



Old Settlers Newsletter

Post 4659 - District 5

July - August 2025

Publisher & Editor: Lisa Love



**Commander Art Huge - Sr. Vice Carol Dalpe - Jr. Vice Paul Rick
Quartermaster Mick Kolinski - Chaplain Bob Bartkowski - Adjutant Bill Tudrick**



Great News! Our Post has won the Michigan Department All-State Award for our activities during the 2024-2025 administrative year. In addition, we have been informed that we also have been awarded the VFW National All-American Post Award! Thank you Post 4659 for your participation in our activities during the last year. We maintained a well-rounded program and plan to continue this year!

Our Memorial Day program brought in a great crowd of our members, auxiliary and members of the public. Thanks to our Shelby Township Supervisor, Rick Stathakis, for speaking at the program. It was nice to see our families attend. Thank you to our Auxiliary for providing our luncheon.

Our Honor Guard and several members celebrated our World War II veteran, Frank Brown's 100th birthday at his church in May. Congratulations Honor Guard for all the times you support other communities and senior homes. A big commitment - Well Done!

Our Day of Service at Prestonville Cemetery and 2 safety programs (AED/CPR & Gun Safety) completed our year.

We have newly elected officers and Chairmen and I'm expecting a dynamic performance again this year. Take the time to get involved in some of our programs. Spend an hour one night at one of our Post meetings to learn more (2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month at 7pm).

Our annual trip to spend a day at the National Home for Michigan Day is Sunday, July 27th. Learn how our dollars are being spent to support the families in Eaton Rapids. Last year we had about a dozen members make the trip and came back excited about the day's activities

Parades, flag retirement ceremonies, family picnics, blood drives, assisting the homeless veterans are all part of the community activities coming up this summer. Do you have a special project or program you would like us to support? Let us know what it is. Do you have questions about your well-deserved benefits? Contact us or attend a meeting.

Have a great summer!

Yours in comradeship,
Art Huge, Commander



VFW AUXILIARY
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Greetings to All,

The months of May and June have been very good, but busy for me. I attended the District 5 Auxiliary meeting in Holly and the Department Convention in Kalamazoo where I met so many nice members from our district. The messages from the speakers were to recruit new members, stay on top of all legislation affecting Veterans and their families by writing to our congressman expressing the need to enhance not reduce benefits, and get involved more with the local community, especially where youth is

concerned.

I would like to thank Pam, Chrissy, Janice, Diane, Joan and Elaine for giving their time to the Poppy program that helps veterans in need. Elaine Kosloski brought in the most money this year. There are so many ways to promote our VFW programs and gain recognition by reporting our work. I will be communicating by email to the members to keep you informed of activities and events that go on in our Post. I hope to see more of you at the meetings held the second Thursday of the month. I'll see you around.

Loyally,
Sylvia Pocock, Auxiliary President

Membership

Welcome to our new members that have been added to our Auxiliary ranks the past couple of months. Hope to see you around soon (Chris Kempa, Greg Curlee, Alyssa Bettcher, John Wagner, Paula & Kristin Cangemi, Christine Kempa, Eileen Maringo and Sharon Campobasso.

It is with a heavy heart that we recently lost Auxiliary member, Bryan Parr, who touched everyone he came in contact with wherever he went. His humor was infectious. The family is planning a Celebration of Life in the future.

Denise Frey, Membership

Buddy Poppy Report



Once Again, I would like to thank the twenty members that volunteered their time to help in the Buddy Poppy fundraiser. Despite having one less location to raise funds we did really well this year. Together we raised one of the highest amounts in many a year. And I must say that you volunteers should be really really proud of yourselves!

I must mention that The Post high fundraiser was Mike Salyers and for the Auxiliary was Elaine Koslaski. Bravo!!!

Plans are now being made for our next fundraiser. So, think about helping out. Just one two hour shift really makes the difference and your fellow veterans in need would really appreciate your help. Thank you again for all your help

Allen Pocock, Buddy Poppy Chairman

Clubroom / Canteen Notes



Hello All!!!

We've had a suggestion to hold a parking lot "yard sale". You'd rent a parking space, provide your own tables, etc. and treasures to sell. If this sounds like something you'd be interested in please let us know in the Clubroom ASAP and we can get the ball rolling on it.

Post Members! The t-shirts some of you requested are available for sale in the Clubroom. We have 3 colors, and all sizes. \$20 per shirt, just ask the bartender on duty.

We've brought in a couple new activities on Saturdays and they've both been a hit! Game night was tons of fun with The Horse Race Game being the fan favorite.

Joe MacDonald led us in a friendly, competitive bowling tournament. It's \$5 per team, per game. Max 2 games. It really was so much fun (and not just because Joanie & I won)! For game night you can just show up, but for bowling Joe needs 8 teams. Sign up in the Clubroom!

GAME NIGHTS: July 12th & August 9th @ 5:30pm

BOWLING FOR \$\$\$: July 26th & August 23rd 6 – 8pm

POTLUCK & KARAOKE: July 18th & August 15th 5-7pm / 7:30-10:30pm

Here's some great news!! So many have asked for this for so long...we are working on our permit for outdoor seating. Drinks will be allowed outside within a designated area! Nothing comes easy, there's always a few hoops to jump through but we're on it...Finally!! It will be posted as soon as it's approved.

We tried to roll with it but there just isn't enough business during the day. Most days, our first customer isn't till after 4. That being said, we will go with our summer hours, now through Labor Day.

Sunday and Tuesday, we will open at 1:00pm

Wednesday through Saturday, we will open at 3:00pm

Closed on Monday for maintenance and repairs.

See you at the Club!

Kathie Holloway, Clubroom Manager

Scholarships

Congratulations to Madeline Pittel, a recent graduate of Utica High School, for being the random draw recipient of the 2025 \$1000 Carl F. LaRock Memorial Scholarship! We wish her best of luck in her journey at Grand Valley State University in the fall.

Also, it's not too early to start thinking about the VFW's Voice of Democracy (an audio/essay contest for students grades 9-12) and Patriot's Pen (an essay contest for students in grades 6-8)! This is a great opportunity to possibly win cash, scholarships and incentives! The 2025-2026 theme for both is "How Are You Showing Patriotism and Support for Our Country?"

For complete rules and an entry form, contact me at lisalove.4659@gmail.com

Lisa Love, Scholarship Chairman



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NEVER FORGET OUR FALLEN COMRADES

Clifford Finkle
Henry Charbeneau



Transfer Members
John Jimenez



On June 11, 2025 Honors took place at Great Lakes National Cemetery Holly Michigan for our Post member Cliff Finkel. The "Old Settlers" Post 4659 along with Army Rangers and the Combat Group gave the final tribute for our Post member.



Cdr Art Huge, Diane Huge, Al Pocock, Sylvia Pocock, Lisa Love, Janice Meredith, Gene Meredith and a local WWII Veteran attended the Shelby Twp Memorial Day Ceremony.



Lovely ladies from the Auxiliary making a difference for Buddy Poppy Days! L to R: Pam Riden, Chrissy Balone, Diane Huge, Janis Meredith, Sylvia Pocock



Ken Koliba & Lenny Maciborski presented a \$1000 check from the John W. Smith Old Timers Organization to Commander Art Huge for our continued support of their organization.



Commander Art Huge and Quartermaster Jay Benner were recognized as members of the 2024-2025 VFW All-State Commanders Team at the Department Convention in Kalamazoo in May.

Congratulations!!





Flag Day 2025

Our honor guard assisted at St. John Vianny Church for the annual flag retirement ceremony.



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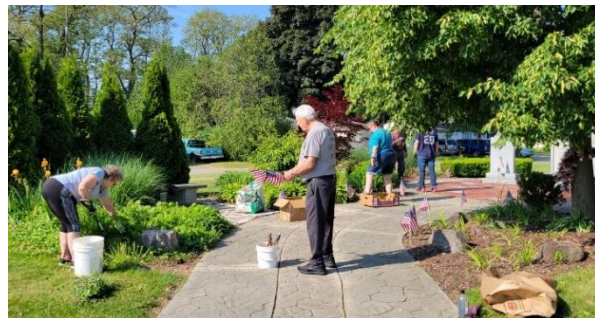


Save the Date!!
November 8, 2025 is Post 4659's
80th Anniversary!
More information is coming soon.



Planting Day 2025

Thanks to everyone who came out to help beautify the grounds around the post and flagpole!



We are seeking an individual to assist in
cleaning the hall and bathrooms after events
and Bingo on Tuesday and Thursday. Please
contact Joe Bonanni 586-808-0754



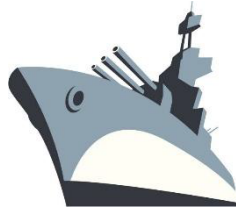
Congratulations to Rosemary Diccio, Past Post
4659 Auxiliary President for receiving her 35 Year
Pin from Sylvia Pocock, Current President of Post
4659 Auxiliary.

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Life Membership Information

VFW MEMBER SERVICES (CURRENT MEMBERS ONLY)

Monday - Friday 8:15 am until 5 pm.

Please call 1-833-VFW-VETS or 1-833-839-8387

to safely renew or convert to Life Membership over the phone with credit or debit card. Also, VFW members can update mailing address and or contact information.

**Life member fees are based upon your age on
December 31st of the current year.**

Under 30 years - \$425.00	51-60 years - \$335.00
31-40 years - \$410.00	61-70 years - \$290.00
41-50 years - \$375.00	71-80 years - \$225.00
Age 81 and over - \$170.00	



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Visit Us Online

www.vfwpost4659.org
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VFW BINGO

Tuesday & Thursday Mornings
Doors Open at 9:30 am
Bingo Starts at 10:30 am



NO ONE DOES MORE FOR VETERANS.