

VFW 9644 NEWSLETTER

NEWS, VIEWS, AND HAPPENINGS

Verle Huffman VFW 9644 & VFW Auxiliary



Award-winning VFW, est. 1947, closest Post to Fort Logan National Cemetery

VFW Post Officers




Commander	Paul Gremse
Senior Vice Commander	Ron Davies
Junior Vice Commander	Shawn Jones
Quartermaster	Lynn Peterson
Chaplain	Daniel Micka
Adjutant	Marvin Garcia

Auxiliary Officers

President	Greg Almandares
Senior Vice President	Shelly Hall
Junior Vice President	Rachel Rodgers
Treasurer	Debbie Blesh
Secretary	Michelle Cordova
Ways and Means	Vicki Rodriguez

Post Address
 Address: 2680 W Hampden Ave,
 Sheridan, CO 80110

Post Phone Number
 (303) 789-9733

We have an updated website thanks to our Webmaster Todd Van Sant.
 Please check out our website to see the latest events and happenings.

<https://vfw9644.org/>



POST VIEWS

From the Commander

By Paul Gremse

Last month I wrote March was going to be a busy month at the post. It sure was and, based on the comments I've heard, it was very successful too. Thank you to all who helped with COA and the District 10 meeting.

The Council of Administration (COA) was another learning opportunity too many missed out on. Besides learning about the inner workings of the VFW as an organization, there were other tidbits to learn along the way. One involved intensive discussion on proposed changes to the VA rating schedule that could affect many whether they are aware of these changes or not. After proposed changes go into effect, it's too late to be heard if you're impacted negatively. There was also a great presentation on federal legislation being debated on Capitol Hill as you read this. A few of those bills involve environmental hazards many were exposed to while serving with your applicable service. One deals with toxic fumes from burn pits the military has been exposed to for as long as they've been burning waste. Almost every member can recall that happening during their service – some waste was worse than others. The other addresses Aqueous Film Forming Foam commonly referred to as AFFF used in aircraft firefighting. A Navy Master Chief told me 80% of Sailors who spent any time on a ship had firefighting duties and were most likely exposed. If you were a firefighter in our Air Force, you were most definitely exposed. Then there's the Camp Lejeune water! Bills addressing burn pits and AFFF are still making their way through Congress. Ailments associated with Camp Lejeune have already been codified. In either case, if you are experiencing difficulties you believe are associated with any of these exposures, you should speak with a service officer. It's just too bad you weren't at COA to learn more about it!

We hosted a Veteran's Forum, our 1st Annual. I considered that as much a success as it was a disappointment. It was a success for those who attended; no one left without learning something valuable. I consider myself knowledgeable regarding veterans benefits due to my professional training and work for 12 years as an accredited service officer and I still learned something. It was a disappointment because so many more didn't take advantage of it. I can tell you true stories about people who have \$10,000 or more, some significantly more, in their pocket every year or they save as much or more on medical bills. They have that money because they took some time to learn about what benefits they may be eligible for. These veteran's forums are the best way to learn. I encourage every veteran to attend one as soon as possible, if not before our 2nd annual forum.

We had our second ever Saturday afternoon Burgers this past week (always the last Saturday of the month) and we set another record. If we maintain the pace we've established the first two months, we'll be doing over 100 burgers in one Saturday by July! Thank you, Ron Davies, Todd Van Sant, and Lynn Peterson for the help!

I'm also happy to report the Canteen business is picking up. Among other activity, we had two Karaoke sessions in consecutive weeks due to the COA in March. Each was very successful. As a reminder, Karaoke is the third Saturday of each month beginning at 6:00pm. Come on out and join in on the fun! Many enjoyed a delicious, corned beef and cabbage dinner on March 18th (we continued the Saint Patrick's Day celebration for another day). Dinner was followed by Irish dance performed by students from The Wick School of Irish Dance. As many as there were to enjoy it, there were many more who missed out - maybe next year!

Somewhat associated with the Canteen is Friday night dinners and Sunday breakfast. Traditionally, we take a break from these meals between Memorial Day and Labor Day. Last year, the Mason family, led by Jandra continued the Sunday breakfast through the summer and it was successful. It's been suggested we do that again this year to include Friday night dinners. What do you think; would you attend? Please let me know your thoughts on the matter as a decision will have to be made soon. Also, on the subject of meals, please remember the members serving you are doing so as volunteers. If you think you can do the job better, please do so. Otherwise, be respectful of the staff!



POST VIEWS CONTINUED

April's general meeting will, as usual be at 7:00pm on the first Wednesday of the month; April's meeting will be on the 6th. I hope many of you can attend if for no other reason than to congratulate our Senior Vice Commander, Ron Davies, and his participation committee for attaining 100% (+1) membership this year. We'll be adding yet another 100% streamer to our post flagpole.

Lastly, thank you Darrel Gettman! If you haven't noticed, look at the beautiful new storm door going out to the patio. Darrel not only donated it but did a great job installing it. For those who celebrate, please enjoy a blessed Easter and everything it stands for!

AUXILIARY VIEWS

From the Junior Vice President

By Rachel Rogers

Hello VFW Post 9644!!

Easter is right around the corner, and we will be handing out Easter baskets again. There is a sign-up sheet in the lobby next to the guest sign in book OR you can call the post at 303.789.9733 to get signed up as well.

Easter is right around the corner & VFW Post 9644 would like to celebrate by giving out Easter basket to the kids!! They will be handed out on Friday Dinner & Sunday Breakfast!! (Friday, April 8th ; Sunday, April 10th ; Friday, April 15th and Sunday, April 17th .)

Please add your name and how many children to the sign-up sheet by the guest books as you enter the canteen or call the post at 303.789.9733. There are limited number of baskets being handed out.

The VFW does have a bowling league that happens every Tuesday at about 2:30pm. We have a team that has a vacant player that we would love to fill. If you are interested, please let me know.



From the Treasurer

By Deb Blesh

April is the month of April showers. They help nourish the ground with water to help our grass turn green and flowers grow. It is a turning point in our seasons. We are currently at a crossroad of where we are headed and how we can succeed. It takes everyone, a good attitude easy place to start. I am hopeful that our Auxiliary will be able to grow and move forward with the tasks at hand. Volunteer to help, maybe just once a month, support the efforts of our leaders without negativity. We all have something to offer for improving our organization and each other.

Take the time to evaluate where you want us to improve, and then help to contribute on that improvement. There is no place for pettiness, and the lack of respect that many of us feel. It is time to build camaraderie, cooperation and volunteer. If we work together as a unit, we can climb mountains to achieve our goals and do it together. I'll finish with a quote from Henry Ford: "If everyone is moving forward together, then success takes care of itself."

7 RULES OF LIFE

1. **SMILE:** It always works out in the end!
2. **BE KIND:** You have the power to make people feel good!
3. **DON'T GIVE UP:** If it doesn't work the first time, find another way!
4. **DON'T COMPARE:** Everyone's on a different journey!
5. **AVOID NEGATIVITY:** Avoid negative thoughts, situations & people!
6. **MAKE PEACE WITH YOUR PAST:** Focus on being present & creating a better future!
7. **TAKE CARE OF YOUR BODY & MIND:** One struggles to survive without the other!



VFW NEWS



Let's play ball

Contact: Paul Gremse

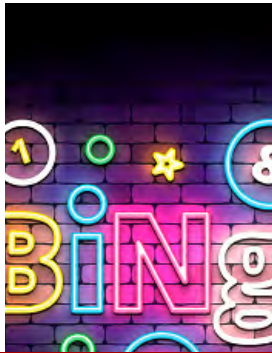
Let's get together as a post and celebrate Armed Forces Day (May 21st) at Coors Field enjoying Rockies baseball as the Rockies take on the NY Mets. The Rockies are offering us tickets for \$6.00. Your family is welcome too! It's an evening game beginning at 6:10pm. Seats will be assigned at the time we order based on availability. Right now, that would be Outfield Box but any seat for \$6.00 is a bargain.

If there's enough interest, we could look at leasing a bus to transport us from the post and back. (Otherwise, parking passes are available for \$17.00) I want to secure the best seating possible so please let me know if you're interested NLT April 22nd. (I'll need payment by then too!)

Please see me if you're interested in attending. You can also email me at cmd@vfw9644.org or leave a voicemail at (720) 819-7773.

Hope to see you at the game!

VFW HAPPENINGS



BURGERS, BINGO AND BEER NIGHT

Every Tuesday starting at 5pm



GAME NIGHT

Every Thursday starting at 6pm



FRIDAY PM & SUNDAY AM MEALS

Friday starting at 5pm & Sunday starting at 9am



KARAOKE NIGHT

Every third Saturday starting at 6pm

VFW CALENDAR

April 2022

- Food
- Meetings
- Post Events
- Calendar Events

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
28	29	30	31	1 Dinner: Steak & Shrimp 5:00 pm April Fool's Day	2	3 Breakfast 9:00 am
4 Participation Committee 6:30 pm	5 Burgers, Bingo, Beer 5:00 pm Gold Star Spouses Day	6	7 Game Night 6:00 pm	8 Friday Night Dinner 5:00 pm	9 National Former POW Recognition Day	10 Breakfast 9:00 am
11	12 Burgers, Bingo, Beer 5:00 pm	13	14 Game Night 6:00 pm Air Force Reserve Birthday	15 Friday Night Dinner 5:00 pm Good Friday	16 Karaoke Night 6:00 pm	17 Breakfast 9:00 am Easter
18 Participation Committee Virtual 6:30 pm	19 Burgers, Bingo, Beer 5:00 pm	20	21 Game Night 6:00 pm	22 Friday Night Dinner 5:00 pm Earth Day	23 Army Reserve Birthday	24 Breakfast 9:00 am
25	26 Burgers, Bingo, Beer 5:00 pm	27	28 Game Night 6:00 pm	29 Friday Night Dinner 5:00 pm	30 National Military Brats Day	1 Breakfast 9:00 am

VFW CELEBRATIONS

Post Birthdays

Thomas Cooper	April 2
David Spies	April 9
James Johnson	April 9
John Kary	April 10
Melvin Koski	April 10
James Koucherik	April 11
Howard Hanson	April 13
John Sparhawk	April 13
Michael Kearns	April 14
Dan Griffith	April 16
Aaron Ahlfinger	April 18
Margaret Anderson	April 18
James Langdon	April 19
Rober Mares	April 19
Robert Derrera	April 19
John Dixon	April 20
Rober Eshelman	April 20
Scott Andrews	April 20
Heinrich Stehle	April 25
Richard Safonovs	April 27
Clifford Linhardt	April 30

Auxiliary Birthdays

Patricia Mast	April 2
Rose Marie Bolden	April 5
Brock Engle	April 7
Judy Graham	April 8
Connie Maloney	April 8
Kent Moore	April 11
Jessica Hall	April 12
Marcia Kneuer	April 17
Dorothy Stratton	April 17
Else Rodriguez	April 18
Joseph Kissell	April 19
Billy Mason	April 20
Alice Cabazos	April 21
Ellen Larsen	April 23
Susue Martinez	April 23
Glenn Wiltsie	April 23
Michael Martin	April 25
Willie Sagrillo	April 25
Michael Neuroth	April 25
Robera Sherman	April 28
Delorese Baca	April 29

rockies.com/vfw



CO VFW State Aux



The Colorado Rockies invite you to join us at Coors Field to watch the Rockies take on the Giants and enjoy a group outing benefiting the Colorado VFW Auxiliary President's Special Project!

Wednesday, May 18th @ 1:10pm
Colorado Rockies vs. San Francisco Giants

\$20 Pavilion seating

A PORTION OF EACH TICKET SOLD GOES BACK TO THE PRESIDENT'S SPECIAL PROJECT

SAVE THE DATE