



Old Settlers Newsletter

Post 4659 - District 5

September - October 2024

Publisher & Editor: Jay Benner



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



The summer months were filled with many activities. You share those memories with us if you participated in our 1st Blood Drive in many years and joined us at the annual 4th of July Bell Ringing celebration shared at the New Baltimore Post. We had a couple fun & successful Outdoor Game days for the Members and Auxiliary. Great practice for our upcoming **Family Picnic on Saturday, September 14th.**

We wrapped up August with our participation at the National Home (9 members participated) in Eaton Rapids and our Honor Guard representing us at the District 5 Gold Star Mothers Ceremony at White Chapel Cemetery in Troy. I am proud of all our members that participated in those events. We have also hosted two Veteran Benefits and Health programs at our Post. My thanks to Laura Rios & Joe Bonanni for bringing those two groups to us.

Our Jimmy John's Baseball activity held over Labor Day weekend along with our Honor Guard and member participation in the Romeo Peach Festival Parade brought our Post together with other Posts in District 5 and our surrounding communities. More Fun: **Don't miss our Post Family Picnic on Saturday, September 14th from Noon to 6:00 PM.** Please bring your family & friends and enjoy an afternoon on our Post grounds. See the flyer that was sent out in August to learn the details or contact Co-Chairmen Al & Sylvia Pocock (586) 726-2423. We also need a few more volunteers to assist in the event. Children & Adult games will be held. This is your opportunity to include your children, grandchildren, & great grandchildren in VFW events and get to know your fellow Post comrades & their family. Food & Beverages will be provided. **Please RSVP so we can plan appropriately.**

Our monthly Fish Fry's will begin again, and we will be **commemorating POW/MIA Day with the New Baltimore Post on Friday, September 20th.** Call our Chairman Gene Meredith to participate. (586) 615-8316 Our Friday dinners and Karaoke are a great success! Stop in and enjoy the camaraderie! *(we won't ask you to sing unless you want to)* It's just a lot of fun on a Friday Date Night!

As we head into Halloween (Trunk or Treat), I urge you to attend some of the activities we plan for YOU. Call me if you have any questions regarding any of our Youth or Community activities!

We will be attending the Department (MI) *Fall Conference in Flint (Grand Blanc) on September 27th & 28th.* It's a one-hour drive so come for the day and go home for dinner. Learn more about your VFW!

Veterans of the Afghanistan Campaign, Iraq Campaign, Global War on Terrorism - We need your input to allow us to plan programs you would like to see from us! Call me or any Officer with your suggestions.

This is "your" VFW Home.

Art Huge
Post Commander



8311 Wilson Drive Shelby Twp. MI 48316 586-781-9109

Canteen - Clubroom Notes



Hard to believe I'm writing for the fall newsletter! I'm not ready to give up summer yet. But time marches on, so here we are. I know everyone is anxiously awaiting the start of Show Me the Money. Sharon is dealing with licensing and we hope to get that sorted ASAP. Thank you, Sharon!

I'm sure many of you are happy that it's FOOTBALL season. **Yippee.** If you know me.....you know. **BUT!!!! Debbie LOVES football and she works Sundays!** She's up for staying open for night games! (*Provided she has enough MEMBERS that are avid football fans in the Clubroom*) She'll be

open @ 6:00 p.m. on MONDAY, September 30th for the 8:00 p.m. Seattle Seahawks @ Detroit Lions game. And we're not even open on Mondays! How's that for dedication?! Check Clubroom postings for any game day specials we may have.

Joe MacDonald will be running our Wii Bowling League again! He's looking at September 24th as the start week of the fall bowling season. Get your bowling shoes out!

Karaoke has been so much fun! Brandon & Linda of Stars & Stripes Entertainment are here with us on the 3rd Friday of every month. Even if you're not a singer, come on down. You'll have a great time, it's very entertaining!



Our "First Friday of the month Fish Fry's" will resume on September 6th. 4:00 p.m. till 7:00 p.m. or until supplies last. They'll continue the first Friday of every month until Lent. Then they'll be held every Friday from Ash Wednesday through Good Friday!

We've been having dinner specials on the 3rd Friday of the month, too. September is an **Octoberfest Dinner** and in October we'll have a Rib Dinner. Dates and details are always posted in the

Clubroom. Keep an eye on Clubroom posts about our Halloween Party and a Trunk or Treat for the kids!

Your Clubroom is open to all of our Members

Kathie Holloway
Clubroom Manager



Purple Heart Day

Our Honor Guard performed honors for the Purple Heart service on Wednesday August 7, 2024 at Washington Twp. Memorial Park. Honors by Bruce Hartung, John DiSalvo, Gene Meredith, Mike Perusich and Jay Benner were Pledge Allegiance, Rifle Fire and Playing Taps.



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VFW AUXILIARY
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On August 10th, the Auxiliary hosted a program of middle eastern dance presented by '7 Moons Belly Dance' troupe of which two of our members are dancers, Donna Miller and Elaine Kosloski. There were over twenty-five group acts and a few solo's that performed. The music was lively, the costumes were beautiful in various vivid colors with lots of fringe, feathers and bangles...some elegant costumes cost over \$1,000! We also had a raffle for several gift baskets and a 50/50 drawing. All the proceeds going to the Auxiliary. Thank you to Donna, Elaine and all of the talented dancers for an amazing show.

Sylvia Pocock - Jr. Vice Chair



National Home Day



Jr. Vice Commander and Post National Home Chairman Al Schafer, presenting a \$500 check to Michigan State Commander Kimberly Napoleon and Jim Hubbard, Michigan National Home Chairman. The donation will be used toward the 42 families residing in the homes. We displayed our Post Colors at the event and enjoyed a nice luncheon. A lot of history and information was learned.



Left to Right - Mike Salyers, Sylvia Pocock, Rosemary DiCicco, Al Pocock, Diane Huge, Art Huge, Lisa Love, Al Schafer, Karen Franklin attended Michigan Day at the National Home in Eaton Rapids MI on Sunday, August 11th. Next year will be their 100th Anniversary.

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District 5 Annual Picnic



Our Post will be hosting the annual District 5 and Post 4659 end of summer picnic, **Saturday, September 14th**. Fun begins at 12 Noon till 6:00 PM. Be sure you mark your calendars and input your cell phones because you won't want to miss it. ***Your family, friends and kids are welcome and the best part is there is no cost!*** We are providing food, drinks and games for a fun filled day. Food will be served at 2:00 PM, there will be a 50/50 drawing that will be held later in the afternoon, but you don't have to be present to win. We expect a big turnout of our members so you will see all your old friends and meet a few new ones. ***You will find the signup sheet in the Canteen on the Notice Board,*** please do this soon as we need to have a head count to plan for food and refreshments. If you can't sign up in person, call the Post and someone will put your name on the list. Cut-off date is Sunday, September 8th. Last of all we will need people to help set-up & clean up. This is a big project but also an opportunity for our Post to shine.

Allen & Sylvia Pocock
Picnic Chairpersons

Commander Notes: Support our Clubroom! We are here for you. Take advantage of our Canteen - not all Posts have a place for you to enjoy a lunch or quick dinner during the day. We have a full bar and a place to just sit and relax with other members. ***Our Bartenders do not Bite***

WE NEED E-MAIL ADDRESSES FROM MANY OF YOU. IF YOU ARE NOT RECEIVING MY E-MAIL BLASTS, PLEASE PHONE MYSELF OR MEMBERSHIP CHAIRMAN MIKE PERUSICH WITH YOUR CORRECT EMAIL ADDRESS. (586)-291-9914

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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 Membership Fee Schedule Age as of Dec. 31st.

One Time Payment - Initial Payment - 11 Payments of

Through Age 30	\$ 425.00	\$ 45.00	\$ 38.64
Age 31-40	\$ 410.00	\$ 45.00	\$ 37.27
Age 41-50	\$ 375.00	\$ 45.00	\$ 34.09
Age 51-60	\$ 335.00	\$ 45.00	\$ 30.45
Age 61-70	\$ 290.00	\$ 45.00	\$ 26.36
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Woman's VetFest



"Post 4659 Veterans Service Officer & Macomb County VSO Laura Rios & our member Therese Wrobel. Hosted the Women's VetFest at our Post to offer veterans information on the PACT ACT. Twenty-four Veterans attended . They enrolled 7 Veterans and conducted 12 toxic exposure screenings. Nineteen vendors were also involved.



Our Membership table at the Women's VetFest brought us one new member and two potential members bringing back their DD214 for August/September membership approval



Seated at the table with the Commander are Jerry & Mick Kolinski"



Welcome our Newest Members

FRED DROMKE

JAMES HINMAN AND JASON BLAIR

Welcome Transfers

AARON ARBITTER, CRAIG LEJA , MICHAEL WAVRA

THERESE WROBEL & SHAUN BOWLING

- Welcome New Members -
YOUR PARTICIPATION AT MEETINGS, CLUBROOM ACTIVITIES, YOUTH & COMMUNITY PROGRAMS IS ENCOURAGED FOR ALL.
YOU ARE A MEMBER OF ONE OF THE TOP POSTS IN THE STATE. BE PROUD !
PARTICIPATE!
TAKE ADVANTAGE OF OUR MANY PROGRAMS.

November 2025 will be **Old Settlers Post's 80th anniversary!** Initial planning is in the works for our celebration. I am looking for pictures, articles, personal stories or anything that you would like to share of the Post or even surrounding areas up until now.

Please email them to me at lisalove.4659@gmail.com

Lisa Love Post Historian

**THE FOLLOWING IS A MESSAGE FROM
VFW NATIONAL COMMANDER AL LIPPHARDT TO ALL VFW POSTS**



August 16 2024

Washington — "On Thursday August 15th 2024, former President Donald Trump spoke at an event where he made some flippant remarks about the Medal of Honor and the heroes who have received it. In the video that has circulated online and in the media, the former president was recognizing Miriam Adelson in the audience who he awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom during his time in office. As he described the medal as the civilian version of the Medal of Honor, he went on to opine that the Medal of Freedom was **"much better"** than the military's top award, because those awarded the latter are, in his words, " ...

either in very bad shape because they've been hit so many times by bullets or they're dead." He continued by comparing Miriam to Medal of Honor recipients saying, *"She gets it and she's a healthy beautiful woman. They are rated equal."*

These asinine comments not only diminish the significance of our nation's highest award for valor, but also crassly characterizes the sacrifices of those who have risked their lives above and beyond the call of duty.

When a candidate to serve as our military's commander-in-chief so brazenly dismisses the valor and reverence symbolized by the Medal of Honor and those who have earned it, I must question whether they would discharge their responsibilities to our men and women in uniform with the seriousness and discernment necessary for such a powerful position. It is even more disappointing when these comments come from a man who already served in this noble office and should frankly already know better.

While the Presidential Medal of Freedom maybe our nation's highest civilian award, the Medal of Honor is more sacred as it represents the gallantry and intrepidity of courageous and selfless service members, often at the cost of grievous wounds and even their lives. It's because of our Medal of Honor recipients that great Americans like Miriam Adelson have the freedom to live to their fullest potential and make such lasting contributions to our great nation.

We would like to remind Mr. Trump that the 12 times he had the honor of awarding the Medal of Honor as president of the United States, those were heroes not of his own choosing. He bestowed those medals on behalf of Congress, representing all Americans of a grateful nation. *"We hold the donation of their lives in service to our country in the highest esteem, and so should he."*

**Alfred J. "Al" Lipphardt
Commander-in-Chief
Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U.S.**



**NEVER FORGET OUR
FALLEN COMRADES**



Gold Star Mother's

Our Honor Guard supported Gold Star Mothers at White Chapel Memorial Cemetery August 11, 2024. It was the 76th Anniversary of the dedication of the World War II Freedoms Memorial. Norman and Su-Jen Mauldin served as the Ritual Directors. Many Post and other organizations were present along with the Department of Michigan 5th District Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States along with the Auxiliary.

Bill Barron
Captain Honor Guard



BUDDY POPPY DAYS

Buddy Poppy Days are just around the corner **November 1st, 2nd & 3rd**. Remember "Poppy Days" are the days we collect contributions to help Comrades-in-Distress and Veterans' needs. Our "**Relief Fund**".

The promotion effort will be at the same Shelby Twp. locations that we have used for some time now. They are **Kroger**, 26 Mile Road & Van Dyke and **Kroger** 23 Mile Road & Hayes. Also **Vince & Joe's**, VanDyke & 25 Mile Road, and our third location is **Walmart** - 23 Mile Road and M-53 Freeway



Please mark your calendar and raise your hand to volunteer to help - it all depends on you. I will be posting sign up sheets on our bulletin board and passing around a clipboard so you can sign up to help.

*Looking forward to seeing you at one of our
Poppy Collection locations.*

Buddy Poppy Chairman

E. Allen Pocock 586-291-9914

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