

# 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

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

**NOVEMBER - DECEMBER 2017**



**Comrades and Auxiliary Members,**

Well, this has been a busy time. In September, after returning from DC, Gloria and I attended our annual VFW State Fall Conference at Boyne Highlands. Our Post hosted the annual Gold Star Mothers Banquet and Chairman Ken Klee did another outstanding job, as always. We were honored to have as our guests these Mothers and Families that have given so much to our nation. On October 10th, I traveled to Lansing to attend and represent the Michigan VFW at the Governor's Signing Ceremony of the Bill forming a Michigan World War One Centennial Commission. Then, On Oct. 13-15, we went to Minneapolis, MN to attend the VFW's Big Ten Conference meeting. As a note, the National Organization is divided into 4 Conferences, The East, West, South and Big Ten. Michigan is Big Ten along with OH, IN, IL, WI, MN, NE, SD IA, and MO. No Rutgers or Maryland in our Big Ten.

Your Post is doing well and doing all the things that are required of us and we will continue doing just that.

Veterans Day is coming. Post 4659 will have our annual ceremony at 11:00am on Saturday, November 11, 2017. It will be held at our Post memorial and a luncheon will follow in the Post Hall. Come out and join us as we honor all of our nations' military veterans. Also, we will have a short ceremony to commemorate the Centennial of the American entry into World War One and honor the 2 Million American that served in Europe during the Great War (this war before we found the need to number World Wars).

After the first of the year, we will make applications available and begin accepting entries for our VFW Post 4659 Carl LaRock Memorial Scholarship from graduating High School Seniors in our area. This will be \$1,000 each for at least two winners and is paid for by the Scholarship fund set up with monies received from the will of deceased Post Member Carl LaRock. I would guess that we have awarded about \$80,000 to deserving students in our community over the past 20 year.

In closing, again I ask that you locate and pass along to me contact information for prospective New Member to our Post. To have a successful year, the Post will take care of all other needed efforts but we need the assistance of every member to locate and recruit new members. As the VFW has long said, "Membership is the only thing we do for ourselves". Be a part of that. If you have not paid your current year dues, I ask that you do so and remain a viable member of our great Post. We need every one of you and more to continue our membership growth. Again, remain part of our Post even if it only means you have your membership card in your pocket. You will still be an important part of something great.

Best wishes to all of you.

**Bill Dobbie,  
Post Commander**



## Wreaths Across America

Wreaths Across America is an annual December event with a goal of decorating Veterans' gravesites with ceremonial wreaths.

This activity started over 25 years ago at Arlington National Cemetery and has now spread throughout the United States and around the world. Over 1.4 million ceremonial wreaths were placed last year.

For the past 9 years, VFW Post 4659, Old Settlers Post has supported our Post cemetery, Prestonville Cemetery, located on 25 Mile Road between Jewel and Schoenherr where there are 175 veteran gravesites.

The goal is to have 175 ceremonial wreaths placed by children on every veteran gravesite. To reach this goal we need help with contributions from individuals, families, businesses and local church groups. The contribution is \$15 per wreath. There are several choices on how to sponsor a wreath or multiple wreaths.

### ***Your choices to sponsor a wreath are:***

Go to this Website [www.wreathacrossamerica.org](http://www.wreathacrossamerica.org) and use our **Sponsor ID MI0098** (or)

Call Wreath Across America at (877) 385-9504 and use our **Sponsor ID MI0098** (or)

Click on this link <https://wreaths.fastport.com/donateLocation.html?page=27869&relate=14867>

(or) *Mail a check* To VFW Post 4659, 8311 Wilson, Shelby Township, MI 48317 ...Please mark on the check for Wreaths Across America.

***Thank you for your contribution.***

Or contact Mike Flaker, VFW Post 4659, Life Member, Location Leader, for this annual event. He can be reached at (586) 799-4242 or email him at [mflaker@crickettinsurance.com](mailto:mflaker@crickettinsurance.com)

**Deadline for sponsoring a wreath(s) is November 27<sup>th</sup>!**

You're invited to attend the ceremony on December 16<sup>th</sup>, 2017 arrive at 11:30 a.m. and dress warm. The ceremony starts *promptly at noon* at Prestonville Cemetery. Ceremony and placement of wreaths is approximately 30 minutes in length.

Let us continue to fulfill the mission of Wreaths Across America. ***"Remember, Honor and Teach"***

**Remember our fallen U.S Veterans. Honor those that Serve. Teach your children the value of freedom.**



## Scholarship & Michigan Department

### Comrades and Auxiliary Members

Our Post winners in the Voice of Democracy Audio Essay Contest, Patriot's Pen Essay Contest, and Teacher of the Year Contest will be announced in our next Newsletter. We are looking forward to recognizing our winners and their families at the District 5 Banquet at Post 7573 in New Baltimore on January 7, 2018. Please contact me for ticket information.



In addition to assisting our VFW Post in the above mentioned Scholarship Contests, we are proud to participate in opportunities offered to members and students by our VFW National Auxiliary. The Continuing Education Scholarship is awarded to four recipients, one from each VFW Conference. The deadline for entries is February 15, 2018. The applicant must be a current Auxiliary member for a minimum of one year who is 18 years of age or older. Their spouse, son, and/or daughter are also eligible to apply for the Scholarship. Information and entry forms are available on our Michigan Auxiliary website.

The Young American Creative Patriotic Art Contest is open to all High School Students in grades nine through twelve. The deadline for entries is March 31, 2018. We encourage our students to express their patriotism through their inspirational art. While there is no specific theme required for the artwork, certain criteria must be met for the piece to qualify. All information is available on our Michigan Auxiliary Website, or you can feel free to contact me for details.

We are proud to be an Organization that recognizes the value of our members, students, and teachers in our communities.

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



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.





## Welcome to all Auxiliary Members

Greetings to all.

Your participation in the following events would be greatly appreciated. November 6th is a visit to West Utica High School to celebrate Veterans Day with the High School students. You can help support our homeless Veterans on November 8th. Volunteers are needed to display clothing and personal needs items and donations are welcome. To volunteer, be at the Post at 9:00 am. A meal will be served to the Veterans which they greatly appreciate. Veterans Day is November 11th. The ceremony begins at 11:00am. Volunteers are needed to prepare a lunch to be served after the ceremony. The Auxiliary inspection meeting is on November 13th with a pot-luck meal beginning at 6:00 pm. Our District President will be in attendance. Please come and bring a dish to pass. District 5 meeting is December 3rd. If you would like to share a ride, please contact me at 248-766-2467.

Please support Post 4659 and it's auxiliary by participating in the above mentioned activities. If you have a project you would like to chair or have any ideas you would like to share, please come to the meetings. All ideas are welcomed and appreciated. Our meetings are held on the 2nd Monday of the month at 7:00 pm.

Mary Ashbrook, President

## Membership

Welcome to our new members: Richard Lees, Dawn Rivard, Michelle Brady, John Gernat and Rosemary Diccio.

## Youth Activities: Kids Christmas Party

Santa is coming to town, Saturday, December 9, 2017. Ages: 0-10. Time: 1 – 3PM. The sign-up slips will be available in the clubroom the first week of November for you to complete in person. - no phone entries. Check your child's schedule prior to submitting their name, they must be present to receive their gift from SANTA. Deadline for Names is THURSDAY 30 November



Happy Holiday and Merry Christmas  
Denise Frey, Youth Activities Chairman



# Clubroom News

Hello Comrades,



And, your 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Old Settlers Post 4659 Chili Cook-Off 2017 Champions are, (Drumroll please).

3<sup>rd</sup> Place – Ken Klee, 2<sup>nd</sup> Place – Bob Knuth and 1<sup>st</sup> Place – Darlene Kaiser



Congratulations and Thank You to all those who entered the Chili Cook-off. The real winners were all those who attended the competition and were treated to an evening of fun and of course, some awesome free chili.

It is hard to believe that our summer months have so soon fallen behind us as we ready ourselves for the upcoming Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays. As I write you this I am currently planning our club Thanksgiving Party for Saturday, November 18 and our Christmas Party for Saturday, December 16. Please contact the Canteen Club or look for the flyers for confirmation as we get closer to the holidays.



Remember, Happy Hour prices run from 1:30 to 4PM Monday thru Friday and during all Lions Football games kickoff to final whistle.

Free Jukebox is all day long on Tuesdays. Wii bowling league is quite competitively into the 5<sup>th</sup> week of bowling and now that the lanes are being kept oiled regularly, averages are climbing.



As always, I would like to say Thank You to all of you including my staff. It truly is a real privilege managing your Canteen Club.

Sincerely,

Randall Pierson, Club Room Manager

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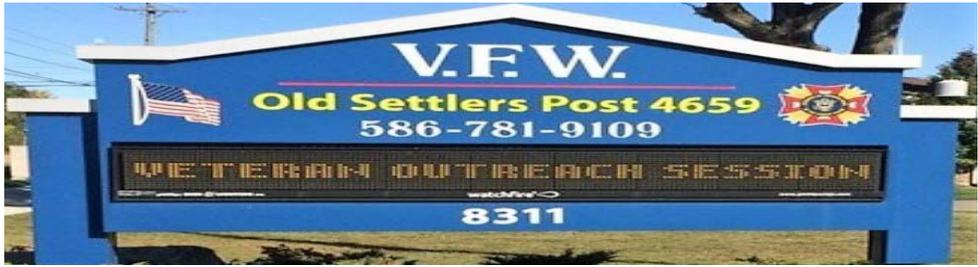
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**POST UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS**

- Holly National Cemetery Honor Guard** – 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of each Month
- Post Meetings** – 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays of each Month – 7PM
- House Committee Meeting** – 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each Month – 7 PM
- Auxiliary Meeting** – 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of each Month
- Post 4659 VFW & Auxiliary Bingo** – Tuesday & Thursday at 10:30 AM
- Veteran Outreach Sessions @ Post 4659** – 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of Each Month 10 AM – 4:30 PM

**IMPORTANT DATES**

- November 6th** – West Utica Elementary Veterans Salute
- November 8th** - Homeless Vet Day at Post 4659
- November 10th** - USMC Birthday - Semper Fi
- November 11th** – Veterans Day
- November 23rd** – Thanksgiving Day
- December 24th** – Christmas Eve
- December 25th** - Christmas Day
- December 26th** - Boxing Day
- December 31st** - New Years Eve



**GONE BUT NOT FORGOTTEN  
 POST 4659 MEMBERS**

**Richard McDonald**



**New Members**

- Gary Caracciolo**
- Jason Hanson**
- Mike Stansbury**

## Special Occasion?



Contact our NEW  
Hall Manager

Coleen

810-531-6164

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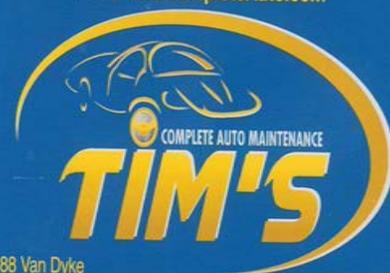
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**VFW AUXILIARY BINGO – THURSDAY  
MORNINGS  
DOORS OPEN 9:30 AM – STARTS 10:30 AM**

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

Visit Our WEB Page  
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