

# 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

**SEPTEMBER - OCTOBER 2017**



Comrades and Auxiliary Members,

On August 30th I traveled to Traverse City to attend a House of Representatives Veterans Affairs Satellite Subcommittee Meeting chaired by Michigan's 1<sup>st</sup> District U.S. Congressman Jack Bergman. The subject of the meeting was something some of our members may find interesting. For those that have difficulty traveling to their Medical

Appointments, the VA has established the VA telehealth program. If accepted by the program, a veteran may be issued equipment to check and report their Blood pressure, Blood oxygen, etc. and send and receive information and answers to important questions The veteran may enroll to do these and other functions over the internet. If the veteran does not have a connected computer, they can be issued a connected tablet to be used for this function. This can eliminate the need for the veteran to travel to Detroit, Ann Arbor or other VA Medical Centers. This will not eliminate all visits, but should be helpful to many of our members using the VA Healthcare system.

I will be in Washington DC from September 11-14 as a member of the VFW National Legislative Committee to attend our annual fall Legislative Conference representing Michigan. This gives us another opportunity to visit the offices of our U.S. Senators and Congress Members to pass along information on our National Legislative Priority Goals. We work hard to form these relationships to further those Veteran Healthcare and National Security Issues as directed through resolutions passed by the delegates at our VFW National Convention. Being on the Legislative Committee for 15 years and with 26 years of attendance at the Spring Legislative Conference and having been to DC about 50 times over those years, those relationships are getting stronger with each visit. It is all a bit hectic, but it is what I do and it is important.

If you want to be part of the legislative activity of the VFW, go on the internet to [vfw.org](http://vfw.org) Click on Advocacy, Click on Grass Roots Efforts and click on Join VFW Action Corps. Fill out the application and you are in. You will receive weekly Action Corps updates and as needed Action Alerts that you are encouraged to act take action on.

We are accepting entries to our VFW High School Voice of Democracy Audio Scriptwriting and Patriot's Pen Middle School essay programs. If you need an application for either competition. Give a call to me at 586-322-3304 or call the Post 586-781-9109 where applications will be available for you.

In closing, I ask that you locate and pass along to me a prospective New Member for 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.

Best wishes to all of you.

Bill Dobbie,

Post Commander

## 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, raising over \$4200 for Post 4659. Without our post volunteers stepping up to help run this charity event, we would not have this revenue to help us do what we do in supporting veterans, their families and performing community service throughout the year. If you would be interested in volunteering at a future Charity Poker fundraiser, *please* contact Mike at 586-747-1222.



I would like to thank Carol Dalpe, Mike Perusich, Jay Benner, Ed Kettner, Bill Tudrick, Rich Kiempisty, Bill Dobbie, Dave Wagner, and Bob Bartkowski for generously giving their time and effort to support this fundraiser. We also heard many great comments about our volunteers from Ciccarelli's staff and players!

Also, a big thank you to Carol Dalpe for taking hold of the Co-Chair position. She did a great job and it was good to have her on board!

**NEXT CHARITY POKER FUNDRAISER IS DECEMBER 4-7, 2017 DAY SHIFT AT CICCARELLI'S!  
Mike Crampton & Carol Dalpe, Co-Chairpersons – Charity Poker Fundraisers**



## Romeo Peach Parade 2017

The Romeo Peach Parade crept upon us. A couple of days prior we were scrambling for the use of "the" trailer. Westview came again to our rescue and Chris the driver brought us to the front of the parade. On Labor Day, 1:30 pm we stepped off with Comrades Joe "Mama" Eliakis and Phil Gannia driving their vehicle with the Old Settlers Post sign stuck to the car door. Of the four marchers, 2 were new to our post. James Stansbury was privileged carrying the United States flag and Bart Bartkowski carried the M1 rifle. Bob Cheesman is a veteran of many parades and cheerfully carried the POW-MIA Flag. Nancy Giles and the Auxiliary were directly in our footsteps. It was a beautiful day, with many patriotic friends on both sides of Main Street. The Romeo Post was gracious and treated veterans and family to refreshments and lunch after the parade. Join us next year, you'll have a good time.



Post Adjutant,  
Bill Tudrick

## VFW 118th National Convention New Orleans, LA



Bill & Gloria Dobbie, Terri & Ken Klee at the VFW national commanders and presidents reception in New Orleans.

## Michigan Visit from Auxiliary National President

Terri Klee and Gloria Dobbie get to meet and spend some time with Dee Guillory from Virginia, the National President of the VFW Auxiliary. This took place in Plymouth Michigan and was the President's only stop in Michigan. It was good to visit with the President.



## Scholarship & Michigan Department

### Comrades and Auxiliary Members



The deadline for entries for the Voice of Democracy and Patriot's Pen entries to the Post is October 31, 2017. After our Post judging, our winning entries will progress to the District for judging. The Voice of Democracy 2017/2018 Theme is "American History: Our Hope for the Future". The Voice of Democracy is an Audio Essay Contest open to all students in grades 9 through 12, including home schooled students. The Patriot's Pen 2017/2018 Theme is "America's Gift to My Generation". The Patriot's Pen is an essay contest open to all students in grades 6 through 8, including home schooled students. Entering these contests is an opportunity in which any eligible student can participate.

Entry forms are available on our Michigan VFW and Auxiliary Websites, or you can contact me for information. Monetary awards go to the winners on the Post, District, State, and National levels.

The VFW also sponsors a Teacher of the Year Contest. The categories are Grades K through 5, 6 through 8, and 9 through 12. The deadline for entries is October 31, 2017. The entry forms are available on our Michigan VFW and Auxiliary Websites.

The District Banquet honoring the Post winners in the Voice of Democracy, Patriot's Pen and Teacher of the Year Contests will take place on January 7, 2018 at Post 7573, New Baltimore. The tickets are \$15.00 per person. Doors open at 1:00, followed by Dinner and the Program.

If you know of any high school students with artistic ability, please encourage them to enter the VFW Auxiliary Young American Creative Patriotic Art Contest. Rules and entry forms are on our Michigan VFW Auxiliary Website. The deadline for Auxiliary entries is March 31, 2018. Please contact me for details.

We are proud to be an Organization that recognizes the value of our young people and teachers in our communities.

Gloria Dobbie  
Auxiliary 4659 Scholarships Chairman  
586-739-8095

[wadobbie@prodigy.net](mailto: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

I enjoy seeing and meeting old and new faces at our meetings and welcome any Auxiliary member to attend the meetings. Now it's time to get down to business.

Two things remain a priority for us this year. One is membership. We lost several members last year and we need to recoup those losses just to make 100%. I've been told that we need a minimum of 10 new members this year and we certainly want to do better than that. Another challenge we face is fund raising. Any and all suggestions are welcome. Fund raising events are also an excellent way of involving our newer members in our projects and we have fun while working on them.

Please come to the meetings to be informed and to offer your ideas and inputs. I hope to see you all at the next meeting on the 2nd Monday of the month at 7:00 pm.

Mary Ashbrook,  
President

## Membership

At our recent meeting, June 12, 2017, a motion was made in regards to membership and passed on the floor. This motion will provide a \$50.00 discount to New Life Members providing an application and supporting documents between July 1, 2017 - June 30, 2017. Applications are available in the club room. If you have any questions, feel free to give me a call at 586-781-6797. For those members that do not carry a Life Membership and pay their dues annually, you can pay those now. They are still \$25 for the year and can be mailed to me at the following address: 12243 25 Mile Road, Shelby Twp, MI 48315

Denise Frey  
Membership Chairman

## SANTA WILL BE COMING TO TOWN AGAIN

I know we've just got the kids back to school but the time for the Children's Christmas Party will be drawing near and the next newsletter will be well into November.

Watch for **Santa** (decoration) to be in the clubroom in the beginning of November after Halloween is over in the clubroom. Check your Child's schedule prior to submitting their name. They must be present to receive their gift from Santa. Complete your child's slip and put in the Santa at the clubroom in person. No slips will be completed over the phone by the bartenders.

As a reminder to the adults, with this being a "CHILDREN's" party, the hall/party is designated an alcohol free zone.

Date: Saturday, December 9, 2017      Time: 1 - 3 PM      Ages: 0 - 10

The sign-up slips will be available in the clubroom the first week of November.

If you have any questions I can be contacted at 586-781-6797.

Denise Frey  
Youth Activities Chairman

## Clubroom News

Hello Comrades,

You all are incredible and I along with my staff Thank You!

Being your Canteen Manager now since June has been one of the most rewarding and wonderful experiences I have had the privilege of accepting. Comrades, members and friends, you have been overwhelmingly supportive and my club room staff has demonstrated their utmost professionalism in serving you and, making my transition and responsibility to the club and Old Settlers Post 4659 an easy one.

In July we celebrated the 4<sup>th</sup> in grand fashion. Without expectation or being asked not only did you show up with your favorite homemade dishes to put out but, you showed up in numbers far greater than expected. Then again in August for a Membership Appreciation Day you did it all over again. "AWESOME!"

Once again, without you and your support of our club, none of this would be possible. 'Thank You!'



On the 21<sup>st</sup> is our Chili CookOff. Sign up now to enter your future award winning chili. All chili entered will be submitted to Judges and put out self-serve to the membership at 4PM. Rewards for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> places given along with a 50/50 draw and Happy Hour Drink prices from 4PM to Close.

Join us on the 28<sup>th</sup> of October for our first Pajama Halloween Party. All those who attend dressed in their favorite; (NOTHING RISKY or REVEALING) PJ's will drink at Happy Hour prices. Food and Snacks will be available. 50/50 and a Lottery Board Winner will be drawn.



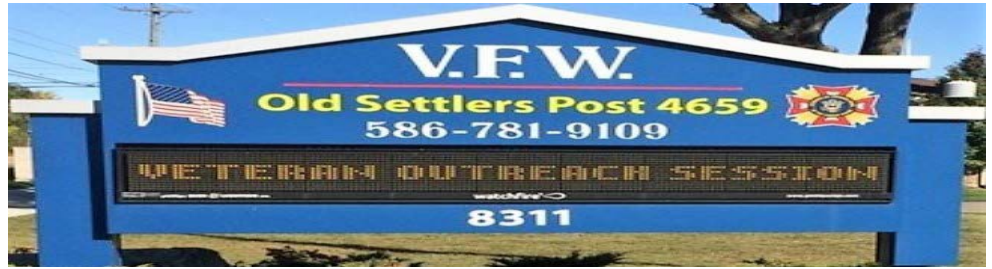
New Canteen Club Happy Hours begin at 1:30PM and go until 4PM Monday thru Friday and during all LIONS games from kickoff to final whistle. "GO LIONS!"

Remember, every Tuesday is open Jukebox. Share your favorite tune with us. Please be kind to your fellow members and pick no more than three tunes at a time. This is your club and anything my staff and I can do to make your visit more enjoyable, please ask or feel free to share your ideas. It truly is my pleasure.



Sincerely,

Randall Pierson, Club Room Manager



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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 – 430 PM

**IMPORTANT DATES**

**September 4th** – Labor Day - Romeo Peach Day Parade

**September 11th** - Patriot Day - 911 Remembrance

**September 15th** - POW/MIA Recognition Day

**September 17th** – Citizenship Day

**September 22nd** – First day of Autumn

**October 9th** – Columbus Day

**October 13th** - US Navy Established 1775

**October 31st** - Halloween



**Can The New Decision Ready Claims Process Work For You?**

Today the VA announced their new Decision Ready Claim (DRC) initiative which they say promises to deliver faster disability claim decisions to veterans. In fact, their press release says that “veterans who choose to submit their claim under DRC can expect to receive a decision within 30 days from the time VA receives the claim.”

To those of us who waited months or years for the VA to make a decision on a disability claim this sounds too good to be true. Let’s check out the details to see if this is as good as it sounds.

**Types Of Disability Claims**

Normally there are 3 types of disability claims veterans file with the VA:

1. A pre-discharge claim, submitted before leaving active duty. This can speed up receipt of benefits.
2. An initial claim for disability submitted after leaving the service. This makes up the majority of VA’s disability claims.
3. A claim for an increase in and existing disability. This amounts for about 30% of all the disability claims.

**We at VFW shall watch closely to see what happens and respond accordingly.**

## Special Occasion?




Contact our NEW  
Hall Manager

Coleen

810-531-6164

## Rent our Hall

Prices are very affordable, meals are large and include soup and salad and desert. Breakfast's are great!!  
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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 Maria (586) 463-3538**

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