

BOLINE - MANFREDI



VFW POST 9662

ISSUE #7 JANUARY — MARCH 2019



Jen Kopriva (center) Ankeny Hy-Vee Manager, presents James Wettestad, (right), Post 9662 Commander, and Gary Netolicky (left), Junior Vice, a "Challenge" coin. Coins were given to veterans at the Nov. 12 free breakfast, at both Ankeny Hy-Vee stores. Coins were then given to vets at Sunny View Care Center, Ankeny, by Wettestad, and Elaine Podnar, Auxiliary Americanism Chair.



From the Post Commander

Holiday greetings, VFW Post 9662 comrades, Auxiliary members, and families!

The VFW Post and Auxiliary had a busy last few months! Post comrades participated in a funeral event for John Mills at Pine Hill Cemetery on Sept. 28 and a flag raising event at Mill Pond Retirement Community in Ankeny on October 10.

We also volunteered with Buddy Poppies at both Ankeny Hy-Vee Stores on Monday, Nov. 12, the day of their free veterans' breakfast. It was a successful event, as donations totaled \$2,300!

On Saturday, Nov. 24, Elaine Podnar and I distributed 35, Hy-Vee "challenge coins" to veterans and veterans' spouses at Sunny View Care Center and Journey Senior Living in Ankeny. Residents at these facilities were appreciative of the coins, as most couldn't attend the free veterans' breakfast at the Hy-Vee Stores.

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From the Auxiliary President

Greetings from your Auxiliary President.

Hope everyone had a great Christmas and New Years.

The new year is kicking off with a bang with the 5th District getting together to bag meals at Meals from the Heartland. There are about 50 VFW and Auxiliary members from across the 5th District who are participating in this great volunteer project.

I'm looking forward to 2019 to see the great things we continue to do to help our veterans.

Remember, our Auxiliary meetings are the 2nd Tuesday of the month, beginning at 7pm. I try to hold the meeting to an hour long. I look forward to seeing you there.

**Sarah Decker
Post 9662 Auxiliary President**

Dept. of Iowa vs. Ohio membership challenge

State Commander Carol Whitmore of Iowa and State Commander David Root of Ohio recently challenged each other as to who could get their department membership to 92 percent first.

When the smoke had cleared, it was Iowa: 91.97 percent; Ohio 92.1 percent. Ohio will now send a jersey from their school to the Iowa commander, to wear at her Mid-Winter Conference.

Iowa gave them quite the challenge, but congratulations to the Department of Ohio. Iowa should make their 92 percent by the Jan. 1 benchmark Commander-in-Chief B.J. Lawrence has set.

The state of Iowa is in need of four more members to get to its 92 percent. The District as a whole, has three posts at 100 percent: Post 738 (104.78 percent - up 16 members); 674 (101.89 percent, up 1 member; and 8142 (10 percent).

What posts need to make the 92 percent cut-off set by the national commander: 3519 (needs 6, currently at 94.55%); 2099 (4, currently at 94.37%); 9127 (33); 2060 (3, 92.31%); 9662 (35, 93%).

Posts are asked to continue in getting its membership to renew, so District 5 can be at 100 percent for the second year running

State VFW news you can use

Annual Mid-Winter Conference

The 47th Annual Mid-Winter Conference will be held Jan. 18-20, at the Airport Holiday Inn, 6111 Fleur Drive, Des Moines, IA 50321. This is when the Voice of Democracy and Patriot Pen winners will be acknowledged.

Tickets for the luncheon, which includes: Tossed salad with Ranch Dressing; baked pork loin with a honey brown sugar glaze; red-skinned mashed potatoes; green beans almandine; fresh baked rolls; and a beverage; is \$27 per person.

Please send the order form from the last page of the General Orders, along with payment, to VFW Iowa Headquarters, 3601 Beaver Ave., Des Moines, IA 50310. Deadline for orders is January 11, 2019.

Room rates are \$101, plus tax a night. The deadline to reserve a room is Jan. 2, 2019. You may call 515-287-2400 to make your reservations. Be sure to let them know you are with the VFW to get the group rate.

2019 Veterans Day on the Hill

The Veterans Day on the Hill at the State Capitol will be January 23, 2019, from 9 a.m. – noon. Please be there around 8:30 a.m. at the Rotunda.

Start getting your members together to come to the State Capitol on that day to talk with your Representative concerning veteran's issues. The more veterans we have at the State Capitol on that day, the better chance we have on getting things passed for veterans.

Cross of Malta remains

As many members have noticed, there is a new logo for the VFW. It has not been changed for over 10 yrs.

Members are reminded that with the new logo, the Cross of Malta is not going away. The Cross will forever be part of the VFW.

The new logo is merely part of the changing times, and the VFW needs to move forward with the changing times. Change is hard, but the VFW is much more than a logo.

National Councilman candidate

The office of Iowa's National Councilman will begin a new term at the 2018 State Convention in Des Moines. The Councilman elected will serve a four year term (2019 to 2023).

If you are interested in running for the office of National Councilman, the Department will place an ad in the Iowa Voice announcing your candidacy.

Desert Storm books available

Recently, the state office has received 47 books, titled, 'The Liberation of Kuwait: Honoring the Veterans of Desert Storm.' The book also includes the feature-length DVD documentary of the "Liberation of Kuwait."

This book is available only to Desert Storm Veterans. Please send proof of service in Desert Storm (DD 214 or orders showing dates served in Desert Storm or award of Southwest Asia Service Medal) to get your copy.

Books will be available on a first-come, first-served basis.

Donations to help homeless vets

State Commander Carol Whitmore's special project this year is helping homeless veterans. Please send all donations to VFW Iowa, 3601 Beaver Ave, Des Moines, Iowa 50310.

Please put in the memo section that it's for the "Commander's Special Project." Donations will be used to help homeless veterans, shelters and the Stand-Downs.

Members may also bring donations to the Mid-Winter Conference, to be held July 18-20 at the Des Moines Airport Holiday Inn..

2019 VFW IOWA MID-WINTER CONFERENCE

Jan. 18-20, 2019
Holiday Inn
Des Moines Airport
6111 Fleur Dr.
Des Moines, Iowa

Room rates \$101 (plus tax)
Call (515) 287-2400 t
For room reservations.
Room rate cutoff date
is Jan. 2, 2019.

Thursday Night *Menu*

Jan. 3, 2019	Prime Rib
Jan. 10, 2019	Meat Loaf
Jan. 17, 2019	Chicken and Noodles
Jan. 24, 2019	Hot Roast Beef
Jan. 31, 2019	Iowa Chops
Feb. 7, 2019	Ham Balls
Feb. 14, 2019	Prime Rib Valentines
Feb. 21, 2019	Gumbo
Feb. 28, 2019	Iowa Chops
March 7, 2019	Prime Rib
March 14, 2019	Corned Beef & Cabbage
March 21, 2019	Ham Dinner
March 28, 2019	Iowa Chops

**Menu subject to Change*

From the Post Commander

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As I write this, I continue to recover from a total left hip replacement performed at Iowa Ortho West Lakes Hospital in West Des Moines, on Nov. 27. My thanks to Dr. Craig Mahoney, PA Casey Howe, all the nurses and health professionals who care for me during and after my surgery.

One more quick reminder - January's Post VFW meeting will be held Jan. 7, 2019, beginning at 6:30 p.m.

James Wettestad
Post 9662 Commander



VFW wishes everyone a joyous holiday season

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – As 2018 draws to a close, the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U.S. extends its warmest season's greetings and happy holidays to all of our nation's veterans, service members, and their families and advocates.

“Over the coming weeks as we spend time with friends, family and those closest to us to celebrate the holidays and ring in a new year, I encourage you to remember that it is the sacrifice of our nation's veterans – the generations who have willingly sacrificed holidays away from their loved ones – that make our time together possible,” said VFW National Commander B.J. Lawrence.

From the VFW to you and yours, please have a safe and joyous holiday season.

Great Clips donates \$1.35 million to VFW

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – At the national headquarters of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U.S., the Vietnam War veteran who founded Sport Clips Haircuts handed over a check for \$1.35 million to the VFW Foundation to support Help A Hero Scholarships for active-duty U.S. service members and veterans.

Sport Clips began fundraising in October with the goal to exceed the \$1.25 million raised last year for the program.

The Help A Hero program started when Sport Clips began working with the VFW to provide phone calls home for deployed and hospitalized service members and veterans in 2007. When the drawdown began a few years later, the partnership transitioned in 2013 to become the VFW's “Sport Clips Help A Hero Scholarship” program.

To date, nearly 1,300 student veterans have received scholarship grants of up to \$5,000 to enable them to continue their higher education programs.



Friday Night Dances

Jan. 4, 2019	Lonesome Fugitive
Jan. 11, 2019	Country Classic
Jan. 18, 2019	To Be Announced
Jan. 25, 2019	Country River
Feb. 1, 2019	Lonesome Fugitive
Feb. 8, 2019	Country Classic
Feb. 15, 2019	To Be Announced
Feb. 22, 2019	Country River
March 1, 2019	Lonesome Fugitive
March 8, 2019	Country Classic
March 15, 2019	To Be Announced
March 22, 2019	Country River

In Memoriam



Members who are no longer with us.

VFW Members

Robert Conklin
Joseph Jesser
Donald Smith

Auxiliary Members

Kathleen Holschuh