



9644 NEWS



Monthly Newsletter for **Verle Huffman VFW Post 9644**



From the Commander

BY PAUL GREMSE

What a year it's been! The VFW fiscal year is winding down and we'll start again next month. The Convention will be June 9 – 12. I hope to see many of you there since there won't be a lot of travel involved. The Department is hosting this year in Denver (The Doubletree Hotel at 3203 Quebec Street). You can find all the details and registration form on the Department website: vfwco.org.

Also in June is the District 10 Golf Tournament for all you golfers. It will be on June 25th at the Applewood Golf Course in Golden. Enter individually or as a 4-person team. Call Dick Wellensieck at (303) 219-4566 and he'll get you registered.

Before that will be Installation. Greg Almandares (Auxiliary) and I will be installed again. The date is May 19th. I asked Warren Tellgren to install me and in typical Warren fashion, he is concocting something a little different this year. Please come down, show your support and see what Warren is up to! More details to follow! We should have a great year!

May also means Memorial Day and Memorial Day always means Poppies at 9644. Because of COVID, details are still sketchy, but we will have a Poppy Drive in some form or fashion this month. Watch for more on that subject and I hope many of you will lend a hand!

It's great to see everyone I know of who wants the COVID vaccine has had the opportunity to get at least one, if not both shots! It'll be great to get things back to normal! And who knew baseball would play such a role in expediting things back to normal. Wave a \$100 million in front of our governor and suddenly COVID is no longer a problem and the COVID Dial is out the window!

All these vaccines and the end of COVID means more people are returning to the Canteen. It's good to see some who've been taking precautions back. It would be better to see more come down, enjoy yourselves, and support us. The Bingo progressive jackpot is \$230 (as of May 2nd) and the Queen of Clubs pot will eclipse \$1000 Tuesday night. Come on down and take a shot at it. Bingo and Burgers is every Tuesday night. Meals are served beginning at 5:00 and Bingo starts at 6:00 (we are usually done by 7:30). It's only \$1.00 per game; we play six. Thursday night is Game Night, and it seems there is always something new going on. Come on out on Thursday, bring your own ideas and join the fun! And don't forget Karaoke the third Saturday of each month beginning at 6:00PM. Some have expressed interest in a poker night (or afternoon). We have two nice card tables. Let me know if you are interested!

Lastly, I want to thank those who responded to my Call to Action regarding Senate Bills, 21-182 and 21-62. Thanks to some commonsense opposition, Senate Bill 21-182 was defeated so our children won't be subjected to a school full of lawlessness. Likewise, Senate Bill 21-62 is on life support and not expected to survive. Watch out though. If the bill does die, its sponsors are vowing to bring it back slightly amended under a different name. Read the bill if you haven't yet. It's not too late to call your state representative and/or senator and tell them what you think.

I'm looking forward to a great year. I hope you will all come along for the ride!

God bless America!

God Bless America

Quarter Master

BY LYNN PETERSON



MAY I begin..... despite the associated hassle of snowy and cold April showers, hopefully your May Spring flowers survived and will bloom again. Also hoping our Colorado Rockies will be blooming with some needed MAY victories too!

Hard to believe it's going on five months of 2021! Optimistically, it appears some mask off "relief" is in sight and ahead.

God willing YOU ALL are well, or improving, and anxious to move forward and about. So....What about our Post 9644? Well....

Financially speaking, VFW Post 9644 continues in a slow progress forward of "in the black" due to your appreciated support in the form of donations, weekly post visits and events participation, as well as our improving Monday Bingo sessions. As our economy advances, THANKS to all for your involvement helping us keep our doors open with your welcomed presence, presents & good will!

Reminders:

- Renew your Annual 2021 Dues Membership and economically, upgrade to Life Membership
- Bring in a New Member and/or Guest
- Regularly attend our Post weekly activities and functions
- Volunteer your services: assisting/serving/cooking meals, Monday Bingo sessions, participating at Post, etc.
- Be a part of something bigger....VFW Post 9644

That's all folks!! Look forward to seeing more happy & new faces around.



Auxiliary President

BY GREG ALMENDARES

Hello all -I'm happy to report I am going to be your Auxiliary Present for another year! I want to say "thank you" for all the support I have had throughout last year and this year now. All of our Auxiliary officer positions stayed the same with a few exceptions: the new Chaplain will be **Concetta Kyle**; the new Guard will be **Sherry Rock**; and our 3-year Trustee will be **Vicki Rodriguez**.

I want to say **congratulations** to those newly appointed. And for those who have stayed with me, I would like to thank you for your support - it means a lot to me! I would also like to thank everybody on the Post side that is behind me as well. Let's make this a great year!



Auxiliary Treasurer

BY DEBBIE BLESCH



May is the month we face many changes. The perennials are blooming, tulips, daffodils, hyacinths and other signs of spring, (including those pesky weeds). The Iris is beginning to pop up, and soon we will be filling our yards and life with color and smiles. Flowers always make everything seem new and positive. Soon we will be rushing to the nursery for annuals to flourish and spread more joy to our yards and our life. Bingo at Barry's is picking up to support our Post and Auxiliary. Tues burgers and bingo is progressing with our Tuesday jackpot over \$2,000, (provided it isn't won by the time this letter comes out).

The Queen of Clubs is growing slowly and the jackpot also continues to grow. I hope everyone can come on down and enjoy all we have to offer.

Game night is getting new people each week and having a good time. We have different items to eat there also. Beginning the 3rd Thursday in May we are starting a version of Trivia Night with an *America Says* flavor. **Michelle and Steve Cordova** have created the questions and previewed a sample at game night. I believe it is going to be a hit. Hope you will join us for fun and many laughs.

On a business note, our Auxiliary is currently at 99.09% membership. Thanks to our new and rejoining members. Our funds are stable and we hope to build them for our relief fund in order to provide a source of support for our beloved and appreciated Veterans. Memorial Weekend is the start of Poppy season. We all hope we will be able to pass them out this year.

I want to thank everyone who has volunteered to help us with bingo, meal cooking and serving, membership recruiting and your support of our post. We look forward to our new month of May and everything it has to offer. May you have time to enjoy and as they say "*stop and smell the roses.*"



Memorial Day



Memorial Day is an American holiday, observed on the last Monday of May, honoring the men and women who died while serving in the U.S. military. Memorial Day 2020 occurs on Monday, May 25. Originally known as Decoration Day, it originated in the years following the Civil War and became an official federal holiday in 1971. Many Americans observe Memorial Day by visiting cemeteries or memorials, holding family gatherings and participating in parades. Unofficially, it marks the beginning of the summer season.

The Civil War, which ended in the spring of 1865, claimed more lives than any conflict in U.S. history and required the establishment of the country's first national cemeteries. By the late 1860s, Americans in various towns and cities had begun holding springtime tributes to these countless fallen soldiers, decorating their graves with flowers and reciting prayers. Did you know? Each year on Memorial Day a national moment of remembrance takes place at 3:00 p.m. local time. It is unclear where exactly this tradition originated; numerous different communities may have independently initiated the memorial gatherings. And some records show that one of the earliest Memorial Day commemoration was organized by a group of freed slaves in Charleston, South Carolina less than a month after the Confederacy surrendered in 1865. Nevertheless, in 1966 the federal government declared Waterloo, New York, the official birthplace of Memorial Day.

Other Important Days in May...

Loyalty Day

May 1st

It is a special day for people to reaffirm their loyalty to the United States and to recognize the heritage of American freedom.

Background:

Loyalty Day was first observed in 1921 as "**Americanization Day**" to counterbalance Labour Day on May Day (May 1), celebrated in other parts of the world. On May 1, 1930, about 10,000 **Veterans of Foreign War** members staged a rally at New York's Union Square to promote patriotism. Through a resolution adopted in 1949, May 1 evolved into Loyalty Day. Observances began on April 28, 1950, and climaxed on May 1 when more than five million people across the nation held rallies. In New York City, more than 100,000 people rallied for America.

On July 18, 1958, the Congress designated May 1 of each year as Loyalty Day to foster loyalty and love of the country. According to the Legal Information Institute, the President is requested to issue a proclamation, calling on United States government officials to display the flag of the United States on all government buildings on Loyalty Day, and inviting the people of the United States to observe Loyalty Day with appropriate ceremonies in schools and other suitable places.

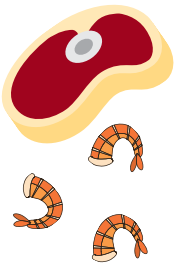


National Day of Prayer

May 6th

The **National Day of Prayer** is an annual observance held on the first Thursday of May, inviting people of all faiths to pray for the nation.

Join us ever 1st Friday of the month



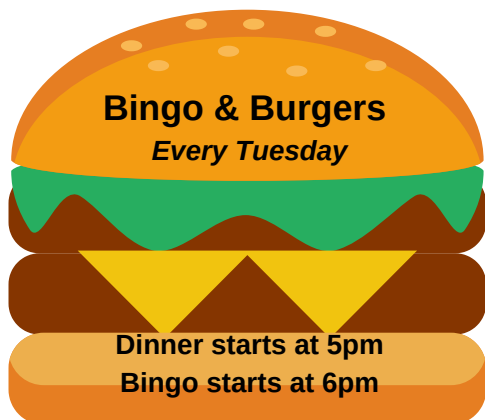
STEAK NIGHT

Friday the 7th @ 5:00pm



Karaoke Night

Saturday May 15th @
6:00pm



AMERICA SAYS

Thursday, May 20th
6-8pm



Who is Quinn Engle?

She is a breath of fresh air, full of enthusiasm and giving. Quinn began coming to the post when her sons and husband Greg joined our Auxiliary when the Men's Auxiliary was merged into what was formerly known as the Ladies Auxiliary. She tried everything to become a member. Frank Rodriguez helped her get the paperwork to complete an application. Her great grandfather we discovered was in the Civil War. We tried to find someone who would approve it. I even asked a National Commander if it would qualify. He said "that wasn't a foreign war". I replied "depends on what side you were on". He chuckled. Unfortunately for Quinn and us, she could not join. Next we tried to make her an official honorary member, again we were turned down.

She began helping at the post when it was nearly destroyed due to a vehicle crashing through it. Insurance couldn't cover most of the damage. Quinn was full of ideas and took a shot at trying to raise funds, with "go fund me" and many other avenues.

She finally settled in as our news letter editor. What a fantastic job she has done and we are all so fortunate to have her. It is professionally and beautifully done. She designed a data base of email addresses so that anyone with email will receive a copy of what's happening and articles from our officers. She spends many hours looking up dates of importance to our Veterans so we as members can appreciate and recognize their sacrifices, contributions and service in any way we can. She adds graphics pertinent to the monthly holidays which are colorful and adds character to her creation.

Quinn keeps us informed with email blasts on weekly happenings, information from our Commander and articles of interest. She even takes a lot of calls for information because of her position.

On a more personal note, Quinn has been married to her husband Greg for 32 years, dated for four years and were friends before that. She has 2 sons, Brody and Brock, both Auxiliary members, who are charming and lots of fun. Brody ran our Trivia night at the Post for several months which entailed a ton of hours of research and sometimes input from "mom" and all the teams who participated had a blast.

Quinn loves to play golf, spend time at their house in Fairplay and vacations whenever she can. She sometimes shares her trips with her circle of close friends, Steve, Michelle and Bobbie. Her favorite place to dine and drink Margaritas is "The South," a long standing restaurant in Englewood, whenever she is on our side of town.

She likes to attend Karaoke Saturdays, sing with a group of us ladies, dances and even tries to teach me, (with 2 left feet) the moves. For me, it is a work in progress. I am improving a little.

I personally want to thank her for everything she has done with and for our post and her positive energy. Her dedication and passion for our VFW 9644 is very special.

Written by Debbie Blesh





*Auxiliary
Members*

May Birthdays

*Post
Members*

Rodasta, Judy	1st
Pettee, Brian	2nd
Schiel, Dorothy	3rd
Garcia, Aaron	6th
Metz, Sharon	6th
Gremse, Teri	8th
McFate, Heidi	8th
Smith, Penny	8th
Davies, MJ	9th
Price, Sherrel L	10th
Russell, Dorothy	13th
Payne, Clifford	15th
Brigham, Janet	16th
Cabazos, Anna	16th
Haines, Debra	16th
Pike, Lesa	16th
Proffit, Loren	17th
Katich, Valerie	18th
Gremse, Kyle	19th
Kaiser, Martha O	19th
Simoneau, Vicki	19th
Clavier, Cyndi K	20th
LaPerle, Ron	20th
Bernhardt, Lisa	24th
Bell, Connie	26th
Burleson, Gwen	26th
Rodgers, Rachel	27th
Zeisler, Charles D	27th
Anderson, James	29th
Cordova, Shelly	30th
McDowell, Sherry K	30th

Medina	Samuel	1st
Madrid	James	1st
Mills	Timothy	1st
Redman	James	1st
Roy	Gilbert	1st
Washburn	Roger	1st
Kelly	Kevin	2nd
Frick	Richard	4th
Davies	Ronald	6th
Sonnenberg	Richard	7th
Huerta	Asuncion	7th
Romero	Harold	8th
Vigil	Alfonso	8th
Welling	Donald	11th
Neu	Kenneth	12th
Reich	Randy	13th
Rutkowski	Philip	14th
Moore	Bill	14th
Garner	Jeffery	15th
Salazar	Arthur	17th
Mc Donald	Michael	17th
Salter	Linda	19th
Starr	Bradley	19th
Estrada	Mike	20th
Arko	John	23rd
Daigle	Ethan	25th
Ham	Robert	25th
Hartgers	Sieger	26th
Bernhardt	Richard	26th
Herrera	Kenneth	27th
Young	Gordon	28th

