

Old Settlers Newsletter

Post 4659 - District 5

July - August 2024

PUBLISHER & EDITOR: JAY BENNER



**Commander Art Huge - Sr. Vice Kevin DeBruyne - Jr Vice Al Schafer
Quartermaster Jay Benner - Chaplain Bob Bartkowski - Adjutant Derek Polena**



I Hope you are enjoying our summer month activities as much as I am. We started with hosting our District 5 comrades at our Loyalty Day (May1) and had a monthly European dinner that brought out the best of our members' cooking recipes. Ending the month with a well-attended Memorial Day ceremony Which included our Shelby Township. leadership. Thank you, Honor Guard, for your many appearances across Macomb County.

We attended our State Convention and elected our first female Department Commander, Kimberly Napoleon. More about her in future articles. We kicked off the D-Day+80 Years program at the Packard Proving Grounds celebration and honored our World War II member, Frank Brown. Several of our Officers & Chairmen spent their Saturday attending the Michigan Department Veterans Training Seminar in Charlotte MI.

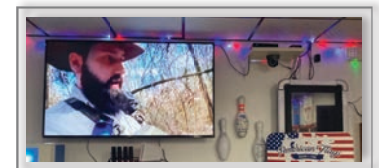
Summer brings several changes including Summer Hours in the Canteen/Clubroom, the elimination of Friday Fish Fry's, and more outdoor activities for our Members & Auxiliary to enjoy. Our Blood Drive is in the Hall on July 3rd. Our 3rd Friday International Dinners & Karaoke kicks off with a Mexican theme in July and a "Country" theme in August.

We will be taking those interested to visit the National Home in Eaton Rapids on the same day (8/11) as we celebrate Gold Star Mother's Day at White Chapel Cemetery in Troy. Jimmy Johns Field is available for a great evening out including a dinner, great seats and the camaraderie of fellow Post members and guests.

We are fortunate to have more volunteers this year to promote the many programs You want us to have for your family and friends. Summer goes by quickly, so please tell us what you and your children, grandchildren & great grandchildren would like us to do? Bike Rally's, Family Picnics, Tiger game trips, Outdoor games?? If you don't make suggestions, we can't accommodate your family desires.

Where are our post 9/11 VFW members? Come to a meeting and participate in the action. We would love to hear from you! Your input is important to us! Communicate! We joined with our Auxiliary to establish plans for the next year. We have scheduled events in and out of the Post for every month, but there is room to include what YOU want us to do. We can assist you with planning and implementation and completing Your project. Just Get Involved!

***A special "Thank You" to Mark Aubrey of the Shelby Township Lions Club
for donating a 65 inch television to the Canteen.***



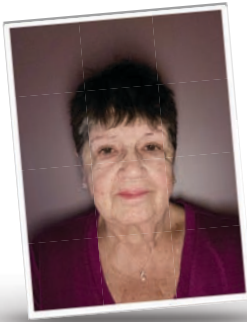
Post Commander
Art Huge
Cell: 810-499-2448



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VFW AUXILIARY
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Greetings All

Hello Auxiliary Sisters and Brothers

After returning from Kalamazoo and our Department Convention, I can say I did learn a lot of new things. Plan on coming to a future meeting on the second Thursday of the month and I'll pass on some info with you.

June sure has been a busy month. Summer is here and there will be no Euchre Play or Tournaments June - August as well as Show Me The Money. There will be other functions besides meetings, and I hope to see you in attendance. We don't want to wait til September to see you. **Keep reading your email blast from Joe MacDonald to keep up-to-date on other goings on.** Keep August 10 on your calendar for our big hall fundraiser. Please join us on our FaceBook page: VFW Auxiliary Post 4659.

Loyally
Rosemary Dicicco, President

Membership

At our June meeting a motion was made and passed to still have a \$50.00 discount plan on Life Memberships this coming 2024-2025 year. Annual dues effective July 1, 2024 will be \$40.00 due to the resolution passed at the 2023 National Convention. If you have any questions on who is eligible for membership or costs, feel free to give me a call.

Denise Frey, 586-569-6336
Treasurer/Membership Chairmanship



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Post Emerging Leaders



People want to be a part of our VFW Post 4659 because of the good things we do. They naturally want to be a part of something successful and good. This goes for the Post members and Post Auxiliary members at our Post. Membership recruiting is vital to the longevity of the VFW. Just as important, though, is the retention of our current members at the Post.

VFW Post 4659 works hard to retain its growing membership. Being appealing to all veterans is our big thing. There must be something of interest to keep members involved. Being involved in the community is another draw for member engagement. We encourage all our members to get involved. You don't have to be involved in everything we do, but we would like for members to pick one or two things to champion.

Retention is as simple as connective with members says Art Huges Post Commander. It took the better part of a year to work on updating the roster which had a lot of inaccurate contact information. Please make sure your Contact information is current.

Our Post Chaplain is good at staying in contact with people in the Post. When someone falls off the radar, there is something going on and the Post is ready to help. Recruiting is ongoing at VFW Post 4659, as is evident in its growing membership number of 103%. Again, people want to be a part of our Post because of the good things we do. ***Veterans naturally want to be a part of something successful and good.***

Mike Perusich

Membership Committee Chairman

A Great Big Thank You

Comrades

As of yesterday my sister Phyllis Harris was able to return back to her apartment after going to a rehabilitation facility when she had fallen and broke her right arm in two places. Thank you and the other VFW members for this battery powered electric wheel chair that you all donated to her. Without this chair her ability to get around would have been very difficult. On behalf of my family and her husband Tom Harris, former Air Force veteran (A2C/E3) from 1962 we want to say Thank You All for your assistance in this next chapter of her life.

I have a few pictures of them as well as one of their daughters (Nancy).

Respectfully

Ron Campbell

Air Force Firefighter veteran (E4 Sargent)



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2024-2025 Committee Chairmen:

National Home: Al Schafer
Membership: Mike Perusich
Post Historian: Lisa Love
Hospital: Ben Light
Drug & Safety: Ben Light
Buddy Poppy: Allen Pocock
Voice of Democracy/Patriots Pen/
Teacher of the Year: Lisa Love
POW/MIA: Gene Meredith
Public Relations/Publicity: Lisa Love & Derek Polena

Homeless Veterans: Al Schafer
Bingo: Randy Pierson
MI Charity Poker: Mike Salyers
Pull Tabs: Ken Klee
Building & Grounds: Mike Perusich
Cancer & Canteen: Joe Bonnani
Carl L LaRock: Lisa Love
Purple Heart: Bruce Hartung
House Committee President: Kevin DeBruyne
Honor Guard Captain: Bill Barron



Kenneth Koliba from John W Smith Old Timer's Club Presented a \$1000.00 donation to Commander Art Huge & Sr Vice Commander Kevin DeBrune to use toward needy Veterans.

Thank You



Commander Art Huge discussed the VFW Post activities at the June Kiwanis Meeting with Shelby Township. Kiwanis Club President Mary Cupolo -



Canteen - Clubroom Notes



Happy Heatwave!

We've been anxious for summer and, boy, did we get what we asked for. High 90's is a bit much, don't you agree? We realize lawn cutting, yard work, and just enjoying the great outdoors takes a bit of your day.

We've modified our hours for the summer months. Wednesday through Saturday we open at 3:00. Sunday and Tuesday we will open at 1:00. It's cool in the Clubroom and the beer is cold! Come on in and hang out for a while. **We also have new Ball Caps for sale**



Both Show me the Money and Euchre Play will resume in the fall. In the meantime, on Saturday, July 27th and Sunday, August 18th we will have outdoor game play. Including corn hole, (foam) axe throwing, and a new fun game that Commander Art discovered played with golf clubs! Saturday @ 2:00, Sunday will be @ 4:00.

We have KARAOKE in the Clubroom on the 3rd Friday of every month. On Friday, July 19th we will have a Mexican dinner from 4 till 6:30. At 7:00 p.m. the fun starts with Linda & Brandon of Stars and Stripes Entertainment! Karaoke is so much fun! Whether you're a singer or not, you'll have a good time.

The dinner on August 16th is Southern Style, 4 till 6:30, and again followed by KARAOKE! You don't want to miss it.

Kathie Holloway.
Clubroom Manager

Carl LaRock Scholarship

Attention High School Seniors! Applications are now being accepted for the Carl LaRock Memorial Scholarship. Open to children and grandchildren of Post 4659 members, accredited homeschoolers, and students attending Eisenhower, Ford II, Lutheran North, Stevenson, UAIS and Utica High Schools who have a minimum 3.0 GPA. The selected applicant will receive a \$1000 Scholarship. A copy of your high school transcript and letter of acceptance to a college, university or trade school must accompany your application. Send an email to LisaLove.4659@gmail.com for an application and official rules.

Thanks! **Chairman Lisa Love**

Post Baseball Outing

**!Saturday, August 31st @ Jimmy Johns Field
Dinner @ 6pm, game starts @7:05pm**

\$38 per ticket!!

Last day to buy tickets is August 21!
(Make checks payable to VFW 4659)

What's included in your ticket?

- All American BBQ dinner (From 6:00pm to 7:30pm)
- 2 drink tickets, & refreshments
- Free Parking in LOT A
- Commemorative group photo
- Game admission ticket

Old Settlers Post 4659



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Packard Proving Ground pictures from the 80th Normandy Invasion D Day event held on June 6 2024



Frank Brown, A 99 year old D-Day veteran receives Life Membership from the VFW "Old Settlers Post" 4659.



Michael Perusich & Bruce Hartung Fold the U S Flag with Commander Art Huge explaining each Fold Meaning



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VFW Pride

VFW TAKES PRIDE IN ITS COMMITMENT TO VETERANS AND TO TODAY'S MILITARY. OUR PROGRAMS ENSURE NO ONE IS FORGOTTEN.

You've most likely heard of the **Veterans of Foreign Wars**. The initials "VFW" are emblazoned on many of our Posts worldwide. We are the nation's oldest major veterans' group, and we've been a part of the country's oldest fabric for over 125 years.

We are an organization of over 1 million veterans who have served overseas in war zones or areas demanding arduous duty, from mountains and deserts to jungles and swamps.

What you might not know about is our continuing commitment to our country and community. Our mission extends to troops serving overseas today and their families waiting back home.

Our Mission: To foster camaraderie among U.S. veterans of overseas conflicts. To serve our veterans, the military and our communities. To advocate on behalf of all veterans.

Our Vision: Ensure that veterans are respected for their service, always receive their earned entitlements and are recognized for the sacrifices they and their loved ones have made on behalf of this great country.

VFW MEMBERS CARE PASSIONATELY ABOUT SERVING THEIR FELLOW CITIZENS. JUST AS WE PLEDGED DURING OUR TIME IN UNIFORM, WE AGAIN VOW TO SUSTAIN A LIFELONG COMMITMENT TO THE NATION AND OUR COMMUNITIES.

Mike Perusich

Past Post Commander

Honor Guard

It has now been over 50 years since VFW Old Settlers Post 4659 has performed Military Honors for our post members and members of all other branches of the service whether they be in a military organization or not. I am pleased to say for sure that our Honor Guard has comforted many families in their time of grieving. Losing a loved one who had honorably served his country and be buried with Military Honors to celebrate his or her life is both rewarding to our Honor Guard and our Post. As a Post Honor Guard we are trying to hold a tradition going that was started over 50 years ago as a service to the military families and as an Honor to our Post.

Sincerely,

Bill Barron

VFW Old Settlers Post 4659 Honor Guard



2024 ALL-STATE AWARD

**Commander Art Huge and
Quartermaster Jay Benner**

Congratulations for making
All-State Post

I will be processing your All-State
award, and you will receive your
white hats at the Fall Conference.

Congratulations again!

Michael Martin

Department All-State Director

Post Members Service Bio's

Ben Light will be featured in the September-October issue This will give Members a chance to know you better, where you were stationed, what you did and your tours away from home. If I can be of any help please contact me.

Mike Perusich

perusich@att.net or 586-291-9914

Welcome our Newest Members

Franklin Brown

Welcome Transfers

Alicia Rec



Donations so far this year is much less than previous years but as you know every bit helps. We had four locations in Shelby with Ten Members taking donations. All in all, we collected just under \$2000.00, with the high roller being Sylvia. So all you members who

generously gave of their time for the cause; Bob Bartkowski, Harold Cope, Gerry Kolinski, Jay Benner, Brian McDonald, Paul Rice, Sylvis Pocock, Joan Carpenter, Chrissy Boone and Me Allen Pocock

Thank You all again
Allen Pocock
Poppy Chairman

Buddy Poppy Auxiliary Member Sylvia Pocock receives Special pin from Commander for top donations during Buddy Poppy Days.



NEVER FORGET OUR FALLEN COMRADES

KINNER, HUGH T



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Bingo Starts At 10:30 am



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