

# MICHIGAN OVERSEAS VETERAN



• Reporting your positive impact on the Michigan community •

October/November/December 2010

Volume 78 Number 2



## SENIOR VICE COMMANDER

Comrades, brothers, sisters and families,

I will start by wishing all of you a happy and safe holiday season and I truly wish everyone will give thanks for what you have done and

what you do for others. I know that many of our members take the time to serve others in our communities and care deeply about people and ways to help and assist.

The National VFW has started a program called "She Serves." The program is aimed at female veterans of all conflicts and has been around since November 2008. Women veterans interested in the VFW membership need only go to [www.joinsheserves.org](http://www.joinsheserves.org) to meet current members who can help them through the process.

State Commander, Lloyd Putman II, has set his membership goal of 100% by December 31, 2010. Do your part and recruit a new or reinstated member today. Remember, if we are going to move forward, we need to contact all these young veterans from our great state and explain what we do. We are so much more than a bar or canteen.

Our Veteran Service Officers and Veterans Advocates bring millions of dollars back to our state in the form of veterans compensation from the VA. This year alone, \$66 million has been recovered and much of that money is spent right

**Jack Pray**  
Senior  
Vice Commander



here in Michigan.

Community Service, where millions of hours are donated to a large number of communities around the state, volunteer hours at Veterans homes and VA hospitals, youth programs, Voice of Democracy, Patriot's Pen, Scout of the Year and Teacher of the Year are some of the programs. All of these programs should be used to bring new members into our organization.

Don't forget about the members that have stopped paying their dues. A reinstated member is just as important as a new member and many of them are much easier to find, but we have to make contact with them and try to get them back.

I take this time to congratulate PSC Richard Lehner on his election to the office of Big Ten Vice Chairman at the Big Ten Conference held in Columbus, Ohio in October 2010. We know that Richard is very dedicated to our organization and will do what it takes to get the job done right.

I look forward to seeing all of you at our Mid-Winter Conference in January 2011.

## JUNIOR VICE COMMANDER

Comrades, Sisters and Brothers,

The first half of our year is coming to an end and we should be taking a serious look at our membership numbers. We all know how important membership is to the organization. All the Posts in the state ask the same questions each and every year. They ask how do we get our membership levels to 100%? How can we get the younger veterans to join and how do we retain them in the following years? Well, there is nothing easy about recruiting. The first thing to do is to meet veterans. They are all over the state, but to find them in large groups you really need to go to our National Guard or Reserve units. Once you get connected to these groups, half the battle is over. The programs and our efforts to assist veterans is usually enough to persuade people to join our ranks.

I have noticed lately that our membership team has been out and about the state attending different functions put on by organizations that support our National Guard units. These efforts have produced some good results in gaining membership. One thing that I have observed is that potential recruits seem to be more open to joining, if the recruiter is closer in age to them. It just makes sense that they feel more at ease

**Kirk Kennedy**  
Junior  
Vice Commander



with someone their own age. If we do not make an effort to contact these veterans in a meaningful way, and present to them the best we have to offer, we can be sure that this organization will become a collection of Vietnam veterans only. We cannot exist if this happens. Our membership team is there for all our Posts to help recruit new members. Please use them to your advantage.

Looking ahead to upcoming events, we have our Voice of Democracy and Patriot's Pen essays culminating in January with the banquet and awards ceremony. I would like to wish all of the students good luck in their endeavors. Also the All-State program must be completed by April 30th, so keep this date in mind if you are attempting to acquire a white hat. REMEMBER: SERVICE, HONOR, COUNTRY.

## Commander in Chief's Message about the VFW-PAC

Dear Comrades:

As you know, in light of the VFW-PAC endorsements I, along with my leadership team, clearly expressed our deepest concerns to the PAC regarding the negative impact its recent endorsements were having on the organization. We expressed our grave concerns relating to the selection process that, in our opinion, were unintentionally biased toward the incumbent and as a result, patently unfair.

Although the VFW PAC Board of Directors was aware of the magnitude of outrage their decision process had produced among VFW members and supporters, they failed to acknowledge the urgings made by VFW leadership and disregarded the request to rescind all current political endorsements.

In the end, the process and decisions made by PAC failed to represent the best interests of VFW members. The decisions of a relative few have significantly failed the organization and could ultimately hinder the ability of the VFW to fulfill its mandate of service to our nations' veterans, service members and their families.

For many generations, the VFW and its many missions of service have withstood the sands of time. What our members have accomplished for so many years for many people has never been predicated upon loyalty to any political party, persuasion or philosophy. The

VFW does not, and will not, enter the political arena nor embroil itself in partisanship by providing endorsements for political candidates.

Consequently, I have expeditiously moved forward during this critical juncture and have taken significant steps to correct the negative impact this situation is having on the Veterans of Foreign Wars and to regain the trust of our loyal members and supporters. As Commander-in-Chief, I propose to offer a resolution to amend the Bylaws at the 112th National Convention for the purpose of dissolving the PAC. Meanwhile, under the authority granted to me as Commander-in-Chief in section 619 of the VFW National Bylaws and under section 620 of the Manual of Procedure, I have withdrawn all PAC appointments effective October 15, 2010, thus effectively rendering the PAC inoperable.

The VFW-PAC was created by VFW members, and not by VFW national leaders. This is exercised through the VFW Convention as the governing body of the organization. As such, it is only the delegates at the Convention that can determine the continued existence of the PAC.

Sincerely,  
**Richard Eubank**  
VFW National Commander



## Michigan Department Chaplain Elmer Liimatta Elected VFW National Chaplain

At the VFW's 111th National Convention, Michigan Department Chaplain, Rev. Elmer Liimatta, was elected VFW National Chaplain. Congratulations, Rev. Liimatta.







## CHAPLAIN

During this summer, it has been my privilege to travel for the VFW to Indianapolis and Reno for meetings. During this time, I have been able to meet many Veterans along the way. Some at the VA Hospitals, at parks, rest areas, loading docks, and even McDonald's parking lots.

Everyone's journey is interesting. Some who are almost homeless came to live near the hospital for extended treatments. Many have had a family and a job they liked. One had come to the mountains and said he enjoyed it so much, it was like going on vacation each day when he went to work. Nine years before, a drunk driver had hit his car and broke both his legs, injured his wife and permanently injured his daughter.

As I listened to their stories, I thought of a line from an old song, "Patiently Fighting the Battle of Time." (Gene Autry, "Silver Haired Daddy of Mine," 1935.)

Isn't that what we are all doing? One day at a time. Trying to make the best of each day. Some discipline helps with regular sleep and diet. Some exercise and proper use of any prescribed medications. But perhaps our attitude may be the greatest help. The Scripture reminds us that, "A merry heart doeth good like a medicine, but a broken spirit drieth the bones." (Makes one sick.) —Proverbs 17:22. And again, "A merry heart makes a cheerful countenance." (A happy face.) —Proverbs 15:13.

Health is normal to our body. Sickness is not. When a sickness comes into our body, our body does everything it can to fight and overcome this threat to our health. In the New Testament times, they believed that

**Elmer R. Liimatta**

**State Chaplain**



sickness was an evil spirit in the body. Rituals and instruments were designed to deal with them. When we read the New Testament we will come across sayings like, "A man possessed with a demon," —Matthew 9:32. In Washington's time, it was thought that sickness was in the blood, hence the barber poles for bloodletting. Later, it was found to be bad bacteria and now, it is a mystery why some sicknesses flare up and some go into remission. Some medical people believe that our attitude may have a lot to do with our health. Again the scripture reminds us, "For as a man thinks in his heart, so is he." —Proverbs 23:7.

"Keep your heart with all diligence: for out of it are the issues of life." —Proverbs 4:23

In *First Corinthians 10:13*, we are reminded that God will not allow us to be tested by more that we can bear and will make a way out of any trial we face. Keep trusting!

I love the thought expressed by T.S. Eliot:  
*We shall not cease from exploration,  
(search into)*

*And the end of all our exploring  
(searching)*

*Will be to arrive where we started  
And know the place for the first time.*

**Rev. Elmer R. Liimatta**  
**National Chaplain 2010-11**

## National Jr. Vice C-in-C John Hamilton to be National Rep for Mid-Winter Conference

John E. Hamilton was elected Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief of the Veterans of Foreign Wars in August 2010, at the VFW's 111th National Convention held in Indianapolis, Indiana.

Hamilton served in the U. S. Marine Corps from 1968-1970, including a tour in Vietnam. His decorations include the Purple Heart and two gold stars, Combat Action Ribbon, National Defense Service medal, Vietnam Service Medal with two bronze stars, Republic of Vietnam Meritorious Unit Citation gallantry Cross Color, Republic of Vietnam Unit Citation Civil Actions Color (First Class) and the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal.

Hamilton joined the VFW in 1974 at Post 7909 in Jacksonville, Florida where he maintains his Life Membership. He has served the VFW in many leadership



**John E. Hamilton**  
**Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief**  
**Veterans of Foreign Wars of the**  
**United States**

positions, including the National Council of Administration from 1989-1991, and as State Commander from 1987-1988.

Hamilton graduated with honors from Georgia Military Institute in 1967. He worked as a professional wrestler throughout the United States and the world for 15 years as Johnny Montana (also known as "Dr. Death"), along with other names and identities.

Hamilton is a member of the Military Order of the Cootie, Military Order of the Purple Heart, Disabled American Veterans, The American Legion and Marine Corps League.

He resides in Jacksonville, Florida.

## STATE SERVICE OFFICER

### Advocating for Others

On October 13th, 2009, the Department of Veterans Affairs Secretary, Eric K. Shinseki, announced his intent to establish a presumption of service connection for Ischemic Heart Disease (IHD), Parkinson's Disease (PD), or Hairy Cell Leukemia (HCL) and other Chronic B-cell Leukemia's (BCL) for Veterans who served in the Republic of Vietnam. This decision was based on the Institute of Medicine's seventh biennial update, "*Veterans and Agent Orange*." Under the court order of the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California (the "Court") in *Nehmer v. U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs*, 712 F. Supp. 1404, 1409 (N.D. Cal. 1989), the VA must re-adjudicate previously denied claims for IHD, PD, or HCL/BCL filed by *Nehmer* class members (Vietnam Veterans and certain survivors) and provide retroactive benefits to the date of the prior claim to such individuals pursuant to 38 C.F.R. § 3.816. This requirement involves claims filed or denied from September 25, 1985 to August 31, 2010, the date VA published the final regulation establishing a presumption of service connection for the foregoing diseases.

We know that we have shared this information before, but it bears repeating!

The *Nehmer* court case originated in 1986 as a class-action lawsuit against the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) by Vietnam Veterans and their survivors, who alleged that VA had

**Dan Crocker**

**State Service Officer**



improperly denied their claims for service-connected compensation for disabilities allegedly caused by exposure to the herbicide Agent Orange in service. In 1989, the United States District Court for the Northern District of California (Court) ruled that VA's regulation was invalid because the causation standard that it used was inconsistent with the intent of Congress. The Court invalidated the VA's regulation and voided all benefit denials made under that regulation.

In May 1991, the *Nehmer* parties entered into a "Final Stipulation and Order" outlining the actions to be taken in response to the Court's decision. Among other things, the Final Stipulation provided: (1) that the VA would issue new regulations in accordance with the Agent Orange Act of 1991; (2) that, after issuing such regulations, the VA would readjudicate the claims where a prior denial was voided by the Court's 1989 order and would initially adjudicate all similar claims filed subsequent to the Court's order; and (3) that, if benefits were awarded upon such readjudication or adjudication, the effective date of the award would be the later of the

— **SERVICE, continued on page 3**

## Department Service Officer SUCCESS STORY

Sometimes we give up instead of fighting the good fight. Sometimes we give up because the mountain we are climbing is high, too steep, too slippery and too dangerous. On the other hand, sometimes we know in our own heart of hearts that what we need to do is to press on.

Such is the case of a World War II veteran who suffered a back condition and filed a claim in 1947 shortly after his discharge from military service. Unfortunately, the claim was denied in 1947 and the veteran never appealed that decision. For several years after, the veteran tried to get the Department of Veterans Affairs to acknowledge his disability to no avail.

In 1976, the veteran succeeded in reopening his claim only to have the Board of Veterans Appeals (BVA) uphold all previous decisions and deny the claim in 1977.

Finally, the veteran sought our assistance in 2005 and we advocated on his behalf. After a comprehensive review of the veteran's claims folder, we found that since the 1977 BVA decision, the law had changed regarding certain elements in a claim.

Together with Daily Sick Call Reports that showed the veteran sought care in August of 1945, along with lay witness statements, and a personal hearing that was conducted by our staff, an injury did in fact occur in service. The VA then requested an exam to determine that the current condition was the same disability that began 60 years prior. The VA examiner concluded that the veteran's condi-

tion was one and the same and that it had its inception in military service. The veteran was granted a 40% evaluation from the date of reopening in 2005.

In June of 2008, the veteran indicated that his condition had increased in severity, so we submitted a claim for an increase. A rating decision came back in October 3, 2008 and denied our request for an increase. Consequently, on October 27, 2008 we filed a Notice of Disagreement (NOD) and requested that a Decision Review Officer (DRO) take another fresh look at the case. On March 21, 2009 the DRO rendered a decision to not increase the veteran's condition.

Our Advocate requested a personal hearing and that was conducted on August 10, 2010. In attendance at the hearing was our staff member, the veteran, the DRO and the veteran's treating physician. Testimony was given by all that participated, but nothing more crucial than the veteran's doctor's testimony. The good doctor, that had treated the veteran for over 20 years, stated he had witnessed the veteran's condition had increased rapidly over the last year and a half.

In October 2010, the veteran was granted an increase to 60%, and we are entertaining the issue of Individual Unemployability.

There are times when a personal hearing will change the outcome of a case. There are also times when having your treating physician present testimony will seal the deal!

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## ADJUTANT/QUARTERMASTER

Most of the Posts located in Michigan operate on a fiscal year that begins on July 1 and ends on June 30. Therefore, your 990 (990EZ or 990N) reports are due on November 15. If your Post engages in Unrelated Business Income (UBI) you are required to file the 990T on the proceeds from those events. If your Post obtained a license from the State of Michigan to hold a Texas Hold 'em event, sold pull tabs at Bingo or any other event that is unrelated to the business of the Post, you must file a 990T and pay taxes on the income.

On the subject of VFW-PAC, you all need to understand that the VFW-PAC is a separate entity from the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States and operates independently. The endorsements that were handed out recently were not approved by anyone in Kansas City and caused problems within our ranks. After requesting that the PAC Committee rescind the endorsements and they refused, Commander-in-Chief Richard Eubanks removed them all. Commander-in-Chief Eubank will introduce a Bylaw amendment to scrap VFW-PAC at the National

**Rob Weiss**

**State Adjutant/  
Quartermaster**



Convention next year. Only the delegates at the Convention may do away with VFW-PAC. As of now, the Department of Michigan will not send any further donations to VFW-PAC. Instead, State Commander Lloyd F. Putman II has decided to transfer All-State points for VFW-PAC to the Directors Cabin at Camp Trotter.

The "Directors Cabin" at Camp Trotter will replace PAC as follows:

1. One (1) point for every \$5.00 donation to the "Directors Cabin" through purchase of Camp Trotter pins.

2. One (1) point for each \$25.00 or \$1.00 per member donated to "Directors Cabin" [maximum of four (4) points].

I hope to see you all at the Mid-Winter Conference in January.

**Rob Weiss**  
**State Adjutant/Quartermaster**

## New Assistant State Field Service Officer!

Pamela D. Gilliard was hired as an Assistant State Field Service Officer on September 13, 2010 and will be stationed in the southwestern corner of Michigan.

Ms. Gilliard served in the United States Army and gained her eligibility for the Veterans of Foreign Wars with service in southwest Asia. "Ms. Gilliard brings a strong,

caring and compassionate attitude and willingness to help those who have served," stated Daniel J. Crocker, Director of Service.

Ms. Gilliard currently resides in the Muskegon area.



*SERVICE, continued from page 2 —*

date the claim was filed or the date the disability arose. Ordinarily, if a claim is granted on the basis of a new regulation, the law states that the effective date of the award may not be any earlier than the date on which the regulation went into effect.

In a February 1999 decision, the Court clarified the scope of its 1989 decision. It voided all VA decisions that were issued while the invalid regulation was in effect and which denied service connection for a Vietnam Veteran's disease that was later found to be associated with herbicide exposure under new regulations. In December 2000, the Court provided further clarification when it concluded that VA must pay the full retroactive benefit to the estates of deceased class members.

The *Nehmer* stipulation provides that a Vietnam veteran who served in country (or the surviving spouse, child or parent of a Vietnam veteran who died from a herbicide condition) must have previously applied for or was denied benefits for a presumptive condition between September 25, 1985 (or a date prior to September 25, 1985, if the claim was pending or on appeal on September 25, 1985) and August 31, 2010, the date VA published the final regulation. If a claim was previously denied for one of these presumptive disabilities, the Vietnam veteran or, because a benefit now can survive the veteran, the survivors **do not need to file a new claim** to be considered for the benefit because the three-herbicide presumptions were added. In order to qualify

under *Nehmer*, the veteran needs only to have been diagnosed with one of these three disabilities AND filed a claim AND was denied. He did not have to allege exposure to herbicides in order to qualify. Note that claims pending on the date of the change in regulation (August 31, 2010) are also subject to *Nehmer*.

The Department of Veterans Affairs reports that it has over 160,000 claims seeking service connection for one these new disabilities. The VA also suggests that only 96,000 will be subject to the *Nehmer* stipulation. It is our opinion that these figures may be on the low side.

The VA will start issuing decisions on or after October 31, 2010. In addition, the VA expects to issue 15,000-20,000 decisions in the first week of November. It is possible that some of these decisions may contain effective dates as early as 1985! The problem with this scenario is that the VA's tracking system in 1985 was almost non-existent, which means cases may have fallen through the cracks.

We encourage our readership to assist us in finding those that the VA may no longer have in their system. We are aware of cases in our office that when the veteran expired, the widow filed a claim, and unfortunately, the claim folder, for whatever reason, was destroyed.

Please be vigilant with those that you may feel are entitled and have them contact us for advice and instructions at:

**VFW Service Office**  
**477 Michigan Avenue, Suite 1215**  
**Detroit, MI 48226**  
**Phone: 313-964-6510**  
**Fax: 313-964-6545**  
**E-mail: vfwmiadvocates@gmail.com**

## Women Veterans Retreat



The Women Veterans Retreat, March 18-20, 2011 is hosted by the Wisconsin Veterans of Foreign Wars, She Serves Program. It is open to all women veterans and women currently serving in the military from Wisconsin and any of the bordering states to Wisconsin. The VFW Women Veteran Advocates from Illinois, Michigan and Minnesota have confirmed participation in this retreat. Registration and stay are based on each registrant. More than one person can be on this registration form, but deposit payment must be included for each person listed.

A \$50.00 registration deposit (non-refundable) per person is required with the submission of your registration. The full cost of the retreat is currently \$225.00 per person, but we hope to have that cost down to \$150.00-\$200.00 by the time you have to pay the rest through some fundraisers.

Make check/money order payable to VFW Post 10911, with earmark/memo for 'Women Veterans Retreat' and mail to: Renee Simpson  
16350 County Highway W  
Camp Douglas, WI 54618

Once you hit the submit button, your registration will be in a database. You can simply send your payment with a list of names the payment applies to. Spouses/significant others are more than welcome to attend. The programs are designed for women veterans and women service members, but is not limited to females.

### Women Veterans Retreat March 18-20, 2011

*Open to all women who have served or are still serving in the military.*

**You do not need to be a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars to come to this retreat.**

*You only need to be a female veteran who wants to meet and network with other women veterans, address issues we face as a group and pamper yourself a bit in the process.*

### The Plan

#### Friday, March 18

**9:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.**

Registration, Grip 'n' Grin and networking  
**10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.**

On-site female Claims Reps to get your VA claim started

**6:30 p.m.**

Oneida VFW hosts our dinner at their Post

#### Saturday, March 19

**9:00 a.m.**

Opening Session and Welcome

**10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.**

Spa sessions with SEVA

**10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.**

On-site female Claims Reps to get your VA claim started

**1:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m.**

Forum with Sister Sergeant

**Time TBA**

Meet with our politicians face to face (both State and Federal) to address our issues

**6:00 p.m.**

Dinner and more!

### The Cost and What You Get

The cost of the weekend is \$225.00 per person.

The cost includes:

- 2 night stay at the Radisson Hotel
- 2 complimentary breakfast tickets
- Dinner meal Friday and Saturday evening
- 15 minute complimentary SEVA treatment (additional time can be purchased from the SEVA clinicians)

We are looking to do a fundraiser to reduce the \$225.00 cost. Our original target was \$150.00 per person to make this event as affordable as possible, and we will strive to meet that target.

This is all on the Wisconsin VFW Web site if you would like to register online. This is the link that I used, <http://vfwwebcom.org/wi/SheServes/257376/Women+Veterans+Retreat.html>. I would, however, like all questions sent to me, so Wisconsin doesn't get flooded with calls and e-mails. I will forward them to the appropriate person(s).

Any questions, please let me know. I can be reached at [lynn\\_marie\\_patterson@yahoo.com](mailto:lynn_marie_patterson@yahoo.com) or my cell number is 616-755-0433.

Yours in comradeship,  
**Lynn Patterson**

## Department Service Office Staff

*Serving Michigan's Veterans to "Honor the Dead by Helping the Living"*

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Marlene L. Khairredine, Executive Secretary to State Director E-mail: [marlene.khairredine@va.gov](mailto:marlene.khairredine@va.gov)

### Field Officers – VA Medical Centers/State Veterans' Homes

**David W. Patrick, Assistant State Service Officer**

VAMC – Saginaw – Every Thursday, 9:00 to 4:00 – 800-406-5143, Ext. 13386

**Patrick D. Holcomb, Assistant State Service Officer**

Jacobetti Home for Veterans – Monday through Friday, 9:00 to 4:00 – 906-226-3576, Ext. 318

**Patrick D. Holcomb, Assistant State Service Officer**

VAMC-Iron Mountain – 1st Monday of month, 9:00 to 2:00 CDT – 906-774-3300, Ext. 34006

**Pamela D. Gilliard, Assistant State Service Officer**

VAMC-Battle Creek – Every Monday and Wednesday, 10:00 to 3:00 – 269-966-5500, Ext. 33889

**Service Officer on Rotation**

VAMC-Detroit – 1st and 3rd Tuesdays – 313-576-3507 or 313-833-8184

**Service Officer on Rotation**

VAMC-Ann Arbor – 1st, 2nd and 3rd Mondays – 734-769-7100, Ext. 57415



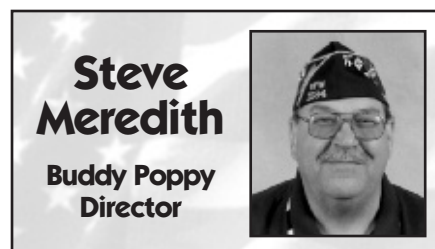
## BUDDY POPPY

Comrades,

It is the time of year that we need to start planning our Buddy Poppy programs. Commanders, to get your Buddy Poppy All-State points, you need to have your order in by December 31. All orders need to be received by February 1 to guarantee delivery for Buddy Poppy Days, which this year will be May 5-7, 2011. Buddy Poppy order forms can be downloaded from the Department of Michigan VFW Web site.

For the Post Buddy Poppy chairmen, there are some good resources available on the National VFW Web site for you to use. A Buddy Poppy chairman's guide is available, along with a brochure on the history of the Buddy Poppy. A guide on preparing for a successful Buddy Poppy program is also available, with posters that can be printed and displayed in your Post. These tools are available on the National VFW Web site. After November 1, you will need to login to the National Web site in order to have access to Dept. Resources. You will find these a valuable resource in planning your Buddy Poppy day program.

We need to be looking now for places to distribute our Buddy Poppies. National VFW will allow both Boy and Girl Scouts to help distribute our Poppies, another valuable resource. Buddy Poppies can be distributed at other times. At our Post, we pass Poppies out at our Memorial Day Parade. The Ladies Auxiliary has made posters and centerpieces



**Steve Meredith**  
Buddy Poppy  
Director

utilizing Buddy Poppies. With a little imagination, we can find ways to display our Buddy Poppies.

Comrades, if we get out and distribute our Buddy Poppies in our communities, any donations we receive will go in our Post relief funds. We all have members who are struggling these days. We can use our relief funds to help these members; maybe pay a comrades dues, who otherwise might not be able to. By doing so, we are also helping our membership, which we all know is the lifeblood of our organization.

I believe that other than our Cross of Malta, the Buddy Poppy is the most visible symbol of our great organization. When we get out in our communities and distribute our Buddy Poppies, people know who we are. This is great exposure for our VFW, and it shows one of the good things this wonderful organization we belong to does.

**Steve Meredith**  
VFW Department of Michigan  
Buddy Poppy Director

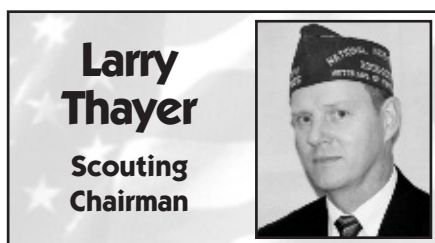
## SCOUTING CHAIRMAN

Greetings Comrades,

I wanted to thank the Posts that are currently sponsoring a scouting unit. Without your help, scouting in your area wouldn't exist. If your Post is considering chartering a unit and you have questions, feel free to call me.

Scout of the Year deadline is still a few months away, but it's never too early to start looking for candidates. They don't have to be from your unit; any eligible scout can be nominated. Not only can Eagle Scouts be nominated, but also Venture Scouts that have earned the Silver Award and Girl Scouts that have earned the Gold Award. All nominations use the same form from the National Web site.

Earlier this year, a comrade wrote to



**Larry Thayer**  
Scouting  
Chairman

me asking how to earn the Scouter's Achievement Award. All the requirements must be completed after joining the Scouting Team, so please contact me on how to join.

Yours in Scouting,  
**Larry Thayer**  
National Scouting Team Member

## Military Order of the Cootie

**"VFW + MOC We Team"**

**"Tradition, History and Attention to Detail"**



Greetings, Comrades and Auxiliary Sisters!

The 77th Trek to the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Arlington National

Cemetery has come and gone. So has Veterans Day and our 2010 election cycle.

As of this date, we are getting ready to host our 82nd Annual Cootie Christmas Party. Continuing success for this bountiful Christmas Party for the children depends on how open your hearts are and your wallets, too. We all know how bad it's been in Michigan with the current state of the economy. I encourage all VFW and Cooties Members, our Auxiliary Sisters and Men's

Auxiliary to take the time and remember our children at the National Home.

Contributions are always welcome no matter what time of the year it is. Please make your contributions out to: **MOC Grand of Michigan ONLY! Earmark: MOC Christmas Party.** Do not make any checks payable to the VFW National Home or to Dept. of Michigan. These checks will never be used to support this activity.

Send all donations to: **Ernest A. Paulin, Grand Quartermaster, 710 Aldrich Street, Linden, MI 48451-9050. Telephone: 810-735-7920.**

"Keep 'em Smiling in Beds of White"

**PGC Robert E. Wilson**  
VFW-Cootie Liaison



## DISTRICT 4 REPORT

**Ron Allen**  
District 4 Commander



Greetings Comrades,

We are now into the fifth month of our 2010-2011 VFW year and the 4th District is hard at work. The Fall Conference was October 8-10, 2010 in Sault St. Marie, Michigan. Information was given to all District Commanders. Department Commander Putman would like all the Districts to be 100% by December 31, 2010. As of October 23, 2010, the 4th District membership is at 85.11%. Membership is, and will be, our main goal to stay strong. The Department has bought and given to all the Districts a new canopy for use in recruiting new members. Any Post Commander who would like to use it, please let me know.

The District is at 98.9% in Community Service and Hospital reporting. We still have work to do on Drug and Safety, Buddy Poppies and Cancer.

I would like to extend congratulations to the Plymouth Post 6695 Commander Dave Reeves on his election to the Camp Trotter committee. I know Commander Reeves will make the District proud and do a great job for all of us.

The holidays will soon be upon us and I would like to extend a safe and blessed holiday wish to all Post Commanders, their members and their families. As always, I thank you for all that you have given and done for the VFW, and our GREAT COUNTRY – "TOGETHER WE CAN."



## DISTRICT 5 REPORT

**James Galen**  
District 5 Commander



Comrades and Sisters of the 5th District,

How time flies. It doesn't seem that long ago that I was writing my first article to you, and now I am writing my second. The Fall Conference was held in Sault Ste. Marie on October 7-10, 2010 at the Kewadin Hotel and it was a huge success. The Post Commanders and Post Officers that attended the Fall Conference received valuable information from the meetings and training classes held to bring back to their respective Posts. The Post Commanders that did not attend the Fall Conference, should make every attempt to attend the Mid-Winter Conference at the Radisson Plaza Hotel in Kalamazoo on January 28-30, 2011. If the Post Commander cannot attend, then the Senior or Junior Vice Commander should attend in his/her absence. One of the line officers will then be able to bring back the valuable information. Also, at the Mid-Winter Conference on Saturday, January 29, 2011, the Voice of Democracy, Patriot's Pen and Teacher of the Year state winners will be announced at the VOD, Patriot's Pen and Teacher of the Year Banquet. Hopefully, our 5th District Posts will have state winners in each category at the banquet. If you have not already sent in your hotel reservations and banquet ticket forms, then you need to do it right away. The deadline for hotel reservations is January 5, 2011 and the deadline for banquet tickets is January 15, 2011. All of the forms including the VOD and Patriot's Pen Conference Ad Book form, are available on the Department of Michigan Web site at [www.vfwmi.org](http://www.vfwmi.org) under Dept. Tools in the November General Orders.

At the time of this writing, the 5th District is at 82.91% in membership. We have 5,822 Life Members, 100 New Members, 40 Reinstated Members and 831 Continuous Members for a Total of 6,793 Members. We are making good progress, but we have a long way to go to reach our goal of 8,193 members. I would like to congratulate the following (4) Posts that have achieved 100% in membership. They are: 334-Lake Orion, 1794-Mount Clemens, 3908-Rochester/Utica and 4037-Troy. When I write my next article, I hope to list many more Posts that have achieved 100%. I also want to thank each and every Post for doing whatever it takes to increase membership in the Veterans of Foreign

Wars. It takes a lot of hard work and effort on everyone's part to increase membership. Thank you! If you are planning a membership drive at one of your events and need assistance, please contact 5th District Membership Chairman Jerry Gorski. Jerry will coordinate with the 5th District Officers and have one of them help you with your membership drive.

By the time you read this article, Veterans Day, November 11th, will have already passed. Our Posts will have honored our veterans, both living and deceased, by having ceremonies at their Posts, cemeteries and civic locations. Thank you for taking the time out of your busy lives to honor our veterans on Veterans Day.

Don't forget to send in your Buddy Poppy order form. The Poppy order form is available under the October General Orders. You want to get your Poppies ordered by December 31, 2010 if you are trying to get points for the All State Program. The deadline for ordering Buddy Poppies is February 1, 2011. If Department receives your Buddy Poppy order by February 1, 2011, you will be guaranteed to receive your Poppies in time for the National Buddy Poppy Days. Another thing to write on your calendars is the "Wreaths Across America." This National Remembrance Ceremony will be held on Saturday, December 11, 2010 at 12 Noon. There is a list of Michigan cemeteries participating in "Wreaths Across America" in the November General Orders. Go to the Department Web site at [www.vfwmi.org](http://www.vfwmi.org) under Dept. Tools.

There is no longer the PAC in the Veterans of Foreign Wars. Commander-in-Chief Richard Eubank dissolved the PAC Committee by withdrawing all appointments in October 2010. Commander-in-Chief Richard Eubank will introduce a resolution at the 112th National Convention dissolving the PAC. There is an article by Commander-in-Chief Richard Eubank dated Friday, October 22, 2010 on the VFW National Web site regarding the PAC Committee. There are also additional articles under "News & Events." Please go to the National Web site at [www.vfw.org](http://www.vfw.org). All monies that you have obtained from your PAC pins and PAC fundraisers should be sent to the Department of Michigan.

Some dates to mark on your calendars are:  
— **DISTRICT 5, continued on page 5**





## DISTRICT 6 REPORT

**George M. Wygant**  
District 6 Commander



Greetings Comrades,

We have accomplished five months of the 2010-2011 VFW Year. I have visited 24 out of 27 Posts within the 6th District, and I would like to talk to you comrades about my visits and what is coming up in the near future.

During our first School of Instruction, we talked about goals and specifically, the Activity and Hospital reports. As I stated earlier, I have visited 24 out of 27 Posts, and in every case but one, your Posts are accomplishing the missions assigned to them by National, Department and the District. Your committee reports are informative and some Posts are very detailed. The concern I have is what I am hearing at the meetings does not translate to the Department of Michigan Activity and Hospital reports on the Web site. In some cases, the scores reflected are reduced because you have sent your reports in late. The due date is the 10th of the month, which means they have to be received by the 10th of the month, so ensure that you mail your reports allowing for mailing time. If you are sending reports in electronically, ensure they are transmitted prior to 12 Midnight on the 10th.

Two additional issues I would like to address. The 6th District has two Posts on suspension at this time. They put themselves in a pickle because of two basic reasons. The leadership within the Post did not know their duties and responsibilities and they did not attend training. We covered the duties and responsibilities briefly at our last meeting, but by the time you receive your *MOV*, you will have had additional training on the Duties and Responsibilities of the Offices, Commander, Quartermaster, Adjutant and Trustees. I will attempt to cover the deficiencies as they appear. Tentatively, the first training session for the 2011-2012 VFW year will be in the later part of May at Camp Trotter. Ensure all your newly elected and appointed officers and chairmen attend this meeting. Additionally, the Post should procure a new podium edition of the Bylaws each year and present it to your new officers. The new officers should receive the podium edition from their predecessors and a new edition given to the officer after they are published in October. You can then dispose of the old edition. Changes occur every year, so do not rely on an old edition.

Next I would like to cover protocol. When you have visitors attend your meeting, ensure you identify your guest by their proper title at the scheduled time in the order of events. Guests from within the VFW generally are invited to speak during the Good of the Order; all others, generally under new business or old business, as applicable. The Bible needs to be closed if the guest is not a member, and they should be escorted in and out at the appointed time. The Bible then is reopened after they depart. When

addressing the Commander, you will stand (exception is always allowed for the disabled) and state your name. Once you are recognized, then you can state your question. Limit it to five minutes. All speakers are limited to five minutes and can only speak twice on each subject. Always respect the office you're addressing. Foul language is never appropriate, and the comrade should be warned that continued use of such language will result in the comrade being asked to leave.

One last item needs to be addressed. A restricted donation received by your Post must be used for that intended purpose. For example, a donation for Cancer has to go to the Department of Michigan under the Cancer program. The same applies for all other programs. These funds should be transferred at the end of each month and do not need approval of the Post for expenditure, as it is earmarked money. The Post cannot vote to divert restricted donations. Unrestricted donations need to be placed in the General Fund and distribution decided at the next Post meeting. Under no circumstances can you use earmarked funds for other than their intended purpose.

Commanders within the District will start receiving a monthly letter from the District Commander every month, starting at the end of October. This is where I will pass on new and additional information. Commanders, ensure your Posts are represented at the District meeting. You know the consequences.

As a District, we have done very well. We are at 84% in membership at the end of October. The goal is 100% by December 31, 2010. By my calculation we are behind by 12%. We are 591 comrades shy of 96% paid membership and 778 members shy of 100% current membership. Let's not lose any comrades this year due to non-payment of dues. The good news is we have 54 new members and 29 reinstated at this time. The goal is 2% new or reinstates and we have 1.8%, four months into the year. Let's keep up the good work. **Note:** Membership does not stop until 30 June 2011. I challenge every member to bring in one new person within the 6th District. I am responsible for eight this year alone. If I can do it so can you!

With all the seriousness completed, what is the state of our District? From my point of view, we are not in bad shape. After five months, we have 26 out of 27 Posts reported in Hospital and 21 out of 27 submitting Activity reports. All-State points range from 0 to 144 points, and this does not include the All-State Chairmen spreadsheet, so there are points not tallied on my spreadsheet. Remember: in order to compete for All-American, you must have an application sent to District for VOD, Patriot's Pen and Teacher of the Year. These deadlines will have passed by the time this article goes to press. Keep up the outstanding work.

I want to keep you informed of everything, as much as possible. I look forward to visiting each Post throughout the 5th District during my term of office. 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 5, continued from page 4 —*

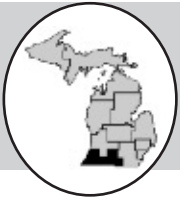
Veterans Day, November 11, 2010; 5th District Meeting, December 5, 2010; Macomb County Christmas Party and Pearl Harbor Day Ceremony at 7573-New Baltimore, December 7, 2010; Voice of Democracy Banquet at Post 7573-New Baltimore, January 2, 2011; and Mid-Winter Conference in Kalamazoo, Michigan, January 28-30, 2011.

Thank you for reading my lengthy article.



## DISTRICT 7 REPORT

**George Paul Yung**  
District 7 Commander



Well, Comrades, it is that time again for me to address the issue of MEMBERSHIP. As of October 31, we have one Post at 100%. I know it is difficult to recruit new members, but please remember that new members are the life-line for the VFW. Remember the 3Rs; RECRUIT, RENEW and REINSTATE. If you know of a member who has dropped out, contact them and find out why and see if you can remind them of what the VFW is doing for the veterans and see if you can get them to come back and join the VFW in helping the community and the cause and programs of the VFW. Get the members in your Post to renew as soon as possible and always try and get new members. Remember, only you as members of the VFW, can keep our organization alive and going.

I would like to congratulate the Three Rivers Post 3019; their Smallbore Junior Air Rifle Team placed 1st, 2nd and 4th in the VFW National Postal Match. This is

the 3rd year in a row that they have placed in the top four positions.

Colon Post 6819 has consolidated with the Three Rivers Post 3019 and they will now be Three Rivers Shively-Lamb-Bryan Post 3019. All the paperwork has been done and they are now waiting to have the final approval from the National Commander and for a new charter to be issued.

The District needs ALL Posts to make sure that they submit activity and hospital reports. You must also show the community activities that you perform. I do not think there are any Posts that do not conduct any community activities. If there are, then you are not serving your community the way you should.

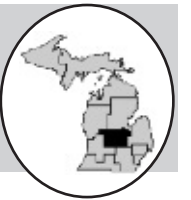
Remember, we are an organization to help veterans and we must put aside any disagreements and work together to keep this a working team for veterans.

To all my comrades and their families, I hope you had a very good holiday season.



## DISTRICT 9 REPORT

**Terry Dowdell**  
District 9 Commander



Greetings Comrades,

I will do my job to the best of my ability, so please don't hesitate to give me a call if you have a problem. If I don't have the answer, I will find it for you. My goal this year is to be 100% in all programs. I would very much appreciate if all Posts could get 100% in membership by December 31, 2010 – so let's all work hard on membership.

Please don't forget to order your Buddy Poppies by December 31, 2010. I would like the District to be 100% in Buddy Poppy for the third year in a row.

We need all the Commanders to come to the District meetings. If you cannot make it, please send a representative in

your place. All Posts are required to be represented. If you are not represented, you will have to have a good reason.

Please don't forget to send in your Activity and Hospital Reports by the 10th of the month. If you are not sure what you get credit for, then write down everything that your Post does, and let the directors sort it out.

Our next District Meeting will be February 6, 2011 at St. Louis Post 3055. I plan on seeing everyone there. I am looking forward to working with all you comrades. I would like to thank all of you for what you've done and for what you still are doing. Remember our motto: HONOR THE DEAD BY HELPING THE LIVING.



## DISTRICT 10 REPORT

**David Gay**  
District 10 Commander



Greetings, Comrades and Sisters of the 10th District:

It's very hard to get used to the fact that the calendar "speeds" through the year. When you think you have the time to work and complete your projects, you check the date and find it should have been done weeks prior. Membership, for example: at the Fall Conference, the Dept. Commander stated his goal is 100% by December 31st. I look at the membership stats and see the calendar is beating us to our goal. As of the end of October, only one Post has achieved 100%. Congratulations to Emmett Post 5585 for this achievement. Several Posts are only a few members from 100%. As we all know from the statistics from national on down, this great organization is not relaying the benefits of membership to eligible veterans in the community. We have a great team of Department recruiters who are more willing to assist in your recruiting endeavors. The District is also here to assist you. Please avail yourself of these "power

tools.' If each member recruits one veteran, this District could double in membership. It's not impossible.

The Voice of Democracy program is winding up and voting will be done soon. The date for our VOD and Patriot's Pen function will be January 9, 2011 at the Yale Post 8594. Starting time is 2:00 p.m.

Commanders, it is not too early to get your Post Poppy order in. Also, check your All-State points sheet to make sure you accumulate the number you need for your white hat. If you have questions, feel free to contact myself, the line officers or the specific committee chair for help.

Quartermasters, reports need to be checked and double checked. With the IRS looking over our shoulders now, we can ill afford errors to heighten their curiosity even more. Quartermasters and trustees need to check and verify figures are correct.

A final thought for Posts with clubrooms. Clubrooms are usually the first — *DISTRICT 10, continued on page 6*





## DISTRICT 11 REPORT

**John Harrow, Jr.**  
District 11 Commander



Just think – our year is going to be half over by the time you read this. Post Commanders, are you glad and can't wait for the year to be over? I hope not. The next few months will show what kind of leaders we are. Now is the time that we must work even harder on our membership list and new membership. Recruiting should be simple; just explain to a prospective member why you belong to the Veterans of Foreign Wars and they will want to belong, as well.

Thank you to all the Posts on your reporting. We are doing a pretty good job of getting our paperwork in. Our membership is lacking, but I know you'll work on this, too. Get it done.

I would hope that when District officers visit your Post, that you don't feel that we are there to criticize. On the

contrary, we are there to assist you and can only do this if we know your situation. You may need help with reporting, audits or possibly help for the Quartermaster or Adjutant. If needed, please ask for help.

Hopefully, our District Meeting and Operation Help Dance were successful and educational. Please don't forget the District Voice of Democracy Dinner at Standish in January 2011. We need a good turnout to let our students know that we support their efforts in the Voice of Democracy and Patriot's Pen Programs.

In closing, I hope if you are a hunter that your season is a plentiful one. From Sandy and I, we hope that your Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year are the best of your life.



## DISTRICT 12 REPORT

**Stan Preidis**  
District 12 Commander



The first thing I need to do is thank Post 7729 and it's Ladies Auxiliary for the fine food, and plenty of it, at September's meeting. They have set a standard for all others to follow. I was remiss in not mentioning this at the end of our meeting or having the kitchen crew come out for a bow. Again, KUDOS to 7729.

Speaking of mistakes, we have a lot of new Post and District officers. Past Commanders and Quartermasters, don't wait till we make a mistake or miss a deadline and then come up and say, 'I knew that.' All too often the 'old timers' scatter like a covey of quail, only to reappear when they can criticize the new comrades. Good leaders and mentors help train the new Commander/Quartermaster on how to do the reports and audits in a timely manner. I don't know of any Post that has a continuity folder or a checklist to follow on when to do reports/audits and

where to send them, so it is important for the past Post officers to help in this area. You really don't want me calling you too often about missed reports or dues not being paid.

The reporting year is almost half over, so let's get busy and fill in the zeros. Cancer, Gold Star Mothers, Camp Trotter, Commander's projects, etc. AND remember to report it on your monthly community service form.

I can't end the newsletter without talking about membership. Commander Putnam has challenged us to be 100% by the end of the year. I know that for whatever reason, a lot of the members wait till January of the next year to pay their dues, so let's get to working the membership roster early to get them paid up sooner.

Because we won't meet till March 2011 in Reed City, have a wonderful and safe holiday season.



## DISTRICT 13 REPORT

**Earle E. Davie III**  
District 13 Commander



Greetings Comrades,

The leaves have turned and fallen, the fishing is getting better and better, deer season is just around the corner and the days are getting shorter. We live in a special place, this land of ours. We enjoy freedoms many places around the world can only dream of.

As November 11 approaches, our hearts must turn to remembrance of those who served this country, those who paid the ultimate price, and those of us who survived to come home and return to this nation. We hold these memories in our hearts and in our minds. In some instances, the horrors of those memories remain vivid, seeming never to go away. In others there were good times, even funny times. Remembering is both a curse and a blessing, but always we are

proud to have served this, the greatest nation on earth. It is with great pride I say to you this November 11, remember we were soldiers, sailors, airmen, marines, nurses, corpsmen, medics, doctors and the rest. We had some good times and had some bad times, but we always had each other.

Remembering is the strength of ourselves and our organization. Many successes have been won to veterans of past wars and many more struggles lay ahead for the current veterans who stand in harm's way today. These veterans need our support and assistance to deal with these issues. With the coming of Veterans Day, Thanksgiving and Christmas, remember with pride that we all served this great nation. God Bless you all for it.



## DISTRICT 14 REPORT

**Stephen DeRousha**  
District 14 Commander



Comrades and sisters,

We are now halfway through the year. The 14th District meeting at Negaunee VA Romo Post 3165 went well. To Commander Raymond Trappazine and the Ladies and Men's Auxiliaries: thank you for all the work you did. The banquet and music was enjoyed by everyone. Also, thanks to everyone who participated in the Memorial Service. We should always remember to honor our service men and women who served our nation in its time of need and paid the highest price for the freedom we all have.

The Pow-Wow at Sault Ste. Marie had a lot of information from Community Service, Hospitals, Veterans Affairs, VOD, Patriot's Pen, Teacher of the Year and many others. The Department Commander, Lloyd Putman, wants all Districts 100% by December 31st. As of September 14th, District 14 is at 84%. We need only 16% to reach the 100% goal. Germfask Post 9429 and Brimley Post 9122 top the District, and the rest are from 70% to 90%. Well done. Commanders, get your members out to get new and reinstated members. Remember

Buddy Poppies should be ordered by December 31st with a minimum of 500 per Post. This money is to be used for veterans in need, i.e. helping homeless veterans, and to pay the dues of those in nursing homes.

The District is doing pretty good, but we can do better in reporting community service, hospitals and patriotism. I know you are doing this, so please report it. Protect your Post and its tax-exempt status. To all Posts who have a Men's Auxiliary, make sure that you send their election report and roster to Dept. Commanders and be sure all elected officers have a DD214 on file with the Quartermaster and that the Quartermaster is bonded.

The Mid-Winter Conference will be January 28, 2011 at the Radisson Hotel in Kalamazoo, Michigan. I would like to see some of you comrades and sisters there. The VOD, Patriot's Pen and Teacher of the Year awards will be presented then. These essays are very uplifting and well presented.

The next 14th District meeting will be on Sunday, February 13th at Schoolcraft Post 4420 in Manistique.

### DISTRICT 10, continued from page 5 —

contact many eligible veterans have with the VFW. First impressions are usually the lasting ones. Make it a good impression.

Honor Veterans Day! I wish you all a happy Thanksgiving Day and the merriest of the coming holidays. I also hope 2011 will shine bright on all of us. God bless you and God bless America!



John Q. Doe



In appreciation of our 2010  
Color Guard Club members who  
continue to show unwavering dedication  
to our comrades in need.

## PATRIOTIC AND PROUD OF IT!

Watch the mail for your patriotic address labels and notepad.  
A great way to celebrate "Old Glory" - and support your  
Department's programs.

**COMING SOON TO YOU!**



## CAMP TROTTER TALES

Where did the summer go? The beautiful trees surrounding Bills Lake and our Camp Trotter have all but lost their leaves and winter is headed our way. The Camp is closed down and the winter maintenance has been completed by the Camp Trotter Committee.

Our Summer Camp Director, Ms. Rose Bonk, and her staff did a great job coming out on her first year and teaching children the camping atmosphere. The Camp averaged 48 children a week over the five (5) week summer camping period. The age groups range from 7 through 12 years old and the Camp is capable of housing 88 children per week. Camp Trotter is open to all children, ages 7-12 and is not limited to just VFW and Auxiliary-related children – **ALL CHILDREN ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND.** Your child/grandchild can bring their friends with them to camp. Help us pass the word. Check out your Camp Trotter on the Web site at [www.vfwmi.org](http://www.vfwmi.org) and scroll down on the home page to "Camp Trotter," and click. Then enjoy the beautiful Camp Trotter, resting on the west shores of Bills Lake in Newaygo County.

The Camp is open to the VFW members and its Ladies and Men's Auxiliary for camping, with reservations requested

in advance, so there is no conflict with Department functions. Call the Chairman, Ernie Meyers, Sr., at 517-490-1221 and get the details. There are lots of camper hook-ups!

The Committee would like to thank Past Chairman Andy Conklin for his years of dedicated service to Camp Trotter. Andy initiated the charge to get things rolling with the new facelift on many of the cottages and the main dining hall, with the assistance of Comrade Wilbur Breseman of the Marcellus VFW Post 4054, who was a major contributor in the renovation of Cottages #1 and #2. A major "Thank You" to you both for a job well done! Committee Members Butch Ogden of the Hamburg VFW Post 1224, Dave Reeves (Post Commander) of the Mayflower-Lt. Gamble VFW Post 6695 Plymouth, Richard Rought (Past Dist. 12 Commander) of Laurels VFW Post 6898 Fremont, Lloyd Putman III (District 9 Sr. Vice Commander) of Owosso Post 9455, PSC Jim VanHauter, Past District 9 Commander Ron Devereaux, Past District 9 Commander Jim Huver, State Commander Lloyd Putman II, State Sr. Vice Commander Jack Pray, State Jr. Vice Commander Kirk Kennedy, "Hawk" Hawkins (Past District 10

Commander) of the Fenton Post 3243, Bill Bastian (Post Commander of 3243), and Rick Petts (Post Sr. Vice Commander 3243) and Mr. Victor Smith of Newaygo (local contractor). A special thank you goes out to Vic Schram of Howard City who gave years of dedicated service to Camp Trotter. Vic has trained many of the Chairmen of Camp Trotter over the years, where they learned the "ins and outs" of openings and closings of the Camp.

There are many who have given major financial support to Camp Trotter this year, and have earmarked their designated funds to support certain cottages and buildings. Previously mentioned was the Ladies Auxiliary of Post 3033 who gave \$1,500.00 and adopted Cottage #1. Well, the Ladies Auxiliary of District 11, spearheaded by District 11 President Denise Moore, just raised another \$1,100.00 for the General Fund and new medical supplies for the Nurse's Cottage. The Otsego VFW and its Ladies Auxiliary donated \$750.00 and adopted half of Cottage #2. Simply Outstanding!! District 6 VFW donated \$3,400.00 and challenged their Posts and Auxiliaries to match their donation, which is earmarked for the Arts and Crafts Building. Rising to the challenge, VFW Post 701 came up with \$750.00 and

**Ernie Meyers**  
Camp Trotter  
Director



their Ladies Auxiliary held a Texas Hold 'em and raised \$1,586.00. What can be said? WOW! Thank You...Thank You. The VFW Post 2406 Ladies Auxiliary just raised over \$900.00 earmarked for the Nurse's Cottage. Thank You, Ladies. The following is a list of the recent major donors: District 4 (\$107.00), District 5 (\$250.00), District 6 (\$3,400.00), Post 701 (\$750.00), Ladies Aux. 701 (\$1,586.00), Post 1146 (\$506.47), Men's Auxiliary Post 1454 (\$500.00), Post 7805 (\$200.00), Ladies Auxiliary Post 6782 (\$185.00), Post 796 (\$100.00), Post 334 (\$100.00), Post 9021 (\$100.00), Post 4102, Post 8465, Post 1669, Post 1794, Post 423, Post 4553, Post 6842, Post 171 and Post 6462 (\$125.00 each). All donations will be credited to the All-State Program. Posts that have donated less than \$100.00 will be recognized in a personal letter of appreciation by the Camp Trotter Committee at the Mid-Winter Conference in Kalamazoo.

Thank you for supporting Camp Trotter!  
**Your Camp Committee**




*Cottage #1 was adopted by the Ladies Auxiliary of the Borley-Hanel VFW Post 3033 of Mt. Pleasant. Their \$1,500.00 donation re-sided the entire cottage with new all-weather windows and a beautiful front porch.*



*The Arts and Crafts Building (current condition) has been adopted by District 6 with a donation of \$3,400.00 and they have challenged the Posts and Auxiliaries in the District to raise the other \$3,400.00 needed to finish the restoration. Thanks to District 6, this renovation will be completed in the spring of 2011. The Morley S. Oates VFW Post 701 has donated \$750.00 and its Ladies Auxiliary has just raised some \$1,586.00 towards this project. The total renovation for this project is around \$6,500.00 minimum. A picture of the finished building will be published once the renovation is completed.*



*One half of Cottage #2 was adopted by the Otsego VFW Post 3030 and the Ladies Auxiliary. Their \$750.00 donation helped re-side the entire cottage with new all-weather windows and a beautiful front porch.*






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# Auxiliary News

## DEPARTMENT PRESIDENT



**Patricia Patterson**

Even though I haven't been home much in the last six months, I have been having a wonderful time meeting so many of you and visiting the different Posts and Auxiliaries. Ladies, I am happy to report that as of this report, the State of Michigan

Since Department Convention, I have logged over 12,000 miles on the Ladies Auxiliary van. Just like that old song, "I've been everywhere, man." Can you believe that?

is 83% in membership. I am happy about that, but our work is far from done. Please get your dues in promptly. Remember, your district MUST be 90% by December 31st in order for your District President to be able to go out on her "Night on the Town." So don't let her down. It's such a wonderful time and every District President deserves that special time.

I hope you are all working on getting your Cancer quotas paid. I am hearing that my Cancer pins are being purchased by not only women, but the men like them, too!! If you need more, don't hesitate to contact the Cancer Pin Chairman for additional pins.

See you at Mid-Winter in Kalamazoo. May you and yours have a Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year!!

## DEPARTMENT MEMBERSHIP



**Val Mikkelsen**

important it is to RECRUIT, RECRUIT, RECRUIT. We need to keep our numbers up, so that we also have a voice in America. I trust that ALL Auxiliaries are working very hard towards that ultimate goal of 100%. District and Auxiliary Membership Chairmen need to keep on top of, and be current with, dues and reminders. So far, I am very proud to say that the Department of Michigan has met all of the deadlines that National has set for us. But those were the easy ones. Now comes the harder ones. The next difficult one is to make sure that EVERY DISTRICT IS AT LEAST 90% BY DECEMBER 31, 2010. We want to make sure that every District President can take part in her "Night on the Town" at our Mid-Winter Convention. I am sure everyone wants their District President to be included that night.

With that in mind, if you are having difficulties achieving your 90% in your Auxiliary, please contact your District

Sisters,

Membership is one of the most important facets of our existence as a Ladies Auxiliary to the VFW. Without it, we are a dying organization. I cannot express enough to you how

President. As for the District Presidents, if you have an Auxiliary struggling to get their dues collected, and your phone call to the Auxiliary Treasurer didn't help, then contact Department Headquarters. Don't wait until December to work on this.

Here's a helpful tip for recruiting: I heard of an Auxiliary that went through the VFW membership list and found some daughters and granddaughters that weren't signed up yet.

Please, Please, Please, DO NOT HOLD UP DUES. They need to be in to the Department office in a timely manner, so that they can be counted for us, as soon as possible. Remember, we are competing against many other states for awards, as well as our own "IN STATE" awards and deadlines. Please refer to your Guide Sheet for Michigan awards.

Resending dues reminder cards, personal contact, phone calls and membership drives all can play an important part in helping to boost your paid membership numbers. This doesn't mean we should "badger" people; however, sometimes a couple of "gentle" reminders or personal contact works best.

Our Michigan Apple Blossom Special Train has high hopes of obtaining 100% in Membership this year. Please remember to say a prayer for all of our military personnel in harm's way.

## LEGISLATIVE/PAC CHAIRMAN



**Ruth Later**

tion on the most recent endorsements by the VFW Political Action Committee, effective this day, October 13, 2010, the Ladies Auxiliary to the Veterans of Foreign Wars is suspending all fundraising and promotion of the VFW-PAC for the remainder of the

By the time you get this article, you probably will have heard about the change in the PAC program. National President Cortina Barnes issued the following statement: "In the light of the VFW's position

year." Because of this, there will not be a silver dollar raffle at Mid-Winter conference. If you should have any Michigan PAC pins that have not been sold, send them back to me. On the guide sheet, everything referring to PAC will go away.

The National Legislative Service office is located in Washington, D.C. This allows them to be able to monitor all legislation affecting veterans, and alert the VFW membership to key legislation under consideration and to actively lobby Congress and the administration on veterans' issues. With the VFW's own priority goals in mind, combined with the support of 2.1 million members of the VFW and Auxiliaries, our voice

— **LEGISLATIVE**, continued on page 9

## DEPARTMENT HOSPITAL



**Merryd Lewis**

There are so many ways volunteers can help the Veteran's Homes, medical centers, clinics or even local hospitals and nursing homes. As a volunteer, you help to ensure that our Veterans are treated with care, affection, respect and enthusiasm.

There are many opportunities available that volunteers are needed for. A few ideas that come to mind would be – A greeter/ambassador: in this position you would help Veterans who may need assistance locating general information in the hospital; give directions or even escort them to an appointment; perhaps, get a wheelchair for them.

Another idea would be to write letters, read a book or to sit and visit with them,

Hello everyone,

I'm sure you've heard about budget cuts that are affecting so many of us. Our Veteran Medical Centers are no exception. Have you thought about being a volunteer?

as sometimes they don't have family or friends that are able to visit. Play a game of cards or work on a puzzle with them.

The veteran's can always use phone cards, bus tokens or transportation vouchers, crossword puzzles, canteen books to purchase coffee or soda from the canteen and reading materials.

How do I become a Veteran's Affairs Voluntary Service (VAVS) volunteer? Contact your nearest VA or local nursing home or hospital. Ask to speak to a voluntary service specialist. They will set you up with an appointment for an interview to see what interests you have, and give you a scheduled time to volunteer. You will also be given an orientation of hospital policy. Non-members of the VFW and Ladies Auxiliary can be sponsored from each Post. So, if you have a friend that would like to help you when you volunteer, perhaps your Auxiliary would sponsor them. Children are also welcomed to volunteer.

Do you have an outstanding hospital volunteer? Please submit an application to me for the Outstanding Hospital Volunteer of the Year!

## CANCER AID & RESEARCH



**Sandy Medos**

How time flies. It is already the end of October, and Christmas is just around the corner.

What a great time we had at Pow-Wow. I want to thank each and every one of you who donated items,

gave cash donations, brought in pictures of your loved ones, signed our survivor's board, helped me in the cancer booth or just stopped by to say hello. Pow-Wow was a great success. We raised just over \$5,600.00. Don't forget to report to your Community Service Chairman any money you donated, spent or the cost of the items you may have donated. Again, I can't thank you enough and I know that we can make Mid-Winter Conference even better.

As you know, October was National Breast Cancer Awareness Month. Everywhere you looked someone was doing something for cancer, "United by Love for Our Veterans and Country." We live in a wonderful caring country. The way our economy is today we cannot do this alone. We have to get out into the public and promote our program. Public Awareness is an essential key to our success. At Pow-Wow, I passed out a sample letter you can send out to your TV, Cable, Radio, Community Newsletters, Businesses, Newspapers and Merchant/Community Bulletin Boards. I think you will be surprised at the results. I also took a copy of our new Fact Sheet with a letter attached to my hairdresser's shop. A lady picked it up, read it, and handed me \$10.00. She apologized saying that was all she could afford now. We started talking and she said her mother was just diagnosed with cancer and she wanted to thank our organization for all the work we have done and are still doing. Like so many others, she never realized the VFW did so much for cancer. All we have to do is get the word

out. We are part of an incredible organization, so let's share it with everyone.

At our Winter Conference we will be having our regular Cancer Booth, where you can bring any type of items you want to donate, as long as they are new or slightly used. Everyone loved the pink bag raffle. If we get enough larger items donated, we will do this again. Don't forget about our Wii Bowl-a-Thon fundraiser. I'm sure we will all enjoy ourselves. Remember, you can get cancer grant forms from your Auxiliary Treasurer or you can go on the National VFW Ladies Auxiliary Web page. You can also find the New Fact Sheet. The Web site is [www.ladiesauxvfw.org](http://www.ladiesauxvfw.org). I am hoping that you have found someone to give the two-year, \$100,000 Postdoctoral Cancer Research Fellowship grant. This is such a wonderful program. "Veterans – Our Heartbeat of America" says it all, so let's get out there and do our best to help our veterans, their families and everyone else who has been touched with cancer.

If you haven't gotten your Cancer pins, or need more, you can contact Lancea Daly who is the cancer pin chairman. You can find her phone number at the bottom of all your bulletins. The pins are beautiful and are selling very well. They appeal not only to the ladies, but also to the gentlemen. November is Lung Cancer, Pancreatic Cancer and National Hospice Awareness month.

The holidays are just around the corner, so please remember those who have cancer, those who are survivors and the caregivers. Just a phone call or a ten-minute visit can make a difference in their lives. We all need a little extra love when we are going through tough times. If you have any questions or ideas about anything concerning our Cancer Aid and Research Program, feel free to call or e-mail me at any time.

In closing, I want to remind everyone – women, men and children – to get annual checkups. Good health habits may save your life. Early detection is the key. See you at Mid-Winter Conference in January.



**DISTRICT 4 PRESIDENT**

Lana Bourlier



Greetings from District 4!

Hello all. Hope this message finds all in good and happiness! As you can see, this year is moving quite fast. We are finishing up our inspections and preparing for our Voice of Democracy/Patriot's Pen and Teacher of the Year awards! Get out to the schools and get our youth involved! Before we know it, we will be sending them to Camp Trotter for summer. I would like to take this time to thank my mentor, best friend and mother, Betty Valentine. You have been there through thick and thin and helped me

in times when I probably didn't deserve it. Thank you, mom, for showing me what unconditional love is all about. I love you.

Short and Sweet – I want everyone to know that this organization is the greatest organization I have ever been involved in. Its purpose is true and rewarding in its own way. Thank you all who sent cards during my surgery and I am grateful for your support and dedication.

Don't forget – membership never stops. We must work hard for Lloyd and Pat, so they will come out on top in the end.

Thank a veteran for your freedom! Help a veteran in need! Send a troop a care package! With those goals, you can't go wrong!

God Bless all and God Bless America!

**DISTRICT 5 PRESIDENT**

Joyce Hinkle



Salutations to the Ladies of the 5th District,

Our year is well under way, but our work has just begun. I hope many of you had the chance to attend Pow-Wow, as

well as our first District meeting. Did you get a chance to meet and get your picture taken with the National President Cortina Barnes during her visit? It was my distinct pleasure to meet and talk with her. President Cortina remarked that the Aisle of Flags at the Brighton Post was one of the best she has ever seen!! She is truly a warm, friendly and knowledgeable lady.

Our next meeting is fast approaching. It is December 5, 2010 at the Walter F. Bruce Post 1146 located in St. Clair Shores. We will have a Pearl Harbor memorial service in the morning, and be joined by our

Department President, Patricia Patterson, and our own special Jr. Girls Unit 1146 for the day. We have a lot planned, so please try to attend. Our meetings are always full of information that you can take back with you to your Auxiliaries to use every day. Remember, we also will be having our Christmas raffle that day. You can purchase extra tickets that day if you missed buying them at your Post.

If I haven't done your inspection, I will be there in the next few weeks and am looking forward to meeting everyone.

I hope many of you will be able to attend the Mid-Winter Conference in Kalamazoo, Michigan on January 27-30, 2011. Programs will be Cancer, Membership and Buddy Poppy Awards. There will be a lot going on and as always, very informative. Hope to see you there!

May you and your families have a Happy Thanksgiving and a very Merry Christmas.

**DISTRICT 6 PRESIDENT**

Carloyn Jenkins



Hello Sisters of the 6th,

Fall Conference was a success, as usual, with plenty of information on programs to be taken back to your Auxiliaries. The inspections

are coming along fine and will be winding up in the next three months. I have heard about many different projects connected with communities and veterans. Remember to report everything you do on the community service report. As of September 30th, there are four Auxiliaries in our District not yet reported. The Department Community Service Chairman would like to see everyone reported by December 31, 2010.

Were your membership drives successful? If you haven't held one yet, it's not too late. Membership for the District is going strong, so keep up the good work. There are two Auxiliaries in our District that are close to 100%. The other 17 Auxiliaries need to work fast before December 31st. Send reminders to those who have yet to pay their dues. The District Membership Chairman will be contacting Presidents to see if they need help in collecting dues.

At September's District meeting, Past State Commander Ernie Meyers and Past District Commander Butch Ogden described the improvements at Camp Trotter. Pictures were passed around for everyone to see. District 6 VFW has pledged to sponsor the Arts & Crafts building at the camp. They are asking for help from the Auxiliaries in the District.

Any donations that your Auxiliary can make to this project will be greatly appreciated and this will also give you a youth activities credit.

District 6 was honored to host two dinners for National President Cortina Barnes during her visit to Michigan. The first dinner was on October 19th at the Brighton VFW Post 4357, and the second was held on October 20th at the Lansing VFW Post 701. The dinners were delicious and the guests numerous.

Remember to carefully check your guide sheets and bulletins for deadline dates for Voice of Democracy/Patriot's Pen. November 11th was Veterans Day – I know everyone honored our veterans and servicemen and women serving around the world. November 25th is Thanksgiving, a day of thanks for everything we are blessed with, and some people give thanks by helping the less fortunate on this day.

Here we are at the end of the year already. December's District meeting will be December 4, 2010 at the Mason VFW Post 7309. Department President Pat Patterson will be making her official visit. It would be nice to have all 19 Auxiliaries represented. I know that this is a busy time of year with Christmas at the end of the month. Please remember our servicemen and women who are in harm's way and could use cards and packages from us.

Mark your calendar for Mid-Winter Conference in Kalamazoo, January 28-30, 2011. This is when we find out the state Voice of Democracy/Patriot's Pen winners.

Happy Thanksgiving, Merry Christmas, Happy New Year!

**DISTRICT 7 PRESIDENT**

Lou Ann Conklin



By the time you read this, we will now be halfway through our year. Our August District meeting went well, but were short on some Auxiliary representation. We really need to get out

there and promote our programs and get our communities involved. My Auxiliary held a POW-MIA presentation of "The Table" on September 17th, before a Bingo game that was open to the public. We had several comments that they had never heard of such a beautiful ceremony!

Please remember that we are a National Organization, not just a "hometown" club supporting only our hometown veterans. We are first and foremost Ladies Auxiliary members to all Veterans of Foreign Wars; past, present and future. We have an obli-

gation to follow the Bylaws and standards set forth by our National Representatives! We are encouraged to help support our "host" Post by helping them promote their programs and to further their goals as in "veterans helping veterans," and "educating our youth," as well as providing a place of comradeship and serving our communities. Use the programs to enhance your activities or vice-versa, what better way to advertise an activity than by using a nationally-known holiday or event. What better way to show your community that you are truly a "Veteran" organization and not just a club.

I hope you remembered to attend the November District meeting where we had our Memorial Service for our deceased members. Be sure not to forget to attend the May election meeting to elect our new officers for the 2011-12 year. Have a happy and safe holiday!

**DISTRICT 8 PRESIDENT**

Carrie Watkins



Greetings from the Great 8th!

By the time you receive this *MOV*, the year will already be almost half over! The last several months have been a blur with

Summer Conference, Michigan Day, National Convention, Camp Trotter Tea, Fall Conference, Big 10 Conference, the National President's visit and inspections, all in between. I am thoroughly enjoying representing the 8th District and meeting all of you.

— **DISTRICT 8, continued on page 10**

**District of the Year**

This program pertains to all Auxiliaries and members in our Department, because it takes the cooperation of everyone to earn this honor for your District. It is a big task to fulfill, but it can be done, with everyone's assistance.

The guide sheet for the program is in the Department Roster, which your president has. Ask her to read the important items at a meeting. Then you will know why the Auxiliary is an important part of the program. Just a few of these are: for your Auxiliary to strive to reach 100%, make those phone calls and knock on doors to encourage and collect dues. If you recruited a member that has not paid, you give her a call because you know her. Or, look at the members that have left by the back door. Talk to them and reinstate them. We all want our District President to have her "Night on the Town" at Mid-Winter. For that, the District must be 90% by December 31, 2010.

Another one is that your audits must be in on time at the end of each quarter.

Attending the District meeting is important – you do make a difference.

Participate in our Department and National programs, which are listed on the guide sheet. The Department

Chairmen do give you ideas in their bulletins and *MOV* articles, of programs that may be completed. Reporting what you have done is also important.

Yes, the District President has parts of the program she must take care of. Number one is to inspect all Auxiliaries within her District. These are to be completed by the end of January 2011. She is also to conduct the District meetings and plan them to be informative to the members; also to start on time and continue in a timely matter.

You have your District President there for any help you may want and if she is not sure of the answer, she has others to ask, like our Department officers and chairmen. She is there to give all of the members encouragement, cooperation and consideration.

We are all here working together for our great organization, the Ladies Auxiliary to the Veterans of Foreign Wars and the veterans that served for us. We all want our District to be the best. Set your goals high and I know they will be achieved.

Good luck to all Districts.

**Pearl Elston**  
**District of the Year**

**LEGISLATIVE, continued from page 8 —**

on "The Hill" cannot be ignored. One of the most successful legislative pushes dealt with the signing of the 1944 GI Bill of Rights, the Montgomery GI Bill in 1984, and the new 21st Century GI Bill of 2008. The Veterans Act of 2010, which was H.R. 3219, passed both the Senate and House and was signed by the President in October.

I've had some questions regarding Action Corps. Action Corps is the grassroots lobbying network of the VFW. Their mission is to educate members and supporters on initiatives and policies that affect veterans. For more information, visit the VFW Web site at [www.vfw.org](http://www.vfw.org)

The 112th Congress convenes January 3, 2011. Update your contact list with the

newly-elected officials. The 2011 VFW Priority Goals will be out in December of this year. You can download a copy from the VFW Web site. Make copies to hand out to your members, especially those who do not have computer access. Why not send a copy to your legislators, making them aware of the VFW's concerns.

I'd like to thank all those who participated regarding the tour of the Capitol on October 20th this year. It was very informative and we were given a special treat. Rep. Barb Byrum escorted us onto the House floor and explained how the voting takes place, among other things.

The Michigan Baskets were a great hit. I guess I didn't realize how resourceful our state is. Thanks to all those who participated.





## DISTRICT 9 PRESIDENT

Pat Klockziem



Hello, to my Auxiliary Sisters in District 9:

The Auxiliary inspections/visits are going very well. It has been a wonderful experience visiting the many

Auxiliaries in District 9. I have met so many wonderful sisters during my visits. I want to thank you all for your hospitality and friendship.

Pow-Wow was held in October. The workshops were very informative and I hope you went home with lots of information that you shared with your Auxiliary sisters. What a great way to know what is going on, upcoming events and any changes that may occur. It is also important to attend District meetings, as well. This is also a good way to keep up with information about what is happening in our District. I am extending a personal invitation for you to join us at our District meetings. I am looking forward to seeing you all there.

All who attended the POW-MIA pro-

gram that was held in St. Louis in October found it very moving. Amy Kummerow did a wonderful job. I would like to encourage you to attend this program next year.

All of our programs are very important. Check your guide sheets to make sure all your chairmen are reporting everything. Please continue to work to carry out these programs. Membership is very important. Let's all work on getting those continuous dues in. Explain the importance of our organization and how important it is to continue our work for our veterans and their families. We need membership to stay strong. Let's all strive for 100%. Congratulations to all Auxiliaries that have reached 100%.

Don't forget, our District is here to help you in any way. Don't hesitate to contact me, or any of our chairmen, if you have any questions.

The holidays are rapidly approaching. Remember there are lots of veterans who need our help. Thank them for their sacrifices and for the freedoms we have because of them. Have a wonderful holiday and a safe and blessed New Year.

## DISTRICT 12 PRESIDENT

Judy Schafer



Greetings, all Auxiliary members of the 12th,

The halfway point of my Auxiliary year is approaching. In my travels around the north for inspec-

tions, I have enjoyed meeting more of the sisters of this District.

I am sure that all the District Presidents had fun taking part in the membership skit at the Fall Conference. Thank you to Membership Chairman, Val, for all her hard

work. Some of us also attended the Big Ten Conference in Columbus, Ohio and took part in the Membership skit, as did each of the other states. We were reminded of the 3 Rs: RETAIN, REINSTATE AND RECRUIT. As of October 14th, District 12 is in 10th place with 75.03%.

At the Big Ten Conference the National President, Cortina Barnes, was in attendance. She is a very warm lady and everyone enjoyed meeting her.

The holidays of Thanksgiving and Christmas are fast approaching. HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

Take care and be careful as you drive.

## DISTRICT 13 PRESIDENT

Nancy LaVigne



Happy Holidays to all of you in the 13th District,

By now you should know where you stand with the programs you have completed for the year thus far. Mem-

bership should be near that 100% mark. We are always looking for new and reinstated members in our organization. Without them, we just wouldn't exist – so who would be out there fighting for Veterans' rights? We need to keep our members from going out the back door. We know that eligible members are out there – we need to find them and sign them up. Remember, it is getting close to the December 31 deadline for membership. Now is the time to get out there and contact those members that may have forgotten to pay their dues. It is also a good reason to check on those sisters that may not be doing so well. If you have an Auxiliary Sister who needs help with her dues because of illness or financial hardship, the Auxiliary can use their Relief Fund to assist in paying their dues.

Community activities reports are coming in slow. Let's get these to Department as soon as you can. Remember – this is what keeps the IRS off our

doorstep – by showing that we are working in the community. I ask all Auxiliary sisters to please remember to report all your activities. As I visited the Auxiliaries for inspections, I was amazed at how busy our sisters are. Then I look at the community service reports, and it doesn't reflect it.

Please remember our hospitalized veterans, those in nursing homes and shut-ins. Pay a visit to those veterans in your area. Bring along a small "love gift," – a cheery holiday card with a cancer pin. It would lift up their spirits and brighten their day and yours, too.

Congratulations to the local and District Voice of Democracy and Patriot's Pen Essay winners. Many thanks go out to all the VOD and Patriot's Pen chairmen of all levels for inspiring our youth, encouraging them, and giving them an excellent opportunity to express their patriotic views and ideas through the annual contests.

I wish to thank all of you for all you have done and are continuing to do as you go about "United by Love for Our Veterans and Country." Veterans are our "Heartbeat of America."

Our next District meeting will be in Harbor Springs, February 5, 2011, Emmet County Post 2051.

From my family to your family, we wish you a safe and happy holiday.

## DISTRICT 10 PRESIDENT

Diana Ward



Greetings Sisters,

You ladies are awesome. We had all 26 audits in on time!!!! Yeah. Thank you for your hard work and dedication to make this happen.

The next audits are due by January 31, 2011.

At the writing of this article, the 10th District is at 80.36% in membership. We have only three Auxiliaries who are 100% – Marlette, Berville and Mayville. Great job, Ladies! We have several Auxiliaries that are close. Last year, we lost the Flushing Auxiliary, so we are a little behind the 8 Ball to make 100% because we have to make up for the ladies we lost. Our next deadline date is December 31, 2010 – the District needs to be at 90%. That amounts to 290 more dues to be collected. Ladies, I know you are doing a great job in trying to get those dues paid. Please let me or Vi Ward, our Membership Chairman, know if you need any assistance in making this happen. Please be sure not to hold dues – send them in to Department as they come in. It takes time to process those dues before they can go on to National, so be kind to our Department Treasurer and not swamp her at deadline dates, if possible. Besides sending out dues reminders, maybe you can make personal contact with these ladies – make a simple phone call or stop by their homes. Ask if they are doing okay or need any assistance, which is what our Relief Funds are for, and many of our ladies are too proud to let someone know they need help. Put all the member names in a hat and draw a name to pay their dues – if it is a Life Member or someone who has already paid, give them a little treat and then draw again. Maybe work something out so Auxiliary workers get "service credit" towards their dues. Remember that signing up a new member or reinstating an older member also helps get you closer to your membership goal.

Ladies, I have seen some flyers and letters that are being sent out to VFW Posts and to Auxiliary members offering to get better benefits and VA services for our

veterans. In order to help and support our veterans, some of you have planned to attend or have promoted it around your Post or Auxiliary. **Please be advised that these letters and flyers are coming from attorneys' offices and are nothing more than "fishing expeditions for clients."** These attorneys do not work for the VA and they have no affiliation or association with the VFW and our service officers. Whether or not these attorneys can get you better benefits remains to be seen; however, know this: **an attorney who gets you any kind of monetary or benefit award, will charge you a fee which can be as much as 33.33% of your settlement.** If you feel that a veteran's benefits need to be reviewed or if they are not receiving benefits at all and should, please refer them directly to our VFW Service Officers.

In support of our National Commander and line officers, our National President, Cortina Barnes, has mandated that no further PAC fundraising be done for the remainder of the 2010-2011 year and this includes PAC pins. **However, all monies collected for PAC prior to October 13, 2010 must be sent in – it was earned for PAC and therefore, must be utilized for PAC.** If you have planned an upcoming PAC fundraiser, you can still have the fundraiser, but the funds would be put toward another program and you would no longer promote it as a PAC fundraiser. Ladies, if you took PAC pins on consignment (meaning that you have not paid for them yet) please return any unsold PAC pins to Ruth Later, Department Legislative Chairman at 236 Maple Run, Mason, MI 48854. If your Auxiliary already paid for the pins and you have not collected any donations for them, you may use them as giveaways at your VA Hospital parties or other functions.

Ladies, I'm here for you and want to help each of your Auxiliaries succeed. If you need any assistance with anything, please be sure to give me a call at 810-714-3568, 810-629-3976 or drop me an e-mail at [legalblaze@aol.com](mailto:legalblaze@aol.com). I will either get you what you need myself or have someone else available to help.

## DISTRICT 8, continued from page 9 —

The inspections have been wonderful. I have been able to visit so many Auxiliaries I had not been to before, and meet so many more of the members. Thank you for all you do and keep up the good work! The only suggestions I have are regarding Community Service reporting and Membership.

Report ALL that your members do, so many of them don't realize those "little things" they do on a weekly or monthly basis can be reported for Community Service. Use the listings you received at the beginning of the year and see how your members are doing so many things that will fill those sheets for you every month. Make sure to send in at least one sheet per month to the Department office.

Keep working on Membership! Many of our Auxiliaries are already over 85%, and now comes the hard part – getting the rest in to reach 100%. Contact your continuous members, maybe invite them

to an open house, ask them if they have any friends or family that may be eligible and would like to join and always be friendly and invite them to meetings and events. Always be on the lookout and open to receive new members as well, they are really all around you – your own friends and family, neighbors and community members. Most of our Auxiliaries reached 100% last year, and I know you can do it again!

Upcoming events – District meeting, November 6th in Charlotte; VFW National Home for Children Santa Visit, December 10th, starting at 5:30 at the fire barn; Mid-Winter Conference in Kalamazoo, January 27-30; and District meeting, February 5th in Otsego.

Blessings to all of you for a wonderful holiday season! Please remember those in hospitals, nursing homes, the elderly at home, families of soldiers overseas, and those less fortunate than ourselves – our kindness and caring might mean the world to them.



# OPERATION UPLINK





## Michigan Day at the National Home

On Sunday, August 1, 2010, the VFW National Home for Children hosted Michigan Day at the National Home. Every year the National Home opens its doors to the members of the Department of Michigan. The homes are open for tours by VFW members. This gives members of the VFW a chance to meet the families and see how our National Home takes care of them. There are plenty of family activities and a lunch for members to take part in. If you have never been to the National Home, Michigan Day is a perfect opportunity to visit. We hope to see you there next year.



*Pictured, L-R: Sr. Vice Commander Jack Pray, Department Commander Lloyd Putman II and Jr. Vice Commander Kirk Kennedy in front of the field of flags.*



*Pictured, L-R: Department Ladies Auxiliary Chaplain Marilyn Malick, Treasurer Jan Lawrence, Jr. Vice President Annabelle Furgason, President Patricia Patterson, Sr. Vice President Mariann Hamann, Secretary Jan Meyers and Guard Deb Eernisse.*



*Department Commander Lloyd Putman II with the 2010-2011 State Honor Guard.*



*Members of the Men's Auxiliary 701 display their new Men's Auxiliary flag. Left to right: Men's Auxiliary Member Pete Turcotte, State Commander Lloyd Putman II and Men's Auxiliary President Robert Hyde.*



*Members of the Jean R. Anderson Post 7309 run the Fishing Derby.*



*Members of the VFW and children from the National Home try their luck in the fishing pond.*



*Children dig for buried treasure in the sand.*



*Llamas, goats and bunnies at a small petting zoo.*



*Former Buddy Poppy Girl, Marie Strefling, shows off the new VFW National Home logo.*



# National Commander-in-Chief Tommy Tradewell Visits Michigan

From August 6-7, 2010, Commander-in-Chief Tommy Tradewell paid a visit to the State of Michigan. C in C Tradewell visited the Grand Rapids Veterans Home, Morley S. Oats Post 701 in Lansing, the City of Wyandotte Post 1136 and the Cpl. Walter F. Bruce Post 1146 in St. Clair Shores.



Chief Tradewell and Department Commander Lloyd Putman II visit with residents at the Grand Rapids Home in the woodshop.



Residents of the Grand Rapids Home enjoy bowling in the Homes' Bowling Alley.



Chief Tradewell, members of the Veterans Home Staff and Department Officers and Directors outside the Veterans Home.



Chief Tradewell with Morley S. Oats Post 701 Commander Gary Frayer.



Chief Tradewell with VFW National Home Director Patrice Green.



Chief Tradewell with City of Wyandotte Post 1136 Commander Al Starzec and Auxiliary President Ruth Barnhill.



Chief Tradewell is presented an engraved brick by Cpl. Walter F. Bruce Post 1146 Commander Tara Perez.



Chief Tradewell is presented with a Certificate of Recognition from the City of Wyandotte by Wyandotte Mayor Joseph Peterson.



Chief Tradewell with 5th District Commander James Galen at the Cpl. Walter F. Bruce Post 1146.



Chief Tradewell after placing his brick.



Standing in front of the Wyandotte Veterans Memorial, L-R: Post 1136 Commander Al Starzec, Department Jr. Vice Commander Kirk Kennedy, Department Sr. Vice Commander Jack Pray, Wyandotte Mayor Joseph Peterson, C in C Tommy Tradewell, PSC Dave Hutson and Department Surgeon Lenny Milewski.



Chief Tradewell with Department Officers and members of the 4th District at the City of Wyandotte Post 1136.





## VFW National Convention

*The 111th VFW National Convention concluded on August 26, 2010 with the election of new VFW National Commander, Richard Eubank. Special guests this year included Vice President Joe Biden, country music star Keni Thomas, VA Secretary Eric Shinseki, Judge Robert T. Russell and many more.*



*State Commander Lloyd Putman II nominates Elmer Liimatta for the office of VFW National Chaplain at the Big Ten Caucus.*



*Department Officers at the National Convention Joint Opening Session, L-R: State Commander Lloyd Putman II, his wife Denise, Department Sr. Vice Commander Jack Pray, his wife Bonnie, Department Jr. Vice Commander Kirk Kennedy and Department Chief of Staff Ken Klee, with members of the Michigan Delegation in the background.*



*Jan Tittle, Ladies Auxiliary President, accepted the VFW Gold Medal of Merit.*



*Donna Peterson, a member of Post 9854 in Vinton, Louisiana, accepted the Fred C. Hall Outstanding Community Service Project Award for that Post's efforts in recognizing more than 100 WWII veterans by presenting them with memorial pins.*



*Elmer Liimatta accepts the nomination for VFW National Chaplain at the Big Ten Caucus.*



*The National Honor Guard posts the Colors.*





NATIONAL CONVENTION, continued from page 13



Former Army Ranger and country music singer Keni Thomas received VFW's Hall of Fame Award for his work as the national spokesperson for the Hero Fund, which is a scholarship fund for the children of special operations troops killed in action. Thomas served with the 75th Ranger Regiment in Somalia during Operation Restore Hope, which included the deadly Battle of Mogadishu on October 3, 1993.



Vice President Joe Biden stressed at the VFW's Joint Opening Session the sacred obligation the nation has to its troops in the field and as veterans when they return home. He also outlined major policy objectives in Iraq and Afghanistan, while addressing the needs of those war veterans.



Department Commander Lloyd Putman II and Department Ladies Auxiliary President Patricia Patterson led the Michigan delegation into the Patriotic Rally.



The Michigan delegation marching into the Patriotic Rally.



Riders in the Howard E. Vander Clute Memorial Motorcycle Ride raised \$5,000 for the VFW Foundation's Salute to Military Families Campaign.



Jean R. Anderson Post 7309 Commander George Wygant is presented with the All-American Post Award by National C-in-C Tommy Tradewell. The All-American Award is designed to recognize outstanding units and is based on participation in VFW Programs, as well as membership gains by Posts, Districts and Departments. The Jean R. Anderson Post 7309 was the only Post in the Department of Michigan to receive the award.



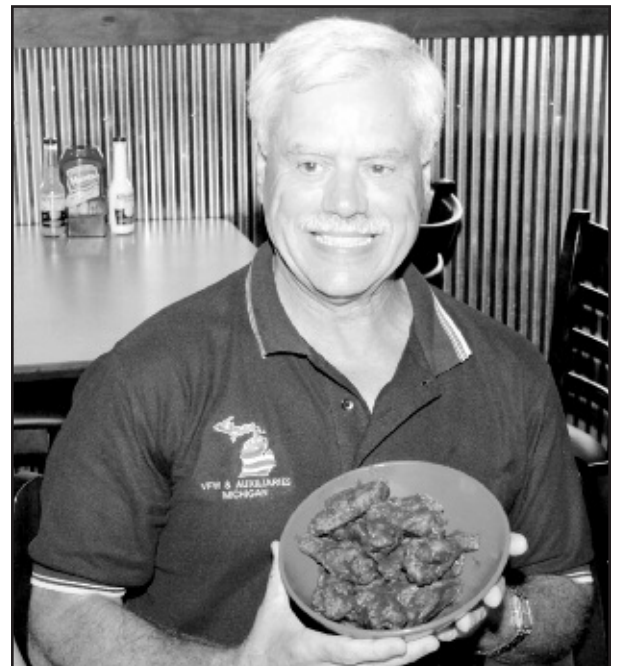
2010-2011 Department Officers with National Commander-Elect Richard Eubank, L-R: Department QM/Adjutant Rob Weiss, Department Commander Lloyd Putman II, National C-in-C Richard Eubank, Department Sr. Vice Commander Jack Pray and Department Jr. Vice Commander Kirk Kennedy.



State Honor Guard members Thomas Rossi, Butch Ogden and Dennis Battle at the All Conference Reception in front of the Freedom Flight POW/MIA Hot Air Balloon. Freedom Flight, Inc. is a nonprofit, educational corporation established in 1988 that seeks to honor and increase the awareness of POW/MIA issues.



Mike DeRosa, representing Burger King's Midwest franchisers, presented a donation for \$500,000 to VFW's Unmet Needs program, which assists military families with financial aid. Some 831 restaurants in 21 states participated this year, with a three-year total donation of \$860,000. "I promise that Burger King will keep raising money until all needs are met," he said.



At the local "Buffalo Wings and Rings" restaurant, PSC Rick Redfern decided to try the Armageddon Challenge. The wings have a Scoville heat rating of between 500,000 and 1,000,000. If he ate them all in a specified time period, they were free. A bet was made he couldn't do it, with the proceeds going to Camp Trotter. PSC Rick Redfern didn't have to pay for the wings and Camp Trotter received a large donation.



VFW National Chaplain Elmer Liimatta addresses the Convention after being elected.



## Former Marine Elected to Head Nation's Largest Organization of Combat Veterans

**Richard L. Eubank is new VFW National Commander**

KANSAS CITY, MO – Aug. 26, 2010 – America's largest organization of combat veterans has elected a Vietnam War veteran to head the 1.5 million-member Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States.

Richard L. Eubank, now a resident of Eugene, Oregon, was elected VFW National Commander on Aug. 26, 2010, during the VFW's National Convention held Aug. 20-25, in Indianapolis, Indiana.

During his acceptance speech Eubank, who served with the U.S. Marine Corps from 1967-1987, pledged his support to help the organization's state and local leaders in fighting for our troops and veterans. "Just let me know how I can use the influence of this position to help you at the local level...any combat unit worth its salt will take their objective and accomplish their mission. I want warriors who are willing to go into battle with me. For those that do not wish to wage war for our veterans, please stand aside and let us pass through," he stated.

When emphasizing the need for new members, Eubank asked the mostly Vietnam-era audience to compare their roles within the organization to rifles and bullets. "Everyone at this Convention is a rifle, and so are the thousands of others back in your home states and [VFW] Departments, Districts and Posts. You are the leaders...but every rifle needs bullets, and that's our membership – and from one grunt to the many warriors in this room – you can never have too many bullets...every program and service we



provide takes rifles to do the legwork and bullets to provide the support."

During the Vietnam War Eubank served as a field radio operator with the 1st and 3rd Marine Division. His military decorations include the Combat Action Ribbon, Navy Achievement Medal with Combat V device, Good Conduct Medal with 5 Stars, Vietnam Service Medal with 5 stars, Vietnam Campaign Medal, National Defense Medal and the Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry Medal, among others.

Eubank joined the VFW in 1988 at Post 10165 in Cameron Park, California, and is currently a Life Member of Post 4084 in Ridgecrest, California. He has served in elected and appointed positions at the Post, District and Department (state) including Department Commander in 1999-2000. He earned distinction by achieving the Triple Crown: All-American Commander honors at the Post, District and Department levels. He has served on numerous national committees.

During his yearlong term, Eubank will log thousands of miles across the globe to promote the VFW, veterans' issues and quality of life initiatives for active-duty, Reserve and Guard members. By the time the Commander's term ends, he will have visited every state and numerous overseas areas.

Also elected were Richard L. DeNoyer, Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief of Middleton, Massachusetts and John E. Hamilton, Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief of Jacksonville, Florida.

## Members of VFW Post 334 Served as the Honor Guard for Helicopter Dedication

After several years of dedicated work by many volunteers, a restored helicopter was dedicated Saturday, August 21 at The American Legion-VFW Hall in Oxford. The helicopter was dedicated to Lt. Colonel Delbert L. Waugh, a highly decorated Vietnam veteran, who saved hun-

dreds of lives and was shot down seven times in combat operations. His many medals, awards and ribbons include two Purple Hearts and the Distinguished Flying Cross. More than a hundred people attended the dedication and the luncheon that followed.



Thirteen members of VFW Post 334 served as the Honor Guard for the dedication ceremony including, L-R: Jim Hubbard, Les Waggett, Roberta Salisbury, Jim Delaney, Bob Cooney, Frank Cobb, Randy Stetson, Frank Gambino, Loren Schmidt, Wes Klein, Bob Watros, David Eastman and Joe Zikewich. North Oakland VFW Post 334 meets the second Thursday of every month at 7:30 p.m. at The American Legion-VFW Hall at 130 East Drahn Road in Oxford.

## Financial Aid for Wanna Be Scouts

The Carleton VFW Post 4093 is coming to the aid of Monroe County youth that want to be Boy Scouts. The current economic conditions and unemployment conditions plaguing Monroe County has made it difficult for many area youth to participate in the programs of the Boy Scouts of America. Carleton VFW Post 4093 is coming to the rescue and going beyond what is normally expected of a charter organization. To insure area youth are not denied the opportunity to join and participate in America's foremost youth program, during the first meeting of October members of the Post unanimously voted to help finance any youth within the county that would like to join the Carleton Boy Scout Troop 566.

Any youth ages 11 to 17, who is a family member of service personnel serving on active duty or in the reserve components, will have their registration and 100% of their summer camp fees paid for by the Carleton VFW Post. Additionally, any area youth desiring to join the troop, regardless of family relationship to the military will have their registration and 50% of their summer camp fees paid if the family is having financial difficulties because of unemployment of the youth's parent or guardian. The members of Troop 566 also have opportunities to earn extra money to finance their activities by selling popcorn and Christmas wreaths the boys and parents make each year. Troop 566 is a Scout-run Troop. While experienced trained adult leaders insure activities are conducted within the bounds of safe scouting, the youth plan, organize and conduct their activities themselves to learn leadership and reinforce leadership skills.

VFW Post 4093 has a proud tradition of supporting Boy and Cub Scouting programs in the Carleton area. Troop 566 and

Cub Scout Pack have been chartered by the Post for over 35 years and last year the Post chartered a Venture Crew to serve both male and female members, ages 14-21. Membership in the troop has started to dwindle because of the cost of assorted activities. "It's a real shame when the first question a boy asks about joining Scouts is, 'How much does it cost?'" said Post Commander Don Kecskes. "But it is reflective of how astute area youth are to their family's financial condition. Scouting provides so much direction in a boy's life; giving them leadership skills and moral and ethical foundations that develop our leaders of tomorrow, and no boy should be denied this opportunity because of lack of funds." Kecskes said "Post 4093 will do whatever it takes to insure Troop 566 continues to have a quality scouting program."

VFW Post 4093 is proud of the young men their Scouting program has produced over the years. Dave Otter, a youth member of Cub Scout Pack 522 back in the 1950s, is now a member of the VFW Post having served in Vietnam. Recent Eagle Scouts from Troop 566 have, or are currently, serving in Iraq and Afghanistan and one of our Eagle Scouts is now an officer of the Transportation Security Agency (TSA), and another is currently attending the University of Toledo's ROTC program.

At 6:00 p.m., Sunday, October 24th Troop 566 will be having an "Open House" at the VFW Post located at 700 Carleton-Rockwood Road, Carleton where boys can join the Troop. For additional information Scoutmaster Milan Radakovic is available at 734-502-5446

**John A. Griffith, CW5, USA (Ret.)**

**Business: 734-654-9334**

**Fax: 734-654-1884**

**Cell: 734-735-2175**

## VFW Post 5855 Veteran's Scholarship Fund

VFW Post 5855 is proud to announce the creation of a scholarship fund for veterans. The scholarship will be awarded twice a year and is open to all Michigan veterans that are attending higher educational institutions. The application can be

downloaded from our Web site at [www.vfw5855.org](http://www.vfw5855.org). If you would like additional information, please contact me.

**Gary Vermeulen**  
**Post Commander**



Members of VFW Post 5855 present a scholarship check to Michelle Hemmer. Pictured, L-R: Post Commander Gary Vermeulen, Michelle Hemmer and Post member Brett Johnson.

## Post 1518 Honor Guard



VFW Post 1518, Gaylord, Michigan provided the Honor Guard at the Veterans Memorial dedication in Johannesburg, Michigan. Pictured, L-R: R. Wilson, C. Ralston, D. Peterson, L. Barnes, J. Facchinetti, F. Goldsborough and B. Ahrenberg.



## Eagle Scout Project for Troop 125-Rochester

*The New Honor Guard Station at Veterans Memorial Pointe*



*Ed Leafdale, Chris Ogg, Mayor Bryan K. Barnett and Harry Ogg cut the ribbon on the Honor Guard Station.*

Chris Ogg from Rochester Troop 125 has finished his Eagle Project at Veterans Memorial Pointe. Chris wanted to build a special place of honor for Veterans to be able to safely discharge their Honor Guard weapons during ceremonies. Before the Honor Guard Station was built, Veterans had to stand on uneven ground and had nowhere to sit during ceremonies. Chris designed, planned and raised the funds needed to build the new Honor Guard Station. He showed leadership skills by organizing fellow scouts and other volunteers to help out and organizing fundraisers to raise the funds. He worked very hard, knowing that his goal was to have it completed by Memorial Day 2010.

Chris' original plan was to have a curved paver bricked area approximately 30' long x 3' wide with a retainer brick wall about 3' high (the size grew to about 6' wide by the time he was done). In the

center of the retainer wall, is a large block with the word "HONOR" engraved in it. Chris also installed 12 bricks in the paver brick area in the shape of a "V" with the 12 points of the Boy Scout Law engraved in them. More than 230 hours were spent on the project and Chris was able to raise over \$1,100.00. Chris kept the final cost lower by obtaining many discounts and donations of materials.

The Honor Guard Station even had a red ribbon cutting ceremony! Chris' Dad, Harry Ogg, held one side and Ed Leafdale, Chaplain, VFW Post 3908, Rochester/Utica Area, held the other. Chris and Mayor Bryan Barnett did the official cutting. The Veterans then filed in, with their Honor Guard weapons proudly sitting on their shoulders, and used the Station for the first time at the 2010 Memorial Day Ceremonies. All of the Veterans were very appreciative.

*PSC Dave Hutson, Jr. wearing his brand new Spartan hat. Dave seems to have lost a recent bet with his Mighty Wolverines in the "Big House" against their "Little Brothers," the MSU Spartans. Now, Past State Commander Hutson gets the joy of wearing his new hat for the next 12 months. Go Green!!*



## VA Publishes Final Regulation on "Presumptive" Illnesses for Gulf War and Iraq, Afghanistan Veterans



September 28, 2010

Secretary of Veterans Affairs Eric K. Shinseki today announced the publication of a final regulation in the *Federal Register* that makes it easier for Veterans to obtain Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) health care and disability compensation for certain diseases associated with service in Southwest Asia (including Iraq) or Afghanistan.

"This is part of historic changes in how VA considers Gulf War Veterans' illnesses," said Secretary Shinseki. "By setting up scientifically-based presumptions of service connection, we give these deserving Veterans a simple way to obtain the medical and compensation benefits they earned in service to our country."

The final regulation establishes new presumptions of service connection for nine specific infectious diseases associated with military service in Southwest Asia beginning on or after the start of the first Gulf War on Aug. 2, 1990, through the conflict in Iraq and on or after Sept. 19, 2001, in Afghanistan.

The final regulation reflects a determination of a positive association between service in Southwest Asia or Afghanistan and nine diseases and includes information about the long-term health effects potentially associated with these diseases: Brucellosis, *Campylobacter jejuni*, *Coxiella Burnetii* (Q fever), Malaria, *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*, Nontyphoid *Salmonella*, *Shigella*, Visceral leishmaniasis and West Nile virus.

With the final rule, a Veteran will only have to show service in Southwest Asia or Afghanistan and that he or she had one of the nine diseases within a certain time after service and has a current disability as a result of that disease, subject to certain time limits for seven of the diseases. Most of these diseases would be diagnosed within one year of return from service, through some conditions may manifest at a later time.

For non-presumptive conditions, a Veteran is required to provide medical evidence to establish an actual connection between military service in Southwest Asia or Afghanistan and a specific disease.

The decision to add these presumptives was made after reviewing the 2006 report of the National Academy of Sciences Institute of Medicine (NASIOM), titled, "Gulf War and Health Volume 5: Infectious Diseases."

The 2006 report differed from the four prior reports by looking at the long-term

health effects of certain diseases determined to be pertinent to Gulf War Veterans. Secretary Shinseki decided to include Afghanistan Veterans in these presumptions because NAS found that the nine diseases are also prevalent in that country.

The 1998 Persian Gulf War Veterans Act requires the Secretary to review NAS reports that study scientific information and possible associations between illnesses and exposure to toxic agents by Veterans who served in the Persian Gulf War.

While the decision to add the nine new presumptives predates VA's Gulf War Veterans' Illnesses Task Force (GWVI-TF), the overarching responsibility of the GWVI-TF is to regain Gulf War Veterans' confidence in VA's health care, benefits, and services and reconfirm VA is 100 percent committed to Veterans of all eras. The GWVI-TF began in fall 2009 and is not a static, one-time initiative but will continue to build on its work with annual reports issued every August. The group's focus centers on unanswered Gulf War Veterans' health issues, improving access to benefits, ensuring cutting edge research into treatments, and to make sure Veterans' concerns are heard and addressed. This includes continuing to solicit Veterans, experts, advocates and stakeholders to share their views to better inform the important work of the GWVI-TF. The GWVI-TF Report can be found at [www.VA.gov](http://www.VA.gov)

Disability compensation is a non-taxable monetary benefit paid to Veterans who are disabled as a result of an injury or illness that was incurred or aggravated during active military service.

Last year, VA received more than one million claims for disability compensation and pension. VA provides compensation and pension benefits to over 3.8 million Veterans and beneficiaries.

Currently, the basic monthly rate of compensation ranges from \$123 to \$2,673 for Veterans without any dependents.

For information about health problems associated with military service in Southwest Asia and Afghanistan, and related VA programs, go to [www.publichealth.va.gov/exposures/gulfwar/](http://www.publichealth.va.gov/exposures/gulfwar/) and <http://www.publichealth.va.gov/exposures/oeoif/index.asp>

For information about how to apply for disability compensation, go to [www.va.gov](http://www.va.gov) or [http://www.publichealth.va.gov/exposures/gulfwar/compensation\\_benefits.asp](http://www.publichealth.va.gov/exposures/gulfwar/compensation_benefits.asp)

## Knight of the Legion of Honor

*The French government awarded the Knight of the Legion of Honor to Phil Henderson, Lt Col (Ret.) USAF and VFW Life Member of Post 4499 in Manistee. Hosted at the VFW Post on 20 July 2010, the medal was presented by District 12 Commander Lt Col (Ret.) Stanley Preidis.*



### MICHIGAN OVERSEAS VETERAN

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## Restoring Veterans Day

*Remembering America's warriors is often an afterthought for many Americans. It's about time Nov. 11 is paid its proper respect.*



of virtually every state capital and county courthouse host monuments, memorials and plaques honoring those who served. They date back as far as the American Revolution and are as recent as Iraq. But paying homage to veterans need not necessarily be in a public place. Every private home also should serve this purpose when appropriate.

**When.** For some Americans, remembering veterans is a daily act. But as a nation, it is essential that we preserve the integrity of November 11 as that one extra-special day for the American people as a whole

November 4, 2010

Veterans Day, once a widely celebrated holiday, is increasingly forgotten by many Americans. One need only look at the poor turnouts at ceremonies on Nov. 11. With the percentage of citizens who have worn a uniform rapidly declining, appreciation for the sacrifices made by veterans is correspondingly diminishing.

To help counter this trend, VFW has long promoted Veterans Day as an opportunity to educate the public as to the meaning of this significant time each November. This task can best be accomplished by explaining the five "W's."

**Who.** As a nation, we remember all Americans who served on active duty in the armed forces. While those who died always remain prominent in our memories, they have a special time of mourning reserved for Memorial Day. Veterans Day is an opportunity to publicly commemorate the contributions of living veterans.

**What.** Collective, as well as individual, contributions to the nation's defense is what we are remembering. The outcome of any given military campaign is irrelevant here – it's the sacrifices made at the behest of the country that are important.

**Where.** Across the land, the grounds

to pause in private or demonstrate recognition in public.

**Why.** Remembering gives true meaning to sacrifice and service. Millions of Americans' lives were forever altered because they donned a uniform to protect the freedoms and rights we take for granted. We owe an eternal debt of gratitude to them, and acknowledging Veterans Day is the time that debt comes due. It's our way of keeping faith with former defenders.

The 23.8 million veterans living today deserve the recognition. It is often forgotten that legislative battles were waged over this day and its earlier version called Armistice Day in 1926, 1938, 1954 and throughout the 1970s. Let's not take its value for granted.

One final thought. This year is an especially poignant time to restore Veterans Day to its rightful place in society.

Though the war in Iraq is far from over, we reached a significant milestone with the end of offensive U.S. operations there. Put simply, the Americans in uniform did the job asked of them, and the 50,000 who remain behind will continue to do so.

Veterans of Iraq and Afghanistan have fully joined the cavalcade of America's veterans, VFW generations who span WWI to the present day.

## VFW Free Call Days 'Truly a Blessing'

*Operation Uplink provides more than 54,088 free connections on Labor Day.*

September 15, 2010

This past Labor Day, 54,088 connections were made from deployed military personnel to the United States during a 24-hour **VFW Operation Uplink™** "Free Call Day" (FCD). At least once a month, Operation Uplink hosts a Free Call Day for service members serving in Iraq, Afghanistan, Kuwait and hospitalized veterans, giving them the opportunity to call their loved ones in the States at no cost.

Connie Lynch, wife of Patrick Lynch, who is stationed in Afghanistan, is always very grateful for the Operation Uplink Free Call Days. While some soldiers take the plunge and purchase local cell phones, the rates are generally very costly and the reception, spotty, so giving the soldiers the option to call the U.S. for free for an entire day is something most cherish.

"It's so wonderful to be able to talk to my husband for as long as he's able to without worrying about how much it's going to cost us! He's also able to talk to his parents more, which I know they appreciate," said Lynch.

Free Call Days are available at more than 800 MWR Internet cafés using SPAWAR. Soldiers use their regular SPAWAR prepaid PIN number and use regular dialing procedures. If they don't



have a PIN, on the day of the FCD, the café manager can issue them one. A sponsor message greets them before the call is placed to inform them that the call is at no charge and they are free to talk for as long as they are able.

When service members have to pay for their own calls home, they usually only can afford to talk for 10-15 minutes. But with the help of Operation Uplink's FCD, Patrick is able to call home without worrying about how much the call will cost.

"Every single phone call is a precious thing, and when it's been a week and a half or two weeks since I last heard his voice, I hold onto every second I can get! I cannot express enough appreciation to everyone who makes these calls possible; they truly are a blessing," concluded Lynch.

## VFW Salutes U.S. Marine Corps for 235 Years of Service

November 10, 2010, marks the 235th birthday of the United States Marine Corps. With its rich traditions and hallmark of valor, the USMC has fought in every American armed conflict as the "first to fight for right and freedom" since 1775.

The standard of excellence U.S. Marines achieve and the motto by which they live – Semper Parati – have made them an international symbol of honor and pride. From the Battles of Derna, Iwo Jima and Khe Sanh, to the battle of Fallujah, "America's 911 Force," has demonstrated its uninterrupted commitment and gallantry in protecting America and

defending those who cannot defend themselves from tyranny and oppression.

In 1921, Marine Corps Commandant, Major General John A. Lejeune, wrote, "In every battle and skirmish since the birth of our corps, Marines have acquitted themselves with the greatest distinction, winning new honors on each occasion until the term 'Marine' has come to signify all that is highest in military efficiency and soldierly virtue."

The 2.1 million members of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and its Auxiliaries proudly salute you for your continued sacrifices and dedication to duty and service to country.

## VFW Salutes U.S. Navy for 235 Years of Service

A Sailor's willingness to serve is a tribute to their selfless sense of duty. Because of them, our nation is free...and for that, today and every day Americans owe them a tremendous debt of gratitude.

The record of service of the Navy is a mile long and twice as deep. The U.S. Naval Forces have served with distinction in every war proving to be the most formidable force on the high seas. The resolve and fortitude of the men and women of the Navy have helped lead America to victory to maintain the values and principles of freedom for well over two centuries.

When called upon by our nation, they

have served with remarkable courage and valor. Today, citizens have a newly discovered respect for those who serve in uniform, who serve on America's front lines of freedom, those who are asked to serve in harm's way. There is no better truth than to say never before have so many owed so much to so few.

As Navy personnel celebrate their 235-year history of service to the nation, the 2.1 million members of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and its Auxiliaries want to say 'thank you.' We are proud of our Sailors and salute them for continuing to protect our freedoms and defend world peace.

### Michigan Overseas Veteran - 2011 PLEASE ADHERE TO THESE DEADLINES

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

### Please Remember!

- 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



### Thank You

We would like to thank everyone for the cards, visitation, prayers and Memorial Service in the loss of our beloved wife, mother and daughter, April. Words cannot express our gratitude.

Zack and Zoe Gerish/Bob and Pat Evans



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## A Letter to Supporters from VFW National Commander Eubank

**Commander Eubank proposes to offer a resolution to amend the Bylaws at the 112th National Convention.**

November 12, 2010

Please allow me the opportunity to assure you, our loyal supporters and the veteran community, that our mission of service is the driving force behind everything we do.

Recent political endorsements by a separate organization have called that assurance into question, and as VFW National Commander, the responsibility falls on me to ensure that any questions you may have about the integrity of the VFW are answered.

First of all, I am deeply sorry because many of you were disappointed, angered or felt betrayed following the endorsements made by the PAC. The process used by the PAC was clearly biased toward the incumbent and as a result, patently unfair.

Again, I want to stress that the PAC is a separate organization from the VFW, and I also want to make it clear that the VFW does not, and will not, enter the political arena nor ever embroil itself in partisanship by providing endorsements for political candidates.

As VFW National Commander, I have taken significant steps to correct the negative impact this situation is having on the Veterans of Foreign Wars and to regain the trust of our loyal members and supporters. As Commander-in-Chief, I propose to offer a resolution to amend the Bylaws at

the 112th National Convention for the purpose of dissolving the PAC. Meanwhile, under the authority granted to me, I have withdrawn all PAC appointments effective October 15, 2010, thus effectively rendering the PAC inoperable.

The VFW-PAC was created by VFW members, and not by VFW national leaders. This was exercised through the VFW Convention as the governing body of the organization. As such, it is only the delegates at the Convention that can determine the continued existence of the PAC.

The confusion surrounding the relationship between the VFW and PAC disrupted our delivery of services to those who deserve it most – our service members, veterans and the families of both, who depend on us. Words cannot express how truly sorry we are for the concern and frustration you experienced. This is especially saddening because the VFW was founded on the promise to ensure that no veteran will ever again be left to care for themselves.

We are also committed to you, our valued supporter, and I am hoping the immediate corrective steps I have taken will enable you to regain your confidence in us.

I invite you to learn more at [www.vfw.org](http://www.vfw.org). Nothing is more important than fulfilling our mandate of service and regaining your trust.

## Opposing View on Free Speech: Vulgarities is Not a Message

**The media are wrong to confuse freedom of expression in the Snyder case**

October 06, 2010

USA TODAY By Richard L. Eubank

While in uniform, VFW members have fought in every war and conflict to preserve, protect and defend the Constitution. They, better than most, know that most Americans have inherited the luxury of freedom while not having accomplished anything to earn it.

USA TODAY's VIEW: Does First Amendment protect protests at military funerals?

Other countries regulate public speech. The First Amendment prohibits such laws here. VFW holds dear and cherishes the First Amendment and the right of every citizen to express himself freely.

But the media are wrong to confuse freedom of expression in the Snyder case. The Phelps did not happen to picket within sight of Matthew Snyder's funeral. They announced their intention to hijack the event. They stood at the church entrance, forcing the procession to reroute, and – contrary to media reports – they were still fewer than 300 feet away from mourners. They published an insult-filled "Epic" about the Snyder family. Albert Snyder was not a passerby who happened to dislike what he heard; he was the victim of harassment.

Second, no one watching the Phelps' funeral protest would have understood their "message." The Phelps believe that American soldiers

die because of the country's tolerance of homosexuality. But their signs didn't say that. They said, "You're Going to Hell" and "Thank God for Dead Soldiers" and depicted males engaging in anal intercourse. There is no "message" here, only vulgarity and insults.

Third, Matthew Snyder was not gay. No one in his family holds public office or is outspoken on gay rights. The Phelps randomly picked the Snyders. Shielding their conduct from liability gives them free rein to show up at any funeral spouting anti-gay epithets and to write hate-filled tirades about any person. The First Amendment does not protect such arbitrary persecution.

Finally, the Snyder case is not about whether the government can prohibit the Phelps from protesting. Albert Snyder asks merely that he be compensated for harm. Snyder presented evidence that the Phelps' conduct made him vomit, interfered with his mourning process and worsened his diabetes. The First Amendment may exist to protect unpopular speech, but private lawsuits exist so that those who cause injury will be held accountable to their victims. If we deprive these victims of legal recourse, they may seek retribution in ways that are far less palatable.

Richard L. Eubank is National Commander of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States.

[www.JoinSheServes.org](http://www.JoinSheServes.org)

A PLACE FOR EXTRAORDINARY WOMEN LIKE YOU

Dear Ms. Veteran,

**November 11th is a special day for you and me.** As female veterans, we take this holiday personally. And we should. You and I are special simply because we are female soldiers. We have bravely served and made monumental sacrifices on behalf of our country. Yet, many people don't realize that we make up 15 percent of all military personnel.

As one of the only 2 million female veterans in the United States, you're part of an elite group of women – women who have boldly defended the freedoms and rights enjoyed by every American today.

### SHE SERVES IS YOUR LINK TO OTHER FEMALE VETERANS

There's a place that recognizes your valiant efforts as a female veteran, every day of the year. It's called *She Serves* – an exciting outreach program of the VFW, dedicated exclusively to female veterans just like you. A group **for** you – and **about** you. Here you'll build friendships with other women who are dealing with many of the same issues you're facing, while staying updated on news, membership benefits and more!

Our goal is to make *She Serves* the fastest growing segment in the VFW. With your help, we can show our solidarity and become THE place dedicated to female veterans – a place that addresses and supports our unique needs. Joining today is fast, easy and a great deal. Simply visit [www.joinsheserves.org](http://www.joinsheserves.org).

### COURAGE, DETERMINATION, INTEGRITY – QUALITIES YOU HAVE IN COMMON

You and your fellow female veterans have made an enormous impact serving as nurses, parachute riggers, mechanics, map-makers, translators, intelligence operatives and welders; driving convoys, flying helicopters on reconnaissance and search and rescue missions, staffing patriot missile placements and piloting planes. Wouldn't it be nice to have a network of support from women who can relate to what you've been through? A place where you can share your stories with other women who've endured similar hardships? A place where you really fit in?

### NOT YOUR GRANDFATHER'S VFW

Perhaps the VFW conjures up images of older male veterans – but that's no longer an accurate picture of its membership. The Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, with its Auxiliaries, includes 2.1 million members in approximately 7,900 Posts nationwide. And the ranks of women under 45 are increasing every day. Women just like you are finding the value in maximizing their military experience by staying actively involved and connected to other veterans locally and online.

### AS A VALUED FEMALE MEMBER OF THE VFW, YOU'RE ENTITLED TO A VARIETY OF BENEFITS, INCLUDING:

- Important monthly email news updates featuring topics relevant to women veterans
- Personal assistance securing government benefits and entitlements
- Special discounts on various merchandise and services
- Free subscription to VFW Magazine
- And much more!

All of this is available to you for a very modest annual membership fee. The rate varies by your state of residence, but averages just \$35 per year for a wealth of advantages and sense of community.

**FREE SHE SERVES CAP**  
– if you join by 12/31/09!



[www.JoinSheServes.org](http://www.JoinSheServes.org)

### JOIN NOW! 3 easy ways to join!

- Fill out the enclosed member application and mail in enclosed envelope
- Call **1-888-JOIN-VFW** to speak to a VFW representative
- Visit [www.JoinSheServes.org](http://www.JoinSheServes.org)

**Join before the end of the year and you'll receive a free *She Serves* cap!** This low-profile, powder-blue cotton cap features the *She Serves* logo in the center, encircled by the words VFW, HONOR, SACRIFICE, and SERVICE in white text.

As you reflect with pride on your own achievements and those of your fellow veterans this Veterans Day, find the camaraderie and support you seek as a female service member by joining *She Serves*. You and I are part of a shared sisterhood thanks to our experiences in serving our country. Now, we can share the many benefits of belonging to this special family of combat veterans. I urge you to experience all the VFW can do for you. Call **1-888-JOIN-VFW** or visit [JoinSheServes.org](http://JoinSheServes.org) today! It will help band us together for greater support and friendship.

Sincerely,

*Crystal Lauer*

Crystal Lauer  
Assistant Director, VFW Foundation  
Member since 2005  
Army ROTC Instructor at the University of Missouri – Kansas City  
Baghdad Feb. 2004 – Mar. 2005; June 2008 – Mar. 2009

P.S. DON'T FORGET TO JOIN BY 12/31/09 TO GET YOUR FREE *SHE SERVES* CAP!







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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Taps

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

Comrades please copy this form and use it for the Taps that you send in.

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(Last Name)

(First Name)

(Age)

(Date of Death)

(Post #)

(City)

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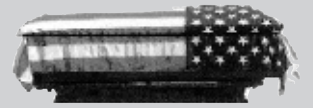
USA USAAC USN  
USMC USAF USCG

Served In (Circle One):

WWI WWII Korea  
Vietnam Gulf Other

Occupation Forces

OUR COUNTRY IS IN MOURNING,  
A VETERAN DIED TODAY



6-MARQUETTE

LASICH, WILLIAM G. – 79 – USA/KOREA

345-REDFORD

GALLAGHER, JOHN M. – 82 – USA

423-ANN ARBOR

BALLARD, LLOYD E. – 90 – USA/WWII

446-MUSKEGON

GARVEY, GAYLE – 74 – USA/KOREA

INDERBITZIN, MILTON – 94 – USA/WWII

JANCEK, WILLIAM – 86 – USA/WWII

KENNEDY, DAVID – 91 – USA/WWII

KLEIN, ROBERT – 48 – USN/PERSIAN GULF

MARTIN, JACK – 80 – USA/KOREA

MILLER, GERALD – 78 – USAF/KOREA

POMEROY, ROBERT – 60 – USA/VIETNAM

607-ROGERS CITY

MAYES, LEWIS E. – 79 – USA/KOREA

ROESKE, ERNEST G. – 77 – USA/KOREA

702-WYOMING

LONCKI, THEODORE J. – 87 – USA/WWII

822-FLINT

NOBLET, DONALD – 89 – USA/WWII

830-GRAND RAPIDS

LA VERNE, QUAM – 89 – USA/WWII

1136-WYANDOTTE

BURT, ROBERT C. – 78 – USA/KOREA

COATES, RONALD J. – 64 – USA/VIETNAM

GLINKA, ANTHONY – 92 – USA/WWII

HARRISON, RAYMOND G. – 62 – USA/VIETNAM

IOTTE, RODNEY A. – 77 – USN/VIETNAM

KENWORTHY, HAROLD – 88 – USA/WWII

MORRISON, RONALD – 68 – USN/VIETNAM

ROBERTSON, LAVERN G. – 87 – USA/WWII

TRUSEWICZ, ANTHONY J. – 84 – USA/WWII

1138-MONROE

ALDRIDGE, KENNETH A. – 82 – USA/WWII

ASH, CLARENCE – 84 – USA/WWII

BROOKS, CARL – 88 – USA/WWII

BUSSELL, DARROLD – 84 – USMC/WWII

CLARK, MERLYN – 83 – USA/WWII

DE VEE, KENNETH – 84 – USA/KOREA

DONOFRIO, JOSEPH – 84 – USMC/WWII

DUVALL, JACK – 83 – USN/WWII

EISHMEY, ROBERT – 90 – USA/WWII

GALLOTTIA, LARRY – 61 – USAF/VIETNAM

GILBERT, DELBERT – 89 – USA/WWII

JOSEPH, SAM – 90 – USA/WWII

KRAEHNKE, HARLEY – 90 – USA/WWII

MILLER, ROBERT – 89 – USA/WWII

MORAN, GEORGE – 86 – USA/WWII

RAYMOND, THOMAS – 82 – USMC/WWII

SACHS, MERLIN – 88 – USN/WWII

SCHELING, GEORGE – 85 – USN/WWII

SNYDER, JOHN – 95 – USA/WWII

WAGENKNECHT, WILLIAM R. – 84 – USA/WWII

WALTERS, DONALD – 89 – USN/WWII

WILLIAMS, GEORGE O. – 82 – USAAF/WWII

WOOD, BEN – 95 – USA/KOREA

1146-ST. CLAIR SHORES

BALOW, DONALD J. – 90 – USA/WWII

CHISHOLM, JOHN B. – 68 – USA

CICCOMASCOLO, JOSEPH – 79 – USA/KOREA

CZARNECKI, LEONARD F. – 85 – USN/WWII

D'HONDT, RAYMOND C. – USA/WWII

DODDS, HOWARD A. – 86 – USN/WWII

GAINER, ROBERT E. – 85 – USN/WWII

HILL, JOHN W. – 85 – USA/WWII

LOZON, LIONEL V. – 86 – USA/WWII

MACKENSON, WILLIAM A. – 87 – USA/WWII

PARRIS, LEWIS – USA/WWII

PARUSZKIEWCZ, LEONARD J. – 86 – USA/WWII

SCHOEN, DONALD – 77 – USN/KOREA

STEWART, WILLIAM L. – 85 – USA/WWII

VAN TORRE, HECTOR M. – 90 – USA/WWII

WARNER, JOHN D. – 82 – USA/KOREA

1278-DETROIT

BLOME, WALTER C. – 89 – USA/WWII

GILPIN, EDWIN E. – 88 – USA/WWII

PULEO, PEPPINO – 92

SEDMAK, HENRY S. – 92 – USAF/WWII

1355-STURGIS

BONTRAGER, CHARLES W. SR. – 91 – USA/WWII

1407-FERNDAL

MONFORTON, LEO J. – 85 – USA/WWII

WHITE, RAYMOND H. – 85 – USN/WWII

1452-CLIO

BRAINARD, CLARENCE D. – 69 – USN/VIETNAM

DANIEL, LLOYD E. – 93 – USA/WWII

KUSKY, DAVID A. – 60 – USA/VIETNAM

1454-ALMA

ZELIS, LYLE D. – 84 – USN/WWII

1519-LIVONIA

ALLEE, ALBERT D. SR. – 86 – USA/WWII

DUNNE, FRANK B. – 98 – USAF/WWII

SCHLOZ, RICHARD C. – 87 – USA/WWII

SELLON, BARTON J. – 91 – USN/WWII

1584-ADRIAN

DEMPSEY, JOHN – USA

FICK, KEITH – USMC

HAGER, JAMES – USA

HALL, DAVID – USA

LANGTHORNE, GARY – USA

RUTLEDGE, DONALD E. – 86 – USN/WWII

VARGAS, ZARAGOSA – USA

WHELAN, DALE – USA

WILLIAMS, DICK – USA

WRIGHT, DICK – USA

1669-ROYAL OAK

LATIMER, PERRY – 90 – USA/WWII

MELVIN, RICHARD – 86 – USMC/WWII

1855-DOWAGIAC

WALKER, DE VERN – 86 – USA/WWII

YODER, RICHARD J. – 84 – USN/WWII

1859-SAGINAW

DEMBINSKI, HARRY J. – 88 – USA/WWII

LANGSCHWAGER, JOHN H. – 88 – USA/WWII

OCZEPEK, EDWARD F. – 87 – USA/WWII

REINKE, ELMER F. – USA/WWII

1887-MENOMINEE

GAVIN, JAMES H. – 86 – USN/WWII

OSIER, ROBERT C. – 88 – USA/WWII

SCHREINER, FREDERICK W. – 73 – USA/KOREA

SEMRAN, ANTHONY L. – 91 – USA/WWII

2053-WHITE CLOUD

HULT, CARL – 88 – USA/WWII

2144-HOLLAND

DEKKER, MELVEN – 90 – USA/WWII

HODLEY, GEORGE R. – 81 – USA/USAAF

KNOLL, DONALD – 85 – USA/WWII

NASH, LEROY – 86 – USA/WWII

VAN DAM, REUBEN – 89 – USA/WWII

2269-WIXOM

HONKA, R V MIKE – 83 – USA/WWII

LAURIE, CARL M. – USA/KOREA

2358-ROSEVILLE

DERAGON, JOSEPH V. – 84 – USN/WWII

KOZLOWSKI, FRANK J. – 79 – USA

MCALISTER, ROBERT H. – 85 – USAF/WWII

MOORE, ROBERT W. – 87 – USA/WWII

SNYDER, ELDON L. – 63 – USAF/VIETNAM

TAYLOR, RAYMOND L. – 92 – USA/WWII

WLODARCZYK, EDWARD T. – 83 – USA/WWII

2382-LEXINGTON

RZEPKA, JOSEPH J. – 88 – USAAF/WWII

2409-OTTER LAKE

HEMINGWAY, LEWIS H. – 82 – USA/KOREA

TODAH, JEFFREY S. – 49 – USN/VIETNAM

2496-ALPENA

EAGLE, CLARENCE E. – 85 – USN/WWII

FOURNIER, ROBERT G. – 92 – USA/WWII

SMITH, GERALD B. – 87 – USN/WWII

WILSON, RALPH J. – 93 – USA/WWII

2891-CRYSTAL FALLS

HURLEY, ROY W. – 84 – USN/WWII

HUSAR, FRANK – 80 – USA/KOREA

2945-SANDUSKY

MUMBY, JUNIOR – USA/WWII

2964-REED CITY

DONLEY, JAMES – 78 – USA/KOREA

HEWITT, WILLIAM – 92 – USA/WWII

JOHNSON, JOHN E. – 87 – USA/WWII

KAGE, FREDRICK – 84 – USN/WWII

PORTEOUS, WILLIAM L. – 90 – USA/WWII

3023-GRAND RAPIDS

BONSER, FORREST – 77 – USA/KOREA

DE YOUNG, ROGER – 86 – USA/WWII

FULLER, RAYMOND – 82 – USN/WWII

HALL, ROBERT A. – 80 – USA/WWII

JAMES, CHRISTOPHER – 87 – USA/WWII

KRESE, MICHAEL – 81 – USA/KOREA

3030-OTSEGO

PAGE, MORRIS E. – 88 – USA/WWII

TAYLOR, HUGH – 89 – USN/WWII

3033-MT. PLEASANT

THERING, RAYMOND – 66 – USA/VIETNAM

VAN ORDEN, LOUIS – USA/WWII

3195-MUSKEGON

GARCEAU, GARTH M. – 63 – USMC/VIETNAM

MOORE, ARTHUR L. – 93 – USA/WWII

POORT, RICHARD L. – 84 – USA/WWII

REID, JAMES V. – 88 – USAAF/WWII

3243-FENTON

ACHERMAN, LOREN B. – WWII

BELL, HOWARD – VIETNAM

GROESSER, GREG L. – VIETNAM

KEYS, ORA N. – USN/WWII

TORMEY, MELVIN J.

YANKEE, PATRICK M.

3306-HOWARD CITY

BEAN, CARMAN – 79 – KOREA

EICHORN, SAM – 80 – KOREA

NORTON, ALBERT – 78 – USMC/KOREA

3323-WESTLAND

VANDECAR, ROSS E. – 84 – USN/WWII

3623-CHEBOYGAN

MORROW, DONALD C. – 83 – USA/WWII

STRIEBICH, ARTHUR F. – 85 – USAF/WWII

3673-BESSEMER

BOGETTO, CHARLES JR. – 85 – USA/WWII

RYAN, WILLIAM F. – 90 – USN/WWII

3676-SAULT STE MARIE

MILLER, FRANK P. – 83 – USA/KOREA

YACHOVITZ, THOMAS JR. – 83 – USA/KOREA

3735-OSCODA

HOPCROFT, ROBERT – USMC/WWII

HURST, DENNIS – USAF/VIETNAM

SIMONS, GLEN W. – 84 – USA/WWII

3941-LIVONIA

JANES, EDGAR – USA/WWII

LYNN, KENNETH G. – 82 – USA/KOREA

4034-HOUGHTON LAKE

EUBANK, DUANE – USA/WWII/KOREA

HAMP, ROBERT J. – WWII

4054-MARCELLUS

BADNER, EDWARD – 78 – USA/KOREA

BROOKE, VERNON – 68 – USA

MOTTER, GERALD – 64 – USN/VIETNAM

RICE, FREELAND – 84 – USA/WWII

4087-DAVISON

BYCE, WILLIAM N. – 87 – USA/WWII

GREGORY, ARTHUR F. – 86 – USA/WWII

KRAKKER, PETER S. – 84 – USA/WWII

NAST, FRANK – USAF/KOREA

PIFFER, JAMES – 62 – USAF/VIETNAM

SPINNEY, HOWARD – 85 – USA/WWII

4106-WEIDMAN

WOOD, FERGIE W. – 62 – USA/KOREA



Auxiliary TAPS

<b>78-DEARBORN HEIGHTS</b> JENNINGS, LINDA – 63 <b>422-DELTON</b> DILNO, JOYCE SLOCUM, HELEN <b>423-ANN ARBOR</b> VEIGEL, ANGIE <b>565-BATTLE CREEK</b> RAYCHEL, LINDA <b>701-LANSING</b> OSTRANDER, IRENE – 87 VINE, BERYL – 84 WELCH, DOROTHY – 79 <b>796-PORT HURON</b> LANGOLF, ALICE <b>1075-HARRISON</b> COPENHAVER, TERESA PACQUETTE, KATHLEEN <b>1136-WYANDOTTE</b> BLAKELEY, PHYLLIS JEAN, HELEN <b>1137-BENTON HARBOR</b> CORZINE, BRENDA FAULTERSACK, EMMA <b>1146-ST. CLAIR SHORES</b> BRENNER, IRENE BURTON, LINDA GATES, MARY KAKOWSKI, MARY LIEBZEIT, NORA MCPHARLIN, MARYANN NOVITKE, RUTH PALASZEWSKI, ELVINA PAYE, PATRICIA TANIELIAN, RUTH THRONEBURG, DOROTHY WEILAND, ELEANOR <b>1153-CHARLEVOIX</b> AGER, CLARA – 85 <b>1355-STURGIS</b> HOLTZ, JUDITH LUNG, AUDREY MILLIMAN, JOAN OXENDER, BONNIE REED, HARRIET ROBINSON, CAROL ANN WHETSTONE, GLORIA WINKLEBLACK, CELIA	<b>1407-FERNDALE</b> LOGAN, CAROL <b>1452-CLIO</b> BRUSHABER, MARJORIE – 82 MEAD, BEATRICE – 76 WAITES, HELEN – 80 <b>1519-LIVONIA</b> OWEN, ISABEL <b>1566-SAGINAW</b> JANKOWIAK, BETTY <b>2051-HARBOR SPRINGS</b> KRUSELL, KATHERINE 81 <b>2233-DETROIT</b> DICKSON, VIOLA GREER, ALEENA <b>2269-WIXOM</b> HOLZINGER, BARBARA ZUMBROEGEL, ANNA <b>2272-DURAND</b> NELSON, JANE <b>2356-HILLMAN</b> SWAN, RUBY <b>2406-CHARLOTTE</b> HOWE, JOAN <b>2645-SOUTHFIELD</b> DUNCAN, ELEANOR – 88 GREGERSON, MARGARET – 93 PIERCE, MARIAN – 85 <b>2780-TRAVERSE CITY</b> MCGOON, MAXINE SAFFRON, NANCY <b>2891-CRYSTAL FALLS</b> CASANOVA, LORAINÉ – 89 FRIZZO, DORIS – 68 HEIKKINEN, LORAINÉ – 72 MARUSICH, ANN <b>3023-CRESTON</b> FERWERDA, MARY LOUISE <b>3030-OTSEGO</b> BENTLEY, NORMA COUNCELL, SHARON JULIAN, MARY MILLER, NADINE PENCE, ROSEMARY SUTHERLAND, MAXINE VANDENHOFF, NANCY <b>3033-MT. PLEASANT</b> MORGAN, ALICE	<b>3165-NEGAUNEE</b> BUONOCORE, JOANN DAWSON, GWENDOLYN – 88 HILL, JOAN – 75 LAFORGE, ROSEANN LAURILA, NANCY LEHTO, CARLY <b>3243-FENTON</b> ADAMS, CARYL – 87 SCOTT, ANITA – 86 STORY, BETTY – 84 <b>3256-MONTAGUE</b> ARMSTRONG, RENE A GOERES, PATRICIA SHARP, DONNA <b>3323-WESTLAND</b> CORNWALL, PATRICIA COUCH, MICHELLE NULL, MARTHA <b>3623-CHEBOYGAN</b> ROCHELEAU, PATRICIA <b>3675-BOYNE CITY</b> MALKOWICZ, JEAN FRANCIS STARK, RUTH <b>3791-FLINT</b> COUCH, LINNIE – 77 <b>4012-NORTHVILLE</b> RICKERT, HATTIE <b>4034-HOUGHTON LAKE</b> LEWINSKI, RUTH ROMPHF, HELEN <b>4090-PORTLAND</b> GALEY, DOROTHA KEUSCH, RUTH HAYNER, THELMA SMITH, JEANNE SNELL, HELEN <b>4156-WHITE LAKE</b> BODDY, DELLA <b>4167-MASS CITY</b> JOHNSON, LYNN – 35 <b>4187-TECUMSEH</b> ANDERSON, LULUBELLE – 83 MIDDLEBROOK, BARBARA – 87 SCHNEIDER, NINA – 82 <b>4230-ROCKWOOD</b> ALLER, JANE – 84 EVERAL, BARBARA – 82 FLAISHANS, GRACE – 90	NADEAU, RUTH – 79 <b>4249-NEWAYGO</b> BOONE, JACQUELINE BROWN, ALICE RACHEL ENGLE, DORIS <b>4420-MANISTIQUE</b> DELORIA, EUGENIA <b>4624-HUBBELL</b> OLLIE, ROSELA <b>4644-DEARBORN HEIGHTS</b> JAROSZ, MARGARET OPALEWSKI, HELEN <b>5065-SHERIDAN</b> BACON, MAXINE – 83 BEADERSTADT, MARTHA – 93 BROWN, BETTY JEAN YAW, MAXINE – 79 <b>5315-BALDWIN</b> COLE, LOUISE <b>5572-ALLEN PARK</b> CARPENTER, BARBARA HARRIS, ARVELLA <b>5600-ONTONAGON</b> GOULET, IRENE – 86 <b>5680-ST. HELEN</b> HORD, VIRGINIA <b>5855-PORTAGE</b> CLARK, NORMA DYKSTRA, BARBARA KOSCIK, CONNIE MARTIN, RUTH PROXMIRE, LENORA STREETER, MAMIE <b>5857-ONAWAY</b> DEFINA, MARGARET MARSHALL, PATRICIA WALDIE, HELEN <b>6015-MARION</b> BONHAM, IDA <b>6248-DECATUR</b> THIELMANN, NANCY <b>6333-KALEVA</b> BLACK, PRISCILLA <b>6691-FRASER</b> COLE, BETTY DZIEWIT, MARYANN <b>7302-HEMLOCK</b> BRENNER, NINA KRICHER, VIRGINIA	ROHN, DEBRA STEVENS, MABEL <b>7303-GLADWIN</b> BERGMAN, BERNICE HILLMAN, JANICE HUGHES, WILLADEAN LANG, PAULINE PARKS, LILLIAN <b>7435-HALE</b> BANNISTER, HELEN EGER, DELORES GITCHELL, EDNA <b>7439-INDIAN RIVER</b> NARDIZZI, CHARLOTTE <b>7542-BIRCH RUN</b> COOK, DELORES <b>7575-GARDEN CITY</b> JOHNSON, CATHERINE <b>7581-WAYLAND</b> BEAUDOIN, SHARON HUIZENG A, ELIZABETH <b>7646-PELKIE</b> MILU, MARTHA <b>7911-FENNVILLE</b> NOWAK, NANCY <b>7958-CEDARVILLE</b> ANDERSON, BEVERLY ELLIOTT, FLORENCE <b>8372-ENGADINE</b> BOUCHA, MARY KLOBUCHER, BEVERLY MAUDRIE, RACHEL <b>8846-NORTH MUSKEGON</b> POTTER, JEAN <b>8945-COVINGTON</b> YOUNGGREN, IRENE – 87 <b>9023-BRIMLEY</b> LACKEY, ZELDA <b>9084-WAKEFIELD</b> SYRIENI, MARLENE <b>9885-WESTLAND</b> BOICE, ELIZABETH <b>10884-MAYVILLE</b> DONATH, MAXINE KASPER, GAIL <b>15023-AT LARGE</b> BUHLER, MARGARET FRALICH, JULIE REED, GRACE ROOD, HELEN
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<b>4644-HAMTRAMCK</b> CEPIGA, BERNARD – 87 – USA/WWII JAROSZ, WILLIAM – 78 – USA/KOREA STRZYZEWSKI, MARVIN – 79 – USAF/KOREA <b>5065-SHERIDAN</b> BARN A, MARK – 65 – USA/KOREA BUSH, ROBERT A. – 64 – USA/KOREA/VIETNAM GREENHOE, BERNARD – 86 – USA/WWII HEMENWAY, RICHARD H. – 86 – USAAF/WWII JENSEN, ARVIN C. – 78 – USA/KOREA PETERSEN, HOWARD H. – 91 – USAAF/WWII <b>5096-CUSTER</b> RUMMER, ROBERT – 62 – USA/VIETNAM <b>5602-SIX LAKES</b> MAPES, CARL – 79 – USA/KOREA RUSSELL, AVERY – 95 – USMC/WWII VAN HOUTEN, DARWIN – 89 – USA/WWII <b>5670-GWINN</b> BARBIERI, SYLVESTER – 91 – USA/WWII CARLSON, CLIFFORD – USA/WWII FAGERBERG, RAYMOND – 85 – USA/WWII KETOLA, RUDOLPH O. – 76 – USMC/KOREA RULEFORD, CLARENCE E. – 82 – USA/KOREA <b>5678-TAWAS CITY</b> GRANDY, CHARLES – 85 – USAAF/WWII HOGABOAM, ROBERT – 71 – USN/VIETNAM <b>5738-CLARE</b> DENHAM, HAROLD – 84 JOHNSON, CHARLES G. – 87 – USN/WWII VERRETTE, RAYMOND F. – 92 – USA/WWII <b>5740-RUTH</b> LANG, DONALD B. – USA/WWII <b>5822-BYRON</b> BURLEW, LEON – 79 – USN/KOREA <b>5855-PORTAGE</b> GRINER, RICHARD G. – USA/WWII SMITH, ALFRED E. JR. – 87 – USAF/WWII <b>6165-SOUTH RANGE</b> ANDERSON, GEORGE W. – WWII GAGON, ALAN L. – USA/WWII KARINEN, ROBERT E. – WWII KONOSKY, LAWRENCE J. – WWII MAXI, ROBERT E. – WWII PLOWE, MORTIMER J. – WWII	<b>6248-DECATUR</b> WEGRZYN, STANLEY G. – 96 – USA/WWII <b>6468-ROSE CITY</b> OYSTER, LLOYD – 88 – USA/WWII <b>6507-CHASSELL</b> HOULE, PETER – 77 – USA/KOREA IMM, RICHARD – 67 – USAF/VIETNAM KAHILA, DONALD – 86 – USA/WWII MATTILA, JAMES – 86 – WWII RUPLEY, RICHARD – 77 – VIETNAM SAJAK, ROBERT – 78 – USA/KOREA <b>6579-NEW LOTHROP</b> BAYER, MEREDITH – 87 – USA/WWII ZAJDLIK, HENRY J. – 83 – USAAF/WWII <b>6756-CENTER LINE</b> BYRGE, DAVID JR. – 69 – USA/VIETNAM FINAL, GORDON – 83 – USA/WWII HAY, WILLIAM – 65 – USA/VIETNAM HERRMANAN, HARRY – 92 – USA/WWII KRESS, STANLEY – 69 – USN/VIETNAM POST, SABASTIAN – 89 – USN/WWII <b>6819-COLON</b> WRIGHT, DEFOREST – 89 – USN/WWII <b>6896-WESTLAND</b> MORTIERE, ALOYSIUS – 89 – USMC/WWII <b>6985-CENTRAL LAKE</b> BUFFMAN, HOWARD – 87 – USA/WWII LARAMIE, ROBERT B. – 82 – USMC/WWII YOUNG, LEON – 78 – USN/KOREA <b>7309-MASON</b> PAGE, ROBERT L. – 80 – USN/KORA PARISH, JERRY A. – USA/WWII PHILIP, WILLIAM L. – 77 – USN/KOREA WANDELL, DOLORES E. – 93 – USA/WWII <b>7435-HALE</b> LE CLAIR, WILLIAM J. – 86 – WWII <b>7486-AKRON</b> COLMAN, MELVIN R. – 68 – USA/VIETNAM COMPEAU, BRIAN – 40 – USA/PERSIAN GULF FRUCHEY, GARY L. – 67 – USA/VIETNAM MCDONALD, MILTON – 85 – USA/WWII <b>7542-BIRCH RUN</b> BRODOWSKI, FRANK – 88 – USAF/WWII SPOUL, GAYLE D. – 62 – USA/VIETNAM	<b>7581-WAYLAND</b> SELVIG, ARTHUR – 90 – USA/WWII SPERLIK, RICHARD – 80 – USA/KOREA <b>7731-LAKE LEELANAU</b> WHITNEY, WILLIAM C. – 90 – USA/WWII <b>7804-POSEN</b> DONAJKOWSKI, VALENTINE – 94 – USA/WWII <b>7806-MANTON</b> BEAVER, ALAN D. – 93 – USN/WWII CREMEANS, DONALD D. – 84 – USN/WWII LANPHEAR, WILLIAM H. – 73 – USAAF/WWII NAEGELE, WILLIAM J. – 89 – USA/WWII/KOREA SMITH, WALTER L. – 81 – USA/KOREA <b>7979-EVART</b> WHITE, HAROLD E. SR. – 75 – USMC/KOREA <b>8275-AU GRES</b> SOUTHWARD, ELLIS W. – 87 – USA/WWII WESTPFAHL, CLIFFORD L. – 77 – USA <b>8372-ENGADINE</b> FISHER, WILLARD – 79 – USAF/KOREA HAAPALA, CHARLES – 74 – USN/KOREA RINGQUIST, ROLAND – 85 – USN/WWII <b>8465-PORT HURON</b> MYERS, CHARLES C. – 84 – USN/WWII PIETROSKI, RICHARD N. – 85 – USMC/WWII <b>8846-MUSKEGON</b> BECK, GEORGE A. – 76 – USMC/WWII COLE, ROBERT E. – 87 – USN/WWII DAMM, ROBERT L. – 82 – USAF/WWII KELLER, LESLIE R. – 82 – USA/WWII LYNN, DONALD E. – 83 – USA/WWII MARSHALL, HOWARD J. – 77 – USA/ MOODT, JOHN C. – 75 – USA/KOREA/VIETNAM PFHISTNER, HERMAN I. – USA RICE, ROBERT – 99 – USA/WWII RINGELBERG, HENRY J. – 64 – USN/VIETNAM SMITH, KEITH F. – 80 – USA/KOREA SODINI, DONALD D. – 76 – USA/KOREA WANERUS, CARL C. – 86 – USN/WWII WONN, MICHAEL A. – 63 – USMC/VIETNAM <b>9021-WARREN</b> CASS, FRANK B. – 77 – USA/KOREA KARPINSKI, WALTER F. – 93 – USA/WWII ROOT, VICTOR – 84 – USN/WWII SCHULTZ, RALPH – 84 – USA/WWII	VENTIMIGLIO, ANTHONY – 76 – USN/KOREA WINSTEAD, LYNDELL R. – 74 – USA/KOREA WITKOWSKI, ARTHUR S. – 89 – USA/WWII <b>9023-BRIMLEY</b> BERTRAM, WILLIAM G. – 77 – USA/KOREA LAPLANDER, PAUL R. – 86 – USA/WWII OWENS, HUGH JR. – 86 – USA/WWII ROUTHIER, RONALD J. – 85 – USA/WWII <b>9084-WAKEFIELD</b> BOGDAN, ANTON – 89 – USAAF/WWII BOLEN, WILLIAM E. – 85 – USN/WWII <b>9345-BRUCE CROSSING</b> FINK, JOHN – 53 – USN/VIETNAM HUHTALA, ARNE – 86 – USN/WWII <b>9355-BANGOR</b> RIGOZZI, DAVID – 86 – USA/WWII YEIDER, MERVIN – 85 – USA/WWII <b>9363-FLAT ROCK</b> HOGG, ROBERT – 87 – USA/WWII <b>9388-MUSKEGON</b> BRADFORD, TERRY SR. – 94 – USA/WWII <b>9455-OWOSSO</b> WIECZOREK, ROBERT W. – 77 – USA/KOREA <b>9489-ATLANTA</b> WEAVER, ALONZO – 80 – USN/KOREA <b>9568-ROMULUS</b> GRUDEN, WILLIAM – 84 – USN/WWII ZELLMAN, WALTER H. – 90 – USA/WWII <b>9656-LAMBERTVILLE</b> TRAPP, EDWARD – 66 – USA/VIETNAM <b>9885-WESTLAND</b> DEMARA, THOMAS R. – 61 – USMC/VIETNAM <b>9973-DEARBORN HEIGHTS</b> WOODS, ROBERT – 93 – USAAF/WWII <b>10194-GRASS LAKE</b> MCCONNELL, ROBERT A. – 92 – USAAF/WWII <b>10329-MANCHESTER</b> FREY, WILLIAM F. – 86 – USAAF/WWII <b>10884-MAYVILLE</b> BAKER, EDWARD – 62 – USA MATTHEWS, JAMES – 72 – USAF PAPKEY, NORMAN – 76 – USA <b>15023-LANSING</b> RIEGER, HARVEY – 87 – USA/WWII
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Department of Michigan VFW  
2010-2011 Buddy Poppy Order Form

\*For All-State Points orders need to be in Department by December 31, 2010\*

Orders must be received by February 1, 2011 for guaranteed delivery by Poppy Days

The official Michigan Buddy Poppy Sale Dates are: **May 5, 6 and 7, 2011**

Post # \_\_\_\_\_ Post Location \_\_\_\_\_ District \_\_\_\_\_

Please Note:  
The Department of Michigan has a \$1,000,000.00 liability insurance policy for the official Michigan sale dates. All Posts who order poppies for sale during those dates must pay \$4.00 with their poppy order to cover the cost of this insurance. Payment in full for Buddy Poppies, insurance and all promotional items must be forwarded with order.

Quantity	Item	Price
_____	Buddy Poppy \$115.00 per 1,000 – <b>must be in multiples of 500</b>	\$ _____
	Poppy Seller's Liability Insurance (See below)	\$4.00
	Poppy Seller's Accident Insurance – OPTIONAL (see below)	\$ _____
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ _____</b>

Please order the following items directly from National Emblem & Supply Department: Coin Cans, Posters, Volunteer Buttons, Booster Posters, Poppy Pins, etc. These items are listed in your VFW Supply Catalog that your Quartermaster received in his Quartermaster Kit.

**Ship to:**  
**Please Note:** Buddy Poppies will be shipped United Parcel Service (UPS). They must have a person's name and street address (not VFW Post) to ship to.  
**DO NOT USE A POST OFFICE BOX for Receiving Orders!**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime Phone No.: \_\_\_\_\_

Please make sure that all shortages and problems concerning Buddy Poppies are reported to Department Headquarters within 10 days of receiving the order. If the Post fails to report that they did not receive their order within 60 days from the date of invoice to Department Headquarters, they will not be replaced.

Department of Michigan  
Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States  
924 North Washington  
Lansing, MI 48906-5136

The official VFW Buddy Poppy sale dates are May 5, 6 and 7, 2011.

The Department of Michigan will purchase a \$1,000,000.00 liability insurance policy for Post Buddy Poppy sellers during those dates only. All Posts who order poppies for sale during these dates must send \$4.00 with their poppy orders to cover the cost of this insurance. If you are purchasing poppies to sell during any other period and NOT DURING the official Michigan VFW Buddy Poppy Days and DO NOT DESIRE the liability insurance, please indicate below the dates of your poppy sales.

Post \_\_\_\_\_ will not be selling VFW Buddy Poppies on May 5, 6 and 7, 2011.  
(number)

We will be selling VFW Poppies on \_\_\_\_\_. We therefore do not  
(dates)

desire the VFW purchased liability insurance. \_\_\_\_\_  
(Commander's Signature)

Optional Insurance Coverage for Buddy Poppy Days

If a Post desires accident insurance coverage for poppy sellers, the Department has arranged for a policy, which will provide Accidental Injury, Dismemberment and Death benefits of \$7,500.00 per person.

The cost of this insurance is 15 cents per person per day. Example:  
If you have 10 sellers per day for 3 days it would be: 10 x .15 = \$1.50 x 3 days = \$4.50

Post # \_\_\_\_\_ Post Location \_\_\_\_\_ District \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ x \$00.15 = \_\_\_\_\_ x \_\_\_\_\_ = \_\_\_\_\_  
(# of sellers) (# of days) (total optional premium)

The total optional insurance premium must be carried over to the proper line on this application (above) and included in your payment.

Veterans of Foreign Wars  
32nd Annual Mid-Winter Conference  
January 28-January 30, 2011

RADISSON PLAZA HOTEL & SUITES

AGENDA

Friday, January 28, 2011

7:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m.	Registration	Exhibit Hall
8:00 a.m.- 4:00 p.m.	PAC Table	Exhibit Hall
	Cancer Table	Exhibit Hall
	Program Display Tables	Exhibit Hall
	<b>BANQUET TICKETS</b>	Exhibit Hall

Closed for lunch from 12 Noon to 1:30 p.m.

8:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m.	Service Office Committee	Plaza Prairies Rooms
	Budget & Finance	
	All Directors	
11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.	<b>LUNCH ON YOUR OWN</b>	TBA
1:00 p.m.- 2:30 p.m.	Judge Advocate	Plaza Prairies Rooms
2:30 p.m.- 4:00 p.m.	Commanders, Seniors and Juniors	Plaza Prairies Rooms
2:30 p.m.-4:00 p.m.	Quartermaster, Adjutant and Trustees	Stone Theater

DINNER ON YOUR OWN

4:30 p.m.-5:30 p.m.	District Commanders/ Presidents Reception	Hospitality Suite 837
5:30 p.m.	Night on the Town	TBA
6:00 p.m.	VOD Event (Winning Students only)	TBA
7:00 p.m.-11.00 p.m.	Joint Department Welcome Room	Hospitality Suite 837

Saturday, January 29, 2011

7:30 a.m.-12 Noon	Registration	Exhibit Hall
	<b>BANQUET TICKETS</b>	Exhibit Hall

ALL BANQUET TICKETS MUST BE PICKED UP BY 12 NOON

8:00 a.m.-12 Noon	PAC Table	Exhibit Hall
	Cancer Table	Exhibit Hall
	Program Display Tables	Exhibit Hall
8:30 a.m.-11:30 a.m.	COUNCIL OF ADMINISTRATION	Plaza Prairies Rooms
9:00 a.m.-11:30 a.m.	Men's Auxiliary Meeting	Fields
11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.	<b>LUNCH ON YOUR OWN</b>	

AFTERNOON PRESENTATIONS ARE OPEN TO ALL

1:00 p.m.-2:00 p.m.	Joint Camp Trotter Meeting	Plaza Prairies Rooms
2:00 p.m.-3:30 p.m.	Voice of Democracy; Patriot's Pen and Teacher of the Year Presentation	Plaza Glens Rooms
5:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m.	VOD Students, District Commander/President	Great Lakes I
5:30 p.m.-6:00 p.m.	Head table meet for line up	Plaza Flats
6:00 p.m.	Voice of Democracy Banquet	Arcadia I & II (Main Floor-Street Level)
9:00 p.m.-11:00 p.m.	Joint Department Welcome Room	Hospitality Suite 837

Sunday, January 30, 2011

HAVE A SAFE TRIP HOME

Dress Code for Mid-Winter

Friday, January 28, 2011:

Dave's tan polo shirt and black trousers (no suits or sport coats at these meetings)

District Commanders Night on the Town: Casual

Saturday, January 29, 2011:

Council of Administration meeting: Jacket and Tie

Parade of Winners: Lloyd's green polo shirt with blue trousers

Voice of Democracy Banquet: Suit or sport coat and tie

Head table: Black Tux

Because we are honoring our Voice of Democracy students, please do not take alcoholic beverages into the Banquet Hall.

All C of A Members are expected to attend all meetings. Seats will be reserved for you at the front of the meeting rooms.



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



**Endorsed and supported by:**  
**District 12**  
**Lt. Clement F. Derezinski**  
**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**

**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**

## OIF/OEF Wounded Veterans... Come Challenge and Chill Out!

**January 7-11, 2011**  
**Big Sky Resort – near Bozeman, Montana**

Discover new adventures, skills and passions in outdoor recreation, hunting and fishing in one of the most beautiful spots in the U.S.A.!

**Airfare and expenses are paid.**  
**Limited number available.**

**Go to [www.operationsas.org](http://www.operationsas.org) for more information.**  
**(that is Operation Sports, Afield and Stream)**

**Questions?**

**Contact John Kinzinger,**  
**Ann Arbor VFW Post 423 Commander**  
**734-994-0444**



**SUPPORT  
OUR  
TROOPS**



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YPSILANTI, MICHIGAN 48197**  
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**MATTHEW DAVID  
10 ELDER STREET  
YPSILANTI, MICHIGAN 48197**

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Full Name	Complete Mailing Address
<b>VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS, DEPT. OF MICHIGAN</b>	<b>924 N. WASHINGTON AVE. LANSING, MI 48906</b>
<b>LEON F. HINKLE II, STATE COMMANDER</b>	<b>1344 PENBROKE, #104 CROSSVILLE, MI 48967</b>
<b>LEON F. HINKLE II, STATE JR. VICE COMMANDER</b>	<b>11173 RAINY LAKE ROAD FOSTER, MI 48433</b>
<b>KIRK S. KENNEDY, STATE JR. VICE COMMANDER</b>	<b>1711 W. KUNDLE AVE. LANSING, MI 48910</b>
<b>ROBERT D. WEISS, STATE ADJUTANT/QUARTERMASTER</b>	<b>708 S. COCHRAN CHARLOTTE, MI 48812</b>

11. Known Bondholders, Mortgagees, and Other Security Holders Owning or Holding 1 Percent or More of Total Amount of Bonds, Mortgages, or Other Securities. If none, check box ☒ None

12. Tax Status (For completion by nonprofit organizations authorized to mail at nonprofit rates) (Check one)  
The purpose, function, and nonprofit status of this organization and the exempt status for federal income tax purposes:  
☒ Has Not Changed During Preceding 12 Months  
☐ Has Changed During Preceding 12 Months (Publisher must submit explanation of change with this statement)

PS Form 3526, September 2007 (Page 1 of 3 (Instructions Page 3)) PSN 7530-01-000-9031 PRIVACY NOTICE: See our privacy policy on [www.usps.com](http://www.usps.com)

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a. Total Number of Copies (Not press run)		57,540	56,673
b. Paid Circulation (By Mail and Outside the Mail)	(1) Mailed Outside-County Paid Subscriptions Stated on PS Form 3541 (Include paid distribution above nominal rate, advertiser's proof copies, and exchange copies)	56,979	56,188
	(2) Mailed In-County Paid Subscriptions Stated on PS Form 3541 (Include paid distribution above nominal rate, advertiser's proof copies, and exchange copies)		
	(3) Paid Distribution Outside the Mail including Sales Through Dealers and Carriers, Street Vendors, Counter Sales, and Other Paid Distribution Outside USPS®		
	(4) Paid Distribution by Other Classes of Mail Through the USPS (e.g. First-Class Mail®)		
c. Total Paid Distribution (Sum of 15b (1), (2), (3), and (4))		56,979	56,188
d. Free or Nominal Rate Circulation (By Mail and Outside the Mail)	(1) Free or Nominal Rate Outside-County Copies Included on PS Form 3541		
	(2) Free or Nominal Rate In-County Copies Included on PS Form 3541		
	(3) Free or Nominal Rate Copies Mailed at Other Classes Through the USPS (e.g. First-Class Mail)		
	(4) Free or Nominal Rate Distribution Outside the Mail (Carriers or other means)	356	335
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f. Total Distribution (Sum of 15c and 15e)		57,335	56,523
g. Copies not Distributed (See Instructions to Publishers #4 (page #3))		125	125
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17. Signature and Title of Editor, Publisher, Business Manager, or Owner  
**Robert D. Weiss** Date: **10/13/2010**

I certify that all information furnished on this form is true and complete. I understand that anyone who furnishes false or misleading information on this form or who omits material or information requested on the form may be subject to criminal sanctions (including fines and imprisonment) and/or civil sanctions (including civil penalties).

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# MICHIGAN OVERSEAS VETERAN



• *Reporting your positive impact on the Michigan community* •  
**October/November/December 2010**  
**Volume 78 Number 2**

## Coming Events 2011

- January 28-30, 2011**  
Mid-Winter Conference,  
Radisson Plaza, Kalamazoo
- March 5-9, 2011**  
National Mid-Winter  
Conference,  
Washington, D.C.
- April 15-17, 2011**  
State Commander and  
President Joint Testimonial,  
Doubletree Hotel, Bay City
- May 5-7, 2011**  
National Buddy Poppy Days
- June 8-12, 2011**  
Department Convention,  
Marriott Hotel, Troy

## District Meetings

- District 4:**  
February 13, 2011, Post 345, Redford, 12 Noon  
May 7, 2011, Post 7546, Westland, 12 Noon
- District 5:**  
February 13, 2011, Post 2645,  
Southfield (no time specified)  
April 30, 2011, Post 4156,  
White Lake (no time specified)
- District 6:**  
February 19, 2011, Post 701, Lansing, 1:00 p.m.  
May 7, 2011, Post 9656, Lambertville, 1:00 p.m.
- District 7:**  
February 6, 2011, Post 2284,  
Edwardsburg, 11:00 a.m.  
May 1, 2011, Post 6248, Decatur, 11:00 a.m.
- District 8:**  
February 5, 2011, Post 3030,  
Otsego (no time specified)  
May 7, 2011, Post 7581,  
Wayland (no time specified)
- District 9:**  
February 6, 2011, Post 3055,  
St. Louis (no time specified)  
May 1, 2011, 2011, Post 5065,  
Sheridan (no time specified)
- District 10:**  
February 20, 2011, Post 4087, Davison, 10:00 a.m.  
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:**  
February 5, 2011, Post 2051,  
Harbor Springs, 9:00 a.m.  
May 7, 2011, Post 2780, Traverse City, 9:00 a.m.
- District 14:**  
February 13, 2011, Post 4420,  
Manistique (no time specified)  
April 29 – May 1, 2011, District 14 Convention,  
Post 4420, Manistique (no time specified)
- District 15:**  
February 13, 2011, Post 3900,  
Calumet (no time specified)  
April 29 – May 1, 2011, District 15 Convention,  
Michigan National Guard Armory,  
Calumet, 9:30 a.m.



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**Lloyd  
Putman II**  
**State Commander**

## STATE COMMANDER

Comrades, Sisters and Brothers,  
There's nothing like a little controversy to stir things up. I returned from Fall Conference (Pow-Wow) to receive a lot of phone calls on the PAC program, or more specifically, the PAC endorsements. The Political Action Committee is a separate entity that comes under the VFW umbrella, but according to the National Officers the committee overstepped their authority. It seems they were supposed to send their recommendations for each state for review, but they didn't. Some of the PAC appointees didn't even know who was endorsed until the list was published. The National Commander-in-Chief has relieved all PAC Committee appointments and is working to dismantle the PAC. This issue will be raised at the National Convention in San Antonio next August, so anyone going to the National Convention needs to be aware of that. I have removed PAC from the All-State requirements, replacing it with donations to the Directors Cabin at Camp Trotter. All donations that have come in will be given credit under that program.

Congratulations to the following Posts for achieving 100% already this year: 1869-Romulus, 334 Lake Orion (110.84%), 1794-Mt. Clemons, 3908-Rochester, 4037-Troy, 3019-Three Rivers, 5189-Vicksburg, 2725-Frankenmuth, 5585-Emmett and 3314-Arcadia. There are a lot 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 reinstates 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 to go...so continue getting out there. The District membership is ahead of last year, but still has a way to go. Remember: we are working for one hundred percent by the 31st of December 2010. As of this date, 14th District is leading with 86.59%, 10th District is close on their heels with 85.95%, followed by the 13th with 85.93%, then the 4th

with 85.78%, the 11th with 85.04%, the 15th with 85.01%, the 9th with 84.62%, the 8th with 84.48%, the 7th with 84.41%, the 6th with 83.98%, the 5th with 83.12%, and the 12th with 82.74%. You can see there isn't a lot of difference, so keep up the good work.

As everyone who has talked to me knows, I am a membership person. Without the members we will be an extinct organization without the ability to help our veterans and families, and I know the membership of this organization will not allow that to happen. We all know the members are out there – 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 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.

Just a reminder: we are continuing with plans for the golf outing between the Departments of Michigan and Ohio as a fundraiser for the National Home. I keep hearing whining about the cost of golfing; this is a fundraiser and we are playing on one of the premier courses in Michigan. I asked one member who was whining, "But you are going to pay and play anyway, aren't you?" The answer was yes.

Remember "TO HONOR THE DEAD BY HELPING THE LIVING."

