

OLD SETTLER NEWS

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE UNITED STATES

OLD SETTLERS POST 4659

COMMANDER MIKE PERUSICH - SR. VICE CMDR. MIKE CRAMPTON - JR. VICE CMDR. SCOTT METCALF
QUARTERMASTER JAY BENNER - CHAPLAIN LARRY PRETZER - ADJUTANT BILL TUDRICK

JANUARY - FEBRUARY 2017

The VFW wishes you and yours a very SAFE and HAPPY NEW YEAR

Comrades.

VFW 4659 extends a heartfelt Season's Greetings to all our posts members, Veterans, Auxiliary, Service Members and their Families. As we go about our celebrations this New Year 2017, we must give thought to the thousands of American's finest men and women who are spending this sacred holiday away from home and from their love ones. They've sacrificed this time away from home to ensure that we're able to enjoy Holiday time in freedom and with peace. Our veterans and service members have truly given us the greatest gift from the VFW family to you and yours; we wish you a happy and safe holiday season. We are forever grateful for your support and service.



Our Christmas Party at the clubroom was fantastic! Good crowd and good food. We have been signing up new members and drive to remind our annual members that their dues are coming due. As yesterday defenders of freedom, we want to welcome today's military service members into our ranks to become part of our elite group. Our common bond is the battlefield, whether it is service in the Persian Gulf, Korea, Kosovo, the Global War on Terrorism or peace-keeping expeditionary campaigns. Your courage and sacrifice have made a difference in preserving and defending world peace.

Remember that are meetings are the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of every month. Our post in the last 12 months have supported post members, family members and some families in our area that were in need of some help from our relief fund. We have lost 6 members from our post since July 1, 2016. For each life lost has contributed greatly to the evolution of America as we know it today: a free nation, a strong nation, the greatest nation on earth. Comrades and sisters, service members, veterans and military families, I extend my warmest wishes to you and yours this New Year 2017. Thank you for your service and sacrifice. God bless.

No One Does More FOR VETERANS ...then the
"OLD SETTLERS POST 4659"

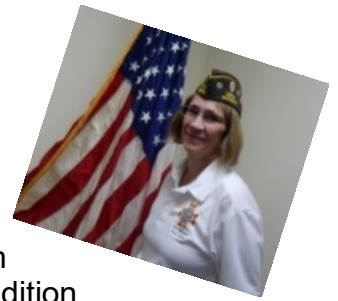
Thank You for your Service and Sacrifice. God Bless

Mike Perusich

Commander



View our Newsletters On-Line @ vfw4659.org



VA To Eliminate 7 Compensable Disabilities

December 12, 2016

Not all service-connected medical conditions and injuries are incurred or exacerbated in the performance of military duties. For example, a qualifying injury can occur when a service member was at home or on leave, and a qualifying medical condition, such as multiple sclerosis, can develop independently of a service member’s military duties. In 2015, VA paid 716,000 veterans a total of \$3.7 billion, the Congressional Budget Office estimates, to compensate for seven of the medical conditions that, according to the Government Accountability Office (GAO), military service is unlikely to cause or aggravate. Those conditions are **arteriosclerotic heart disease, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, Crohn’s disease, hemorrhoids, multiple sclerosis, osteoarthritis, and uterine fibroids.**

Beginning in January 2018, this option would cease veterans’ disability compensation for those seven medical conditions GAO identified. Under the option, veterans now receiving compensation for those conditions would have their compensation reduced or eliminated, and veterans who applied for compensation for those conditions in the future would not be eligible for it. The option would not alter DoD’s disability compensation system, which focuses on fitness for military duties rather than compensation for disabilities.

An argument in support of this option is that it would make the disability compensation system for military veterans more comparable to civilian systems. Few civilian employers offer long-term disability benefits, and among those that do, benefits do not typically compensate individuals for all medical problems that developed during employment.

An argument against this option is that military service is not like a civilian job; instead, it confers unique benefits to society and imposes extraordinary risks on service members. By that logic, the pay and benefits that service members receive should reflect the hardships of military life, including compensating veterans who become disabled in any way during their military service.

Source: U.S. Congressional Budget Office

On a more POSITIVE note: **FREE TAX SERVICE** for Veterans on February 15th at our Post 4659 please call 586-463-2537 for an appointment.



Laura Rios, MSgt USAF(ret)

Chief Veteran Service Officer, Macomb County

Post 4659 Service Officer



Comrades and Auxiliary Members

The Michigan Senate has passed Senate Bill 1100 to create a new Michigan Veterans Home Authority, to develop and operate certain Veteran's Facilities, to create funds and accounts and to issue bonds and notes, to prescribe powers and duties to the authority and to create new smaller Michigan Veteran's Homes in locations across the state.

The bill will provide for the demolition of portions of the Grand Rapids Home and replace it with a new 120 bed facility as well as another 120 bed facility in the Metro Detroit area, other area homes may be considered.

The House has passed the legislation and the bill is ready for the Governors' signature. This should be good news for our Michigan Veterans in need of residential facilities.

Bill Dobbie, Member, VFW National Legislative Committee
12451 Clinton River RD Sterling Heights, MI 48313
wadobbie@prodigy.net Cell 586-322-3304



MEMBERSHIP RECRUITING AND RETENTION

There is great strength in numbers and each member of the VFW has the opportunity to help strengthen our great organization! Here at the VFW you will find the help to succeed in your quest to help lead the VFW into the future. Post 4659 is over 90% membership. Annual costs are only \$35 for the year. We have 4 new members, plus some transfer members, and have reached out to reinstate some of our past members and brought them back to the post.

There are many benefits when you join the VFW. When the Veteran is a member of the VFW an accidental Life insurance policy of \$1000 is free for being a member. Our VFW Post Service Officer play a vital part in helping veterans understand, navigate and cut through the red tape bureaucracy of the VA claims process. Service Officers understand their role in the VA claims process and more effectively fulfill the objectives of their position. Our Service Officer is Laura Rios, MSgt USAF(ret) and is Macomb County Chief Service Officer, Any questions ,, please come to our post meetings and you will meet Vets that are willing to support your needs or how about seeing how our board manage our Post.

The VFW offers a wide range of assistance programs aimed at helping service members and veterans of every generation.

Mike Perusich, Commander





Membership:

As of 12/15/16 we achieved our 100% in membership, and our 100% +1. Once our mailing from this week gets processed we will be at 5 members over our membership count as of 7/1/16. I truly want to thank all that recruited new members, encouraged others to convert to a Life Member status and those that purchased a membership for family members. All your hard work is appreciated by myself; our President, Colene Nichols, and our Department President, Gloria Dobbie. Thanks to Gloria, a lot of our membership paperwork was hand delivered to the Department office in Lansing.

Denise Frey
Membership Chair
586-781-6797

Santa's Visit (Youth Activities)

Santa's visit has come and went. Our party for Post and Auxiliary members children and grandchildren was held December 10, 2016 and all the children had a wonderful time and loved the gifts that Santa brought with him for them. The parents liked that Santa brought with him for them. The parents liked that Santa included batteries for the toys that required batteries. I'd like to thank my workers that assisted with the shopping, wrapping, cooking and feeding and servicing soda to all our attendees and clean up.



Thank you Dawn B and daughter, Nancy G, Colene N, Gloria D, Johnnie D and friend Kathy, Paula B, Chrissy B, and Flo Marth.

Youth Activities Chair
Denise Frey

Chaplain

It is with deep sadness that we have lost two of our members since the last newsletter. Our deepest sympathy goes out to the families of Susan Waites and Calvin Kogelman. They will be missed.

Auxiliary Chaplain
Ron Vaxelaire



POST 4659 TAPS

JERRY NOVAK



New Members
Jason Bowling
Thomas Gorski
Douglas Young



"It is foolish and wrong to mourn the men who died. Rather, we should thank God that such men lived."

~ General George S. Patton



Transfer Member
Robert Bartkowski

Post Upcoming Meetings and Events

Holly National Cemetery Honor Guard – 1st Wednesday of each Month

Post Meetings – 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of each Month – 7 PM

House Committee Meeting – 3rd Wednesday of each Month – 7 PM

Auxiliary Meeting – 2nd Monday of each Month

Post 4659 VFW & Auxiliary Bing – Tuesday & Thursday at 10:30 AM

Veteran Outreach Sessions @ Post 4659 – 2nd Monday of Each Month 10 AM – 4:30 PM

Important Dates

January 1st – New Years Day

January 16th – Martin Luther King Day

January 20th – Inauguration Day

January 23rd – Vietnam War Officially Over

February 1st – National Freedom Day

February 2nd – Ground Hog Day

February 12th – Lincoln's Birthday

February 14th – Valentine's Day

February 20th – Presidents Day

February 22nd – Washington's Birthday



A SPECIAL THANK YOU GOES OUT TO: Bill Mrdeza for his support on collection of scrap metal for the Honor Guard Fund. Great job Bill throughout the year with your support and help to our Post Honor Guard. If anyone has scrap brass, copper or aluminum around your home and would like to help out your post, please drop off whatever scrap metal you have and we will take care of it for you.

View our Newsletters On-Line @ vfw4659.org

Hello Comrades,

2016 proved to be a very eventful year for our Clubroom. Events included our annual Clubroom Golf outing, Tiger Game Bus Trip and our first Boys and Their Toys Car Show. Once again, our patrons were treated to a Customer Appreciation Day, Thanksgiving and Christmas Dinners. Special thanks to Keith and Carol Asquith and Jason and Erin Otto for providing the delicious turkeys for the Thanksgiving Dinner. I also want to thank all of those that contributed to the dinners by bringing a dish or helping in any way. Without your continued support these events would not be such a success.



The Winter and Fall Wii Bowling Leagues provided fun and a bit of friendly competition for league players. Thank you John Ream, Jennifer Ramsey and Darlene Kaiser for organizing and running the league. Special thanks to John for providing the weekly e-mail updates to the bowlers. The 2017 Winter League begins the week of January 24th. Last day for sign up is January 17th.

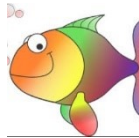


Our annual Euchre Tournament will be held on Saturday January 21st. Check in begins at 1:00 PM. Euchre begins at 2:00 PM. Cost \$1 0.00 and includes lunch. There will be a signup sheet in the Clubroom. Sign up early since space may be limited.



Events continue with Super Bowl LI on Sunday February 5th. Come in and enjoy the game with us.

Our Lenten Fish Fry will begin on Friday March 3rd 2017 and will be held every Friday until April 14th. Don't forget about our weekly (Post 4659) V-Gear Discount Mondays and free Jukebox Tuesdays.



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Visit our Clubroom for more information on our upcoming events.
 Thank you to our wonderful staff and customers for your support in 2016.
 Looking forward to a fun-filled 2017

Clubroom Manager, Larry Kogelman DATES TO REMEMBER

- Tuesday January 17th – Last day for Wii Bowling sign up
- Saturday January 21st – Clubroom Euchre Tournament
- Tuesday January 24th - Wii Bowling begins
- Sunday February 5th – Super Bowl LI
- Friday March 3rd – Friday April 14th Friday Fish Fry

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Veterans of Foreign Wars

Promoting and Assisting Veterans of Foreign Wars.

U.S. ARMY
 The U.S. Army is made up of the most dedicated, most respected Soldiers in the world. These Soldiers protect America's Freedoms while serving at home and abroad, and they are always prepared to defend the nation in times of need.



VFW POST 4659

Our new website is up and running www.vfw4659.org

If you get a chance visit our new site it is crammed full of information, pictures and links to other websites that are of interest to Veterans and their families, below is just a few places of interest:



GALLERY

- Parade
- Post
- School Functions
- Peach Day 2016
- Veterans Day 2016
- Memorial Day
- Hall pictures
- Community
- Great Lakes 9-2016
- Gold Star Ceremony
- Funerals
- Veteran's App Day Jimmy John's
- Club Room Pics

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POST 4659 HONOR GUARD

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**VFW BINGO – TUESDAY MORNINGS
DOORS OPEN 9:30 AM – STARTS 10:30 AM**

**AUXILIARY BINGO – THURSDAY MORNINGS
DOORS OPEN 9:30 – STARTS 10:30 AM**

**Veteran Outreach Sessions at Post 4659
Monthly, 2nd Monday 10:00 AM – 4:30 PM
Lisa Maria (586) 463-3583**

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