

# OLD SETTLER NEWS

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE UNITED STATES

**OLD SETTLERS POST 4659**

8311 Wilson Dr., Shelby Twp., Michigan 48316 (586)781-9109

**MAY - JUNE 2018**

Commander Bill Dobbie - Sr. Vice Cmdr. Mike Crampton - Jr. Vice Cmdr. Scott Metcalf  
Quartermaster Jay Benner - Chaplain Bob Bartkowski - Adjutant - Bill Tudrick

## Comrades and Auxiliary Members,



By the time you receive this Newsletter, we will have had our annual elections to set our Post Officers for the ensuing 2018-2019 year. That election was held at our April 25<sup>th</sup> Post Membership Meeting. For the seventh time, it has been my honor to serve as VFW Post 4659 Commander. As I prepare to leave that office, I want to be sure to take a moment to thank all that have played important part in the day to day operation of the Post. Although too many to name now, they have made things go fairly smooth this year. The administrative year is quickly coming to a close. We have had a highly successful year and done the things that are expected of us as a fully functioning Veterans of Foreign Wars Post. Together, we have accomplished much good work for our Community and our Veterans. Earlier in April we were asked to assist the family of an Oakland County Sheriff's Deputy that was badly injured when struck by a passing automobile while responding to a traffic accident. You, the members responded and we sent a check for \$550.00 to assist that family. As always, VFW Post 4659 came through.

However, there is still one area where our Post is falling short this year. That is in our Post Membership. We are currently at about 96%. To have a truly successful year, we need to bring that Post Membership up to 100%. To achieve that, we need about 16 of our unpaid members to pay their annual dues as soon as possible. Do not send the \$35.00 annual dues to the National Headquarters, just stop by the Post and with cash, check or credit card pay your dues on the spot. We will get it posted to the National organization and you will continue to be part of your great Post and all the good work the Post does. You may want to get your life membership and never have to pay annual dues again. Life member fees are based upon your age on December 31st of the current year. Whatever your Life Member fees are, your Post will pay \$50.00 toward that fee, making Life Membership an even better bargain. Good for you and good for your Post.

I ask all of you again to help make this year another great year. Best Wishes to all of you.

Under 30 years - \$425.00	31-40 years - \$410.00
41-50 years - \$375.00	51-69 years - \$335.00
61-70 years - \$290.00	71-80 years - \$225.00
81 and over \$170.00	

Bill Dobbie  
Post Commander



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## **Greetings to all Auxiliary Members**

Our April meeting was our nomination and election of officers. Those lucky people for the upcoming year, following the Department June Convention are as follows:

President: Mary Ashbrook  
Sr. Vice President: Gloria Dobbie  
Jr. Vice President: Rosemary Diccico  
Treasurer: Denise Frey  
Secretary: Denise Frey  
Chaplain: Mary T. Klee

Conductress: Nancy Giles  
Guard: Joann Jaynes  
Trustee #1: Lori Schmidt  
Trustee #2: Gloria Dobbie  
Trustee #3: Darlene Kaiser

If you wish to aspire to be an office or chairman and want to learn this great organization and learn what we do to assist our VETERANS, you are welcomed to attend our meeting on the 2nd Monday of each month. Unless a special event is happening in conjunction with our meeting, the start time is 7pm. With a special event, we start at 6pm.

With this being my second year to serve as your President I'm hoping to meet more of our members at the meetings and our functions.

I am proud of the members that worked with the Post on the recent Corned Beef and Cabbage Dinner on St. Patrick's Day. It was a very success event.

Loyally

Mary Ashbrook, President

## **Installation of Officers**

The Auxiliary Installation of Officers will start with a light dinner at 6pm with the meeting commencing at 7pm and the installation following the meeting, Monday, May 14, 2018. The installing officer for Mary will be Past Department Commander and our own Commander, Bill Dobbie.

Best Wishes

Denise Frey, Secretary

## **Americanism**

Remember the dates and fly your flags: Memorial Day, Monday, May 28, 2018 and Flag Day, Thursday, June 14, 2018.

Loyally

Lori Schmidt, Americanism Chairman

# U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs announces 2018 State Veteran Home Construction Grants

April 13, 2018

LANSING, Mich. — The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs authorized funding from the VA State Veterans Home Construction Grant Program to build two new veterans homes in Grand Rapids and Southeast Michigan. According to the priority list released this morning, the VA has authorized up to \$123 million for the projects.

“This is great news for our state’s veterans,” said Gov. Rick Snyder. “I am pleased Michigan gained the support from the federal VA with this grant funding for two veterans homes. It will pave the way for new, modern facilities that are long overdue and will better meet the needs of our veterans. Our brave men and women who served our state and nation deserve the absolute best, and I am proud of the work that is being done to help make Michigan the best place for veterans to live, raise a family, work and retire.”

In 2016, the Michigan Legislature approved \$42 million in state funds for the projects. The VA State Home Construction Grant Program provides up to 65 percent funding for approved projects and has authorized up to \$38 million for Grand Rapids and up to \$42 million for Southeast Michigan.

A plan to modernize long-term health care for the state’s veterans was created by a workgroup convened by the Michigan Veterans Affairs Agency to study best practices and chart a path to modernize state run facilities providing long-term care to veterans. The workgroup comprised of health care and financial experts and legislators completed their report in August 2016, recommending application to the VA State Veteran Home Construction Grant Program to build up to seven new veterans homes across the state. Based on recommendations from the group and with strong bi-partisan support from the legislature, Governor Rick Snyder signed into law PA 560 of 2016, creating the Michigan Veterans’ Facilities Authority, governed by a nine member board. The first action of the Authority Board was approval of the grant application designating that the first two homes be built on the current 90 acre campus in Grand Rapids and on a site to be determined in Southeast Michigan.

“We appreciate VA’s support of Michigan’s veterans in announcing this much needed funding to build new, modern veterans homes in our state,” said Michigan Veterans Facility Chair/Michigan Veterans Affairs Agency Director James Robert Redford. “This is an important first step that allows Michigan to continue providing veteran-centered care in a modern, home-like setting, eventually expanding the number of veteran homes across the state in order to serve veterans close to where they live.”

The Michigan Veterans Facility Authority Board of Directors continues work to finalize site selection in southeast Michigan, based on legislative direction to locate a new state veterans home in Michigan Prosperity Region 10. The board has a goal of beginning construction of the new facility in Grand Rapids in September 2018.

For more information about the new veterans home project in Grand Rapids, visit the Michigan Veterans Facility Authority Board, Public Documents at [MichiganVeterans.com](http://MichiganVeterans.com).



## **.We have medical equipment at our post**

If you have a need for: Walkers, Wheel Chairs, Crutches  
Electric Chairs, Shower/Toliet Needs Please  
Contact our Post for Help.



## Scholarship & Michigan Department Comrades and Auxiliary Members

Congratulations to our newly elected Officers for the 2018/2019 Auxiliary year! Under President Mary Ashbrook's leadership, and our dedicated members, I am sure we will continue to see success and recognition for our Auxiliary. Congratulations to our Post Officers and members for another successful year.

Our Scholarship year has concluded with the submission of our first place entry in the Young American Patriotic Art Contest to the State for judging. The results of that judging will be at the State Convention in June. Our Auxiliary had two entries; Gabriela Andrzejewska, and Megan Adam. Gabriela is in 11<sup>th</sup> grade and Megan is in 12<sup>th</sup> grade. Both attend Utica Academy for International Studies. They will receive their first and second place Auxiliary awards at an assembly in May at their school. Megan's entry is first place and Gabriela's is second place in our local judging. I will report on the results of the State judging when they are available.

Please encourage any high school or middle school students in your family or neighborhood to jump start the Voice of Democracy and Patriot's Pen Contest. They will have the entire summer to perfect their essays. Entry forms will be on our Michigan VFW Auxiliary website after May 1, 2018. The 2018/2019 Themes for the Voice of Democracy Contest and the Patriot's Pen Contest have been released. The Voice of Democracy Theme is "Why My Vote Matters". The Patriot's Pen Theme is "Why I Honor the American Flag". The deadline for entries to the post for each contest is November 1, 2018. Feel free to contact me with any Questions or concerns.

Best wishes to all for a wonderful and fun summer!

Gloria Dobbie  
Auxiliary 4659 Scholarships Chairman  
586-739-8095 wadobbie@prodigy.net



### **POST 4659 GONE BUT NOT FORGOTTEN**

**Albert Alfonsi**

**James Corke**

**Larry Meek**

**Thomas Mendola**

**Thomas Muraszewski     Anthony Yacobelli**

### **New, Transfers, and Reinstated Members**

**Ryan Pierson**

**Jeffery Johnson**

**Robert Runyan**

**Fredrick Brooks**

**Paul Szeliga**

**John Moran**

**Welcome All**





# Clubroom News

Comrades, Friends and Family,

We wouldn't know it but according to the calendar spring has sprung upon us. I am sure it is just a matter of time before our beloved Tigers shed those cumbersome winter parkas, stocking caps and start playing some winning baseball. What do they say about Michigan weather, "If you don't like it just wait an hour?"



I would like to thank everyone who pitched in to make March and April a fun filled Clubroom success. A special Thank You to Pam Herbert for organizing the Euchre Tournament, Darlene Kaiser for a wonderful Friday Fish Fry and, Auxiliary President Mary Ashbrook and team for partnering up with the Clubroom for our St. Patricks' Day Corned Beef and Cabbage dinner to include:

Coleen and Craig Nichols

Michele Burkors

Lori Schmidt

Steve Locicero

Josh McCormick and; to all those who graciously donated dessert dishes and goodies,

"Thank You".

Chrissy Bolone

Johnny D. Ream

Kristen Kaiser



Join us on May 5<sup>th</sup> for our Cinco De Mayo and Derby Day Celebration drink specials, good food and fun had by all. The pony's post at 6:30PM. Feel free to bring your favorite dish along to share with us.



Plans are currently in the works for a number of different summer events. When confirmed those events will be posted in upcoming newsletters, the Clubroom and monitor along with signup sheets. Keep your eyes open!

Clubroom hours of operation are 12 Noon – 9PM Monday thru Sunday. Closing after 9PM is at the discretion and kindness of your bartender on duty, the number of members frequenting our club at that time and of course your generosity. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me.



Thank you all

Randall P.,

Club Manager

## Post Upcoming Meetings and Events

**Holly National Cemetery Honor Guard** – 1<sup>st</sup> Wed of each Month  
**Post Meetings** – 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of each Month – 7:00 PM  
**House Committee Meeting** – 3<sup>rd</sup> Wed. of each Month – 7:00 PM  
**Auxiliary Meeting** – 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of each Month 7 PM  
**Post & Auxiliary Bingo** – Tuesdays & Thursdays at 10:30 AM  
**Veteran Outreach Sessions with Lisa Marie** - 2<sup>nd</sup> month 10:00 AM – 4:30 PM

## Important Dates

**May 3rd National Day of Prayer**  
**May 8th V-E Day**  
**May 14th Mothers Day**  
**May 15th Peace Officers Day**  
**May 20th Armed Forces Day**  
**May 22nd National Maritime Day**  
**May 29th Memorial Day**  
**June 14th Flag Day**  
**June 17th Father's Day**  
**June 21st 1st Day of Summer**

## Thank You Volunteers!

A big thank you to all the participants in the recent Charity Poker Fundraiser at Ciccarelli's! The 4 day fundraiser went very well, for Post 4659. If you would be interested in volunteering at a future Charity Poker fundraiser, please contact

Mike Crampton at 586-747-1222.

Charity Poker Fundraisers for 2018 will be as follows:

June 25-28, 2018 at Ciccarelli's – Night shift

Oct. 31-Nov. 3, 2018 at Rosemack – split day/night shifts

**Mike Crampton & Carol Dalpe,**

*Co-Chairpersons – Charity Poker Fundraisers*

**Comrades we really need Volunteers to continue this great Charity event. This is one of the most profitable events and ALL funds go to help other Veterans. So Please Volunteer if you can Thank You!**





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On the 21st of April 2018, the State Commander & Presidents Banquet was held at the Double Tree Hotel in Bay City Michigan. Current Post Commander & Past State Commander Bill Dobbie, Past Auxiliary Post & Past State President Gloria Dobbie was in attendance, along with Past Post Commander Ken Klee & wife Terri attended as well.




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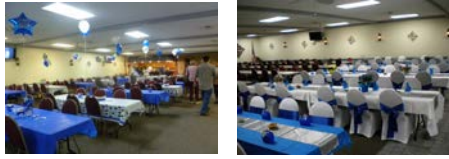
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**VFW BINGO – TUESDAY MORNINGS  
DOORS OPEN 9:30 AM – STARTS 10:30 AM**

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

**Veteran Outreach Sessions at Post 4659  
Monthly, 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday 10:00 AM – 4:30 PM  
Lisa Marie (586) 463-3538**

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