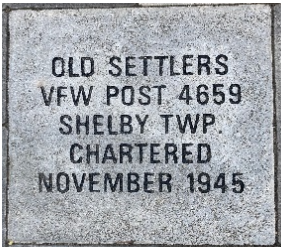




Old Settlers Newsletter

Post 4659 - District 5 July - August 2022



**Commander Ken Klee - Sr. Vice Commander. Art Huge -
Quartermaster Jay Benner - Chaplain Bob Bartkowski - Adjutant Bill Tudrick**



As we start a new year let us also reflect on the accomplishments our Post has made in the last couple of years. I would like to thank everyone for their work and dedication making our Post 4659 Commander Joe Wrobel an ALL-State Commander and Quartermaster Jay Benner an All-State Quartermaster.

There are many things that our VFW National programs mandates us to do, one of the most important is Membership. I challenge every member the try to recruit at least one new member to Post 4659 this year. We also have youth activities, community service, Americanism, drug and safety programs for our youth, scouting programs, VFW National Home for children, and Camp Trotter for children. If you need any information on these programs please contact me.

I would like to thank all the Members who participated in the Memorial Day service at the Post and at Prestonville cemetery, we had a good showing of Post and Auxiliary Members & friends. We



appreciate Scout Troop 391 which place the flags around our memorial and on Post grounds. Also Thank You to our Auxiliary who prepared our lunch after the services.

There are some VFW training seminars that some of our officers must attend each year to make our Post eligible for the All-State Program. I will let all Members know dates and times when I receive that information.

Attending County Council, District and Service Officers' meetings is also our responsibility.



Yours in comradeship
Kenneth Klee
Post 4659 Commander
586-260-4200



Post Membership Benefits

VA Claims & Separation Benefits



As the largest organization of combat veterans, we understand the frustrations that can arise when transitioning out of the military or filing a claim with the Department of Veterans Affairs. The claims process can be confusing and one that service members and veterans shouldn't try to navigate alone. That's why the VFW's **National Veterans Service (NVS)** was established to help all veterans, service members and their families.

NVS consists of a nationwide network of VFW Accredited Service Officers and Pre-Discharge Representatives who are experts in dealing with the VA and are the key to your success. Our cadre of highly trained and professional advocates help veterans cut through bureaucratic red tape. VA reports veterans represented by the VFW have recouped more than \$10 billion in earned benefits annually, including the more than \$152 million in disability compensation our Pre-Discharge offices helped recoup for nearly 12,000 service members in fiscal year 2021.

VFW Accredited Service Officers are trained experts, helping Veterans develop their case with ease by reviewing and applying current law, pertinent legislation, regulations and medical histories. As skilled professionals, They assist in filing for disability compensation, rehabilitation and education programs, pension and death benefits, and employment and training programs. Furthermore, They won't hesitate to request hearings before the VA and the Board of Veterans Appeals to present oral arguments when needed.

VFW Accredited Service Officers are with America's veterans every step of the way once they're ready to file a claim. This is a service the VFW is proud to offer -- free of charge -- to anyone seeking assistance with the claims process.

Our Post Service Officer is Laura Rios, she can help with VA Disability, VA Pension, Burial benefits and upgrades of Discharges. Her number is 586-469-6507 and her office is located at 21885 Dunham Rd Suite 3, Clinton Twp MI 48036

Mike Perusich
Assistant Quartermaster
586-291-9914

Veterans & Family Financial Grants

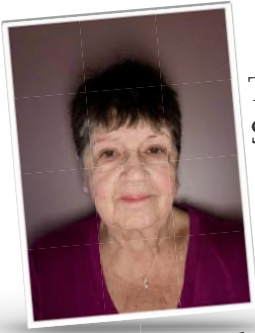
We understand the challenges veterans, service members and military families can face and believe that experiencing financial difficulties should not be one of them. That's the premise behind the VFW's Unmet Needs program. Unmet Needs is there to help America's military families who have run into unexpected financial difficulties as a result of deployment or other military-related activity or injury. **The program provides financial aid grants of up to \$1,500.00** to assist with basic life needs in the form of a grant - not a loan - so no repayment is required. To further ease the burden, we pay the creditor directly. The needs of our veterans, service members and their families should never go unmet. *Let us offer you a hand up when you need it!*

For additional information, and to see if you or someone you know qualifies for a Grant through the Unmet Needs program, please call to review the Unmet Needs eligibility criteria at **1-866-789-6333**



VFW AUXILIARY
UNWAVERING SUPPORT FOR UNCOMMON HEROES®

Hello to my fellow Auxiliary members:



This will be the year of many *first* for me. First, I advanced from Jr. Vice President to Sr. Vice President with the April election of officers. I thought I had a year to work with President, Gloria Dobbie, but life changes happen. We all have been saddened with the loss of our dearest friend and President, Gloria Dobbie.

In addition to moving up to President for the ensuing year, Donna Miller has been moved up to Sr. Vice President and Sharon Jeffrey was elected to the Jr. Vice President position. I have even attended my first convention the first week of June.

At our August meeting we will have election for Auxiliary vacant position Chaplain and Guard.

I look forward to working with my Auxiliary Sisters and Brothers and the Post.

Sincerely

Rosemary Diccio,
President Auxiliary 4659



Membership Benefits

We will continue the \$50.00 discount on Life Member purchases for the 2022-2023 year.

We welcome Don "Cobra" Parr as a new Life Member. Please note that Georgette Smith is really Georgette Brown and I apologize for the error in her name in the previous newsletter. May was a very busy month for us. In addition to Gloria, I'm sad to report that we also lost Marilyn Joyce "Dusty" Bousson and Rosemarie Hamilton.

Loyally

Denise Frey,
Membership Chairman
586-569-6336

Summer Golf Outing

John W. Smith Old Timers Club

Annual Golf Outing
Proceeds to Benefit Our Michigan Veterans and Capuchin Soup Kitchen

Sunday, August 21st, 2022
Timberwood Golf Club
23700 31 Mile Road, Ray, MI 48096

Registration: \$100 per golfer
Dinner Only: \$30 per person

Includes: Golf and Cart, Driving Range, Coffee & Donuts at Registration, Hot Dog and Chips at the turn, Pop, Beer, Mixed Drinks or Water on the Course, Two Meat Buffet Dinner with Two Hour Open Bar Approximately 3:30 p.m.

SIGN IN: 8:00 am - 9:00 am
SHOTGUN: 9:00 am

Registration Deadline August 10, 2022
For more information:
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PACT Act Passage Delayed: Following the 84-14 Senate vote on the Sergeant First Class Heath Robinson Honoring our Promise to Address Comprehensive Toxics Act of 2022, known as the Honoring our PACT Act, the House discovered a parliamentary procedure issue regarding one of the provisions in the bill. Since Congress is now in recess, passage of the PACT Act will be delayed. The VFW continues to advocate for the swift passage of this historic legislation.

House Passes STRONG Act: The House passed VFW-supported H.R. 6411, Support The Resiliency of Our Nation's Great (STRONG) Veterans Act of 2022. The bill would improve VA's mental health provider workforce, strengthen the Veterans Crisis Line, expand Vet Center eligibility to include students and survivors of suicide loss, and bolster mental health research. Language crafted by 2021 VFW-SVA Legislative Fellow Eric Sowers to improve the Veterans Justice Outreach Program can also be found in the bill text.

VFW Testifies on Pending Health Legislation: VFW National Legislative Service Deputy Director Tammy Barlet testified before the House Veterans' Affairs Subcommittee on Health regarding several pieces of pending legislation. She spoke on expanding reproductive health counseling, infertility treatment eligibility, removal of mental health copayments, and cost savings of on-site medical waste treatment sites. In addressing H.R. 6273, VA Zero Suicide Demonstration Project Act of 2021, Barlet stated, "VHA has a unique opportunity to support all VA providers with the tools and knowledge to screen their patients for suicide at every appointment."

Public Service Loan Forgiveness Waiver: On April 25, 2022, the Department of Education (ED) began allowing student loan borrowers seeking financial relief through the Public Service Loan Forgiveness (PSLF) program to submit a DD-214 to certify periods of eligible employment. Many individuals with outstanding federal student loans may be eligible for PSLF, including eligibility from time served on active duty. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, ED is offering a limited-time waiver to allow borrowers to receive credit for past periods of repayment on loans that would otherwise not qualify. Individuals must have been working full time for a qualifying employer. This waiver is available through October 31, 2022.

MIA Update: The Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency announced three new identifications for service members who have been missing and unaccounted-for from World War II. Returning home for burial with full military honors are:

-- **Army Pvt. John P. Cooper**, 37, was assigned to Company B, 778th Tank Battalion, as a crew member of a M4 Sherman tank. On March 7, 1945, while his unit was engaged in battle with German forces near Lampaden, Germany, his tank was struck by an enemy rocket. Witnesses saw Cooper escape the tank but never saw or heard from him again, and he was initially declared missing in action. With no evidence he survived, the War Department issued a presumptive finding of death on March 8, 1946. Interment services are pending.

-- **Army Sgt. Garland W. Collier**, 21, was assigned to Headquarters Company, 3rd Battalion, 506th Parachute Infantry Regiment, 101st Airborne Division. In the fall of 1944, he was reported killed in action during Operation Market Garden when his unit was attacked by German forces near Opheusden, Netherlands. Following the war his remains could not be recovered. Interment services are pending.

— **Army Air Force Staff Sgt. Roy Carney**, 20, was assigned to the 345th Bombardment Squadron, 98th Bombardment Group, 9th Air Force. On Aug. 1, 1943, the B-24 Liberator aircraft on which Carney was a gunner crashed as a result of anti-aircraft fire during Operation Tidal Wave. Following the war, his remains could not be identified. Interment services are pending.

Jay Benner
Legislative Chairman

Canteen-Clubroom Notes

Comrades and Friends,

I would like to begin by **Thanking Kathie Holloway for a job well done**. She stepped up and did a remarkable job managing our Canteen club room during some extremely trying times. COVID closures on multiple occasions, supply issues, a drop off in active membership participation upon return and, all her time given to accommodate us are truly a most admirable accomplishment.



Once again, Thank You Kathie and Thank You to our staff of professional and personable bartenders who also kept our Canteen club going during those uncertain times.



Your newly elected Canteen committee, our staff and I are dedicated to making your club the best it can be. In July your club room will be opening at 1pm Tuesday through Sunday closed on Monday with last call at 9 pm, 'dependent upon the number of seats being occupied'. For those times to become our permanent hours of operation we need your loyal support and patronage. I have no doubt that we all will make these new hours' worth your while.

As for now the calendar of events posted in the club room will remain the same. Coney Dogs will still be served up on Tuesdays and Thursdays Tacos are still a go. We are planning an Independence Day celebration with good eats for Sunday 3 July as we are closed on Monday the 4th. Details will be available and posted in your clubroom as they become available. Give us a visit, partake in a cold one or two and come see what we have planned for you.

I am thrilled to once again have the privilege of being your Canteen Club manager. I have never forgotten that it is all of you who make our club the successful gathering spot for Comrades, Friends and Family that it is.

If you have any Comments, Suggestions or Ideas please feel free to call or text me at 586-488-7579 or call the post at 586-781-9109.

I salute all of you and am excited about spending the next year working with and for you all.

Randall Pierson

Post 4659 Club Room Manager
U.S. Air Force Desert Storm Veteran
586-488-7579



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The Online Membership System (OMS) will remain open for membership submissions until June 30 at 6:30 p.m.

Please be sure to have all final membership information by then. Shortly after 6:30 p.m., all membership processing will shut down so we can begin the year-end processing reports. As in the past, IT will require a short period of time to reconcile our final year-end processing and will keep you posted as to when the systems will be returned online in early July.



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A Veteran-whether active duty, retired, served one hitch, or reservist is someone who, at one point in his or her life, wrote a blank check made payable to "The Government of the United States of America", for an amount of "up to and including their life."

Veterans in crisis can contact the Veterans Crisis Line at 1-800-273-8255 and Press 1. Or text 838255.....You are not alone.

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
Age 71-80	\$ 225.00	\$ 45.00	\$ 20.45
81 And Over	\$ 170.00	\$ 45.00	\$ 15.45



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VFW BINGO
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Bingo Starts At 10:30 am



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