaplain-----Rose Doucette
 Guard-----Mike Rowland
 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

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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
 Friday Fish fry

Happy Hour Specials:

Tequila Tuesday
 Top Shelf Whiskey Wednesday
 Thirsty Thursday
 The Boyle Fridays

Live music every Wednesday, 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, Michael, Anna Marie, Kristie, 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.

VA UPDATE

What's the PACT Act and how will it affect my VA benefits and care?

The PACT Act is perhaps the largest health care and benefit expansion in VA history. The full name of the law is The Sergeant First Class (SFC) Heath Robinson Honoring our Promise to Address Comprehensive Toxics (PACT) Act.

The PACT Act will bring these changes:

- Expands and extends eligibility for VA health care for Veterans with toxic exposures and Veterans of the Vietnam, Gulf War, and post-9/11 eras
- Adds 20+ more presumptive conditions for burn pits, Agent Orange, and other toxic exposures
- Adds more presumptive-exposure locations for Agent Orange and radiation
- Requires VA to provide a toxic exposure screening to every Veteran enrolled in VA health care
- Helps us improve research, staff education, and treatment related to toxic exposures

If you're a Veteran or survivor, you can file claims now to apply for PACT Act-related benefits. There's no deadline to apply for PACT Act benefits. But if you file your PACT Act claim—or quickly submit your intent to file—by **August 9, 2023**, you **may** receive benefits backdated to August 10, 2022.

If you feel you may be eligible to file under the PACT Act, either as a Veteran or surviving spouse, please contact your nearest County Veterans Service Office (listed under County Government) or you can contact the VFW State Service Officer at 414-902-5748. It is always good to get help from the professionals when filing a VA Claim.

Here are some web sites to see if you may be eligible:

<https://www.va.gov/resources/the-pact-act-and-your-va-benefits/>

<https://www.va.gov/disability/eligibility/hazardous-materials-exposure/>

<https://www.va.gov/resources/presumptive-cancers-related-to-burn-pit-exposure/>

<https://www.va.gov/disability/eligibility/hazardous-materials-exposure/agent-orange/#requirements-for-agent-orange->



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 all,

We are now starting the new year for the Auxiliary. Our officers are all going to remain the same. We are looking forward to our new members joining us in person at the Post, or via Zoom.

The Department Convention was held in June. It's a great time to get together with other Auxiliary members and the leadership, to network and exchange ideas. There are always 50/50 raffles, vendor booths and beautiful gift baskets to win!

The Post has started doing a pancake breakfast, the fourth Sunday of the month. We hosted in the past and will do so again in September. It's a wonderful time to bring your family and friends to enjoy the food. It is an "all you can eat" pancake breakfast now!

We are always welcoming new members, and look forward to having them!

Thank you, and as always, we look forward to any opportunity to help our Veterans and their families.

Until next time,

Ellen Evans
President
Post 1318 Auxiliary

Post and Auxiliary member Gundy Metz and National Auxiliary Chaplain Lois Callahan. Lois will become the National Auxiliary Junior Vice-President at the National Convention this July.



JUNIOR VICE COMMANDER

VENUS HILGART

On Saturday June 17th, our post held a brat sale at Metcalfe's at Hilldale. Several members of the auxiliary and post members assisted with the sale. The sale yielded \$425 profit, and collection for donations and poppy distribution \$282. It was a warm day and a wonderful group activity. Thanks to all who helped and a special thanks to Metcalfe's for donation of brats, buns, and set up. Please patronize their store if you get the opportunity.

We hope to hold more brat sales in the future. We are planning on speaking with Hy-Vee in Fitchburg to see about setting up a brat sale there in the future. If we have time, we will get out a notice to everyone within the area via email to let you know about the event. If you have time to help out, that would be great. Or at least come by and have a brat and let us get to know you and your family.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

JOSEPH HINES

During the past few months Wisconsin VFW leadership and legislative committee members have worked to support efforts spearheaded by U.S. Senator Tammy Baldwin's office to upgrade a Wisconsin Veterans Silver Star to the Congressional Medal of Honor.

On February 10th, 1944, 2Lt Ellen Ainsworth from Glenwood City, Wisconsin was serving as an Army nurse with the 56th Evacuation Hospital near Anzio, Italy. The following is an account forwarded by Senator Baldwin's office of 2Lt. Ainsworth's actions.

On February 10, 1944, the 56th Evacuation Hospital came under attack by heavy enemy bombardment. As some nurses rushed patients into nearby bunkers, some medical personnel remained in the tents to take care of those too injured to be moved. Lt. Ellen Ainsworth chose to stay. Eyewitness accounts say Ainsworth calmly directed the placing of forty-two patients on the ground to avoid further injury, saving their lives.

For her actions, Ainsworth received the Silver Star, the third-highest military decoration for valor in combat. Ellen unfortunately did not live to receive the award in person.

Ainsworth was killed just a few days later on February 16, 1944, at the age of 24, a casualty of indirect fire outside the very tents she refused to leave in order to tend to the sick, wounded, and dying men. Her family back in Glenwood City, Wisconsin received a telegram informing them of her death on March 9th – what would have been her 25th birthday. She was buried in the Sicily-Rome American Military Cemetery in Nettuno, Italy, one of 7,900 Americans interred there. In addition to the Silver Star, Ainsworth posthumously received the Purple Heart and Red Cross Bronze medal, a rare accomplishment for an army nurse in WWII.

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Ellen consistently put her life in danger to save the lives of the injured men in her care. She refused to sit in the air-raid shelter with many others while facing heavy German bombardment in order to care for the injured. Her bravery resulted in 42 lives saved by successfully evacuating them while under intense bombing. Her decision to stay and care for the wounded and not evacuate or seek shelter cost Ellen her life.

In the 160 years since the country's most prestigious military decoration was instituted, the Medal of Honor has been presented to 3,493 service members, but only one has been a woman, Mary Edwards Walker, M.D., an Army surgeon during the Civil War.

79 years later, efforts are under way to elevate Ellen Ainsworth's status to receive the Medal of Honor. It is a lengthy process of approval, ending at the desk of the President of the United States. The performance of the Anzio nurses (such as Ainsworth) reinforced the fact that women could serve effectively under fire on the front lines. Ellen sacrificed her life for her country and we should never forget her heroic deeds. She deserves to be honored in the highest manner: The Medal of Honor.

Senator Baldwin, like many other Wisconsin lawmakers, frequently seek support from the Wisconsin VFW and other state Veterans' organizations when drafting legislation or advocating for Veteran issues. The process to upgrade a Silver Star to a Congressional Medal of Honor is most often a long tedious process. Often the process takes years and is unsuccessful. 2Lt Ainsworth was the only Wisconsin servicewoman to die as a result of hostile fire during World War II.



Ellen Ainsworth



Silver Star and Purple Heart Medals



British Red Cross Bronze Medal

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 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, Rolling Thunder Wisconsin Chapter 5 hosted, with Paul Fazekas, the Advanced Accident Scene Management class and certification. Attendees learned how to be a leader at a scene and work side by side with the EMS: advanced airway, roadside medical concerns, assisting the EMS with extrication, recognition, and treatment of injuries, femoral traction, detailed head to toe assessment, one person helmet removal, and how to recognize critical incident stress.

Ride to The Highground Veterans Memorial for Memorial Weekend

Memorial weekend, members of Rolling Thunder Wisconsin Chapter 5 and Chapter 2 rode to the Highground Veterans Memorial in Neillsville, WI for a Flag-Folding Ceremony; followed by spending time with stories over lunch.

Upcoming Events:

- August 5th – Members will ride up to the Highground for a Stone Ceremony to place the stone donated by Rolling Thunder Wisconsin Chapter 5. If you are interested in riding/driving to the ceremony, please contact us at the email below.
- September 16th – Final Drawing for the Thunder Run at NV Corners. If you have purchased a Thunder Run book, come check out NV corners for music, food and fun to see if you are one of the winners of the cash or prizes.

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



Rolling Thunder members received CPR training at the Post. Left to right: Lys Loney, Ron Nobs, Keith Forst, Jim Fischer, Jamie Hermann, Luke Hermann, Mike Pflughoeft, and Paul Fazekas (Yoda).



Spring 2024

PROGRAM SCHEDULE

- 7:30 AM - Registration Start Time
- 8:00 AM - Donuts and Coffee
- 9:00 AM - Shotgun Golf Start
- 2:15 PM - Lunch (included)
- 2:30 PM - Auction, Raffles and Prizes

BENEFITS & FEES

- › Team Registration \$500
- › Individual Registration \$125

PROCEEDS DONATED TO

- › UW MIA Recovery and Identification
- › Rolling Thunder, Inc.® Chapter 5 Wis
- › VFW Post 1318

for more info
or to register:

<https://birdease.com/vfw1318>

email: vfw1318@hotmail.com



EVENTS

JAMIE HERMANN

It has been a busy and exciting quarter!

- We have started to plan for our First Annual VFW Post 1318 Charity Golf Outing. Each golfer will play 18 holes, enjoy a delicious lunch and receive a swag bag upon arrival. **Sign up is open** for our event for individuals or teams. Money raised from the event will be donated to Rolling Thunder Wisconsin Chapter 5, the University of Wisconsin's MIA Recovery and Identification Project, and VFW Post 1318 Community Assistance Fund.

We are looking for people and/or Companies to Sponsor our Charity Golf Outing. If you are interested in signing up to golf and /or sponsor the Charity Golf Outing please go to

<https://birdease.com/24122>

If you have questions or would like to donate in person please contact Ray Trent or email Jamie Herrmann.

- VFW Post 1318 and VFW Post 1318 Auxiliary members and volunteers hosted Pancake Breakfasts on the 4th Sunday of each month.
- In May, we hosted our second Purse Wacko. Money raised from this event was donated to the VFW General Fund to use within our community.
- In June, Post and Auxiliary members hosted a brat fry at Metcalfe's Market at Hilldale.
- VFW Post 1318 continues to participate as a stop on the 2023 Thunder Run. Participants have an opportunity to win money at the final party. Books are available for \$25 each, please see a bartender for more information.
- We have hosted many bands on Wednesday and Saturday, Thursday Night Trivia, Friday Night Karaoke and Sunday Wacko!

Mark your calendars for these upcoming events:

- July 23rd – Pancake Breakfast. Breakfast hours are 8 am – 11 am. Hosted by the 115th Fighter Wing Unit.
- August 20th – LAST Day to turn in your Thunder Run tickets for a chance to win money and prizes.
- August 27th – Pancake Breakfast. Breakfast hours are 8 am – 11 am.
- September 10th – 115th Fighter Wing Family Day, Post 1318 will serve breakfast to the 115th Fighter Wing Unit's families.
- September 23rd – Meat Raffles are BACK! Meat raffles will be held the 4th Saturday of the month from 3 - 5 pm.
- September 24th – Pancake Breakfast. Breakfast hours are 8 am – 11 am.

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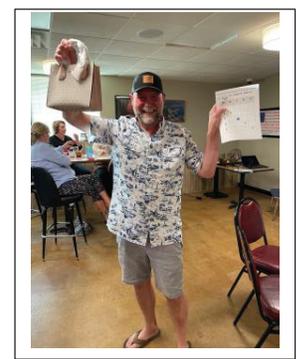
(Events: continued from page 9)

- September 30th – Operation Ruck 22 of Wisconsin Event. Post members and Auxiliary members will have a table on the march around Lake Monona to pass out water and snacks to the participants marching the 22k.
- October 10th - Designer Purse Wacko. Chance to win Coach, Michael Kors, Dooney & Burke, Kate Spade, etc.
- October 14th – Our second Great Game Night with Jesse Garon. Come play board games, card games and virtual games with others who love to play games.
- October 21st – Quarter Auction with local businesses and vendors. Quarter auctions are a cross between an auction & a raffle where people bid on new items and can win for a quarter. This fundraiser will raise money for the VFW Community Assistance fund.
- October 28th – Meat Raffle from 3 pm – 5 pm.
- November 11th – UW Madison Badger Football Game WDVA Tailgate.
- 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/> .

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.





115th Fighter Wing Pancake Breakfast



**July 23rd
8am-11am**

VFW Post 1318

2740 Ski Lane
Madison, WI



MEMBERS CORNER



Memorial Weekend is a busy weekend for Post members. Top left: Gundy Metz and George Fabian (Korean Veteran); Top Center: Terry Waller; top right: Kyeong Clawson with his son, Kyle and wife, Charity; left center: Kyong, Steven Eisenhauer, and Gundy laying wreath at our namesake; middle center: Luke Sprague; right center: Norm and Chris Scoville; bottom left: Karl Kleemann (turns 100 this July); and bottom right: Bill Austin and Bill Muether with other members of the Sons of American Revolution.



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