

MICHIGAN OVERSEAS VETERAN



• Reporting your positive impact on the Michigan community •

January/February/March 2011

Volume 78 Number 3



SENIOR VICE COMMANDER

Comrades, Sisters and Brothers,

Today, February 1st, we are well into the second half of our VFW year 2010-2011. We just finished our Mid-Winter Conference and had a good

attendance for most of our meetings. I want to apologize to the comrades that stayed at the Commanders, Senior Vice Commanders and Junior Vice Commanders meeting Friday afternoon. I am sorry I ignored the rest of the comrades in attendance and only talked to the District incoming officers. Any one that has known me knows that I am very much in support of all Post members and I am very sorry if you felt ignored or that you did not belong. I can assure you it will not happen again.

This is for the members that belong to a Post and do not go there or get involved with the Post functions. We have seen a continuing number of Posts that get in trouble by not following the National, State, District or Post Bylaws and put their future as a VFW at risk. We, at the Department, are not going to show up at your Post meeting to talk to your membership unless something is wrong. Of course, if you invite us to a Post function, that is different. When we show up unannounced, it is usually because something is wrong. Examples are: wrong or missing audits, bonds, inspections or Posts not having even one member at a District meeting. These violations of National Bylaws may result in a visit from a Department officer. If you are a member of a Post in trouble, please try to get with the Post and see if you can help them,

**Jack
Pray**

**Senior
Vice Commander**



even if you can only give a couple of hours a week. Every little bit helps.

Congratulations to all the Posts that took the time and energy to make the Voice of Democracy, Patriot's Pen and Teacher of the Year programs a large success. When we honor our students and the teachers at our Post, District and Department, many of the people that participate are having their first contact with the VFW. They don't know how much community service the local Post performs. We need to get the word out around every community that we are in, or near, that we are there for them.

You know that at Mid-Winter we introduce the Department and Auxiliary Chairmen and the District and Auxiliary Chairmen, but you never hear about the Post or Post Auxiliary Chairmen that actually do all the work in the trenches. If you are a Post or Auxiliary VOD, Patriot's Pen or Teacher of the Year Chairman, as I am – congratulations on a job well done. Keep up the good work.

Camp Trotter is ours – we own it. Our Camp Trotter committee led by Past State Commander, Ernest Meyers, is always looking for volunteers to paint, build, clean and generally get the Camp ready for the upcoming camping season. It is in a beautiful location on a lake. Come on out and help out.

I wish all of you a good rest of winter and think spring.

A Message to All VFW and Auxiliary Members from the Camp Trotter Committee

William (Butch) Ogden, the Life Membership Chairman for Camp Trotter, needs your help in updating the list of Life Members at Camp Trotter.

If you know of any that are deceased, please get the information

to him. Also, if you know that someone should be a Life Member, get the information to him, as well. You can contact him via the phone at 1-517-223-3454 or via U.S. mail at 2700 Smith Road, Fowlerville, MI 48836.

JUNIOR VICE COMMANDER

Comrades, Sisters and Brothers,

The All-State program deadline is just around the corner. I hope all the Posts who are participating this year have reported in the required programs by April 30th. When we started this year back in July, we made commitments to do our best in all of the Department and National programs given us to implement. I truly hope that when we go to the Department Convention, we can say to ourselves that we gave our best efforts to obtain these goals. We still have approximately three months left to accomplish our objectives. Besides the membership requirement, there are 23 different programs to accumulate points in. Keep reporting.

In March, we have the National Legislative Conference in Washington, D.C. The Veterans of Foreign Wars efforts to obtain the quality health care, educational benefits and other entitlements that are due our current military personnel and veterans are an ongoing process. We are continuously in contact with congressmen and senators to keep the appropriations we already have, and to foster new and expanding programs that are needed to take care of veterans and their families. We

**Kirk
Kennedy**

**Junior
Vice Commander**



cannot take for granted what we have already gained. To this end, we as members of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, should be committed to do our part in the legislative efforts. We should keep abreast of new legislation and contact our representatives to let them know our desires. The Web site for U.S. Senators is www.senate.gov and the Web site for U.S. Representatives is www.house.gov

Employment is still a very big issue for our returning veterans. Many of these veterans have to move out of state to find jobs. The Department of Michigan VFW is again promoting Job Fairs across the state. There are still many employers who want to hire veterans and we can help by hosting such an event. Please call the Department and let us know if your Post can help. VETERANS SERVING VETERANS

ADJUTANT/QUARTERMASTER

We are again approaching the nomination and election of officers for the 2011-2012 administrative years. Please make sure that you send your Election Report Form in as soon as possible after the elections have taken place.

Remember the new rule on installation of officers; they must be installed prior to the State Convention. We changed the National Bylaw so that you can install the officers anytime up to the date of the State Convention. The twenty (20) day rule is gone.

Remember that the State Convention will begin on Thursday, June 9, 2011 and end on June 12, 2011 with golf on Wednesday, June 8, 2011. The election of officers will be held on Saturday, June 11, 2011 and the first Council of Administration meeting will be held on Sunday, June 12, 2011 where we will approve the budget, programs and other house-keeping issues.

OTS for Camp Trotter will be held on May 21, 2011 with golf on Friday, May 20, 2011 at Nawaygo, Michigan. OTS that is usually held in July will take place in Lansing on June 4,

**Rob
Weiss**

**State Adjutant/
Quartermaster**



2011, with the location to be announced. There will be an OTS for Districts 14 and 15 held in Marquette on June 18, 2011 with the location to be announced.

Michigan Day at the VFW National Home for Children will be held on July 31, 2011. There will not be an OTS on Saturday, July 30, 2011, that has been changed to June 4.

As some of you know, I will retire after Jack Pray goes out of office in 2012. Geneva is also going to retire at the same time. The position of Adjutant and Quartermaster will be split. Anyone interested in becoming the State Adjutant is requested to send a resumé to Jr. Vice Commander Kirk Kennedy, so that he and the candidates for the 2012-2013 Jr. Vice Commander can make a decision on the position.





STATE SERVICE OFFICER

Advocating for Others

Over the years, veterans talk to one another and share what benefits they think they are entitled to and what benefits they think other veterans should be entitled to. Unfortunately, somewhere between the discussions that take place, reality surfaces and misinformation is disseminated.

One such entitlement that is commonly misunderstood is the full exemption of property taxes here in the State of Michigan. For that reason, I have taken the liberty to insert the full text of Public Act of 1893; 211.7b

211.7b Exemption of real estate used and owned as homestead by soldier or sailor discharged with service connected disability; filing and inspection of certificate and affidavit; cancellation of taxes; local taxing unit to bear loss; death of soldier or sailor; continuation of exemption in favor of unmarried surviving spouse. **Sec. 7b.**

(1) Real estate used and owned as a homestead by a soldier or sailor who was discharged under honorable conditions with a service connected disability, and who has a certificate from the United States veterans' administration, or its successors, certifying the soldier or sailor is receiving or has received pecuniary assistance due to disability for specially adapted housing, shall be exempt from taxation. To obtain the exemption an affidavit, accompanied by the certificate, showing the facts required by this section and a description of the property shall be filed with the supervisor or other assessing officer. The affidavit and accompanying certificate shall be filed during the period beginning with the tax day for each year and ending at the time of the final adjournment of the local board of review. The affidavit and accompanying certificate when filed shall be open to inspection. The county treasurer is hereby authorized, pursuant to section 55, to cancel the taxes for any year in which a soldier or sailor has acquired title to real estate exempt under this section. Upon the granting of the exemption as allowed in this section, each local taxing unit shall bear the loss of their portion of the taxes upon which the exemption has been claimed and allowed.

(2) If a soldier or sailor entitled to the exemption permitted by this section dies, the exemption shall continue in favor of the unmarried surviving spouse of the soldier or sailor. The spouse shall comply with the requirements of subsection (1) and shall indicate on the affidavit that he or she is the surviving spouse of a soldier or sailor entitled to exemption by this section. The exemption shall continue as long as the surviving spouse remains unmarried.

In layman's terms the property taxes for

the primary residences of a veteran whom has a service-connected disability requiring the adaptation of his/her home because of that specific condition and has been preauthorized and subsequently paid for by the VA can have property taxes exempted.

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) will certify this element that in fact the adaptation has taken place and that the VA paid for the alteration.

Some seem to think that a 100% service-connected veteran is entitled to this exemption. Fortunately or unfortunately, the percentage of evaluation for a service-connected disability has little to do with the entitlement under this Public Act.

On another note, thousands of veterans may be entitled to a special pay as a result of the Stop Loss Policy that extended enlistments for those on active duty. A service member must apply for this, but attempts to find those that may be eligible have been made through the VA and other media sources.

Those eligible must submit their claim by March 4, 2011.

The DoD Web site at <http://www.defense.gov/stoploss> links to service-specific sites, where you can get more information, or begin the RSLSP claim process.

The 2009 War Supplemental Appropriations Act established **Retroactive Stop Loss Special Pay (RSLSP)**, providing \$500 for each month/partial month served in stop loss status. Service members, veterans, and beneficiaries of service members whose service was involuntarily extended under Stop Loss between Sept. 11, 2001 and Sept. 30, 2009 are eligible for RSLSP.

To receive this benefit, those who served under stop loss must submit a claim for the special pay (by March 4, 2011). Throughout the year, the services have been reaching out to service members, veterans and their families through direct mail, veteran service organizations, and the media. But there is still money left to be claimed, and the deadline is approaching.

The average benefit is \$3,700.

Note on Eligibility

Effective Dec. 19, 2009, per the Defense Appropriations Act, stop-lossed service members who voluntarily reenlisted or extended their service, and received a bonus for such reenlistment or extension of service, became no longer eligible to receive retroactive stop loss special pay.

The following service-specific sites provide more information and allow you to begin the RSLSP claim process.

- **Army**
877-736-5554
Web site: <https://www.stoplosspay.army.mil>
E-mail: RetroStopLossPay@CONUS.Army.Mil
- **Navy**
901-874-4427
Web site: <http://www.npc.navy.mil/ReferenceLibrary/MILPERSMAN/>

7000FinancialMgmt/7220_410.htm

E-mail: NXAG_N132C@navy.mil

• Marine Corps

877-242-2830

Web site: <https://www.manpower.usmc.mil/stoploss>

E-mail: stoploss@usmc.mil

• Air Force

800-525-0102

Web site: <http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/stoploss/>

E-mail (active): afpc.dpsos.stoploss@randolph.af.mil

E-mail (guard/reserve): arpc.contactcenter@arpc.denver.af.mil

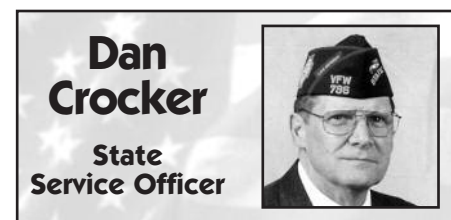
General Procedure

Individuals who meet eligibility criteria may submit an application between 21 October 2009 and 4 March 2011. By law, there is no authorization to make payments on claims that are submitted after 4 March 2011.

Eligible members should print, complete and sign Department of Defense Form 2944, Claim for Retroactive Stop Loss Payment.

Next, choose the appropriate method for submitting the claim form and available supporting documents based on your service specifications. This information can be found on your service's stop loss Web site.

The following documents are examples of authorized source documents but may



not be comprehensive, depending on specific status and service.

Source Documents

1. DD 214 (8-09), Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty and/or DD 215 (8-09), Correction to DD 214, Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty.
2. Personnel record or enlistment or reenlistment document recording original expiration of service date.
3. Approved retirement/transfer to the Fleet Reserve memorandum or orders establishing retirement prior to actual date of retirement as stipulated in DD 214 or DD 215.
4. Approved resignation memorandum or transition orders establishing a separation date prior to actual date of separation as stipulated on DD 214 or DD 215.
5. Signed documentation or affidavit from knowledgeable officials from the individual's chain of command acknowledging separation/deployment, etc.
6. Revocation of retirement or separation orders.

Department Service Officer SUCCESS STORY

This story is one that is not uncommon. Unfortunately, this Army Gulf War veteran found out the hard way that sometimes a nut is hard to crack. We, on the other hand, find that a nut that is hard to crack needs a bigger hammer!

Our Combat Infantry Badge soldier served from June of 1990 to October of 1994 with a tour of duty in Southwest Asia.

The veteran filed an informal claim with the Department of Veterans (VA) in May of 2004 for a cervical spine disability and a bilateral knee condition. The veteran contended that his bilateral knee condition was a result of an injury that he sustained while jumping off a truck during combat operations in the Persian Gulf. Additionally, the veteran asserted that this injury was aggravated by the impact sustained after approximately 50 jumps from planes as a paratrooper. Okay, I'll ask the question. "Why does anybody jump out of a perfectly good airplane?"

The VA did not buy his story and in May of 2006 the VA denied his claim. Thus began the time consuming journey of trying to convince the VA that what had happened and the resulting disabilities were not a figment of his imagination. He submitted numerous private medical reports time after time that diagnosed the conditions, only to have the claim turned down. In fact, according to the VA examiner, the veteran did not have any current disability related to his knees, nor did the veteran have a disability during the pendency of his claims since May of 2004. The examiner used the same jargon for the cervical spine. The rationale used by the VA examiner was that he reviewed the VA

claims folder. Gee, that's pretty innovative and interesting?!

Through the advice of our staff member, the veteran decided to have a video conference hearing from the Board of Veterans Appeals (BVA) on January 11, 2011. A decision was rendered on January 21, 2011 with the following findings.

The BVA stated that in order to establish service connection for a claimed disorder on a direct basis, there must be (1) evidence of a current condition disability; (2) evidence of in-service incurrence or aggravation of a disease or injury; and (3) evidence of a nexus between the claimed in-service disease or injury and the disability. The BVA cited *Hickson v. West*, 12 Vet. App. 247,253 (1999)

With respect to *Hickson* element (1), the veteran was diagnosed in a Report of Examination from the National Guard with mild patella crepitus of his right knee in June 1999. Subsequently, upon review of the veteran's private medical records, to include X-Ray reports, and upon examination of the veteran by his private doctor who opined that the veteran "suffers from Chondromalacia Patella bilaterally..." The BVA concluded "although there are X-Ray reports of record that do not reflect the presence of abnormalities of the knees, the BVA resolved all doubt in favor of the veteran and found that a current bilateral knee disability exists. *Hickson* element (1) is therefore satisfied.

With respect to *Hickson* element (2), in-service disease or injury, the veteran contended at the personal hearing on January 11, 2011, that he originally injured his

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knees when jumping off a truck wearing full combat gear in an operation during the Persian Gulf War. The veteran also asserts that he continued to hurt his knees during paratrooping exercises occurring at the remainder of his active duty service.

Despite the fact that the veteran's service treatment records include no complaints of, or treatment for bilateral knee pain, the Board finds no reason to doubt the veteran's statements, as evidence of record indicates that the veteran is a combat veteran, his service as an infantry during the Persian Gulf War would have exposed him to situations where mobilizing in heavy combat gear was required. Moreover, the BVA found the veteran's testimony regarding continued knee pain during paratrooping operations credible, as the veteran's DD 214 clearly shows the receipt of the Parachute Badge. Accordingly, the combat presumptions outlined above are applicable in this case, and in-service injury to the knees from combat-related, as well as from post-combat paratrooping, is demonstrated. *Hickson* element (2), in service-injury is satisfied as well.

Finally, with respect to crucial *Hickson* element (3), nexus or rela-

tionship, the veteran's treating physician had specifically concluded after a review of the veteran's history, and upon examination of the veteran's knees that the veteran's bilateral chondromalacia patella is "at least (51%) the result of the injuries sustained while performing his duties as a Paratrooper in the military." Accordingly, a nexus or relationship between the veteran's current knee disabilities and his active duty service is shown. *Hickson* element (3) is satisfied, and the benefit sought on appeal is allowed.

The claim for the cervical spine has been remanded back to the Regional Office for a new examination due to the inadequate exam that was performed by the VA.

The BVA finally concluded that veteran's representative, our staff member, correctly references the Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims' decision in *Nieves-Rodriguez v. Peake*, 22 Vet App. 295 (2008), for the proposition that the probative value of a medical opinion comes from the fact that it is factually accurate, not mere fact that the veteran's claim folder was reviewed. When used properly, knowledge can be a very convincing hammer and in this case, it was.

CHAPLAIN

I appreciate the veterans who serve as Chaplains in the Posts and various situations. Since the Ritual Manual is very limited as to the duties of the Chaplain, I get many questions about the role of the

Chaplain. A year ago the Department of Pennsylvania, under the direction of Rev. Ted Brewer, put together a Chaplain's Manual. If you need a copy, please let me know.

Rev. Peter Hook, State Chaplain of Pennsylvania, gave me permission to share an outline that he put together, "The Purpose of the VFW Chaplain."

One of my first tasks as State Chaplain is to clearly define the role of the VFW Chaplain. Unfortunately, not everyone agrees when answering, "Why does your Post have a Chaplain?"

Most comrades think we exist to read the prayers at the Post meeting. Is that the purpose of the Chaplain?

The Chaplain exists to minister to veterans and their families. According to our Congressional Charter, the Chaplain "shall be concerned with the spiritual needs of the members, and by precept and example, point the way toward a high moral plane for the organization."

SPIRITUAL GUIDANCE: The Chaplain is available to help individuals and their families with their spiritual needs.

ASSISTANCE IN EMERGENCY SITUATIONS: During crises – hospitalization, injury or death – the Chaplain helps and provides assistance to veterans and their families.

CONDUCTING/ASSISTING AT FUNERALS: The Chaplain assists families with funeral arrangements,

officiates at the service or assists the family minister. Additionally, the Chaplain can help with organizing an Honor Guard, having a bugler present at the cemetery and having a presentation of the flag as a token of service and honor on behalf of the VFW and veterans.

COUNSELING: The Chaplain provides pastoral care and counsel, and when necessary, helps veterans and their families find appropriate resources for dealing with such issues as Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder, substance abuse or other critical incident stress management problems.

VISITATION: Visitation with veterans and their families to provide comfort and encouragement.

ATTEND FUNCTIONS: The Chaplain may be asked to represent the Post at functions or public meetings, and the Chaplain may be asked to give invocations, dedicatory prayers or benedictions. (It may be a good time to give out current information to make veterans and their families aware of benefits, and remind them to tell their families where their DD 214 is, which is necessary for a burial marker.)

As State Chaplain, I am available to help District and Post Chaplains perform their responsibilities. Remember your purpose, because it will determine how you function.

Blessings as you serve.

Elmer R. Liimatta
State Chaplain



ALL-STATE DIRECTOR

Greetings, Comrades:

The year is winding down and it's time to start wrapping up your All-State program. This will be the last MOV before the program deadline. There is still time to make it. The first and biggest is being 100% in membership – if you're not there yet, get out and recruit or find your unpaid members. No matter how you do it, just get to at least 100% in membership. The next major hurdle is to obtain 125 points. If you're not there yet – it's not too late, there are plenty of points still available. Just look at the programs.

Larry Thayer
All-State Director



When you submit the tracking sheet, make sure you fill it out completely. Don't just put a check on the line next to the program. Please put the points you think you have earned, and place the total at the top of the form. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at vfwlarry@aol.com

Michigan State Veterans Homes

The Board of Managers who presides over the two (2) State Veterans Homes of Michigan are appointed by the governor, with the advice and consent of the Senate. Each manager serves a six (6) year term and can be re-appointed upon the recommendation of their respective Veterans Group. The exception is the independent manager solely chosen and appointed by the governor.

The Board of Managers was created by Public Act 152 of 1895. The board exercises certain regulatory and governance authority regarding admission and member affairs at the State Veteran Homes. They also represent the interest of the veterans' community in both advisory and advocacy roles.

The Board of Managers are currently under the umbrella of the Department of Military Affairs (DMVA) which, in turn, is commanded by Major General Greg Vadnais, the new Adjutant General of Michigan. General Vadnais was recently appointed to this high office this past January, 2011, by our new Governor, Rick Snyder. The new deputy director for veterans affairs is retired State Senator Jason Allen from Traverse City.

The Board of Managers and its two (2) state veterans home administrators were given a major challenge over this past month and that is to put together a long range mission and to project a major capital outlay for the future of the residents/veterans of our homes. The operating budgets are increasingly being diminished and the challenge is to cut down to our bare necessities needed to operate, but not to endanger the quality of care for our residents. The Board has taken this very seriously and is responding to the challenge. The new deputy director is allowing the Board to be a major part of the equation in helping solve this crisis.

Members of the Board of Managers consist of seven (7) members; the officers of the Board are voted upon at the Board of Managers Meeting in March of each year within the Board itself. The following is the make up of the Board:

- (2) Veterans of Foreign Wars: Manager Ernie Meyers, Sr., PSC – Chairman of the Board (Charlotte) and Manager Richard "Chic" LaFave, PSC – Member (Gwinn)
- (2) American Legion: Bill Coffey, PSC – Treasurer/Clerk of the Board (L'Anse) and Gary Veldman, PSC – Vice Chairman of the Board (Muskegon)
- (1) Disabled American Veterans – Gerald Cool, PSC - Member (Adrian)
- (1) AMVETS: Mary Wilseck, PSC, Member (Livonia)
- (1) Independent: David E. Hall – Secretary

of the Board
(Rock) (Upper
Peninsula)

The Grand Rapids Home for Veterans is

home for just over 700 residents

- Domiciliary (ambulatory) – 140 beds available, 54% filled at present.
- Nursing Care – 618 beds available, 88% filled at present.
- Currently there are 24 members that reside at the Home and are 70-100% service-connected disability. The VA funds their full cost of care; they live at the home for free. This information needs to get out to our veterans that need our help!**
- Average assigned nursing beds: 610 (varies from day to day)
- In October 2010, the VA survey conducted at the GRHV resulted in five (5) citations with one (1) corrected immediately; the other four (4) have been addressed and corrective action is in place.

The D.J. Jacobetti Home for Veterans located in Marquette – this home houses some 241 Residents.

- Domiciliary (ambulatory) – 59 beds available, 16.9% filled at present.
- Nursing Care – 182 beds available, 98.90% filled at present.
- Currently there are 18 members that reside at the Home and are 70-100% service-connected disability. Please get the word out to our veterans that truly need our help!**
- The VA Survey conducted at the D.J. Jacobetti Home in November 2011 produced 0 citations.

Special Note: The Board of Managers is well aware that our state has a \$1.8 billion shortfall for next year's budget and we are very concerned how this will affect the homes.

Just a quick note to say, thank you for your support over this past year and your continued support to assist the veterans at the Grand Rapids Home and the D.J. Jacobetti Home in Marquette.

Finally, the Veterans of Foreign Wars and its Ladies Auxiliary lead the charge in volunteer organizations when it comes to volunteer hours and donations. Thank you, from the two home administrators and the Board of Managers.

REMINDER: The Board of Managers meetings are open to the public – You are welcome to attend any meetings. The next scheduled meeting will be held at the Grand Rapids Home for Veterans on Wednesday, March 9th; Thursday, April 14th and





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Thursday, July 14th meetings will be held at the D.J. Jacobetti Home for Veterans in Marquette. ALL meetings start at 9:00 a.m. Always call in advance for any possible date/time changes.

Grand Rapids Home for Veterans: 1-616-364-5300 and the **D.J. Jacobetti Home for Veterans: 1-906-226-3576**

All remember: You can further help in purchasing winter coats, winter hats, gloves and boots (all sizes). You can use

your Post Relief Fund. Please call either Chic or myself anytime for further information on the two (2) State Veterans Homes.

Thanks for what you have done and what you are currently doing for our Veterans' Homes!

Report by Board of Managers
PSC Ernie Meyers, Sr. and
PSC Richard "Chic" LaFave
E-mail: emeyers76@att.net

Michigan VFW Bowling Tournament

The State of Michigan annual Bowling Tournament will be conducted on April 9th and 10th, and April 16th and 17th, 2011. The host Post this year is VFW Post 7309-Mason. Applications are available on the VFW Web site at www.vfwmi.org and will be in the January/February/March edition of the MOV.

The chairman for VFW Post 7309 is Charles Burnham, Jr. and he can be reached through the post at 517-676-3181.

VFW Post Supporting Events are as follows:

| | | | |
|-------------|-----------------------|--------------------|-------------------------|
| April 9th: | VFW Post 7309 | Steak Fry | 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. |
| April 10th: | Ladies Auxiliary 7309 | Country Breakfast | 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. |
| April 16th: | Ladies Auxiliary 7309 | Swiss Steak Dinner | 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. |
| April 17th: | VFW Post 7309 | Country Breakfast | 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. |

Again this year the event is open to all veterans, active duty members of the armed forces or any acceptable VFW Auxiliary affiliates.

The 6th District will also be sponsoring a membership booth, and will be accepting applications for distribution to the closest Post to the applicants' home address.

During the Department Convention, we will announce next year's tournament dates and host Post. Any Post interested in hosting the 2011-2012, 2012-2013 or 2013-2014 Bowling Tournaments, please contact George Wygant, State Bowling Chairman for 2010-2011 at 517-676-0855.

STATE POOL LEAGUE

I hope this newsletter finds all our pool players geared up for our state tournament.

I hope all Districts are in full swing with your playoffs. I would like to remind all District Chairmen that the main source of income for our operation is the sale of the raffle tickets handed out to all of you. Please do your best to sell them all.

All \$10.00, three-day vacation tickets MUST be sent back in by March 11, 2011. Also, send the unsold tickets. The drawing will be held on March 12, 2011 at the Swartz Creek VFW Post.

All \$1.00 raffle tickets, stubs and monies MUST be sent back 30 days before the State Pool Tournament, which is scheduled for April 28-30, 2011.

Please send all unsold tickets and sold ticket stubs to:

Denny Glutz

10352 Dennon Road

Swartz Creek, MI 48473

Make all checks payable to State of Michigan VFW Pool League. The

Denny Craycraft

State Pool Director



drawing will be held on April 9th at 1 p.m. at the Shepherd VFW Post.

Just a reminder: our State Men's Pool Tournament is April 27th for singles, April 28th for doubles and April 29th for teams at the Lincoln Park VFW Post 552. All tournaments start at 9 a.m. Check our Web site for all the nearby motels.

I have assigned Jim Wolt as our new head referee. Thank you, Jim!

Just a reminder to all Posts: All rosters, entries, raffle tickets and monies MUST be in the hands of the State Pool League Quartermaster by 12 Midnight, April 1, 2011.

I'm looking forward to seeing all of our pool players for another great tournament. If any of you have any questions, feel free to contact me at 616-550-6990.

VA Eases Agent Orange Claims for Korean Vets

Under the final regulation published this week in the Federal Register, VA will presume herbicide exposure for any Korean veteran who served between April 1, 1968 and August 31, 1971, in a unit recognized as having operated in or near the DMZ where herbicides were applied.

Previously, VA only conceded Agent Orange exposure for certain units

between April 1968 and July 1969. VA encourages Korean veterans who may have medical conditions related to Agent Orange exposure to submit their VA claims as soon as possible.

Read the VA press release with links to additional information at <http://www1.va.gov/opa/pressrel/pressrelease.cfm?id=2035>



DISTRICT 4 REPORT

Ron Allen
District 4 Commander



Greetings, Comrades, Aux Sisters and Brothers of the 4th District,

The holidays have come and gone. I hope that all had a blessed and good Christmas and a safe and Happy New Year.

On December 26, 2010 our District and the Dept. of Michigan lost George "Rick" Zellman to cancer. A committee was formed by Past Dept. Commanders Ernest Meyers and Jim Vanhaueter to organize a memorial service. Commander Ray Lopez of Romulus Post 9568 donated his Post for the committee meeting and the memorial. Honor Guards from the Dept. of Michigan, the 4th District and Livonia Police working together for the first time, did one "GREAT JOB." There were at least 250+ people in attendance to pay their respects to Comrade Zellman and his family. A "JOB WELL DONE" to Commander Ray Lopez, Post Quartermaster Bob Williams and the Membership of Romulus Post 9568. Thank you all for your hard work.

On January 15, 2011 our District lost a great friend and Past District Commander Gerald "Jerry" St. Louis. He was a member of the Downriver Honor

Guard. He will be greatly missed by all. Also, on January 18, 2011 our District lost a great friend and pool player, Robert M. Beaudrie. Both of these comrades will be greatly missed by all. My personal thanks to the wives of these comrades who worked so hard for their Posts and the 4th District.

On January 15, 2011 a round table was held at Romanowski Post 6896. This round table was to bring to light all the problems we're having with District, Department and National. There seems to be a lot of them. I have a list that will be brought up at Mid-Winter Conference in Kalamazoo.

As of this reporting, our District is at 91.12% in membership. There are four Posts at 100%. They are Post 1869, Post 2233, Post 7310 and Post 9568. There are 14 Posts at 90% or better. I know every Post Commander is trying to get new members or reinstates. It's a hard fight, but all I will say is do the best you can. Please keep all your reports coming in.

As always, I thank you for all that you have done for the VFW and our great country. Always keep in your minds, "TOGETHER WE CAN."



DISTRICT 5 REPORT

James Galen
District 5 Commander



Comrades, Sisters and Brothers of the 5th District,

Happy New Year to everyone! I would like begin by reporting to you that the 5th District is doing well. We still have a lot of work ahead of us in the remaining days, weeks and months of my term. We still have a lot of activities and programs to complete. We also have a lot of donations to send in to the Department of Michigan. I know we can accomplish all of this by continually working together. We have a great team composed of the VFW, Ladies Auxiliary and Men's Auxiliary members throughout the 5th District.

We just finished the Mid-Winter Conference in Kalamazoo, Michigan. It was held on January 28-29, 2011 at the Radisson Plaza Hotel & Suites. It was a great conference! I wished we could have had more Posts represented at this conference. We received a lot of information from our meetings and discussions, which you will have already heard at our February 13, 2011 District meeting.

The highlight of the Mid-Winter Conference was the honoring of our District winners in the Voice of Democracy, Patriot's Pen and the Teacher of the Year Programs. The District 5 Voice of Democracy winner, Aditya Rengaswamy from Post 4037 Troy, placed 10th and he received \$1,000. Aditya had a terrific taped speech and we are very proud of him. Our District 5 Patriot's Pen winner was Mary Kate E. Wickerson from Post 6250 Sterling Heights. Mary did not place, but we are also very proud of her written speech. We did not have a Teacher of the Year winner at the State

Finals and this is unfortunate. We need to have a Teacher of the Year entry next year at the State Judging. The Winner of the State Voice of Democracy was Sarah C. Baker from Post 4461 in District 9. Sarah received a \$6,000 scholarship and is going to Washington, D.C. for the VFW National Finals. We wish Sarah, the best of luck and hope she is the National Winner and brings this Award back to the State of Michigan. District 9 has won (3) years in a row. We have to change that and have the State Voice of Democracy winner come out of District 5 next year. The Winner of the State Patriot's Pen was Schaeffer E. Thelen from Post 2326 Grand Haven in District 8. Schaeffer received a \$1,000 savings bond. There were 1,385 Voice of Democracy entries and 4,660 Patriot's Pen entries this year. This is terrific! We have to keep promoting the Voice of Democracy, Patriot's Pen and the Teacher of the Year Programs for next year. Every Post needs to start "early", like at the end of the semester before summer vacation. The teachers need to get these VFW programs into their curriculums for the start of school in the fall. Our students can earn a lot of money at Post, District, State and National levels. This was Patrick Patterson's last year as Director of the Voice of Democracy/Patriot's Pen Program. Pat is from Post 6756 Center Line in the 5th District. We want to thank Pat for the terrific job he has done. Harry "Les" Croyle was Pat's Assistant Director and was promoted to Director of the Voice of Democracy/Patriot's Pen Program for 2012-2013. Harry is also from Post 6756

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Center Line in the 5th District. I have been asked and I have accepted and am honored to become the Assistant Director of the Voice of Democracy/Patriot's Pen Program for 2012-2013. I will do my very best to promote this fine VFW Program. I cannot think of a better way to have our students learn about our Veterans and the Veterans of Foreign Wars. Gloria Dobbie will continue to be the Ladies Auxiliary Chairperson of the Voice of Democracy/Patriot's Pen Program. Gloria has been doing a terrific job! Gloria is from Post 4659 Shelby Twp. in District 5. We are so very fortunate and proud to have VFW and Ladies Auxiliary members chosen from District 5 to be responsible for the Voice of Democracy, Patriot's Pen and Teacher of the Year Programs.

I would like to mention a few sad words about our 5th District members who left our ranks since my last article. We will deeply miss all of our departed comrades. One of our departed comrades was Ted Hetherington. Ted was a Past State Surgeon, Past Director of the Gold Star Mothers, Past 5th District Commander, Past Macomb County Council Commander and Past Post Commander of 2358 Roseville. Ted also retired from the Roseville Police Department as a Detective. Ted passed away in December 2010. What makes it even worse is his wife, Rita, passed away three weeks later. Rita Hetherington was the first female VFW Member of Post 1146 St. Clair Shores. Both of them were in the U.S. Air Force and served in Korea. This was very hard on the Hetherington family. Please keep them, and all of our deceased Veterans, in your prayers.

I would be remiss if I didn't mention a few words about Don Henderson from Post 4659 Shelby Twp. Don is a Past Macomb County Council Commander and Past Post Commander of the Romeo and Shelby Twp. Posts. Don is seriously ill at this time and is slowly recovering. Please also keep him and his wife, Rose, in your prayers.

I am so very proud of our Posts throughout the 5th District, who are working so hard to bring in new, reinstated and continuous members. Without each member in every Post, we could not have achieved the results that we have accomplished to date. We picked up 212 new, reinstated and continuous members from December 27, 2010. This is fantastic! We have (8) Posts that are 100% or higher. I would like to recognize the following (8) Posts and Post Commanders who have achieved 100%. They are: 334 Lake Orion at 118.07% – Commander Ernie Baker, 1794 Mount Clemens at 100.79% – Commander Rick Speck, 3908 Rochester/Utica at 102.63% – Commander James Kemler, 4037 Troy at 101.80% – Commander Charles Solis, 4156 White Lake at 102.21% – Commander Scott Gloger, 5587 Holly at 101.82% – Commander Donald Winglemire, 6691 Fraser at 100.51% – Commander Donald Jordan, and 9507 Madison Heights at 100.63% – Commander Joseph A. Ihle, Jr. Congratulations again to these Posts, Post Commanders, and their Post members. We have 177 new members so far. We have (8) Posts that could reach 100% by just getting their unpaid members to pay their dues. Go after them and become a 100% Membership Post! I would also like to recognize Post 1669 Royal Oak, Commander Mike Sherman and his Post members. Mike and his Post members have

signed up 32 new members so far. At the time of my writing my article, the 5th District is at 90.36%. We did not reach State Commander Lloyd Putman II's goal of 100%, and I feel bad about that. Don't be discouraged; you are doing a fantastic job. Keep it up! Keep recruiting new members. Our totals as of January 27, 2011 are: 5,886 Life Members, 177 New Members, 69 Reinstated Members and 1,321 Continuous Members for a total of 7,453 members. We are making great progress, but we still have a ways to go to reach our goal of 8,248 members. We have a total of 496 unpaid members. Keep writing, calling or contacting these unpaid members and encourage them to keep their membership in the greatest veterans' organization in the world, the Veterans of Foreign Wars. Please contact 5th District Membership Chairman Jerry Gorski, if you are planning a membership drive. Also, don't forget – we now have (2) VFW Membership Tents in the 5th District. We just received our second new VFW Membership Tent. They are a great way to advertise the Veterans of Foreign Wars at your community events.

Don't forget the All-State program and the District Post Commander of the Year program. This year, a Post must be at 100% in Membership in order to meet the first criteria of both programs. Look at the requirements and points for each listed category. Lastly, check with All-State Director Larry Thayer to see how many points you have accumulated so far. You want to know where you stand for becoming an All-State Post Commander and All-State Post. The District Post Commander of the Year is a separate program from the All-State program. Look at the requirements and add up your points. The Post Commander with the highest number of points will be the District Post Commander of the Year. This recognition will be given out at our last District Meeting "Morning" Session on April 30, 2011.

Don't forget to attend the Monthly Service Officers Meetings in Oakland and Macomb Counties. The VFW, Ladies Auxiliary and Men's Auxiliary should attend to learn about Veterans Benefits that they are entitled to. The District Service Officer, Ken Aune, puts on a School of Instruction at both county meetings. We will also have occasional guest speakers at the Macomb County meetings that give us an update on veterans' benefits.

By the time you read my article, you should be thinking about your incoming officers for 2011-2012. Don't wait until Election Day in April to fill these important positions. You need good future leaders that are capable and willing to make sacrifices of their time and their talents to move your Post forward. Nominations are in March and final nominations/elections are in April.

The last District Meeting of my term will be held at 4156 White Lake on Saturday, April 30, 2011. The combined VFW and Ladies Auxiliary morning session will start at 10:00 a.m. We will be giving out District Awards and the District Commander of the Year Trophy in the morning session. The Business Session will begin at 1:00 p.m. We will be nominating, electing and installing our new officers for 2011-2012. Once again, our Posts should be thinking who they would like to nominate for these important District positions. If the Post Commander is

unable to attend, then the incoming Post Commander should attend in his/her absence. Each Post must be represented at each District Meeting.

District Junior Vice Commander Jerry Gorski has an e-mail directory and sends out information regarding the Veterans of Foreign Wars, District, County and Posts. If you would like to be added to his e-mail directory, e-mail him at geraldjgorski@aol.com

Lastly, we are so very proud to have our own District Chaplain Leon Hinkle run for State Chaplain for 2011-2012. When we meet at the State Convention at the Marriot Hotel in Troy in June 2011, we will want to give Leon our "complete" 5th District support. We want

Leon to be elected our State Chaplain for 2011-2012.

Thank you for reading my lengthy article again. I wanted to keep you informed of everything going on with the 5th District. I look forward to seeing you at my final District Meeting on April 30, 2011 at 10:00 a.m. at 4156 White Lake. I also look forward to visiting our Posts throughout the 5th District. Remember, your District officers are available to help you. Please do not hesitate to contact any one of us for help or assistance. Thank you for all that you do, each and every day, for the Veterans of Foreign Wars. Lastly, please say a prayer for our Armed Forces, who are guarding the Gates of Freedom for us.



DISTRICT 6 REPORT

George M. Wygant
District 6 Commander



Greetings, Comrades,

We have accomplished eight months of the 2010-2011 VFW year. I have visited 25 out of 27 Posts within the 6th District. Review of our District's progress has revealed the following facts:

- 10 Posts can't achieve 100% membership, let alone 102% membership without attaining new members. Collectively, they are 61 members short. The unpaid members for current, plus two years if paid today, will result in the Posts not achieving 100%. The Quartermaster needs to draw the list for 2002-2008 unpaid members in order to attain 100% or recruit 61 new members.
- 478 members for current plus two years have not paid their 2011 dues. Yes, it is important to obtain new blood, but we also have to hold on to our existing members. That includes the unpaid membership from 2002 to present.
- 19 Posts have attained between 13 and 65 All-State points. 125 All-State Points is the standard measure, to see if a Post is accomplishing the VFW mission. My goal for each Post is still 125 points, but at this stage of the game, 75 points is the 70 percentile and I would consider a Post as accomplishing the mission for this year.

It is still possible for a majority of our Posts to attain 125 points without spending a dime. Commanders review your Commanders Roster! A hint: if the All-State Program is Queen, then Membership is King. The largest amount of All-State points can be obtained from membership. It is actually unlimited. Other areas to consider is the three Safety Programs and three Scouting Programs, not to mention four more points a piece in Community Service, Americanism, Hospital and Legislative. A POW/MIA ceremony reported to a Director is worth three, and attending a ceremony is worth one, up to a total of three. That's 53 points that are attainable if we just work the program; even more if you focus on membership.

While we are on membership, I would like to congratulate the following Posts; 3925 Erie, 3943 Newport, 4076 Chelsea, 5977 Milan, 6056 Springport and 9656 Lambertville for achieving 100% membership. I received Honor Banners for all of them, except Lambertville, at the Mid-Winter Conference. All these Posts will receive their banners at the next District meeting.

We have two Posts that are currently eligible for All-American; they are VFW Posts 1138 Monroe and 3925 Erie. In order to achieve the status of All-American, the Monroe Post must achieve a total of 737 members, and Erie must achieve a total of 207 members by 30 June 2011. I have forwarded four different spreadsheets with names, addresses and telephone numbers and even e-mail addresses. You have the tools to accomplish the goal – let's get every member of your Post involved.

In accordance with Section 216 of the National Bylaws and Manual of Procedure, each Post must have elected and appointed officers positions filled. If a vacancy occurs, the Post must fill those vacancies. If you are missing any of these officers, let's get them elected at your next meeting. In the same respect, Section 420 applies to Districts. Our Senior Vice Commander has resigned for personal reasons, and I have accepted the comrade's resignation. In accordance with Section 420, the Junior Vice Commander does not want to succeed to Senior Vice Commander, but will assume the duties until we elect a new Senior Vice Commander at our next meeting. I would like to see a past Commander of either a Post or District step up to the plate and finish out this year as the Senior Vice Commander for the District.

From my point of view, the 6th District is in great shape. We have 27 out of 27 Posts reported in Americanism, 27 out of 27 Posts reported in Community Service, 22 out of 27 Posts reported in Hospital program (cancer donations do not count as a hospital report), and 26 out of 27 Posts reported in Legislative. All-State points range from 23 to 176 points.

I would like to congratulate Kayla F. Winters for a 9th Place finish in the Voice of Democracy competition. She was awarded the Orvel Walter Memorial Scholarship for \$1,000.00.

I would like to end this article with a challenge to our District's Posts. By the next District meeting, I challenge each Post to complete their donation of \$1.00 per member, or \$100.00 if your Post has membership over 100, to the Camp Trotter Maintenance fund, earmarked for the Arts and Crafts Building. If this was accomplished, there would be enough funds to complete the Arts and Craft Building. Keep up the outstanding work.



DISTRICT 7 REPORT

George Paul Yung
District 7 Commander



The 32nd Mid-Winter Conference is over; we are now starting the second half of this year. This was the first time that I attended the Voice of Democracy Banquet and I must say I was very impressed with the way it was handled. Erin P. Hart, an 11th grade student at St. Joseph High School in Benton Harbor, represented Post 1137 for District 7 and she received a \$1,000.00 scholarship. While we were waiting for the presentation to begin, I had the opportunity to talk with Erin's parents and learned that they had just returned from Hollywood, California, where Erin was on the Jeopardy television show! They could not tell me if she won or how she did, as the show will not be shown until February 23, 2011. Looks like I will have to watch the show to see how she did.

Now to get down to business. MEMBERSHIP: We have one Post over 100%, two Posts that need one member to be 100%, two Posts need two, and five Posts that need less than 10 members. Get out your membership book and start calling your unpaid members, and find out why they are not renewing their membership. If they are on active duty, then pay their dues. If they are sick or in a nursing home, then pay their dues. We need members – so get to work and start calling your unpaid members and find out what the problem is.

MEN'S AUXILIARY: I have been notified by the State of Michigan VFW that they have still not received election reports from the following Posts: 667, 1137, 1855, 4054 and 6248. Post Commanders, make sure that your Men's Auxiliary President sends a copy to State VFW Headquarters, or get a copy of the

election report and send it in, so that the District will be up to date and clear.

The VFW Camp Trotter for Children needs your assistance. All donations should go through Department, but be sure that you earmark the check for Camp Trotter. Also the application for Camp Trotter is online and I hope that you will sponsor a child to go to camp this summer. The fee will be \$200.00 this year. If you get a chance, go see what all the volunteers have done and are planning to do this coming year. Check it out on the Web at www.vfwmi.org/camptrtoter

Our National Council of Administration Rep for District 23, William Dobbie, wants to remind all Posts that if you have Bingo, you must file a 990T and that Bingo is non-taxable. However, if you sell any lotto tickets or raffle tickets at a Bingo game, that is taxable. Several VFW's in Michigan have been audited by the IRS and have to pay several thousand dollars in back taxes. Make sure you keep good records.

On May 21, 2011, all newly-elected Post officers should attend the Officers Training School at Camp Trotter. If your Post has new officers, this is the way they will learn what they should be doing. Even if you have been in office, you should also attend just to refresh your memory of what YOU should be doing.

Remember, we now have a District 7 Web site at www.vfwdistrict7.org/. The Webmaster is Barry Shackelford from Athens Post – check it out. I think that Barry has put together one of the best Web sites that I have seen. It's better than National's and easier to use.

Remember Poppy Days are May 5, 6 and 7, 2011.



DISTRICT 8 REPORT

Donald "Doc" Jones
District 8 Commander



Comrades,

I've been looking over the membership at the District level and in most cases we're not all that far off percentage-wise from 100%. I know everyone is tired of hearing about membership, but without it we wouldn't have any Post nor would the VFW exist. One suggestion is to contact each unpaid member and see if there is a problem or unresolved issue. If not, ask them to come on down and visit. See if there are other issues hindering their membership and ask if they might be able to help with an upcoming function or aid in fixing things up. Remember, an active Post is the one that comes out ahead and stays strong.

One item we all forget is that we fail to recognize our member's involvement, thanking them for their time. This is a sure way of losing a member. Do your best to make sure all members feel they are a vital and important piece of your Post and that there is always a place for them. Get teams to work together, so no one person has to do all the work. Many hands make happy hearts, giving all involved time to help and rest.

If we stop and think, we can accomplish

our goals by using a little effort. Listen to your membership, and keep your Post healthy and happy. Harmony and balanced programs on a regular basis help accomplish this.

Another important issue is to stress that every member has a voice in the decisions that are made. Meetings should be no longer than 1 to 1-1/2 hours long. Any longer than this will drive our valuable members away. Make sure there is plenty of space for your meetings and that they are properly set up as put forth in the Ritual section of the Bylaws. Remember, any information you may need for your meetings can be found in the Podium Edition, VFW Congressional Charter, Bylaws, Manual of Procedure and Ritual.

If you ever have questions or problems, you can count on any one of your District officers to help out and aid in a solution.

We had a great Christmas at the National Home for Children. Thank you, Garry Goff, and your amazing staff for a job well done. Mid-Winter Conference was also amazing, thank you Department Commander.

In closing, I say let's all get together and work as a unit and get it done right the first time.



DISTRICT 10 REPORT

David Gay
District 10 Commander



Comrades and sisters of the 10th,

A very happy and prosperous New Year to all of you. Hopefully it has begun on a positive note for all readers. Based on that statement, let's also apply it to our task that each of us, as members of the VFW and Auxiliaries, can begin on that positive side for the recruiting of new members. Let's double our efforts in seeking out those members for reinstatement. What this organization does to provide comfort to our veterans needs to continue and to do that our membership must increase. As of the beginning of February, we are 16% away from being 1st Place in membership for the Department. I congratulate the five Posts that are, at this time, 100%. There are many Posts that are this far away "X" from being 100%. Let's complete our year with a 100% District. Remember Post Commanders, your white hat awaits you.

The VOD dinner this year was hosted by the Yale Post. We had a fine turnout with many exemplary students in both the VOD and Patriot's Pen programs. Our District winner of Patriot's Pen was Yujay Proctor, an 8th grader, who was spon-

sored by Post 796 in Port Huron. Our winner for the District VOD was Evan Korchanak, a 12th grader from Fenton, sponsored by the Fenton Post 3242.

At the Mid-Winter Conference in Kalamazoo, the five Patriot's Pen finalists were announced. Sadly, our finalist was not among the names. Our District VOD winner, Evan, placed 4th receiving the \$1,500.00 James N. Goldsmith Memorial scholarship award. We congratulate Evan on his fine essay and wish him well in his future endeavors.

Commanders, please remind your chairmen to forward their monthly reports, so Department can count them. Poppy sales will soon be upon us in May, make sure you have enough.

I wish success to all Post Commanders in your quest for your white hat this year. If you need assistance, please contact myself or anyone on the District "team" that can help you make that difference. Probably when you read this, our February District meeting will be in the minutes; however, don't forget May 15th will be our District Convention at the Chevrolet Post 3087. Mark your calendars. Success to you all!



DISTRICT 11 REPORT

John Harrow, Jr.
District 11 Commander



WOW! Congratulations to Stacey Lang. She won 2nd Place in the state Voice of Democracy program. We are all proud to say you were our representative.

Congratulation to Post 1071-Coleman and 6466-Harrisville for having reached over 100% in membership. Now for the part that isn't looking so good for the rest of us. As of this writing, we are near the bottom in the state rankings for membership. I know we can do much better so let's GET 'ER DONE! We are doing very well in our reporting, but not membership.

By the time you receive this paper, it

will be election time for Post and District officers. Remember to choose the best person for the job; not always your best friend. Don't forget that all audits must be done and dues paid, so your Post can vote in all elections.

I hope our meeting at Harrison was helpful and fun. Now as our Commanders clean their plates and finish their year, nothing should be left over for the next Commander to clean up.

Membership is still our main goal and we cannot rest until we have surpassed the 100% mark.



DISTRICT 12 REPORT

Stan Preidis
District 12 Commander



Just got back from the Mid-Winter conference in Kalamazoo, and as always, I learn a few things each time I attend one. Wish to see more Posts represented, especially in June, where we vote for Department officers for the upcoming year. District 12 Past Commander and Post 7729 Commander, Billy Stancroff, is running for Department Jr. Vice and it would be great to have all of our Posts represented, so we could help Billy win this. However, even if you choose not to vote for him, you still want your votes to count – but you have to be there to do so.

CONGRATULATIONS to the four Posts that were at 100% at time of the conference. Post 10770 LeRoy was there to receive their 2010-2011 membership banner and Post 2053 White Cloud, Post 3314 Arcadia and Post 6864 Cadillac will get theirs at the next District meeting

(which will already have taken place by the time you read this). Some Posts are still just one member short of reaching 100%, and many just 10 or less. District 12 was 100% last year, and we can do it again this year.

Also, while you are on the Web checking your membership status, check your donations to Department. There are still way too many zeros in the columns. You can use your Relief Fund to donate to many of the programs.

Most everything you need or want to know is either at www.vfwmi.org or www.vfw.org. You can get your monthly general orders, check on membership, print forms, review Department programs, and even check the Department calendar and see which meetings the Department leadership will be attending. It isn't difficult and every

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Post should have someone that is computer literate.

Since I am writing this the day before Groundhog Day and just before a big snowstorm is to hit, you will have already attended March's District meeting; BUT, the last District meeting for the year will be May 15 at Post 4499

in Manistee with a Memorial service before lunch, and the meeting after where we nominate and vote on new officers for 2011-12. If you are interested in a position, don't hesitate to let us know. Again, I would like to see all District 12 Posts represented at the June Convention at the Troy Marriott.



DISTRICT 13 REPORT

Earle E. Davie III
District 13 Commander



Greetings Comrades,

The Mid-Winter Conference was held January 26-30th in Kalamazoo and was a very informative and interesting conference. Some interesting points were discussed; things like all Posts require insurance. If the Post has a function and someone is injured, the Post is still liable whether the Post owns the property or not. The Post needs to be protected. All inspection corrections are to be sent directly to the State Inspector. Do not send them to Department Headquarters. Incorporation papers have to be sent in every year. This \$20 fee protects your nonprofit status. To check the status of

your Post, go to www.michigan.gov/corporations

Membership for District 13, as of this conference, is 91.28%. Just a little more effort and we could be at 100%, so let's get out there. Along this thought, an interesting point came out at the conference. Only 11% of the Vietnam era veterans belong to the VFW. These men and women are our comrades. We, as an organization, have a lot to offer. Talk about it and think about what influenced you to join this organization. Veterans taking care of Veterans and their families. That's our goal and the direction of the Veterans of Foreign Wars.



DISTRICT 14 REPORT

Stephen DeRousha
District 14 Commander



Comrades, at this time I am getting ready to go to Mid-Winter Conference at Kalamazoo and the District is at 93.37% in membership, with Posts 9714 Chatham at 97.62%, 9023 Brimley at 97.3%, and with the rest at about 90%. Let all Membership Chairmen see if we can push it to 100%. I know that if we try we can make it. I know we are having a hard time getting new members and recruiting old members. It is hard work, but they are out there. All you have to do is seek them out and inform them of our great organization – what we do for our country, our veterans and their families. If you look back at past Post rosters, you will find members who just forgot to pay their dues. Calling or going to see them sometimes is all that is needed. District 14 has 1,722 Life, 15 new, 11 reinstated and 527 continuous members with 216 to go.

Congratulations to the students that took the time and commitment to write

an essay for Voice of Democracy and Patriot's Pen. Also, to the Teacher of the Year award winners, thank you for your fine work. I would also like to thank the judges for their work. By the time you read this, we will know who the winners are. All who entered are winners.

I would also like to bring up our need to work on community service. The work you do not only helps other people, but gives you pride in what you do. I know we all do good work in this area, but sometimes forget to report it.

Buddy Poppies should be purchased by now. May is not that far away, so let's all get out there and sell as many, if not more, than ever. Hard times are here and many needy veterans are out there. That money can help them, and their families, that are in distress.

The 14th District will have its Spring Convention on April 29-30th and May 1st at Post 4420 in Manistique. This time we are having a Hawaiian theme. See you there.



DISTRICT 15 REPORT

Dan Caron
District 15 Commander



Veterans, Comrades and Sisters of the 15th District,

When you read this, the Mid-Winter Conference for Department and District are over and have shot by us at rocket speed.

Membership is close to our goal of 100%, but there is still time left to exceed that goal. Let us all do what we can to make this a banner year. Most Posts are reporting every month. Youth activities are your shortfall. Let's get all the reports sent in, so your Post can get the credit they deserve. Our HONOR Post was 3673 Bessemer for 100% membership.

Buddy Poppy Program: You can have the Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts assist you in this program.

I want to thank all the District Post Commanders, Auxiliary Presidents, and all of my District Officers for pulling me and the District through some rough times that jumped up at us during the past few months. It is at the Post level that every project starts and ends. So again, THANK YOU, Posts and Auxiliaries for a job well done.

The Spring Convention will be in Calumet on April 9th and 10th, hosted by CLK Post 3900 and the Ladies Auxiliary. Let us have a large turnout and let us remember we must have 100% Post par-

ticipation. More information will be available prior to the Convention. You can contact the Auxiliary President or Commander of Post 3900 if you have any input for the Convention.

Voice of Democracy winners
for District 15:

1st place: Brandon Williamson sponsored by Post 6507 – Brandon also won the John Shirley Sweebe Memorial Scholarship, The Donald Mrdjenovic Scholarship, and the Rob & Marcia Weiss Scholarship for a total of \$1,000.00 in scholarships at the Mid-Winter Department Convention in Kalamazoo.

2nd place for District: Shane Wery sponsored by Post 4581.

3rd place for District: Justin Nicholas sponsored by Post 6165.

Patriot's Pen winners were:

1st Place in District 15: Julia A. Menzel-Smith sponsored by Post 6165 – Julia also placed 2nd in the Department, winning her a \$750.00 bond.

2nd Place in District was Daniel Gershenson sponsored by Post 6165.

3rd Place in District was Rosmary Torola sponsored by CLK Post 3900 of Calumet.

Congratulations to all those that participated.

CAMP TROTTER TALES

Winter is on its way out – Mid-Winter Conference of 2011 has passed! Now we are headed toward an exciting new year for Camp Trotter. The Camp Trotter Committee experienced a very successful Mid-Winter meeting, with lots of new challenges to meet for Summer Camp 2011.

First, an overview of the past and present status of Camp Trotter, along with the future. Yes, the future of our Camp Trotter looks very bright with an aggressive schedule for renovations to begin in the spring of 2011. In April, the fun begins with the total makeover of the Nurse's Cottage, with the financial help of the Ladies Auxiliary of the Maple City VFW Post 2406 and District 11 President Denise Moore and her ladies of the District Auxiliaries. The Arts and Crafts Building will be sporting a brand new look, thanks in large part to VFW District 6 Commander George Wygant and his Posts, with the help of his counterpart, District 6 President Carolyn Jenkins and her Auxiliaries. The Morley S. Oates VFW Post 701 and the Ladies Auxiliary are also big financial supporters in the effort to revamp the Arts and Crafts Building.

Here's BIG NEWS! Our own Department of the Ladies Auxiliary Junior Girls Units have raised and donated \$5,000.00 to their Camp Trotter at the Mid-Winter Conference. The money donated will be used towards upgrading all the paddleboats and purchasing replacements for ALL the life jackets for the children. Plus, there will be a new life-saving defibrillator purchased,

along with updated medical supplies in the Nurse's Cottage.

Thanks to the Fortiers O'Grady VFW Post 147 and their gracious donation of \$10,000. The new facelift of Cottages 3 and 4 will be completed this spring. May the Irish Eyes be upon them forever! The Cottage will always bear the names of these generous veterans of the Fortiers O'Grady Post. Thank you, Commander Raymond G. O'Neil. I know PSC Assad Allie is smiling, along with you and your fellow Comrades.

The Youth Shower Room(s) will see a new look, along with the Adult Shower building with new siding, windows and doors. In a few short months, you will see a brand new 24' x 14' deck in front of the Dining Hall.

The Camp Committee has voted to change the name of "Camp Trotter" to "Camp Trotter for Children." You will be seeing new signs and brochures coming out the with name change. Plus, Camp Trotter for Children will become a 501(c)(3), a total nonprofit camp and will be on major Web sites.

The biggest thing that you can do to promote your Camp Trotter for Children is to get our youth and their buddies to come to Summer Camp. Check out the Web site, www.vfwmi.org, and scroll

Michigan Overseas Veteran - 2011

PLEASE ADHERE TO THESE DEADLINES

Please Remember!

| Issue | Deadline | Issue | Deadline |
|-----------------------|----------------|---------------------------|------------------|
| April/May/June | April 15, 2011 | October/November/December | November 1, 2011 |
| July/August/September | August 1, 2011 | January/February/March | February 1, 2012 |

- Do not type all CAPITAL LETTERS. Use capitals sparingly. When in doubt, do not capitalize a word. Use 12-point font type size.
- Please no handwritten submissions, as they will not be considered for publication.
- Do not write on back of pictures. Use a separate sheet of paper. Identify all people in the photograph. Try to limit number of people in photo to five or six, at most.
- Posts and Auxiliaries are encouraged to submit items of interest from their areas.
- We reserve the right to edit all submissions due to space constraints.
- Do not submit newspaper articles and pictures from newspapers UNLESS you provide written authorization from the publication involved.
- Never submit article or photos clipped from newspapers or magazines.
- DISTRICT COMMANDERS – Please submit your District Meetings schedule as soon as possible, so it can be published.
- MAIL ALL ARTICLES TO MOV EDITOR:
MOV Editor: Matt David, editormov@yahoo.com
Auxiliary Editor: Marion Belaire, mebelaire@yahoo.com



CAMP TROTTER, continued from page 7

down to Camp Trotter. Just click on it and see all the changes; you will get lots of information on how to send a child to Camp. The cost was raised to \$200.00, due to the severe increase in cost of all commodities, i.e. food, gas, utilities, insurance, etc. The Camp is open to **ALL CHILDREN**, ages 7-12 years of age. Bring your child and their friends.

Special Note: Life Membership to Camp Trotter for Children is open to all ages – yes, your child can become a Life Member. For only \$35.00, your child could experience memories for a lifetime. Won't you become a Life Member? Check out the Web site for an application.

Your Camp Trotter Committee members will provide you any and all information that you cannot find. Meet your Committee Members: State Commander Lloyd Putman II, State Sr. Vice Commander Jack Pray, State Jr. Vice Commander Kirk Kennedy, QM/Adj. Rob Weiss, Chairman PSC Ernie Meyers, Sr., Director Butch Ogdon, Director Richard Rought, Director PSC Dave Hutson,

Director Dave Reeves and Director Colon Laney.

Finally, if there is anyone out there that has a carpentry background and would like to help in the remodeling, please give the Committee Chairman, Ernie Meyers, a call at 517-543-0014.

The Summer Camp Director is looking for cooks with experience dealing with children, for example: School Cooks, Counselors for the Summer Camping Season and Nurse(s). Nurses can be volunteers for a week (retired Grandmas and Grandpas are welcome).

We are always looking for volunteers to help in Texas Hold 'em fundraisers for Camp Trotter. The first two will be May 8-10 and May 15-17 in Temperance.

Don't forget our 4th Annual golf outing at Newaygo on May 20th. Check it out on the Department of Michigan VFW Web site under "Events" and the Camp Trotter Web site.

Thank you for supporting our beautiful Camp Trotter for Children.

Your Camp Committee

Military Order of the Cootie

"VFW + MOC We Team"

"Tradition, History and Attention to Detail"

"What is a Cootie?"



Greetings, Comrades and Auxiliary Sisters!

Throughout our travels we are asked by our VFW comrades and friends, "What is a Cootie?" The Military Order of the Cootie of the United States is a nonprofit veterans service organization. We are known as "The Honor Degree of the VFW" and our members are comprised of the officers and leadership of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States. Membership in the MOC is recognition of outstanding service to the VFW and its programs.

Founded in New York City on September 17, 1920, the MOC is based on the principles of good humor and fun. Over the past 90 years, the Cooties have provided social and entertainment programs to members of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U.S. as an ancillary unit within the organization. Since 1923, our first year as a part of the VFW, the Cooties have worked hard to further the aims of the VFW, while adding to it the frivolity known as military humor to the serious work of our parent organization. What would ultimately become known as the VFW National Home for Children, a sprawling campus of homes located in Eaton Rapids, Michigan, started out as the brainchild of the MOC. We firmly believe in caring for the widows and children of our armed forces. Literally, millions of dollars have been raised and donated to help "our kids" over our history; starting with the library, the swimming pool, the Fire Department, and a host of other projects designed to make

life fun and educational for the children during their stay at the National Home.

With the outbreak of World War II, the Cooties recognized a need to entertain hospitalized troops and veterans during their confinement and rehabilitation at Veterans Administration facilities throughout the country. Our service program is described as a directive to "Keep 'em Smiling in Beds of White." Each year, the Cooties volunteer thousands of hours of time worth over \$10 million to DVA hospitals and domiciliaries throughout the United States. This work, in addition to the hours of service donated by active members of the VFW, set the members of the MOC apart as Foreign Service and Combat Veterans who are fully engaged in their communities, their fellow comrades in arms, and their families.

Our distinctive red hat and unusual uniform sets us apart and draws attention to the plight of those less fortunate than ourselves. We sacrifice a little of ourselves to bring a smile or a laugh during what is normally a difficult time for our heroes. We seek others like us to join, to help us help them in their times of stress and anxiety. If you would like more information about the Cooties, you can check us out at our national Web page at <http://lotcs.org> or <http://mocmi.freehomepage.com>. You can also reach us at the Dept. of Michigan Web page at <http://vfwmi.org>. Go to the right corner at the bottom of the page and click "MI Cooties."

"Keep 'em Smiling in Beds of White"

PGC Robert E. Wilson
VFW-Cootie Liaison

Wounded Warriors Project

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. – Iraq and Afghanistan war veterans with traumatic brain injuries can receive free, comprehensive rehabilitation in Grand Rapids through a program funded by the Department of Defense.

Officials from Grand Valley State University and Mary Free Bed Rehabilitation Hospital discussed details of the Wounded Warriors Traumatic Brain Injury Project (WWTBIP) at a news conference November 9 at the hospital. They were joined by U.S. Rep. Vern Ehlers, who was key to securing the \$1.279 million grant from the U.S. Department of Defense that will fund the project.

Ehlers, who will retire after serving Michigan for 17 years in Washington, said he was pleased that he could get funding for the project. "It's really the least we can do for our soldiers," he said.

The WWTBIP offers opportunities for standard physical and psychological care, and community support to veterans who sustained traumatic brain injuries while they were deployed in either Afghanistan or Iraq. Jean Nagelkerk, principal investigator and vice provost for health at Grand Valley, said the idea behind this project came from area families with loved ones who received a trau-

matic brain injury. "We are so excited to be able to provide care and rehabilitation services to wounded warriors and help reintegrate them into society to lead productive lives," Nagelkerk said.

Grand Valley faculty members from the Kirkhof College of Nursing and College of Health Professions will help develop the educational program to enhance the knowledge base of Mary Free Bed staff members who will be directly involved with the veterans.

Dr. Jacobus Donders, co-investigator and chief psychologist at Mary Free Bed, said the services through WWTBIP will not duplicate those veterans already receiving through veterans' hospitals or clinics, but the WWTBIP project will deliver enhanced services such as driver rehabilitation, on-site job evaluation and coaching, and group and family support.

Grand Valley President Thomas J. Haas said announcing the program so close to Veterans Day was appropriate; he also called the men and women serving in Iraq and Afghanistan "the next greatest generation." Those service members include Haas' two sons and daughter.

The program is open for enrollment. For more information about the WWTBIP, call 888-736-0208 or visit www.maryfreebed.com/woundedwarriors

Persian Gulf War Vets Not Forgotten

On this 20th anniversary, let's remember the nearly 700,000 vets of 1991's Operation Desert Storm.

January 07, 2011

The following column first appeared in the January 2011 issue of VFW Magazine.

Often in history, one war tends to overshadow another. To a certain extent, this has been the case with the Persian Gulf War. Sandwiched between Vietnam and the Iraq/Afghanistan wars, vets of 1991 are sometimes forgotten.

On the war's 20th anniversary it is only appropriate that we commemorate the service and sacrifices of the Americans who evicted Saddam Hussein's Iraq from Kuwait. No one questions the superb welcome home they received in the summer of 1991. But memories of that swift victory in Kuwait have faded over time.

Yet at VFW, this has never been the situation. Besides the 17 articles *VFW Magazine* published in 1991, seven major features since have tracked developments regarding Gulf War illnesses. Two pieces provided a combat overview of the war and a review of its veterans, and a 10th anniversary special was published in 2001. Numerous items of relevant interest have appeared on the pages of *Washington Wire*.

After the homecoming events sponsored by VFW in Kansas City in 1991, VFW's National Veterans Service continued to pursue answers to the questions surrounding what became known as "Gulf War Syndrome." Without question, these mysterious medical maladies constitute the war's enduring legacy for a significant number of veterans.

While pressing health concerns always take priority along with essential VA ben-

efits, intangibles such as recognition are important, too. Medals, parades and memorials are all part of the package, but so is a proper place in history. Rightfully so, like all of their predecessors, Persian Gulf War vets want to be remembered for achieving something meaningful.

Whether in the Army, Navy, Marines, Air Force or Coast Guard, each and every veteran of Desert Storm played a part in a history-making event. Some 695,000 Americans served in the Kuwait Theater of Operations during the buildup and war. A total of 146 died by hostile action and another 228 from accidental causes, with 467 wounded.

Despite its mercifully short duration, the war was a model military operation. Political decisions bearing on the ultimate outcome are no reflection on the troops. They accomplished their objectives without fail and on schedule. That is what should be remembered 20 years later and into the future.

This month's commemorative issue of *VFW Magazine* provides a glimpse of what took place in Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Iraq, their offshore waters and airspace. A few units, actions and individuals have been selected to represent the whole. A book or books only can present the full picture. Nonetheless, this issue will provide a feel for the service of yet another generation of war vets.

Persian Gulf War veterans have long since joined VFW ranks. They are Post and Department Commanders, as well as full-time VFW employees (see page 26 of *VFW Magazine*). They are destined to leave their mark on the organization.

**SUPPORT
OUR
TROOPS**

Auxiliary News

DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT



Patricia Patterson

As I sat here writing this article, the fact that we were amidst our huge snowstorm had a profound effect on me. As the snow piled up quickly, it reminded me of how heavy the burden must have seemed for all of my wonderful fellow Auxiliary Sisters and their incredible contributions to this organization, regardless of the economy, regardless of their health, and regardless of their personal wealth.

The snowstorm reminded me of the need to thank all of you for your continued support through your individual contributions to help grow and solidify the direction we're headed in as an organization. One example of this is through all of the harmonious effort displayed by each of the District Presidents, as they achieved 90% in membership. I know it takes a concerted effort, and none of this would be possible without the dedication of the entire membership. However, the quest is never quite over if there's room and time for improvement. The last time Michigan attained 100% in membership was during Jenny

Hobson's year. We can't quit, let's not quit. Let's work to achieve 100% – together.

The DoubleTree Hotel Bay City is the host city of the joint Testimonial, which will be held on April 15th and April 16th. I hope that you'll be able to attend this fun and exciting event. Together, we can celebrate what this great state continues to contribute to our Veterans, as we have worked tirelessly to make our Veterans' hearts beat stronger than ever.

As a reminder, please remember to have your Annual Reports to the Department Chairmen by April 25th. Our Department Chairmen won't be able to report credit for all of your hard work without getting these reports in on time. The net effect? If you don't turn in your Annual Report on time, your Auxiliary President might miss out on an annual Auxiliary Achievement Award.

The snow sits on the ground, the temperature drops closer to zero, and all I can think of right now is how proud I am of my relationship with this incredible organization. How meeting so many of my fellow Auxiliary Sisters has become my tropical island to the frozen tundra that is outside my door. As we round the corner on my sojourn as your President, I am just so thankful and humble to be your President and your chosen representative.

VETS AND FAMILY SUPPORT CHAIRMAN



Deb Eernisse

The end of our VFW year is fast approaching. Please remember. **Your Annual Report must be received by me by April 25, 2011.**

It is very important that you send a report, even if you have no activities.

If you have any questions about your Annual Report, please don't hesitate to e-mail or call me. **National Home for Children**

National Home Awareness Week is March 20-26, 2011. The 2011 National Home theme, *"Strength in our Numbers"* is a tribute to the vital partnership between the VFW, its Ladies Auxiliary and the National Home. It also highlights the National Home Helpline (800-313-4200) for military and veteran families who need a listening ear and a helping hand from someone who understands their unique circumstances.

Go to www.vfwnationalhome.org/awareness to download materials to help your Auxiliary in promoting Awareness Week.

The National Home Fishing Rodeo will be June 9th from 9 a.m.-12 Noon. The National Home's Lake Romanis will be stocked with hundreds of fish to ensure everyone has the chance to land "the big one."

VFW Posts, Auxiliaries and members are invited to help make this day possible by sponsoring a fish. Yes, that is right – you can sponsor a fish! How often can you say that?? A gift of \$25 will put a fish in the lake, a prize in a hand and smile on a face.

Please send your gift of \$25 or more by May 1, to: VFW National Home for Chil-

dren, 3573 South Waverly Road, Eaton Rapids, MI 48827.

Be sure to indicate your gift is for the Fishing Rodeo. You can sponsor as many fish as you like.

A list of all Fishing Rodeo sponsors will be posted at the event and on the National Home's Web site.

Buddy Poppy

A big **THANK YOU** to the ladies who worked the Buddy Poppy table for me, as I guarded the door and went to my meetings at Mid-Winter Conference. I also want to thank the judges; they had their work cut out for them. The entries were all very impressive.

This year we had 64 Auxiliary and 9 Youth entries. Congratulations to all of the winners!

It is time to start planning your Buddy Poppy Days May 6-8th. Remember to include the youth as helpers in your campaign.

National Military Service

All donations for National Military Program are to be sent to the National Ladies Auxiliary Headquarters earmarked "NMS."

As of December 31, 2010, the National Military Services donations summary for Michigan was over \$6,000. If you have not sent your donation, it's not too late. Make that motion on the floor and earn that achievement point!

It has been great working with you ladies this year! I look forward to seeing you all and handing out LOTS of awards at Department Convention at the Troy Marriott, June 8-12.

Thank you for all you do for our "Veterans – The Heartbeat of America" while being "United by Love for Our Veterans and Country".

DEPARTMENT YOUTH ACTIVITIES/JUNIOR GIRLS CHAIRMAN

We have made the halfway mark for 2010-2011. What a year it has been so far. The deadline dates for some of the programs are coming quickly. There were more changes at the Mid-Winter Conference and things seem to move along smoothly and quickly and yet, we still stay very busy. Those students for the Voice of Democracy and Patriot's Pen are very interesting and seem to be mature and respectful. They had a great time at the Conference again this year.

I want to remind you again of the deadline dates. The Patriotic Art is due to the Auxiliary by March 31st, and the winner must reach me no later than April 15 at my home address. Be sure the application is completely filled out, including the explanation of the patriotism expressed in the art. Good luck to all who are entering. If there are any students who wish to enter but can't quite afford the supplies needed, your Auxiliary should try to assist by donating.

For your information, National has returned a few of the "Youth Groups Supporting Our Military Heroes" applications to me, as the form had a single name for the citation to be presented to, not a "Group." The application needs the name of the group that participated in the program. Be sure to have the applications to me by March 15.

I hope you all have earned your point for sponsoring a Junior ROTC group. They are out there; you just need to find them. They are even willing to assist with a function you may have at your Post.

We will be instituting a new Junior Girls Unit at Auxiliary 9656, Lambertville. We

will be having our summer weekend at Camp Trotter. We look forward to that and we will have a lot of changes this year. From what I have heard and seen, Camp Trotter is really looking good.

The Junior Girls Annual Report is due to me by April 25, 2011. The Junior Girls Scholarship should be to me by March 25, 2011. And you need to describe what you did for the programs. We like to hear about how the girls assisted with the Auxiliary's programs. We are there to teach them, as they may someday be the members and officers of our Auxiliaries. We need to support them the best we can. We will be processing the awards soon for the girls and their units. I am so looking forward to our weekend.

For your Auxiliary Annual Youth Activities Report, please explain BRIEFLY, how you earned your points. Let me know how you promoted the program, what donations you have made, and what you did to recognize those who participated in the contests.

If you have any questions or even suggestions, please contact me. I know for a fact that changes can come about just by asking a question. If I can't answer the question, I know where to go. Suggestions are welcomed. Share your ideas and I will give it a try. I hope everyone has a nice spring and summer by enjoying every day.



Bonnie Pray

VOICE OF DEMOCRACY/PATRIOT'S PEN

Congratulations to our 1st Place Voice of Democracy winner, Sarah C. Barker, sponsored by Post and Auxiliary 4461, District 9. Sarah was awarded a \$6,000.00 scholarship and will travel to Washington, D.C. in March to represent Michigan in the National Competition. This is the third year in a row that District 9 has sponsored the 1st Place Department winner!

Our 1st Place Patriot's Pen winner is Schaeffer E. Thelen, sponsored by Post and Auxiliary 2326, District 8. Schaeffer was awarded a \$1,000.00 I Bond. Thank you to the Posts and Auxiliaries who offer the opportunity to the students in their communities to compete in this important program. Our student's placements in the National competition will be announced in March and will be reported on the Michigan Ladies Auxiliary Web site.

The theme for the 2011/2012 Voice of Democracy Contest is, "Is There Pride in Serving in Our Military?" The 2011/2012 Patriot's Pen Theme is, "Are You Proud of Your Country?"

Contact your local schools and youth groups and give them a head start on next year's program. Submit an article to your local newspaper outlining the contests.

Thank you to my VFW Director, Patrick Patterson, and Co-Director Harry "Les" Croyle.

Your leadership has led to another successful year in the promotion of this important program.



Gloria Dobbie





CAMP TROTTER DAYS COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN



Merridy Lewis

Have you had the opportunity to see all the major improvements that have taken place at Camp? You've never been there, you say? You are invited to come and share Memorial weekend with many of our brothers and sisters!

This would be a great time to bring the kids that will be going to camp this summer, and to see what is available.

We have six cabins that we rent, room for travel trailers with electrical hookups and space for tents. You may come out earlier in the week to have a little more time to explore what our camp has to offer.

Swimming, paddleboats, pontoon rides on Bills Lake, trail walks and lots more!

Friday night is always a potluck dinner. We have meals available on Saturday; we prepare breakfast, lunch and dinner, along with a Sunday morning breakfast, to get you back on the road and home on time for your Memorial Day festivities.

If you are unable to come for the weekend, come out on Saturday. Games for the kids, Bingo, swimming and of course, fellowship and making new friends. Once you've been to Camp Trotter, you'll want to come back.

This also is a good time to meet and spend time with the 2010-2011 Department Officers!

For more information on prices and cabins, please contact Merridy Lewis at 269-344-5469. Hope to see you there!

DEPARTMENT MEMBERSHIP



Val Mikkelsen

Sisters,
First, I would like to sincerely thank and congratulate each and every Auxiliary Sister out there. The Department of Michigan and EVERY DISTRICT in the Department has obtained the December 31, 2010 goal of 90% in Membership. Every District President and the Department President will be going out on their "Night on the Town." However, it takes every Sister out there to accomplish this achievement. The whole chain of reaction begins with every Auxiliary Sister who pays her dues, be it Annual or Life. Every Membership Chairman, Committee Member, Treasurer and President, on all levels, has done their share to accomplish this goal. Again, thank you.

Now, as the old saying goes, "It's time to buckle down, Win Tuckie." As of the report from National, 10 Departments DID NOT MAKE 90% by the deadline. There was only one Department that was at 100% by December 31, 2010. Ladies, with a little more determination, concentration and hard work, the Department of Michigan can also reach 100% in Membership. Wouldn't it be wonderful to

realize, that even though Michigan is experiencing hard times, that we can reach the 100% mark – for the first time in years!

As we get closer to Convention time and the end of this year's "Membership Year," it will get harder and harder to recruit new members for this year; however, it can be done. One thing that I know has worked in the past is a "let's make a deal"-type thing. Keep recruiting right up to the last minute. Explain the Membership Year to them. Then tell them that it will cost your usual new member fee, at the time of recruitment, but then tell them that they will only need to pay whatever the amount is that needs to go into Department and National for the next year. Explain that this is a one-time deal. After all, you as an Auxiliary have not had to pay suggested donations, etc. on them for this year. I caution you, however; do not do this process in reverse. It may end up costing the Auxiliary money. Always offer full membership fees first, then the reduced fees for the second year. There are also other incentives out there that may work just as well.

I know that we can all work together to help realize the dreams of the great Department of Michigan.

Please remember to say a prayer for all of our military personnel in harm's way.

DEPT. HOSPITAL CHAIRMAN



Merridy Lewis

The Hospitalized Veteran's Writing Program (HVWP), which helps veteran's get their poems and stories down on paper, is one of the goals for our volunteers. Volunteers help with a one-on-one, or with groups of patients, to help them put their thoughts and feelings into stories and poems.

The stories and poems can be submitted to *Veteran's Voices*, which is a magazine that publishes the articles that have been submitted. The HVWP does its very best to publish every article that has been submitted following the guidelines.

It is important to submit the author's

name, VAMC facility and state, the author's permanent address, the branch of service and duties, along with the serial number or social security number. Manuscripts must be original and unpublished, except in VAMC publications.

Writers can submit up to three poems, each no longer than 24 lines with a 60-character width. Stories no longer than 10 pages, typed using double spacing.

This is a brief detail of what HVWP is about. It may be an interest you would like to share with a Veteran on a volunteer basis. This is part of our history for generations to come. We are losing World War II Veterans every day, and we need to hear their stories. For more information, visit their Web site at www.veteransvoices.org. More information will be in the next issue.

LEGISLATIVE/PAC CHAIRMAN



Ruth Later

When you receive your annual report, you will notice that all achievement points regarding PAC have been removed. However, if you had participated in the PAC program, you will be receiving a citation for participation. Annual reports MUST be in my hands by April 25, 2011. On the report, answer the questions as directed. I do not want copies of your correspondence with the legislators. If you have any questions, please contact me.

Again, I would like to thank those who participated in the Michigan Treasurer's baskets. \$800 was raised. I would also like to report that from May to October, 82.5% of the Auxiliaries in Michigan participated in the PAC program. I would also like to thank the 71 VFW and Auxiliary members that attended the Legislative Awareness Day at the State Capitol.

The 112th Congress convened in January with the election of the new Speaker of the House, John Boehner, and the installation of newly-elected members of both the House and Senate. As we all know, with any new congressional cycle, any unfinished or pending legislation from the previous cycle has now expired and will have to be re-introduced. The members of Congress must know the importance of protecting and providing for our veterans and their families.

The VFW will be working with the new Congress to help create and improve programs that benefit veterans, our military and their families. For updated House information, go to <http://clerk.house.gov/>. For the Senate, go to <http://senate.gov/>

With the combined strength of 1.2 million members of the VFW and its Auxiliaries, our voice on "the Hill"

cannot be ignored. If you should have the opportunity to attend the National Legislative Conference held March 4-9, 2011 in Washington, D.C. you can witness testimony on legislation and interact with congressional members. For more information, check the VFW Web site at www.vfw.org. You can also download the 2011 Legislative Priority Goals from this site. We also need to renew our commitment to get informed and put our voices behind legislation that makes veterans first priority. Look at the 2011 Priority Goals in its entirety, and then encourage your neighbors and friends to get involved. We need to continue to promote the legislative program with publicity in the newspapers, radio, TV stations and community calendars.

The following are some of the critical issues facing us this year:

1. Provide the highest quality VA Health Care.
2. Expedite VA Benefits and Compensation claims.
3. Seamless Transition for veterans transferring from DoD to VA when their deployment ends.
4. Address the highest unemployment rate among veterans under Veterans Employment.

Other goals involve Military Affairs, Defense & Homeland Security, and POW/MIA.

Another way to stay informed of the latest veteran legislation is to receive the *VFW Washington Weekly* and *Action Corps*, which can be viewed on the VFW Web site.

Don't neglect our state legislators. Remember to contact them regarding state legislation. To view legislation regarding veteran's issues, go to the MI House Committee on Veterans Affairs Web site and click on "Legislation."

Remember our men and women who are serving in Iraq, Afghanistan and other parts of the world keeping us safe. We are "United in Love for Our Veterans and Country." Remember "Veterans – Our Heartbeat of America."

DISTRICT 4 PRESIDENT

Lana Bourlier



Hello to all members of this great state of Michigan! Mid-Winter Conference was splendid! The joy of seeing our students win and have fun was a great feeling! As usual, our VOD/Patriot's Pen Competition was amazing! The Chairman worked hard and it paid off in the end! Kudos goes to all who worked hard! Thank you to Nancy Bozzo, who made the Buddy Poppy Display for Post 1136 Wyandotte Ladies Auxiliary. It was the **1st Place winner!**

On another note, I wish to thank all Auxiliaries for giving me the chance to go to the "Night on the Town." We were treated like queens the whole day and night. Val gave us the most personal honors in front of all our sisters after our C of A meeting. Later, we had a champagne reception in the Department President's Suite; then a lovely dinner at the Monaco Bay Piano Bar, just a few blocks away. We were also blessed with the

company of National Chaplain Sissy Borel, and Jan Lawrence for her work in recruiting our members-at-large. All I can say is "Thank You, Thank You" for all your hard work that made it possible for me to be part of that adventure! To Pat Patterson and Val Mikkelsen, "You are the greatest!"

It was an honor to have John Hamilton, National Jr. Vice Commander and "Sissy" Borel, National Chaplain, here for this weekend. It was a pleasure to chat with them and hear their stories.

Our time may be on the downslope, but we must keep our apple blossom express train going until Michigan reaches 100%! So, come on everyone, and climb aboard! Let's make Pat and Lloyd bloom at Nationals!

Before we know it, spring will be sprung, the dock will be back in the water at Camp Trotter, and the kids will be anxious to go. Keep your spirits high and always remember to teach our children about patriotism, to sit and chat with a senior or take a veteran to the doctor. Most of all, hug a veteran each day and thank them for your **freedom!**

DISTRICT 5 PRESIDENT

Joyce Hinkle



Greetings to the Sisters of the Great 5th District!

Congratulations to all, for we met our first goal of reaching 90% membership by December 31, 2010.

In fact, we are at 95.88% as of January 21, 2011. We have 15 Auxiliaries who reached the goal of 100%. Congratulations to you on your hard work. I am very proud of all of you for your dedication. We don't have far to go to reach 100% in our District for our Department President Pat. Let's make her proud of her District, and get those last few dues collected to obtain that final goal. We have accomplished many goals at all levels, but still have many more to do.

Hope some of you were able to attend Mid-Winter Conference. Our District took 2nd Place (Auxiliary 2645) and 3rd Place (Auxiliary 9507) in the Buddy Poppy contest. Good job to all who sub-

mitted entries. Our Voice of Democracy entrant came in 11th Place, and earlier in the day he placed 1st in The American Legion writing contest. It is so important to keep encouraging our youth to enter these contests, as it can make a difference in their futures. Keep up the good work, and the 5th District will shine at our Department Convention.

Before you know it, the annual reports will be due and our year will be over. So please get your audits and annual reports in on time. I have enjoyed meeting all of you. So many of you put your all into our projects, then added a little more. You can be proud of all the work you have done this past year.

On Saturday, April 30th, our District Convention will be at the Oxbow Post 4156. Hope to see you there. The Department Convention will be held in Troy, June 9th through the 12th.

Thanks for a wonderful year so far.

Keep warm and God Bless.

DISTRICT 8 PRESIDENT

Carrie Watkins



We have just returned from the Mid-Winter Conference in Kalamazoo and it was wonderful! Our Representative was National Chaplain,

Sissy Borel, and she was delightful. The Voice of Democracy, Patriot's Pen and Teachers of the Year were honored and every year they seem more outstanding. District 8 was represented very well by the Patriot's Pen Dept. 1st Place Winner, Schaeffer Thelen, sponsored by Grand Haven Post and Auxiliary 2326; Voice of Democracy Dept. 8th Place Winner, Kelsey Foster-Goodrich, sponsored by Comstock Post and Auxiliary 6252; and Teacher of the Year 6-8 Grade Dept. Winner, Shirley Kupieck, sponsored by Augusta Post and Auxiliary 7956. The Department Program Chairmen gave more information regarding programs and filling out annual reports. There was a voting workshop to help us with the elections, which will be at our May meeting. The Buddy Poppy displays were very nice, as well. A big thank you to all the ladies who helped with my special guest – Brendon! And another big thank you to all the ladies who gave warm and happy congratulations upon news of my wedding!

Thank you to all District 8 Auxiliaries who worked so hard to achieve 90% in membership before December 31st. Due to all your efforts, our District was included in the celebration for earning 90% for the Dept. of Michigan and the honors shared with all the District Presidents. In your honor, I was given the eagle medallion and enjoyed the "Night on the Town." We were all treated to a very nice dinner and entertainment at the dueling piano restaurant in Kalamazoo.

In regards to Membership, we are at 94%! We only need about 190 more members to reach 100% and this is a VERY attainable goal. Seven auxiliaries are less than 10 members from reaching their 100%. Please keep recruiting, retaining and reinstating your members. Retain your annual members and encourage them to pay their dues. If they are now regarded as "not in good standing," they cannot enjoy meetings or the club room at your Post. Reinstate any members who may have slipped away from you in the last couple years, encourage them to rejoin your unit. Recruit NEW members...we ALL need new members to continue our missions and programs.

Please review your program guide sheets and do some more of the activities. Please do at least one project from each program guide sheet. There is still time and these activities are so important for our community service goals. Annual Reports are all due to the Dept. Chairmen by APRIL 25. We will be offering assistance to any Auxiliary with filling out annual reports; no Auxiliary should avoid sending them in. We know you did the activities; we just need to help you report it. Please continue sending in the community service sheets as well, at least one per month.

Upcoming events: District Meeting February 5th in Otsego, Dept. President Pat Patterson will be making her official visit; Dept. Testimonial April 15-16 in Bay City, District Testimonial April 30 at Creston Post and District Meeting May 7 at Wayland Post.

Thank you for all you do for our active duty military, veterans and their families, and all the other community service projects in your local areas...so many great things would go undone if not for you...you make a difference!

DISTRICT 6 PRESIDENT

Carloyn Jenkins



Hello Sisters,

I can't believe that Mid-Winter Conference is here already. Congratulations to all the District winners in both the Voice of Democracy

and Patriot's Pen essays. It's very moving to hear how these young people feel about our veterans and patriotism. It was a privilege for District Commander George Wygant and me to be able to escort Kayla Winters – Lambertville 9656, District 6 – Voice of Democracy winner into the banquet on Saturday night.

On Friday night at Mid-Winter, I had the privilege of representing the Auxiliaries of the 6th District on the "Night on the Town." What can I say about you ladies, except

that you are an awesome group that worked hard on your membership. Thank you.

Presidents, you should have received the annual reports and I hope you have mailed a copy to your Chairman, so they can review it before filling out the others. Don't forget that all reports must be in the Department Chairman's hands before April 25, 2011.

Do you have Chairmen that need to attend a District meeting to get that achievement point? If so, March 19th will be their last chance. The meeting will be held at VFW Post 701-Lansing. The audit and registration will be at 10:00 a.m., Voice of Democracy, Patriot's Pen and Teacher of the Year program at 11:00 a.m. and meeting at 1:00 p.m. Hope to see you there.

Remember our hospitalized veterans and servicemen and women by sending those cards and care packages.

DISTRICT 7 PRESIDENT

Lou Ann Conklin



Congratulations to all the youth that participated in our VOD and Patriot's Pen programs this year, as well as the teachers that were nominated for National Citizenship Educa-

tion Teacher of the Year! What more can we do to get the word out about our veterans! Thank you Veterans of Foreign Wars, thank you Ladies Auxiliary members, Men's Auxiliary members, and those that support us. We all play a very impor-

tant role in this organization, as we all play an important role in our country.

Well, Mid-Winter is now over and it's time to start winding up the year. We have our chairmanship goals to complete and reports to write and, of course, "Recruit, Recruit, Recruit!" We need to rev up the membership and get new ideas flowing for a new and exciting year to come!

We will have our next District 7 Meeting in Decatur VFW Post 6248 on Sunday, May 1, 2011. Please be prepared to step up as an Officer or Chairman – we need you!

DISTRICT 9 PRESIDENT

Pat Klockziem



Dear Auxiliary Sisters of District 9,

It's hard to believe that spring is just around the corner. Before you know it, we will be electing new officers for the

upcoming year. What a busy year we have had so far. Inspections are done. I have certainly met a lot of wonderful Auxiliary sisters during my travels of District 9. I want you to know that each and every one of you is very important to this organization.

The District 9 VOD-PP banquet was held in St. Louis in January. I have attended many VOD-PP banquets throughout my District over the year. It was my sincere honor to have attended each one. To the talented students who participated in this program, congratulations to each of you.

As everyone knows, membership is important. Congratulations are in order to those Auxiliaries in our District who have reached 100%. Our District reached 90% by December 31st. That

was the reason why I was able to attend my "Night on the Town" in Kalamazoo for the Mid-Winter Conference. I wish to thank you for all your hard work that has been done with our membership program. To keep this organization strong, we need new members. Please keep this in mind and always look for new ways to get new members into this great organization.

I am so proud to be a part of this great organization, as I know you are as well. Remember, we are here to support our veterans, their families and our community. We must remember that, we as Auxiliary sisters, need to work together for this common goal. Remember also to be friendly, considerate and work together as a team. If a wheel loses a spoke, it cannot roll smoothly. It is the same with any organization. Working together makes our organization strong. So let's all work together for the betterment and sustainability of our organization.

If you have any questions, don't hesitate to call me at 989-723-3417 or e-mail at klockziem@chartermi.net

Thank you for all you do for our veterans.

FT. CUSTER NATIONAL CEMETERY

Merridy Lewis

The Fort Custer Advisory Committee recently elected Mike Willard to be Chairman of the Committee. Congrats to you, Mike!

The Advisory Committee is raising money for

new flagpoles. The poles that comprise the Avenue of Flags have been in place since 1973. There's 152 flagpoles that need replacing. The flags that fly on the poles at the cemetery are burial flags that were donated by family members. The cost of each flagpole is \$329.00, installed. Donations will be tax-deductible. For more information, call 269-964-0309.



2010-2011 Voice of Democracy Contest a

Department of Michigan • V

Voice of Demo



1st Place
\$6,000.00 *Ralph J. Seabold Scholarship*
District 9 – Post 4461
Sarah Baker
12th Grade – *Faith Christian School, Lake Odessa*



2nd Place
\$3,500.00 *Ladies Auxiliary Scholarship*
District 11 – Post 6950
Stacy Lang
12th Grade – *Bay City Western High School, Kawkawlin*



3rd Place
\$2,500.00 *Hazel Park VFW Scholarship*
District 12 – Post 8846
Jenna Holmes
12th Grade – *Reeths-Puffer High School, Twin Lakes*



7th Place
\$1,000.00 *Newberry Scholarship*
District 8 – Post 6252
Kelsey Foster-Goodrich
11th Grade – *Comstock High School, Kalamazoo*

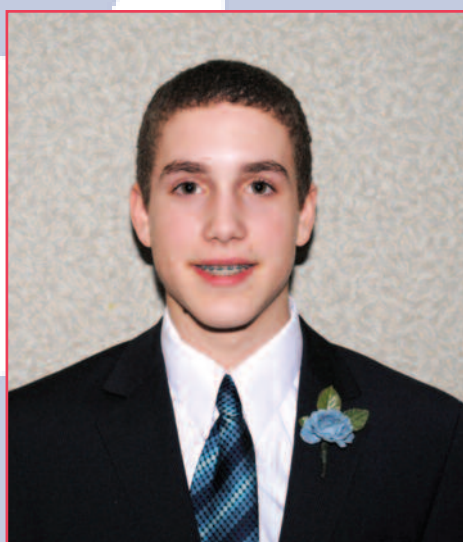


8th Place
\$1,000.00 *Department of Michigan Veterans of Foreign Wars Scholarship*
District 14 – Post 5670
Amber La Favre
12th Grade – *Gwinn High School, Gwinn*



9th Place
\$1,000.00 *Orvel Walter Memorial Scholarship*
District 6 – Post 9656
Kayla Winters
11th Grade – *Bedford High School, Lambertville*

Patriot's Po



1st Place
\$1,000.00 *Bond, Wes Longenbach Memorial Award*
District 8 – Post 2326
Schaeffer Thelen
8th Grade – *White Pines Middle School, Grand Haven*



2nd Place
\$750.00 *Bond, Ladies Auxiliary Award*
District 15 – Post 6165
Julia Menzel-Smith
8th Grade – *Houghton Middle School*



3rd Place
\$500.00 *Bond, 15*
District 9 –
Samantha
8th Grade – *Tri-Cou*

and Patriot's Pen Essay Contest Programs

VFW and Its Ladies Auxiliary

cracy Winners



4th Place

\$1,500.00 James N. Goldsmith Scholarship
District 10 – Post 3243

Evan Korchanak

12th Grade – Lake Fenton High School, Fenton



5th Place

\$1,000.00 Eric & Delores Halverson Scholarship
District 13 – Post 1518

Quinn Marquard

11th Grade – St. Mary Cathedral, Mancelona



6th Place

\$1,000.00 Ladies Auxiliary Scholarship
District 7 – Post 1137

Erin Hart

11th Grade – St. Joseph High School, Benton Harbor



10th Place

\$1,000.00 Past Commanders Club Scholarship
District 4 – Post 7546

Rheanon Brooks

12th Grade – Red Union High School, Oak Park



11th Place

\$500.00 Dick and Vi Thorp Memorial and
\$500.00 VFW post 4644 Scholarship

District 5 – Post 4037

Aditya Rengaswamy

11th Grade – Avondale High School, Troy



12th Place

\$400.00 John & Shirley Sweebe, \$400.00
Donald Mrdjenovic, and \$200.00 Rob & Marcia
Weiss Scholarship

District 15 – Post 6057

Brendan Williamson

10th Grade – Chassell Twp. School, Chassell

en Winners



Place

th District Award
Post 3306

a Inman

nty School, Newaygo



4th Place

\$400.00 Bond, 9th District Award
District 4 – Post 4012

Brandon MacLennan

8th Grade – Home School



5th Place

\$500.00 Bond, Barry & Pam Walter Award
District 12 – Post 10770

Mary Ware

8th Grade – Pine River, Leroy

CONTEST, continued on page 16



DISTRICT 10 PRESIDENT

Diana Ward



Greetings, Sisters:

I know we are all gearing down for the end of the year, but don't give up on getting those dues in. At the writing of this article, 10th District is at 93.55% – good job, ladies! You are working hard and it shows. Let's try to get those final dues in. This is the hardest group to get paid. I'd appreciate it if you could all take the time to send out one more dues reminder. Try having a membership drive. If your Auxiliary can afford it, maybe you could sign up new members and offer to pay their next year – you only have to pay the \$7.50 per capita. We only need 196 more dues for the District to be 100%. I know it sounds like a lot, but if we all pull in a few more new members and get those "harder to get" members paid, I know we can do it. If we can pull this off, this would be the first time in 16 years that our District made 100%. It is thanks to all of you that I received my "Night On the Town"...thank you for going the extra mile and getting those dues in. You are all awesome.

Year-end reports will be due by April 25, 2011 to the Department Chairmen. Presidents, you should schedule a year-end report meeting in March or early April so that you can make any last minute motions at your April meeting to make sure that your Chairmen are getting all their points. The meeting also gets

you a point on the Achievement program.

Delegate dues notices should be coming to you soon. Please make sure that you pay the delegate fees to District and Department. This insures that your Auxiliary's votes can be cast. Last year, we had several Auxiliaries who hadn't paid the delegate fee, and we lost all those votes at Convention. Even if you don't have anyone going to Convention, your votes all count as long as the delegate fees are paid.

Election of officers will be upon us sooner than we know. Each year, some Auxiliaries have a harder and harder time getting members to step up and take an office. You should begin talking amongst your members to make sure that you have a full slate of officers. Maybe getting some new members involved with Chairmanships will ease them into the process, and allow them to learn what the organization is about and what our goals are. This is an important thing. We need to work on mentoring the newer members, so that they want to stay involved and eventually take offices.

I would like to thank all of you ladies for doing such a great job this year. I have thoroughly enjoyed being your District President, meeting several new ladies and renewing friendships with those of you that I've known for a while. The veterans need each and every one of you, and it is good to see all the hard work that all of the Auxiliaries do for the veterans and the community. Large or small, you are doing a great job!

DISTRICT 12 PRESIDENT

Judy Schafer



Greetings to all the Sisters in the Mighty 12th,

Thank you! Thank you! THANK YOU for all your hard work to reach 90% in membership! This means that I, as

your District President, could have a "Night on the Town" at the Mid-Winter Conference in Kalamazoo. But do not let down now. We still need those continuous, new and reinstated members to keep our organization strong and work for our Veterans.

Congratulations to all the Voice of Democracy and Patriot's Pen winners. We had many Posts that participated, but

we can do better.

Remember to get applications now for Camp Trotter when it opens for the 2011 camping season. The eligible ages are 7 through 12 year olds. I am sure there are many young people out there that would enjoy attending this beautiful area.

District 12 will be having our next meeting March 13th at Reed City and May 15th at Manistee. Lunch will be at 11:30 and the meeting starts at 1:00. The Department Rep in March will be President Pat Patterson. The Past Commander/Past President banquet will be in April.

Here in the "North Country," we have had our share of that "white stuff" (some places too much). Take care as you drive out there.

DISTRICT 13 PRESIDENT

Nancy LaVigne



Greetings to District 13,

We just completed our Mid-Winter Conference in Kalamazoo and our District 13 meeting in Harbor Springs.

Congratulations to all the students that took the time to enter in our scholarship programs and a big Thank You and a job well done to all the Post and Auxiliary Chairmen that get the programs out to the schools in their area. Our winners for the Voice of Democracy program are: 1st Place, Quinn Marguard from Gaylord 1518; 2nd Place, Abby Ponik from Traverse City 2780; 3rd Place, Alyssa Ponik from Alpena 2496. Our Patriot's Pen winners are: 1st Place, Maria Styma from Posen 7804; 2nd Place, Rae Ann Vanderveer from Hillman 2356; 3rd Place, Matthew Grisdale from Cheboygan 3623. Our District Chairmen are Dean and Jackie Carper.

As for membership, we just barely made 90% by December 31st. We need to contact these members who have not

paid their dues for this year for whatever reason, either by phone, mail or in person. This District has experienced a decline in membership over the last several years. We need to retain our remaining unpaid members, as well as recruit. This organization needs, and must have, a strong and committed membership to accomplish our goals.

Don't forget our District meeting May 7, 2011 in Traverse City-2780, as it is election and installation for the incoming District President. I expect 100% of the Auxiliaries to make the meeting, as traveling is easier this time of year. If you have members in your Auxiliary that would like to become active in District, please contact me or our Senior Vice President Arvella Peterson.

Please remember to go over the annual reports and complete those items not yet done. Presidents – plan a meeting with your Chairmen to get the reports completed and in on time. The reports are due into Department April 25th.

Thank you for your support of our Veterans, as they are our Heartbeat of America.

Veterans Honoring Veterans

On October 2, 2010, it was a great honor and my pleasure to act as a guardian/escort for several WWII veterans who traveled to Washington D.C. to visit the WWII Memorial. The trip was a coordinated event sponsored by Pride and Honor Flight of Michigan, facilitated by Jack and Faye Wiseley.

A total of 73 WWII veterans and 28 guardians made the trip. As a VFW Post service officer, I am always looking for opportunities to assist our comrades in any way I can. I was the guardian for four WWII Veterans on the trip. Two of the veterans, Jack Eron of Ludington, Michigan and Clyde Sell of Columbiaville, Michigan, I had not previously met. Both of these men were U.S. Navy veterans serving in the Pacific. Two additional veterans, Del Dunn, served in the U.S. Army as a combat engineer in Germany; Bob Vasold served in the U.S. Marine Corps and was in the first assault wave for the Battle of Okinawa.

It was a royal greeting when The Southwest Airlines flight landed in Washington, D. C. to an ark of honor by water snorkels as the plane taxied in. Once departing the plane, there were hundreds of appreciative citizens at the arrival gate cheering and shaking the hands of the de-boarding veterans. During the trip many individuals came up to the veterans and shook their hands, thanking them for their service.

The entire trip was truly a heartfelt and emotional experience for all involved. My hope is that all VFW Posts and service officers become involved in this experience for other WWII veterans.

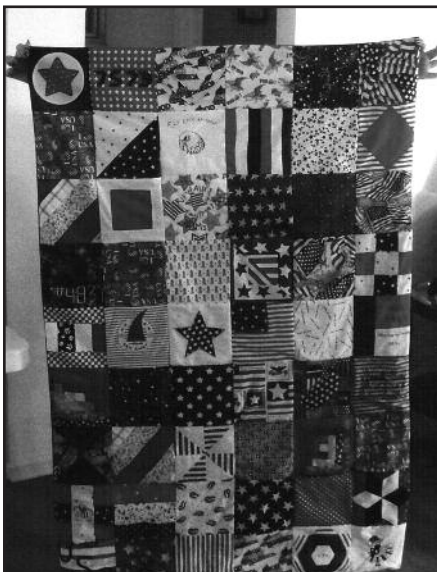
Phil Presnell is a Vietnam veteran and Life Member of the VFW, and has been a Post Service Officer for 20 years. He is a member of VFW Post 4012-Northville, but resides in northern Michigan and acts as Post Service Officer for several Posts in northern Michigan.



Phil Presnell (far left) appointed guardian of four Michigan veterans, traveled with the men to the nation's capital to the World War II Memorial. Next to Presnell, from left, are Jack Eron of Ludington, Robert Vasold of Onaway, Clyde Sell of Columbiaville and Delbert Dunn of Onaway. Photo courtesy of Presque Isle Newspapers

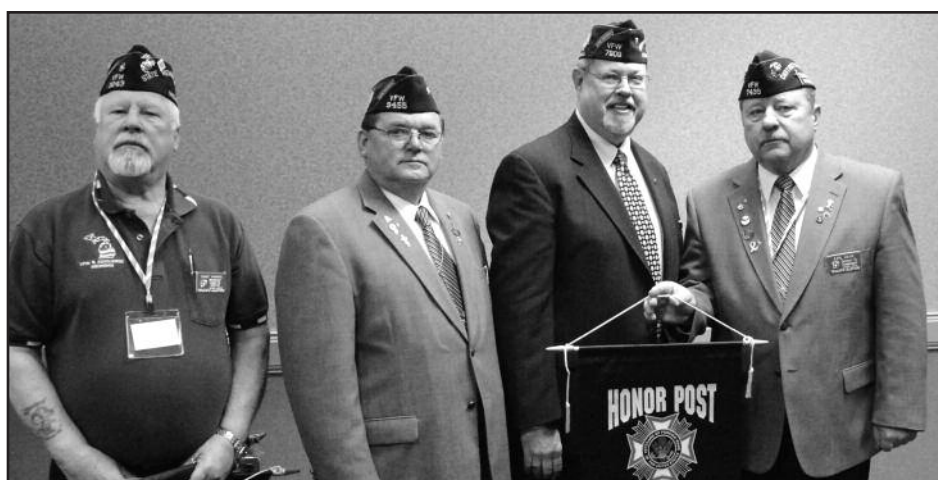
Quiet Comfort

The Department of Michigan Ladies Auxiliary collected quilt squares for Quiet Comfort as their "Make a Difference Day" project under community service. A total of 2,000 squares were collected and sent to Quiet Comfort to be made into quilts for the wounded, along with two completed quilts.



100% in Membership

Posts that attended had at least 100% in membership and were honored. The Honor Post Banner for 2010-2011 was presented by National Jr. Vice Commander-in-Chief John Hamilton, State Commander Lloyd Putman II, Dept. Membership Director Gerald "Hawk" Hawkins, and accepted by the Post if in attendance, or by the District Commander.





CONTEST, continued from page 13



Past 7th District Commander Andy Conklin and his son and current 7th District Jr. Vice Commander, Kevin Conklin, both received appointments as a National Aide-de-Camp. Pictured, left to right: Past 7th District Commander Andy Conklin, State Commander Lloyd Putman II and 7th District Jr. Vice Commander Kevin Conklin.



Patriot's Pen 1st Place Winner, Schaeffer Thelen, receives his award from National Jr. Vice C in C John Hamilton, Ladies Aux. National Chaplain Armithea "Sissy" Borel, State Commander Lloyd Putman II and State Ladies Aux. President Patricia Patterson.



State Teacher of the Year winners, left to right: State Ladies Aux. President Patricia Patterson; State Commander Lloyd Putman II; Teacher of the Year Grades 1-5, Linda Klein; Teacher of the Year Grades 6-8, Shirley Kupieck; Teacher of the Year Grades 9-12, Andrew C. Jackson; Ladies Aux. National Chaplain Armithea "Sissy" Borel; and National Jr. Vice C in C John Hamilton.



Patriot's Pen Winners, front left to right: Samantha Inman, Julia Menzel-Smith, Mary Ware, Brandon MacLennan and Schaeffer Thelen. Back row, left to right: State Ladies Aux. President Patricia Patterson, State Commander Lloyd Putman II, Ladies Aux. National Chaplain Armithea "Sissy" Borel and National Jr. Vice C in C John Hamilton.



Group photo of Voice of Democracy and Patriot's Pen Winners.



Our National Representatives for the Mid-Winter Conference: Ladies Aux. National Chaplain Armithea "Sissy" Borel and National Jr. Vice C in C John Hamilton.



Voice of Democracy 1st Place Winner, Sarah Baker, receives her award along with the Voice of Democracy Traveling Trophy being presented to Post 4461-Commander Charles Van De Velde by State Commander Lloyd Putman II and Dept. Voice of Democracy Director Patrick Patterson.



Left to right: Dept. Voice of Democracy Director Patrick Patterson, State Ladies Aux. President Patricia Patterson, Voice of Democracy 1st Place Winner Sarah Baker, State Commander Lloyd Putman II and Dept. Ladies Aux. Voice of Democracy Chairman Gloria Dobbie.



State Ladies Aux. President Patricia Patterson, Voice of Democracy 1st Place Winner Sarah Baker, Post 4461 Commander Charles Van De Velde, State Commander Lloyd Putman II and 9th District Commander Terry Dowdell.

Patriotism

By Schaeffer Thelen, Patriot's Pen Winner



Thomas Jefferson was one of the smartest men to ever live. One of our most important founding fathers accomplished a

lot in his 83 years of life. Jefferson is credited as the author of our country's Declaration of Independence and was also the third president of the United States of America. No, this essay is not about Thomas Jefferson. It is an essay that supports one of Thomas Jefferson's strongest beliefs/qualities – patriotism.

"My affections were first for my own country, then, generally, for all mankind," Jefferson once said. The significance of those words is unbelievably underrated nowadays. Where did those with that kind of attitude go? Our country was built by leaders that really cared for our nation; true patriots. It took people and mindsets like those to build our country. Isn't it obvious that we need those mindsets to keep our country strong? Patriotism still matters.

Patriotism is defined as the devoted love, support, and defense of one's country. It's hard for one to argue that "devoted love, support, and defense" toward America does NOT matter. If not a single patriot lived in the United States, it would simply be impossible for our country to remain. The American Revolution was essentially won and driven by pure patriotism and dedication, and would be lost just as quickly without patriotism.

"Ask not what your country can do for you; ask what you can do for your country," John F. Kennedy, another respected patriot, was quoted once saying. This is what patriotism is all about – loving your country so much to the point where you will make personal sacrifices if it means your country is

strengthened. Patriotism matters, because a nation full of people that put their country before themselves, is an indestructible nation. The type of nation we must strive for.

Love your country. Embrace patriotism. Remember that without the idea of patriotism – without our patriot ancestors, neither you nor I would enjoy the freedoms we have today. If it weren't for patriotism, the Revolution would have been lost. Hundreds of men, guilty of nothing but a thirst for freedom, would have been hung. Their brilliant minds, ideas and bravery, buried with their lifeless bodies. Instead, our ancestors decided to risk their lives for their country in a complete act of patriotism, and succeeded. Patriotism is soil from which our country is planted. Patriotism MATTERS.

Does My Generation Have a Role in America's Future?

By Sarah Baker, Voice of Democracy Winner



The men who founded our country, such as George Washington and John Adams, were men of action, yet they carefully weighed their reasons for separating from England and creating an independent country. The founding fathers knew they had been entrusted with a precious heritage of liberty and, if they did not defend it, that privilege would be taken from them and their children. Now the privilege of freedom is the responsibility of my generation. As President Kennedy said, "We dare not forget that we are the heirs of that first revolution. Let the word go forth from this time and place, to friend and foe alike, that the torch has been passed to a new generation of Americans...that we shall pay any price, bear any burden, meet any hardship, support any friend, oppose any foe, to assure the survival and the success of liberty."

My generation must make the choice to preserve the legacy of excellence we have received for our posterity. The actions we take to create such a future, and our reasons for doing so, will determine the future of America.

To be successful Americans, my gener-

ation must act upon our duty to our country. Soon, most of us will be eligible to vote, and we must elect officials who uphold American freedoms and enact legislation that preserves those freedoms. Informing our representatives of our values and desires, researching decision, issues and people, and praying for those in authority, are ways that we can employ to be good citizens.

Also, my generation must be involved. In a few short years, this generation will be the ones to publish periodicals, Web sites and books to educate and inform Americans. Some of us young people will be future Congressmen, Presidents and military who lead and defend our country. Many of the teenagers of today will become the businessmen of tomorrow; and the decisions they make must be based in sound financial practice in order to create a stable economic future. Most of us will be mothers or fathers, and we must train our children to be responsible and patriotic. We are becoming the "movers and shakers" of tomorrow's world, and we must approach that charge with a spirit of action.

However, of utmost importance is why this generation should be involved in America. Our best efforts on behalf of our country will be useless if not done for the right reasons. We must realize that we owe an unpayable debt to past Americans, who sacrificed so much to present us with the freedoms we have today. It is our duty to pass the freedoms they have won to future Americans. We must guarantee that the Constitutional right to "life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness" is not curtailed. As veterans, small-town communities and individual Americans have sacrificed and worked to preserve freedom for this generation, so we must sacrifice and work to preserve that freedom for a generation yet to come. Nothing less is worthy of our heritage.

VFW Aids Soldiers in the Wake of Ft. Leonard Wood Tornado

"It's a privilege being in the position to help those who deserve it most..."



January 05, 2011

As clean-up and recovery efforts continue in Ft. Leonard Wood, Missouri, after an EF-3 tornado tore through the

area on New Year's Eve, the VFW has come to the aid of service members and military families with \$57,500 in emergency financial aid.

According to The National Weather Service survey teams, the Fort suffered the worst damage in the region from Friday's line of storms, obliterating or causing substantial damage to a number of homes on the Army post.

After hearing reports of how extensive the damage was, VFW Department of Missouri Adjutant, Jessie Jones, immediately reached out to VFW National Headquarters for assistance on behalf of

soldiers displaced by the storm.

Through its Unmet Needs program – a program enacted to provide emergency financial aid to service members experiencing financial hardship – VFW's National Military Services distributed grants totaling \$57,500 among 167 service members and military families stationed at Ft. Leonard Wood.

"VFW was founded on the premise of helping veterans. There's no greater form of support than reaching out to those who've lost their homes and need us – that's what VFW is here for," said Jones.

The emergency grants were presented to the service members during a special presentation at the Army post on January 5, 2010.

"This incident was extremely unfortunate and couldn't have affected a more selfless group than our nation's soldiers. It's a privilege being in the position to help those who deserve it most and have sacrificed so much for all of us," said Mike Penney, Director of VFW's National Military Services.

2010-2011 State Teachers of the Year

Each year, three exceptional teachers are recognized by the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) for their outstanding commitment to teach Americanism and patriotism to their students. The VFW annually recognizes the nation's top classroom elementary, junior high and high school teachers who teach citizenship education topics – at least half of the school day in a classroom environment – and promote America's history, traditions and institutions effectively. This year's winners for the State of Michigan are:

Grades 1-5

Linda Klein
Pine River Area Schools
Sponsored by Post 10770 and District 12

Grades 6-8

Shirley Kupieck
Galesburg-Augusta Middle School
Sponsored by Post 7956 and District 8

Grades 9-12

Andrew C. Jackson
Allen Park High School
Sponsored by Post 5572 and District 4



Teacher of the Year Linda Klein: Teacher of the Year Grades 1-5, Linda Klein, is presented her award by State Commander Lloyd Putman II and State Ladies Aux. President Patricia Patterson.



Teacher of the Year Shirley Kupieck: Teacher of the Year Grades 6-8, Shirley Kupieck, is presented her award by State Commander Lloyd Putman II and State Ladies Aux. President Patricia Patterson.



Teacher of the Year Andrew C. Jackson: Teacher of the Year Grades 9-12, Andrew C. Jackson, is presented his award by State Commander Lloyd Putman II and State Ladies Aux. President Patricia Patterson.

Post 822 Member Plays in Hockey Game Fundraiser

The HHC-125th Infantry, Michigan Army National Guard (MIARNG) had a fundraiser hockey game at the Great Lakes Sports Center in Fraser, Michigan on November 14th. Our own retired Gunny Sergeant, David Smith from the VFW Post 822, played in the hockey game.

It was the "Home Town Heroes" vs Oakland University. Fifty percent of the money went to the FRG program for the HHC 125th MIARNG. He also makes

"Jar Head Salsa" at our VFW Post and donates 10% of all sales back to us.

The HHC 125 Infantry MIARNG is the unit we adopted three years ago. We do monthly dinners on their drill weekends, and help with anything the families may need. Dave joined our Post in this past year and has jumped in, feet first, in all our programs. Our hats go off to Gunny for all he is doing for us and our National Guard unit.





New Addition to the "Path of Remembrance"

A new addition to the "Path of Remembrance" at Post 1136 in Wyandotte was the placing of two granite benches for meditation and remembering American Patriots. The "Path" is completely funded through the purchasing of brick pavers and dona-

tions from the community, along with Post and Auxiliary members' volunteer efforts to construct it. Past Commander Jim Macek was instrumental in its design, construction and dedication on Flag Day, June 14, 2007.



Pictured, L-R: Designer, engraver and Post Member Tom Woodruff; Wyandotte Mayor and Post member Joe Peterson; Judge Randy Kalmbach; Past Commander Jim Macek; and Past Commander and State Surgeon Len Milewski. The inscription reads, "This Path of Remembrance is dedicated to the memories and support of all American Patriots...while we have time, let us do good."



The second bench recognizes the Post and Auxiliary members who made the project a success. In the background are the current Post 1136 Commander Al Starzec and Ladies Auxiliary 1136 President Ruth Barnhill. The Men's Auxiliary President Mark Jones was unable to attend, due to a work commitment.

James Europe VFW Post 2233 Annual Awards Ceremony

James Europe VFW Post 2233 held its annual celebration to honor and salute the winners of the Voice of Democracy and Patriot's Pen essay contests, along with the Policeman, Firefighter and E.M.T. of the Year.

The presentations were made by Commander Isaac Blair and Auxiliary President

Beverly Burton. The Policeman of the Year was Douglas Nichols. The Firefighter of the Year was Robert Murray. The EMT of the Year was Imana Minard.

This event took place on December 11, 2010. After the winning essays were read and all presentations were made, dinner was served.



MICHIGAN OVERSEAS VETERAN

Official Publication of the Department of Michigan • Veterans of Foreign Wars
924 North Washington Ave. • Lansing, MI 48906
Subscription rate: \$4.00 per year

Name _____

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City _____ State _____ Zip _____

92nd VFW AND LADIES AUXILIARY
Department of Michigan State Convention
Detroit Troy Marriott
Wednesday, June 8-Sunday, June 12, 2011

DEADLINE FOR RESERVATIONS IS MAY 1, 2011.

Mail or Fax, Reservation to:

Detroit Troy Marriott
200 Big Beaver Road
Troy, MI 48084

Reservations: 800-228-9290 Fax: 248-524-0532

Make checks payable to: Detroit Troy Marriott
A Deposit of One Night or a Major Credit card is required. (NO CASH)

Reservation will not be guaranteed without a form of payment.
Please specify if a barrier-free room (handicapped) is required.

☐ **Check here if you need a barrier-free room.**

Accommodations are as follows:

King: \$99.00 +tax Double: \$99.00 + tax

Triple: \$99.00 + tax Quad: \$99.00 + tax.

Please put your e-mail address or phone number
to receive confirmation numbers from hotel.

E-mail: _____

Phone: _____

(Please print)

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone _____

District # _____ Post # _____ Your office in VFW/Aux _____

Credit Card type _____ Card # _____

Exp. Date _____ Date of Arrival _____

Date of Departure _____

ATTENTION District Hospitality Chairman: If you want a hospitality room
for the Convention, you must submit reservation forms to:
Convention Director Ron Amend, 3565 Ringle Road, Akron, MI 48701.
Fax: 989-691-0101; E-mail: ramend@toast.net

Hospitality Rooms:

| | |
|-----------------------------------|----------------|
| 2 Rooms, 1 sleeping/1 hospitality | \$198.00 +tax |
| 3 Rooms, 1 sleeping/2 hospitality | \$297.00 + tax |
| 3 Rooms, 2 sleeping/1 hospitality | \$297.00 + tax |

☐ **Check here if you are a current member of
the VFW/AUX Council of Administration.**

The VFW has a golf outing on Wednesday.

All C of A members are scheduled for meetings Thursday morning.

Billy G. Stancroff
Candidate for
Department of Michigan
Department Jr. Vice
Commander
2011-2012



Endorsed and supported by:
District 12
Lt. Clement F. Derezhinski
VFW Post 7729
His family

Ronald L. Devereaux
Candidate for
Department of Michigan
Department Jr. Vice
Commander
2011-2012



Endorsed and supported by:
District 9
Olson-Kiste
VFW Post 4406
His wife and family

**Joint Testimonial
Department of Michigan
Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U.S. and Ladies Auxiliary**

HOUSING INFORMATION

April 15-16, 2011

DoubleTree Hotel
1 Winonah Park Place
Bay City, MI 48708
989-891-6000
Mention VFW Commander's Dinner

You must make your reservations directly through the hotel

**DEADLINE FOR RESERVATIONS
MARCH 23, 2011**

**Room Rates: \$89.00 plus tax
Complimentary Parking**

For those arriving on Friday, April 15, there will be a hospitality room that evening.

The following are some of the area attractions:

Bay City River Cruises – 1 block
Delta College Planetarium – 1 block
Bay County Historical Museum – 3 blocks
Bay Antique Center – 4 blocks
Center Avenue Historic District – 1 mile
Prime Outlets Shopping – 28 miles
Saganing Eagles Landing Casino – 30 miles

**Joint Testimonial Banquet
Department of Michigan
Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U.S. and Ladies Auxiliary**

Honoring
**Commander Lloyd Putman
President Pat Patterson**

April 15-16, 2011

DoubleTree Hotel
1 Winonah Park Place
Bay City, MI 48708

Banquet 6:00 p.m., April 16, 2011
Doors Open at 5:00 p.m.

Price: \$35.00 per person
No tickets sold at the door. Banquet will be open seating.

Deadline for Ordering Tickets – APRIL 1, 2011
Dinner Tickets will be picked up at the door.

Banquet includes: Dinner, draft beer, soft drink
Cash Bar, Entertainment
Attire will be formal

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP _____

DISTRICT # _____ POST # _____

AMOUNT ENCLOSED \$ _____ CHECK # _____

NUMBER of TICKETS _____

**Make all checks payable to:
Putman-Patterson Testimonial (NO CASH)**

**Mail to:
Karen Aune
38850 Pardee
Harrison Twp, MI 48045
586-463-8890**

**Joint Testimonial Honoring
Lloyd Putman II, State Commander
Pat Patterson, State President**

AD BOOK REQUEST

Full Page: \$100.00 Quarter Page: \$35.00
Half Page: \$50.00 Patron Ad: \$3.00
Deadline for Ads – March 31, 2011

**MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO THE:
Putman/Patterson Testimonial**

Please send ad with check to:

**Harry "Les" Croyle
30086 Trailwood Drive
Warren, MI 48092**

Phone: 1-586-747-2104 E-mail: hlcroyle@yahoo.com

Amount Enclosed: _____ **Check #:** _____

Size of Ad Requested: _____ **Organization:** _____

Contact Person: _____

(name)

(phone number)

Please attach message, special artwork or
list of patrons on a separate sheet.
Every attempt will be made to use special artwork,
if a quality original is provided and in a digital format.

**Gloria Dobbie
Candidate for
Department Guard
2011-2012**



**Endorsed and supported by:
District 5
Ladies Auxiliary 4659
Her husband and family**

**Leon Hinkle
Candidate for
Department of Michigan
Department Chaplain
2011-2012**



**Endorsed and supported by:
Oakland County Council
VFW Post 9021
His family**

**Jennifer Smith
Candidate for
Department of Michigan
Department Chaplain
2011-2012**



**Endorsed and supported by:
VFW Post 701
Her family**





Matt David, Editor

Editorial Committee:

Lloyd Putman, Commander
Jack Pray, Sr. Vice Commander
Kirk Kennedy, Jr. Vice Commander
Matt David, Historian/MOV Editor
Marian Belaire, Aux. Committee Member

EDITORIAL POLICY

The mission of this paper is to strengthen the efficiency of the Veterans of Foreign Wars by providing timely, pertinent and accurate information about the decisions and activities of the VFW at the Post, District and Department level; the relevant affairs of the State and Federal governments, and the decisions and activities of the national organization of the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

The paper is also the voice of the members. We welcome articles from members. All articles should contribute positively to the welfare of the VFW and its members. We will accept no attacks on any member or leader of the VFW. We will accept a thoughtful discussion of all related issues in the letter column and reserve the right to reply to those that seem to reflect a misunderstanding of the VFW and its policies.

We ask that you keep your articles brief. We reserve the right to edit all articles. We look forward to hearing from you.

The news and opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Department of Michigan or the National Organization.

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www.agad.com

Taps

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924 North Washington
Lansing, MI 48906
(517) 485-9456

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(Last Name)

(First Name)

(Age)

(Date of Death)

(Post #)

(City)

Branch (Circle One):

USA USAAC USN
USMC USAF USCG

Served In (Circle One):

WWI WWII Korea
Vietnam Gulf Other

Occupation Forces

OUR COUNTRY IS IN MOURNING,
A VETERAN DIED TODAY



6-MARQUETTE

SMITH, ERNEST N. – 80 – USA/KOREA
WILLIAMS, WILLIAM G. – 93 – USA/WWII

140-DETROIT

CARR,GERALD – USA/WWII
MASTROGIOVANNI, A.E. – USAAF/WWII
MONACELLI, FRANK – USA/WWII

147-LIVONIA

CHAPMAN, GORDON – 86 – USA/WWII
CIARAMITARO, SALVATOR – 83 – USA/KOREA
PARVI, ROY R. – 84 – USA/WWII
RESTUM, WILLIAM – 79 – USA/WWII
SINIARSKI, MATTHEW – 90 – USA/WWII
YOUNG, DELBERT J. – 74 – USA/WWII

171-LIVONIA

DUERR, ROBERT D. – USA/WWII

345-REDFORD

BAILEY, BERT W. JR. – 89 – USA/WWII
FLETCHER, EDGAR B. – 92 – USAAF/WWII
HERBERT, JAMES D. – 88 – USA/WWII
JOHNSON, DAVID F. – 65 – USA/VIETNAM
MCKEAN, JOHN N. – 89 – USAAF/WWII
RYBSKI, ANTHONY F. – 87 – USN/WWII
THORNHILL, ROMEO E. – 87 – USAAF/WWII
VALENTINE, MERRILL J. – 85 – USN/WWII
WEAVER, MICHAEL H. – 61 – USA/KOREA
YORK, HOWARD A. – 60 – USMC/VIETNAM

446-MUSKEGON

ADAMS, OTTIWELL E. – 89 – USN/WWII
MARTINEZ, DAVID R. – 59 – USA/VIETNAM
MERRICK, DAVID – 60 – USA/VIETNAM
TAZELAAR, FRED G. – 77 – USAF/KOREA
VAN DYKE, NORMAN – 77 – USA/KOREA

565-BATTLE CREEK

BUNCICH, ELI – 85 – USA/WWII
SWEEN, CLARENCE J. – 81 – USA/KOREA

604-ROGERS CITY

WOJTASZEK, BERNARD J. – 80 – USA/KOREA

701-LANSING

ELIAS, JOSEPH J. – USA/WWII
GURRERO, FLOYD
HEBERT, DONALD A. – USN/VIETNAM
JACKSON, BERT W. – USCG/WWII
PETTIS, GLENN – USA/WWII
PULVER, BEN
SCHNABLE, JACK A. – WWII
STILLWELL, CLAYTON

1008-WATERFORD

SOSEBEE, BRUCE – 83 – USA/WWII

1075-HARRISON

BENNER, HOWARD J. – 61 – USA/VIETNAM
GRIFFIN, IRA G. – 84 – USA/WWII
HARPER, ROBERT C. – 91 – USAAF/WWII
KITCHNER, CHARLES A. – 79 – USA/KOREA
ROACH, RUSSEL – 88 – USA/WWII

1136-WYANDOTTE

ALTOBELLI, ROBERT – 89 – USA/WWII
DUCLO, RUSSELL C. – 91 – USAF/WWII
LEWINSKI, RAYMOND – 89 – USA/WWII
NEROWSKI, JOHN – 85 – USA/WWII

PERROTTA, ANTHONY R. – 79 – USA/KOREA

ROBERTSON, LAVERN G. – 88 – USA/WWII

ZAJAS, LEONARD – 87 – USA/WWII

1137-BENTON HARBOR

PETERSON, HILDING A. – 91 – USA/WWII
ROSINSKI, ALEXANDER B. – 81 – USA/KOREA
SNYDER, ORLEN E. JR. – 89 – USA/WWII
SPINK, WILLIAM M. – 66 – USA/VIETNAM
URCH, WALTER L. – 83 – USMC/WWII

1138-MONROE

JOHNSON, ERNEST – 86 – USN/WWII
PARLETTE, VERNON – 78 – USA/KOREA
PLOVIE, JAMES G. – 89 – USN/WWII
STEFANSKI, JOSEPH – 91 – USAAF/WWII
VANDENBERG, MARSHALL – 95 – USN/WWII

1146-ST. CLAIR SHORES

BARRETT, THOMAS H. – 61 – USA/VIETNAM
GROMEK, IRENE E. – 87 – USAF/KOREA
HETHERINGTON, RITA B. – 82 – USAF/KOREA
MCALEER, RONALD – 60 – USMC/VIETNAM
PERALTA, JEROME – 85 – USA/WWII
SALMONSEN, JOHN D. – 76 – USAF/KOREA
TURCHIN, ALBERT J. – 88 – USMC/WWII

1224-HAMBURG

BASYOLO, JOSEPH – 99 – USN/WWII
LEWIS, FRANK – 89 – USA/WWII
MARKOVICH, STEVE – USA/WWII
WILLIAMS, FREDRICK – 92 – USN/WWII

1278-DETROIT

SCHMIDT, LEONARD T. – 87 – USA/WWII
STEFANSKI, CASIMER J. – 92 – USA/WWII

1355-STURGIS

KRIEG, JOHN – 91 – USA/WWII
RINGLER, JOHN – 85 – USN/WWII
STIELAU, RONALD – 88 – USCG/WWII
WESSE, ARTHUR – 89 – USA/WWII
WRIGHT, DE FOREST – 88 – USN/WWII

1407-FERNDALE

WILLIAMS, JOHN B. – 84 – USA/KOREA

1452-CLIO

BOWNS, BERNARD J. – 86 – USA/WWII
KUSKY, DAVID A. – 60 – USA/VIETNAM

1454-ALMA

DETWILER, NED – 61 – USA/VIETNAM

1518-GAYLORD

STEINER, GLENN – 95 – USA/WWII

1519-LIVONIA

MORRISSEY, JOHN E. JR. – USA/WWII

1573-SAUGATUCK

FIGLEY, WILLIAM J. – 65 – USN/VIETNAM

1669-ROYAL OAK

DALLEY, RICHARD – 76 – USN/KOREA

1794-MT. CLEMENS

POSTL, JOSEPH – USA/KOREA

1855-DOWAGIAC

BUSH, TONY S. – 56 – USA
CLARK, GREGORY D. – 61 – USA/VIETNAM
PHILLIPSON, HERBERT E. – 84 – USA/WWII

SESTRIC, JOSEPH E. – 89 – USN/WWII

1887-MENOMINEE

CHALTRY, ALWIN J. – 91 – USA/WWII
JACOBSON, ORVILLE – USA/WWII
POROD, GEORG F. – 75 – USA/KOREA/VIETNAM

SIMONIC, JOHN J. JR. – 92 – USA/WWII

2053-WHITE CLOUD

CRUZAN, MARION E. – 96 – USA/WWII

FOWLER, BYRON R. – 96 – USA/WWII

2144-HOLLAND

ESSENBURG, JAMES – 91 – USN/WWII

MULDER, JAY W. – 91 – USA/WWII

2272-DURAND

COOK, HAROLD – USA/WWII

SEIBEL, GEORGE – KOREA

WOOD, CECIL – USN/WWII

YEAGER, EDWIN – 88 – USAF/WWII

2284-EDWARDSBURG

CASE, WILLIAM L. – 83 – USN/WWII
KULWICKI, DANIEL J. – 82 – USA/WWII

SANDERS, JACK F. – 85 – USN/WWII

2292-EDMORE

JENSEN, CURTIS – 85 – USN/WWII

2356-HILLMAN

HOOPER, PHILIP – 59 – USA/VIETNAM

2358-ROSEVILLE

SENKOW, STEVE – 83 – USA/WWII

2496-ALPENA

JENNINGS, BRADLEY – 69 – USA/VIETNAM
OLSEN, ERNEST – 88 – USA/WWII

SPLEET, DONALD A. – 82 – USA/KOREA

STROUD, JOHN W. – 77 – USA/KOREA

YACHASZ, KENNETH R. – 79 – USA/KOREA

2502-SOUTH LYON

HAHN, HUBERT J. – 66 – USMC/VIETNAM

2891-CRYSTAL FALLS

LIEN, RUSSELL A. – 91 – USA/WWII

PAROCHELLI, JULIUS D. – 88 – USAAF/WWII

2945-SANDUSKY

BABB, HAROLD – USA/WWII

2964-REED CITY

STULTS, PAUL A. – 90 – USA/WWII

3019-THREE RIVERS

RICE, ROBERT A. – 92 – USA/WWII

3023-GRAND RAPIDS

CZYZYK, EDWARD C. – 90 – USMC/WWII

MCPHERSON, ALEXANDER – USN/KOREA

3030-OTSEGO

BAUER, WILLIAM A.
ROBERTS, GLENN – USA/KOREA

TIMMONS, RALPH E.

3033-MT. PLEASANT

COLLINS, ROBERT J. – USA/KOREA
DECKER, WARREN L. – 70 – USA/KOREA

TAYLOR, WILLIAM L. – USA/KOREA

TICE, DONALD L. – 75 – USA/KOREA

3055-ST. LOUIS

LEPPEN, CLARENCE W. – 92 – USA/WWII

3102-THREE RIVERS

WRIGHT, DE FOREST – 89 – USN/WWII

3165-NEGUANEE

BROCK, CHARLES U. – 95 – USA/WWII
BURGESS, LEROY E. – 65 – USA/VIETNAM

DENOFRE, ALFRED F. SR. – 93 – USA/WWII

HOLM, WILLIAM J. – 84 – USA/KOREA

JOHNSON JAMES A. – 86 – USAAF/WWII

KELLNER, VERNON J. – 92 – USA/WWII

KIVISTO, RANDOLPH E. – 77 – USA/KOREA

KOLBUSZ, STANLEY M. – 88 – USA/WWII

KOPONEN, HENRY – 87 – USA/WWII

LAFRENIERE, RUDOLPH J. – 79 – USN/WWII

OGEA, PAUL J. – 89 – USA/WWII

QUAYLE, DOUGLAS W. – 85 – USA/WWII

RANTA, LESLIE J. – 87 – USA/WWII

ROSSWAY, MELVIN W. – 91 – USA/WWII

SAUL, KENNETH H. – 80 – USA/KOREA

SPELGATTI, ANTHONY L. – 84 – USN/WWII

STANAWAY, MERVYN – 84 – USAAF/WWII

TAMBLING, LEONARD J. – 88 – USA/WWII

WARMANEN, LEINO – 94 – USMC/WWII

3195-MUSKEGON

COOPER DAVID L. – 68 – USN

MCCARTHY, LAURENCE – 63 – USA/VIETNAM

NELLIS, GORDON A. – 90 – USAAF/WWII

RITTER, CHARLES H. – 84 – USA/KOREA

WIKANDER, FRANK E. – 95 – USN/WWII

3243-FENTON

ALVESTEFFER, LEO G. – WWII

COBB, LUTHER JR. – WWII

LANE, JESSE M.

MCCALLUM, JEFFREY M.

MIKEWORTH, GARY – VIETNAM

TAYLOR, HERMAN – WWII

3314-ARCADIA

MICHAEL, ROBERT A. – 85 – USMC/WWII

3323-WESTLAND

SCHAFFSTALL, WALTER B. – 96 – USN/WWII

SPEENER, CAMIEL – 89 – USA/WWII

TYKOSKI, ARTHUR Z. – 78 – USA/KOREA

3623-CHEBOYGAN

REYNOLDS, DELLMAR L. – 83 – USN/KOREA

WEBER, GLENN G. – 87 – USA/WWII

3673-BESSEMER

BRIA, JOSEPH C. – 92 – USA/WWII

FINGEROOS, ADOLPH – 87 – USA/WWII

VARDON, KEITH H. – 83 – USAAF/WWII

3676-SAULT STE MARIE

LA TOUR, EDWARD – 60 – USN/VIETNAM

3733-FOWLER

AVEY, BRUCE – 79 – USA/KOREA

SOMMERFELDT, GLEN – 87 – USMC/WWII

TRIERWEILER, GERALD – 79 – USA/KOREA

3735-OSCODA

LOPEZ, AUGUSTINE – 70 – USAF/VIETNAM

3753-PINCONNING

GERST, CHARLES – USN/WWII

3791-FLINT

SANDERS, HOSEA – 87 – USA/WWII

3900-CALUMET

MOILANEN, JOHN A. – 66 – USA/VIETNAM

OPLAND, PAUL – 78 – USN/KOREA

3941-LIVONIA

ZELLMAN, GEORGE R. – 66 – USN/VIETNAM

4034-HOUGHTON LAKE

ROCHON, CLARENCE – USN/VIETNAM

4037-TROY

SUPINA, PETER P. – 86 – USA/WWII

4054-MARCELLUS

QUINN, RICHARD – 87 – USN/WWII

4073-MARSHALL

MCNALLY, WARREN – 89 – USA/WWII

NOBBS, HENRY – 85 – USN/WWII/KOREA

4076-CHELSEA

BOYER, KEITH – 85 – USMC/WWII

MOLER, CHARLES R. – 87 – USAF/WWII/KOREA

WADHAM, WARREN – 85 – USA/WWII

4087-LAPEER

HEID, FLOYD R. – 89 – USA/WWII

KOWALEC, ALOYSIUS – 90 – USA/WWII

NICHOLAS, RAYMOND C. – 86 – USA/WWII

4090-PORTLAND

ERNEST, ROBERT – 74 – USAF/KOREA

POWELSON, SCOTT – 40 – USN/GULF

4115-SEBEWAING

BACH, THEODORE – 88 – USCG/WWII

MILLERWISE, GERALD – 85 – USAAF/WWII

4139-LAPEER

FARRINGTON, ROBERT JR. – 81 – USA/WWII

WILCOX, DAVID – 82 – USAAF

4159-ROSCOMMON

CARSON, HOWARD – 85 – USN

GERSTNER, DANIEL – 90 – USA

MYER, ALBERT – 86 – USN

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| 422-DELTON HANSEN, BETTY KRAMER, DIANA MORGAN, JANE, , PSALMONDS, BARBARA SHERIDAN, DOLORES 582-ORTONVILLE WISE, RUTH – 57 667-SOUTH HAVEN MAIN, SANDRA 1071-COLEMAN ALEXANDER, HILDA BILLS, REVA BOWMAN, EVA 1075-HARRISON DUMA, LIBBY HIGGINS, DORIS LUMBERT, MARILYN TOSTEUIA, ELLENOR 1136-WYANDOTTE MEEKER, DOROTHY 1137-BENTON HARBOR JENKINS, PATRICIA 1138-MONROE SMITH, THELMA 1153-CHARLEVOIX BURKE, MINNIE – 89 1407-FERNDALE KENNEY, RUTH ANN 1452-CLIO FORTNEY, PATSY FOSTER, SHARON – 81 REISIG, SANDRA 1584-ADRIAN FERGUSON, CHONA HOUTTEKIER, SUE MOWERY, FLORENCE 2052-ROMEO PAYNE, MONICA STEPHEN, IRMA 2233-DETROIT BARNES, BERTHA 2269-WIXOM DEATON, HELEN POTTER, CARMEL 2272-DURAND MACGILLIVRAY, MARGARET 2335-MECOSTA | LENON, ALMA – 91 2406-CHARLOTTE KNICKERBOCKER, RHODA MYERS, LUCILLE 2496-ALPENA BATES, IMOGENE – 90 2502-SOUTH LYON FULKNER, VIOLET GREGORY, HELEN 2777-BURTON ALEXANDER, HARRIET 2780-TRAVERSE CITY HANELL, AVIS LUCZEK, ELIZABETH THOMAS, SHIRLEY WILSON, JANET 2945-SANDUSKY GALLAGHER, ROSE – 81 JACOBI, LAURELIE 2964-REED CITY EVERITT, MARY ELIZABETH 3023-CRESTON BARNEY, LULA BUNKER, KATHERYN CROSS, GENEANE ENDRES, JOYCE KANOZA, PAULINE KRESE, HELEN MILLIS, DOROTHY MULLETT, ELAINE POPLAWSKI, EVELYN REDMANN, BEATRICE REEDTZ, VIRGINIA RUSSELL, ANN SCHUMAKER, DORIS SWIGER, NORINE WIER, MARGARET ZIMMERMAN, CATHERINE 3033-MT PLEASANT LOPER, JEAN – 85 OHMS, ROSIE – 98 3134-IRON RIVER DAHL, HOPE – 89 3165-NEGAUNEE BARKER, PHYLLIS KRATZ, MARIE ZEISH, EVELYN – 86 3243-FENTON | LEGAULT, VIRGINIA – 86 RYNEARSON, JANICE 3256-MONTAGUE HOLMES, LYNDA MOORE, DORIS 3306-HOWARD CITY LADANYI, JUNE 3323-WESTLAND BLEVINS, GLENNIS 3623-CHEBOYGAN MAJESTIC, ETHELYN 3644-CASS CITY SALAS, JULIA 3651-MIDLAND LORENZ, SHARON RATAJCZAK, VALERIE 3733-FOWLER JOHANNA, KRISTIN MILLS, ARNETIA SMITH, XENIA 3735-WEST BRANCH GLASS, NANCY MCCORMICK, ROCHELLE 3736-GRAYLING STODDARD, ANNA 4005-CORUNNA CONLEY, MARGARET DAVIS, DORIS GERISH, APRIL WILBER, DOROTHY 4087-DAVISON BEDORE, MILDRED – 89 BENNETT, JUNE – 74 ROBINSON, WILMA SKELLENGER, FRANCES SNOW, IRENE WILLIAMS, HELEN – 68 4090-PORTLAND CHARTRAND, CATHERINE 4102-PARIS DIEHM, HELEN 4115-SEBEWAING HINES, HAZEL – 94 4156-WHITE LAKE GRINKO, MARY KIKOS, MADELINE REVAIT, PATRICIA SEILS, MARY | 4187-TECUMSEH AEBERSOLD, HELEN – 78 DAWDY, HAZEL – 90 4230-ROCKWOOD TISHKOF, BRENDA – 58 4420-MANISTIQUE COTA, JOY EDWARDS, AGNES WEBER, FRANCES 4461-LAKE ODESSA BOWEN, JOAN MCCARTY, AGNES 4644-DEARBORN HEIGHTS JOHNSON, DIANE SENYSZYN, FLORENCE 4659-SHELBY TWP PHIPPS, DIANE SZCZODROWSKI, LELA WITMER, DONNA 5065-SHERIDAN BUSH, LILA DICKINSON, BARBARA – 75 DOOLITTLE, ESTHER JOHNSTON, CELIA – 79 KOUTZ, LINDA – 60 POLLOCK, RUTH – 62 RAAB, WANDA – 78 VOORHEIS, MARGARET – 85 5096-CUSTER BAYLE, MILDRED – 92 LUND, VIRGINIA – 86 5315-BALDWIN LEIST, SANDRA MILLER, CLARA PING, SHIRLEY 5602-SIX LAKES SEAT, KATHRYN 5670-GWINN FORESS, VIRGINIA 5738-CLARE AUBE, JOAN BLEISE, ALBERTA COUNCELL, PATRICIA 5740-PARISVILLE OSENTOSKI, FRANCES – 84 5855-PORTAGE WATSON, AUDREY 5857-ONAWAY | BADGERO, JANET 6165-SOUTH RANGE CHOPP, ANN – 85 HEIKKILA, HELMI 6248-DECATUR LEFFLER, ANNE 6464-FOWLerville SIMPSON, LORNA 6507-CHASSELL MAKI, BERNICE SCHAAF, LINDA THORNTON, SHIRLEY 6754-SPRUCE KUBBE, OTTILIE – 77 7303-GLADWIN KINTNER, VIVIAN 7435-HALE SIMONDS, JOANANN 7546-DEARBORN HEIGHTS MERREN, MOURINE – 94 7575-GARDEN CITY SCRUGGS, RUTH 7581-WAYLAND BUSH, BARBARA PITSCH, FRANCES 8260-NASHVILLE HESS, CATHERINE KENFIELD, ANNA 8275-AUGRES MCGIVERN, MARY – 89 8372-ENGADINE FISHER, ELSIE 9021-WARREN MIELKE, ELIZABETH YATES, AUDREY 9023-BRIMLEY MARA, ROSEMARIE 9084-WAKEFIELD RATTE, MILDRED 9507-MADISON HEIGHTS DUNN, QUEENOLA 9809-SAGINAW SUMPTION, JULIE NUNNERY, ROBERTA – 87 15023-AT LARGE MARSHALL, SARAH STRATYCHUK, IRENE |
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| 4162-HAMTRAMCK BIELECKI, SIGMOND – 88 – USA/WWII CHMIELEWSKI, DANIEL J. – 77 – USA FEDRUK, JOHN M. – 82 – USA/WWII 4164-CARO LASIEWICKI, ANTHONY – 83 – USN/KOREA TERBUSH, WILLARD – 80 – USA/KOREA 4361-MAYBEE GASPER, GEORGE – 91 – USA/WWII GEIMAN, DONALD – USA/WWII GOTHA, JOHN – WWII LIEDEL, THOMAS – 86 – WWII 4420-MANISTIQUE HEINZ, GERALD – 77 – USAF/KOREA VAUGHAN, RICHARD – 80 – USAF 4422-TAYLOR BOVAIR, JOHN – 87 – USA/WWII 4461-LAKE ODESSA BLAIR, HARLAND – 89 – USA/WWII MCDOWELL, DONALD – 82 – USA/WWII MEYERS, WESLEY – 89 – USN/WWII SMITH, DAVID – 82 – USN/WWII 4499-MANISTEE DRUMM, LEO – 87 – USMC/WWII HUGHES, EDWIN P. – 91 – USA/WWII ROGERS, ROBERT E. – 85 – USN/WWII 4533-DETROIT ZAJAC, BERNARD – USA/WWII JARVEY, DENNIS – 63 – USA/VIETNAM LESNIAK, STANLEY – USA/WWII 4573-ISHPEMING MOODY, JAMES L. – 86 – USA/WWII 4642 – LINDEN BETCHER, RAY – 88 – USAF/WWII 5065-SHERIDAN BRAMAN, KENNETH A. – 82 – USN | CHAPIN, DALE W. – 85 – USA/WWII ROBBINS, RUSSELL – 87 – USA/WWII SISLER, KENNETH A. – 81 – USA/KOREA WALDRON, WELK – 80 – USA/KOREA 5096-CUSTER LUND, LOUIS M. – 94 – USA/WWII 5114-ST. IGNACE GAMBLE, JAMES – 85 – USA/WWII 5572-ALLEN PARK HAWTHORNE, WALLACE – 95 – USA/WWII LUKAS, STEPHEN – 88 – USA/WWII REVOIR, NORMAN A. – 82 – USN/WWII 5598-COOPERSVILLE LEWIS, WILMONT B. – 88 – USA/WWII 5600-ONTONAGON HEBERT, ROBERT – 90 – USA/WWII 5602-SIX LAKES MOFFETT, RICKY – 60 – USA/VIETNAM 5670-GWINN DE MARINIS, NICHOLAS P. – 82 – USA/WWII FREEMAN, RICHARD I. – 76 – USAF/VIETNAM HEFTY, FLOYD B. – 91 – USA/WWII TESSARO, JOHN A. – 73 – USAF/VIETNAM 5822-BYRON ASH, JAMES R. – 64 – USMC/VIETNAM 5855-PORTAGE GILBRAITH, LEE A. – 85 – USA/WWII MCCROREY, HARRY J. – 79 – USMC/KOREA 6013-ELKTON ROSENTHAL, WALTER – 95 – USA/WWII 6248-DECATUR HOWELL, ESLIE E. – 88 – USA/WWII 6250-STERLING HEIGHTS CALKA, BERNARD – 83 – USA/WWII 6252-COMSTOCK | GUESS, MELVIN – 81 – USAF/WWII 6695-PLYMOUTH BLEVINS, DONALD – 92 – USAAF/WWII 6754-SPRUCE HUGGLER, MILTON – 84 – USA/WWII 6756-CENTER LINE GERMAIN , CECIL – 91 – USN/WWII KERSCHENHEITER, JOHN – 60 – USMC/VIETNAM SCHMID, CARL – 63 – USMC/VIETNAM 6864-CADILLAC WILLIAMS, LOREN E. – 78 – USA/KOREA 6896-WESTLAND CAPERS, DOUGLAS – USA/WWII CHOLEWA, HENRY F. – USA/WWII DIAZ, ANGEL O. – USA/WWII DZIENGOWSKI, JOHN O. – USA/WWII FOREIT, BRUCE W. – USA/WWII FREDRICK, PATRICK F. – USA/WWII GOLENIAK, STANLEY P. – USA/WWII GREINER, GARY S. – USA/WWII ROMANOWSKI, EDWARD A. – USA/WWII SMIATCZ, CHESTER – USA/WWII WALEGA, EUGENE A. – USAF/KOREA 6985-CENTRAL LAKE THOMPSON, CHARLES I. JR. – 81 – USA/WWII 7302-HEMLOCK GILBERT, FREDERIC – 60 – USA/VIETNAM SMITH, PAUL – USA/WWII 7806-MANTON WESTON, NATHAN A. – 88 – USA/WWII 7979-EVART MARSH, JOSEPH C. SR. – 80 – USA/KOREA 8135-BARTON CITY BASSELMAN, JAMES – 87 – USA/WWII 8275-AU GRES MECOMBER, JOHN A. – 88 – USA/WWII | 8372-ENGADINE SAINIO, EINO – 88 – USA/WWII SCHROEDER, THEODORE – 92 – USA/WWII 8465-PORT HURON BLOOMFIELD, KEITH – 81 – WWII GLOVER, PAUL – 85 – USN/WWII GRACE, EDWARD – 84 – USN/WWII STOVER, HAROLD – 84 – USMC/WWII/KOREA TOLLANDER, ROY – 83 – USA/WWII 8846-MUSKEGON LINDSTROM, ROBERT J. – 77 – USA 8872-PORT SANILAC CUMPER, FRANK – USA/WWII KLEBBA, ED – WWII NICHOL, LELAND – 93 – USA/WWII 9084-WAKEFIELD PEZZETTI, JAMES C. – 78 – USA/KOREA 9293-EASTPOINTE BAKER, ROBERT E. – 85 – USAAF/WWII 9489-ATLANTA TEETS, BUD – USA/WWII 9656-LAMBERTVILLE KRAFT, ROBERT J. – USN/WWII QUELLETTE, DUANE – 77 – USA/KOREA SOSS, FRANK SR. – USN/WWII 9973-DEARBORN HEIGHTS QUIGLEY, HAROLD – 83 – USA/KOREA 10194-GRASS LAKE MCCONNELL, ROBERT A. – 93 – USAF/WWII WARREN, FRED C. – 91 – USN/WWII 10884-MAYVILLE TOMPKINS, JACK C. – 85 – USA/WWII WAGGONER, DONALD – 85 – USMC/WWII WARREN, RONALD C. – 71 – VIETNAM |
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2011 Michigan State Veterans of Foreign Wars State Bowling Tournament Rules

Department of Michigan Veterans of Foreign Wars
Sanctioned by United States Bowling Congress
April 9-10 and April 16-17, 2011

Entry Fees (Per Person, Per Event)

| | |
|-----------------------|---------|
| Prize Fee | \$8.00 |
| Bowling Fee | \$9.00 |
| Expense Fee | \$3.00 |
| TOTAL | \$20.00 |
| All Events (Optional) | \$3.00 |

Entries close March 18, 2011.



Your Host:
Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 7309
1243 Hull Road, Mason, MI 48854
517-676-3181

City Limits Bowling Center
801 North Cedar Street, Mason, MI 48854
517-676-2476

Mail Entries to:
Scott E. Schaberg
4543 West Holt Road, Holt, MI 48842
517-488-4759



Team Name _____

| Bowler Name | USBC # Hi-Avg. |
|-------------|----------------|
| 1 | _____ |
| 2 | _____ |
| 3 | _____ |
| 4 | _____ |
| 5 | _____ |

Please list bowlers in order they will be bowling in tournament.
Positions will not be changed.

Singles & Doubles Events

Both minor events must be entered if you bowl either singles or doubles.
A/E

| (circle one) | Bowler Name | USBC # Hi-Avg. |
|--------------|-------------|----------------|
| Yes/No | _____ | _____ |
| Yes/No | _____ | _____ |
| Yes/No | _____ | _____ |
| Yes/No | _____ | _____ |
| Yes/No | _____ | _____ |
| Yes/No | _____ | _____ |

Entry Fee Calculations

| Qty. | Event | Cost Total | Qty. | Event | Cost Total |
|------|---------|------------|------|---------|------------|
| | Team | @ \$100.00 | | Singles | @ \$20.00 |
| | Doubles | @ \$40.00 | | A/E | @ \$3.00 |

Total Fees:

*All money due must accompany form.
Must be paid by check or money order made out to:
"VFW State Bowling Tournament"*

I hereby certify all information, including averages, is accurate,
and I have familiarized myself and teammates with the rules.

Captain _____

Mailing Address _____

City, State, Zip Code _____

VFW Post Number _____

Phone #/Alternate Phone # _____

Please select your preferred bowling dates:

Team Event

- ☐ April 10, 2011 at 12 Noon
☐ April 17, 2011 at 12 Noon

Doubles & Singles

- ☐ April 9, 2011 at 12 Noon
☐ April 16, 2011 at 12 Noon

- Open to all veterans, active duty members of the U.S. Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, Coast Guard, or any acceptable VFW Auxiliary Affiliates.
- Each entrant's highest 2009-2010 book average based on 21 games or more shall be used. If no 2009-2010 average is available, bowlers may use their highest current 2010 season average of 21 or more games. It is each bowler's individual responsibility to verify his or her own average. Bowl.com will be used to verify averages. Please make sure your sanction number is correct and legible.
If a check on verification shows an average higher than what was reported, the bowler will be disqualified and forfeit all entry fees and prizes won. If a bowler reports an average higher than their actual average, the reported average will stand. If a bowler does not have an average using the above rules, they may bowl in the tournament using the scratch basis score of 220.
- U.S.B.C. Rule 3 19a-2 is in effect (The 10 pin over rule). Any bowler whose current 2010-2011 average is 10 pins or more higher than their 2009-2010 book average, must use their current season's average while bowling in this tournament.
- Handicap in this tournament shall be 90% of the difference between a bowler's average and tournament's scratch basis score of 220.
- All prize fees will be returned 100%.
- Trophies shall be awarded to the winners in each handicap event only. All prizes will be awarded on a handicap basis only. There are no awards for scratch scores.
- Multiple participation shall be allowed as follows:
 - No more than three bowlers on the same team may compete more than once in the team event. You must change at least two bowlers on a team

- Entrants bowling doubles must bowl singles. Anyone who wishes to bowl the doubles event more than once, may do so provided they change partners.
- Your All-Events score will consist of your score the FIRST time you bowl in each event.
- You may cash more than once in the TEAM AND DOUBLES EVENTS ONLY. You may cash only once in Singles and All-Events.
- Substitutions must be reported to the tournament director, prior to the start of bowling in your squad.
- Bowlers who have tournament winnings exceeding \$600.00 during the 2009-2010 season, must report those winnings before bowling in the tournament. See U.S.B.C. Rule 319d for clarification.
- Any rules that are not covered concerning the conduct of this tournament shall be governed by the rules of the United States Bowling Congress or the Bylaws of the Veterans of Foreign Wars.
- Entrants who are not members of the U.S.B.C. may purchase unattached membership cards for \$17.00, prior to competing in the tournament.

Address all correspondence to:

Scott E. Schaberg
4543 West Holt Road
Holt, MI 48842
Phone: 517-488-4759

The undersigned certifies that the bowlers listed on the entry form are bonafide veterans, active duty members of the U.S. Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, Coast Guard, or any acceptable Auxiliary Affiliates.

Quartermaster or Commander

Department of Michigan VFW and the Ladies Auxiliary and Men's Auxiliary

92nd Department Convention Ad Book Comrades/Sisters – We need your support!

DEADLINE – APRIL 11, 2011

RATES:

Full Page \$100.00
1/2 Page \$75.00
1/4 Page \$50.00

Patron (Name and Post or Auxiliary Number Only) \$10.00

PLEASE PRINT – DO NOT WRITE

Make checks payable to:
Department of Michigan VFW
(NO CASH)

Mail to:
Matt David
10 Elder Street
Ypsilanti, MI 48197

Deadline for All Ads is April 11, 2011.

MESSAGE: _____

Camp Trotter for Children Fourth Annual Charity Golf Outing Sponsored by Dept. of Michigan VFW



Camp Trotter for Children
PSC Ernie Meyers, Sr.
925 Forest Street
Charlotte, MI 48813-1264

Dear Supporter:

The Camp Trotter for Children is holding its Fourth Annual Charity Golf Outing, Friday, May 20, 2011 at Village Green Golf Course located in Newaygo, Michigan and sponsored by the Department of Michigan Veterans of Foreign Wars. To be a huge success, this Charity Golf Outing needs your support.

We do hope you will consider supporting this fundraiser for the VFW Camp Trotter for Children. Camp Trotter for Children was established for children ages 7 through 12. Camp Trotter is located on beautiful Bills Lake in Newaygo County. The Camping Season runs from 10 July through 13 August 2011. Donations from supporters like you make our event one that everyone wants to attend year after year.

Donation Opportunities:

•Sponsor a hole or tee box. Because of

the popularity of sponsoring holes and tees, we are recognizing those individuals, Corporations or Groups with the appropriate sign on the tee or hole. (\$55.00 minimum donation)

•Sponsor a Team. \$60/person or \$240.00 per foursome.

•Donate a product or gift certificate that can be used as a raffle prize or a door prize.

•Make a monetary donation.

The proceeds from this year's Charity Golf Outing will be used for the maintenance update of the many cottages and support facilities of the VFW Camp Trotter for Children. Drop by and see some of your money at work with a major renovation that's already taken place. Go online with the Internet at www.vfwmi.org and click "Camp Trotter" on the bottom of the Home Page, and check out your Camp Trotter for the latest pictures of the renovations that have taken place.

Thank you for supporting our children's camp and making this veterans site one to be proud of for years to come.

Ernie Meyers, Sr.

Project Director

E-mail: emeyers76@att.net

Phone: 1-517-543-0014

Annabelle Furgason

Assistant Project Director

E-mail: Bittersweetgolf@gmail.com

Phone: 1-231-834-9376

Donations to the VFW Camp Trotter for Children are tax-deductible under section 501c (19) of the Internal Revenue Code.

Camp Trotter for Children Fourth Annual Charity Golf Outing Sponsored by Department of Michigan Veterans of Foreign Wars

Friday, May 20, 2011

8:00 a.m. – Registration

9:00 a.m. – Shotgun Start

Village Green Golf Course

8130 Bingham Avenue, Newaygo, MI 49337

Phone: 231-652-6513

Cost \$60.00 Per Person/\$240.00 Per Team Includes:

*18 Holes with cart

* Lunch at the Turn

* Grilled Steak Dinner

*4 person scramble

* Team Placement Prizes

* Door Prizes

Golf Entry Form

This entry form must be returned with registration fees by May 13, 2011.

Captain's name: _____ Phone # _____

Address: _____

Player #2 Name: _____

Player #3 Name: _____

Player #4 Name: _____

Hole/Tee Sponsor \$55 _____ Cash Donation \$ _____

☐ I am able to donate products or gift certificates. Please contact me.

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____

Check payable to: Camp Trotter for Children

Mail to: PSC Ernie Meyers, Sr.

925 Forest Street, Charlotte, MI 48813-1264

Questions?

Call Ernie Meyers, Sr. at 517-490-1221 or e-mail: emeyers76@att.net

OR Annabelle Furgason at 231-834-9376 or e-mail: Bittersweetgolf@gmail.com

Donations to the VFW Camp Trotter for Children are tax-deductible under section 501c (19) of the IRS Code.

State Inspector George "Rick" Zellman Passes



George Richard "Rick" Zellman, Sr., who left us at 8:45 a.m. Sunday, December 26, 2010 to steer a course for ports unknown, have a safe passage. Anchors aweigh, Sailor.

Rick was born January 3, 1944 in Detroit, to George and Jeanne Zellman. He graduated from Redford High School and joined the Navy in 1962, serving on the USS Independence. He received an honorable discharge in 1964.

From 1969 to 1996, he was employed by the City of Livonia Police Department and at the time of his retirement, he was assigned to the Patrol and Traffic Bureau.

He joined the VFW in 1978 and belonged to the Livonia Post 3941. This last year, he was Department Inspector, District 4th Quartermaster, Post 3941

Quartermaster-Adjutant and Chairman of the 4th District Pool League. He was also a past All-State Post Commander. He and wife, Dianne, enjoyed boating and fishing in the summer and finding warm places in the winter.

He leaves his wife, Dianne; sons George (Rick), Jr. and Scott Zellman; David (Denise) and Dennis Robison; grandsons Jacob and Colton Robison; brothers, Bob (Cheryl), Tom (Sue) and Mark (Patty). He will miss his three wonderful and wacky nephews and a niece, a great niece and nephew, his one remaining aunt, Evelyn, and numerous cousins.

He also has four furry animal companions who are grieving him. In keeping with his wishes, cremation will take place. Rupp Funeral Home, Monroe assisted the family. Family and friends were invited to share memories from 11 to 5 Sunday, January 9, 2011 at the Romulus VFW Post 9568, 39270 Huron River Drive, Romulus, Michigan. There was a combined memorial ritual with the VFW Department of Michigan, District 4 and Livonia Police Department at 12 Noon, followed by a luncheon and a lot of fellowship.

Go softly into that good night, darling. I love you. Online condolences may be sent through www.ruppfuneralhomeinc.com

Dedication on Utah Beach and Iceland Stopover are Highlights of 2011 WWII Tours

WWII veteran-VFW Life Member Dr. Brooks Ranney and wife, Vi, from Yankton, South Dakota will again be escorting three WWII tours to Europe in 2011. With departures in June, July and August, all tours feature Paris, the Beaches of Normandy, Reims, Patton's Grave, Battle of the Bulge area, Remagen Bridge and a Rhine River Cruise.

Heidelberg, Hitler's Eagles Nest,

Dachau Concentration Camp and a stopover with sightseeing in Iceland are unique to the August tour.

The June departure includes the many activities planned for the 67th anniversary of D-Day, where our WWII veterans are honored at all special ceremonies, including the dedication of the new museum on Utah Beach. Call the Ranneys at 605-665-3596 for a brochure.

Student Vets Out "Fake" Colonel

Last fall, student veterans attending Middlebury College's Monterey Institute for International Studies in California challenged the credentials of their instructor, William Hillar, who claimed to be a retired Special Forces colonel trained in tactical counter-terrorism, psychological warfare and emergency medicine, with service in Asia, the Middle East and South America.

They said Hillar, 66, did not exhibit the mannerisms of a high-ranking Army

officer. On Tuesday, FBI agents arrested Hillar at his Millersville, Maryland, home following the completion of a fraud investigation. DoD says Hillar's only military experience was in the Coast Guard from 1962-70.

Read more about it in the University of Oregon Daily Emerald student newspaper at <http://www.dailyemerald.com/news/fbi-arrests-former-oregon-adjunct-instructor-for-fraud-1.1917280>



MICHIGAN OVERSEAS VETERAN



• *Reporting your positive impact on the Michigan community* •
January/February/March 2011
Volume 78 Number 3

District Meetings

- District 4:**
May 7 Post 7546-Westland, 12 Noon
- District 5:**
April 30, 2011, Post 4156-White Lake (no time specified)
- District 6:**
March 19, 2011, Post 701-Lansing, 1:00 p.m.
May 7, 2011, Post 9656-Lambertville, 1:00 p.m.
- District 7:**
May 1 Post 6248-Decatur, 11:00 a.m.
- District 8:**
May 7 Post 7581-Wayland (no time specified)
- District 9:**
May 1 Post 5065-Sheridan (no time specified)
- District 10:**
May 15, 2011, Post 3087-Flint (no time specified)
- District 11:**
- District 12:**
March 13, 2011, Post 2964-Reed City, 1:00 p.m.
May 15, 2011, Post 4499-Manistee, 1:00 p.m.
- District 13:**
May 7, 2011, Post 2780-Traverse City, 9:00 a.m.
- District 14:**
April 29 – May 1, 2011, District 14 Convention, Post 4420, Manistique (no time specified)
- District 15:**
April 29 – May 1, 2011, District 15 Convention, Michigan National Guard Armory, Calumet, 9:30 a.m.

Coming Events 2011

- April 15-17**
Department Commander/President Testimonial
DoubleTree Hotel - Bay City All
- April 29-May 1**
District 14 Convention, Post 4420-Manistique (1st Putman, 2nd Pray, 3rd Kennedy) Hutson
- April 29-May 1**
District 15 Convention, Michigan National Guard Armory-Calumet, 9:30 a.m.
(1st Putman, 2nd Kennedy, 3rd Pray) Putman
- April 30**
District 5 Meeting, Post 4156-White Lake: Klee
- April 30**
Loyalty Day Banquet, Post 5065-Sheridan, 6:00 p.m. (1st Tester, 2nd Amend, 3rd McIvor) Amend
- April 30**
State Pool League Banquet, Post 552-Lincoln Park (Requesting Kennedy)
Van Hauter
- April 30**
Loyalty Day Parade/Dinner, Post 3724-Standish, 11:00 a.m. (1st Putman, 2nd Kennedy) Lehner
- April 30**
2011-2012 Department Planning Meeting, Department Headquarters-Lansing: All
- May 1**
District 7 Meeting, Post 6248-Decatur, 11:00 a.m.: Weiss
- May 1**
District 9 Meeting, Post 5065-Sheridan: Pray
- May 7**
District 4 Meeting, Post 7546-Westland, 12 Noon: Milewski
- May 7**
District 6 Meeting, Post 9656-Lambertville, 10:00 a.m.
(Requesting Pray)Kennedy
- May 7**
District 8 Meeting, Post 7581-Wayland Putman



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- May 7**
District 13 Meeting, Post 2780-Traverse City, 9:00 a.m.
(Requesting Pray) Weiss
May 15
District 12 Meeting, Post 4499-Manistee, 11:30 a.m. (1st Kennedy, 2nd Pray, 3rd Putman) Pray
May 15
District 10 Meeting, Post 3087-Flint: McIvor
June 8-12
Department Convention, Marriott Hotel-Troy: All

STATE COMMANDER

Comrades, Sisters and Brothers:

I am hoping everyone had a great Christmas and all are having a great New Year, so far. Hope everyone enjoyed the Mid-Winter Conference; congratulations to all the Voice of Democracy, Patriot's Pen, Teacher of the year participants – you are all winners in my book. Our year will be half over by the time you read this, but we still have some work to do. We are at 91.80% membership as of this writing, still quite a ways from 100%, comrades. One person cannot do it alone; it takes an entire team, and the team needs all your help to achieve this goal.

Congratulations to the following additional Posts for achieving 100% already this year: 1888 City of Trenton, Trenton; 2233 James Europe, Detroit; 7310 Gen William S. Knudsen, Grosse Ile; 9568 Romulus, Romulus; 4156 Oxbow, White Lake Twp.; 5587Hulet-Bravender, Holly; 6691 Fraser, Fraser; 9507 Giles-Everingham, Madison Hgts.; 3925 Erie, Erie; 3943 Donald M Squier, Newport; 4076 Chelsea, Chelsea; 5977 George A Falk, Milan; 6056 Adams-Rockey, Springport; 9656 Lambertville, Lambertville; 6803 Watervliet, Watervliet; 422 Delton Memorial, Delton; 702 Wyoming-Grandville, Wyoming; 1527 Red Arrow, Kalamazoo; 3293 Grand Ledge, Grand Ledge; 6821 Leon B. Buer, Grand Rapids; 3306 Renner-Lobker, Howard City; 7542 Birch Run, Birch Run; 12082 David A Huhn, Ionia; 2777 Burton-Clark-Durocher, Burton; 3791 George Washington Carver, Flint; 3901 Fred Quandt, Algonac; 6965 Zurek-Graham, Ubly; 1071 Coleman, Coleman; 6466 Alcona County, Harrisville; 2053 White Cloud, White Cloud; 6864 Cadillac, Cadillac; 10770 Pine River Area, Le Roy; 7804 South Presque Isle, Posen; 9023 Messer-McGahey-Routhier, Brimley; and 3673 County Seat, Bessemer. These are in addition to the 10 Posts I listed in the last MOV. I'm amazed at the number of Posts that are only a few away from 100%, so I look forward to a lot more 100% Posts. Keep recruiting the new and rein-states and work extra hard on the ones already in, that haven't paid their dues yet this year. You may have to get a list of the unpaid and go knocking on doors; sometimes they just want that personal attention.

Congratulations to the District Commanders for doing a good job so far this year, but we have a long way to go, so continue getting out there. The District membership is



Lloyd Putman II
State Commander

ahead of last year, but still has a way to go. As of this date, the 6th District is leading with 92.48%, 14th District is tied with the 8th District with 92.37%, followed by the 7th with 92.33%, then the 4th with 92.26%, the 10th with 92.23%, the 15th with 92.20%, the 9th with 91.78%, the 11th with 91.41%, the 13th with 91.33%, the 12th with 91.02%, and the 5th with 90.65%. Good work, but we are not close yet. You can see there has been a change in the leaders, but everyone is still close; so, keep up the good work.

As everyone who has talked to me knows I am a member-ship person; without the members, we will be an extinct organization without the ability to help our veterans and families. I know the membership of this organization will not allow that to happen. I, along with Jack Pray and Kirk Kennedy, went down to Detroit Metro Airport January 4, 2011 visiting troops at the Delta Lounge that is set up for military families passing through this past holiday season. We met a lot of ACTIVE Duty members and dependents, we enjoyed our time talking to people, and I'm sure they enjoyed our being there. We all know the members are out there for Posts around the State. It is our job to get out there and find them. I have a great membership team in place; so if you need assistance, please call them. One person cannot do it all, but all of us together can. I'm still working on another incentive for the membership program. I'm waiting on National to let me know if I can announce this; however, at this time, I'm not at liberty to discuss it. So stay tuned and work on recruiting and making our organization stronger.

All of the other programs are an integral part of this organization, and we will still continue to keep them at the forefront. Read your programs and keep working. I know that with your help this Department can return to the higher standards we once enjoyed. Make sure you report all the things you do and get the community involved in our great work.

Remember to “HONOR THE DEAD BY HELPING THE LIVING.”