



9644 NEWS



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



From the Commander

BY PAUL GREMSE

Well, this month marks the end of another VFW fiscal year, my second as commander. At the conclusion of the convention this month, I start my third and final year as your commander – I promise there won't be a fourth!

It is going to be a good year barring anything unexpected or unprecedented – like a pandemic. We, as a post overcame the many challenges the pandemic brought and I'm proud of how we conquered in true American fashion. I never concealed my concern for the fiscal status of the post. Our post was in serious jeopardy, but our American Flag still proudly flies at our door! I also wasn't shy about lauding the post members who ponied up and contributed to the post. Those contributions were many, some larger than others.

Regardless, we kept our doors open. As great an accomplishment that is, it is wrong for this organization to rely on monetary donations from members (Post & Aux) to sustain the post. If that is the case, maybe we should turn in our charter or at least sell the building! But that's not my decision. Are you, OUR MEMBERSHIP comfortable with allowing the legacy of Post 9644 and, more importantly, all the patriots who've sustained our post for years before us, surrender? I don't know about you, but "Surrender" was never in any American's vernacular - whether it be Soldier, Sailor, Marine, or Airman! So, we need to look for ways to raise money so our post can continue to serve veterans.

In an answer to one of my pleas, **Joel Knutson** from our Auxiliary has come through. That's not anything new for Joel. As a master electrician, Joel always responds to any of my requests (most through Greg) relative to the wiring and electrical fixtures at the post. Joel has unilaterally saved our post thousands! You should thank him the next time you see him! But that's a tangent!

Joel introduced me to Mike, a friend of his who produces car shows. So, **WE'RE GOING TO HAVE A CAR SHOW ON SEPTEMBER 11th – PATRIOT'S DAY**. That is a mere 15 weeks away. There must be a lot of planning, organizing, coordinating, and execution in that short time. If it were not for the edge Mike brings, I'd be reluctant to pull the trigger particularly given the lack of involvement of this post's members demonstrated while I've been commander. But I'm also an optimist and a veteran who will always relish the assistance of those who worked with me on active duty to ensure the mission was successful. We kicked butt! Are you veterans different? I don't think so! So, please come to a planning meeting and see where you can fit.

Yes, I understand some of us are older now but I'm not asking everyone for laborious work; there will be very little labor. There are many static opportunities. Sitting under a canopy (shade) and facilitating registration is only one example. We need people who know people. I'd like to invite a few vendors to share in our successful car show and contracts will have to be negotiated. Getting the word out is of utmost importance. We need flyers designed, printed, and distributed. Logistics is important. Who can plan the most efficient layout of our parking lot ensuring parking for every entry and visitor's vehicle? I'll need someone to coordinate with our neighbors for overflow parking. Someone needs to coordinate with the city of Sheridan. These are just a few absolute needs off the top of my head. Then, there are options. T-Shirts? So, I hope you can comprehend the magnitude of work needed for this project to benefit YOUR post. I truly hope this will truly be a post endeavor with more than the normal 10% (5% or less might be more accurate) contributing.

So, let's get on top of things! Most are or should be aware I called a meeting (yes, it was late notice) on May 24th to begin planning and organizing. Besides myself, five members showed up! (3 were Auxiliary members.) FIVE members out of 400 VFW members; that's 1.25% of our post membership. Most like organizations unwillingly accept 10 – 20% of their membership contributing to its success. Wouldn't it be great to have 10% – 20% participation at 9644! In reality, I'm being really generous; I'm including the Auxiliary members attending the meeting without including the Auxiliary membership to my equation equaling - 1.25%. Otherwise, could you imagine how ugly that would look? Do that math. There are 329 Auxiliary members. I did that math, and it is REALLY ugly; not fit for publication, a lot worse than the 1.25% cited above, PATHETIC!

Regardless, participation is something we need to work on. But, right now, a solid plan for a successful car show and execution of that plan is my utmost focus. We'll see about motivating the deadbeats later!

We decided on six preliminary committees and that could grow or shrink as we progress and get more participation and input. Those committees will need members/workers. There will be another planning/organizational meeting in the first 7 -10 days of June. I certainly hope more of you will come out and support this venture for the sake of your post. Details to follow!

I hate HOPE! Rather, I appreciate commitment. At the same time, I no longer have authority granted by the UCMJ to mandate commitment and mandated commitment is wrong. A true leader ensures those fighting understand the common good and want to work towards success.

In the meantime, we'll recognize Memorial Day within days. I've been told Fort Logan will not have any formal ceremony as has been usual. Still, those patriots laid to rest there will be memorialized just the same.

Accordingly, I hope that in my next newsletter I can report a successful Poppy Drive ramrodded by soon to be Senior Vice Commander, **Ron Davies**. He is working diligently against the ghosts of the pandemic!

Regardless of the success of our Poppy drive, there is no question we will celebrate the 245th anniversary of our great nation, the same one you were willing to give your life for. Please join us at the post for a Bar-B-Que, some comradery, and foremost, the celebration of our independence and, perhaps a prayer we remain the Republic our forefathers envisioned despite today's turmoil in our national and state capitols. HAPPY BIRTHDAY, AMERICA! We can't allow Socialists or even Communists to further infiltrate our government!

Lastly, while I previously noted Ron Davies as our in-coming Senior Vice Commander (how many years did that take?), I have to celebrate our new **Junior Vice Commander, Shawn Jones**. Shawn is one of the youngest members of our post. Impressive as that may be, it must be noted Shawn sought an office without being pestered to do so. The icing on the cake is **Josie**, Shawn's lovely wife. She quickly joined the Auxiliary and has a great future there! We're blessed to have them both! We need more men and women like Shawn and Josie. Do you know of any qualifying veteran age 50 – give or take 20 (or 40) years? Actually, age is irrelevant. If you do know someone, invite him or her to join you at the post. Let them see what we are about. Chances are, they'll then want an application and I'm always happy to hand them out!

In closing, as we approach the anniversary of our nation's birth, please join me and pray the outright forces in our midst, and even in our government are defeated as they seek to destroy everything our great nation has been built upon.

Let me just put this out there. The "squad" is an American warrior's most intimate unit in our military hierarchy. Nothing stands in the way of their objective. If there is a squad or any other entity or alliance challenging our constitution and the Declaration of Independence that gave birth to it, we, as true Americans need to stop it!

As I've always prayed, may God continue to bless our United States of America. That stated, I now believe it is more important for God to bless our Centennial State. There are overt forces at the local (look at the Denver City Council) and state level openly advocating for the destruction of our American way of life. Fellow patriot's, take notice, stand up, and defeat! If you think I am off base, please feel free to petition my notion. I will welcome that dialogue!



WE WANT YOU!

Quarter Master

BY LYNN PETERSON

Currently, on a vacationing trip back to my mid-west native roots of Wisconsin, spending time primarily visiting my brother, along with other extended family, a few remaining relatives & high school classmate buddies. Really, enjoying some relaxing, memorable times.

Looked forward to & attempted to visit or contact some half dozen local Fox River Valley (south of Green Bay, WI) VFW Posts, but sadly none were open. They were either vacant, disbanded or not open to visit. I did have the opportunity to visit a local Minnesota VFW Post located along the Mississippi River towns of Winona, MN/Lacrosse, WI. Nothing exciting. Just open to the public bar & meeting hall.

Looking forward to my cross-country return visit back to Post 9644 Comrade members & Auxiliary member-friends in late May.

Thanks to all fill-in Bingo volunteers & participants during my absences. That's all folks!!

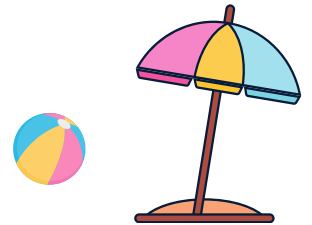
In Appreciation & Service to Veterans.

Auxiliary President

BY GREG ALMENDARES

Happy June everybody,

I want to talk about these two individuals that are a very big part of our post when I see these two gentlemen I wish everybody could take after these two in a very big way they both have a very big heart and are very generous to a fault they always come in with a happy attitude they always give generously to anything that we do like dinners breakfast lunch and barbecues they are both the very big part of our honor guard they go above and beyond in that aspect I look up to both of these guys as much as everybody else does I would imagine so hats off to Gary and David.



Canteen Manager

BY JANDRA CZARNEK

Summer is upon us which means no more Friday dinners however **we will still be serving Breakfast on Sundays** through the summer starting June 6th. There will be a **set menu for each Sunday (i.e. same menu each month)**

1st Sunday – Bacon, eggs, hash brown, toast

2nd Sunday – Breakfast burritos

3rd Sunday – Sausage biscuits and gravy, eggs fried potatoes

4th Sunday – Pancakes, eggs, sausage

+ Orange Juice and coffee - \$7.00

- Thursdays are Games Night and the 3rd Thursday of the month is “America Says” (thanks to Steve and Michelle Cordova) it is a lot of fun, teams are limited to 6 people max.
- Karaoke is the 3rd Saturday of the month, come down and join the fun. Bring a side dish.
- I believe the Post will be having a BBQ on July 4th but will keep you posted.
- Bingo will continue through the summer. Come down and join us and maybe win some money.

Janet – Hope you are doing better and will be back behind the bar soon. Mr. Pete thought the phone call was for him from the “Cat Hall of Fame” and an award for him letting you be his “Cat Mom”.

That's all for this month – come see us.

Auxiliary Treasurer

BY **DEBBIE BLES**



I sit here ready to compose my final fiscal newsletter with so many things to say. I will try not to overwhelm you but remember it is very heartfelt and poignant at this time.

First, I want to thank everyone for their well wishes for my recovery from unexpected surgery. It was very uplifting and meant the world to me. Second, I want to especially thank **Michelle and Steve Cordova** for jumping in and taking on Tuesday bingo meals. They did a fantastic job, I hear, with the grilled cheese and to **Jandra** for the potato salad. Our meatball sandwiches are still on the menu for the near future. I have the meal on “ice” and it turned out exceptionally good this time.

Commander Paul has surveyed the membership to see if we would like to continue burgers and bingo thru the summer. We have decided to do it and hope you will all come and spend a couple hours Tuesday nights with us. Watch for the weekly blast for the meal choice for burgers and bingo. We will do burgers on the bbq one night per month and our other variety the other 3. These include chili cheese dog nights, spaghetti nights, and other items you have enjoyed in the past. I will try to plan for the calendar so you will have the menus each month. I will do Meatball sandwich night sometime in June. You won't be disappointed.

Thanks also to **Michelle, Paul and Greg Engle** for keeping the bingo going, selling tickets and calling everyone's favorite numbers. And, lastly, thanks to everyone for coming down, playing and supporting our efforts. Hope you've had a good time, some fun and maybe won a little.

This year has been filled with many trials, anguish, and frustrations, not of our making. We have missed our members and guests especially. No membership dinner, senior citizens Valentine celebration, holiday picnics and celebrations, horseshoes, corn hole and our most important social contact. Many of us have worked hard to save our Post with contributions of time, donations, grants, and as much giving as any of us could give. I am proud of the auxiliary and all we were able to accomplish with the funds we worked so hard to earn.

Game night continues to grow with little baby steps and when a new person tries it, they are hooked. We laugh a lot, banter a lot and always enjoy whatever **Jandra** finds to feed us. **Cliff & Pat Payne** has also contributed some amazing food for game night. Thanks Cliff & Pat. “America Says” night is a new game night hosted by **Steve and Michelle** and we need more teams. Check it out.

This year we accomplished improvements to the Post, kitchen, new boiler, and many repairs. Contributed to Veteran organizations and managed to earn a limited profit from meals to help that effort.

A huge thank you goes out to **Vicki Rodriguez** for her tireless efforts with ways and means. She was always ready to help shopping, with ideas for what to serve, filled in when we were short of volunteers, making sure we had what we needed and anything else we needed. I'm sure she is tired of driving to Sam's and Costco all the time. On a humorous note, she does know where to find everything.

A simple thank you doesn't seem like enough but know our appreciation of you reaches the stars through all our hearts. Everyone who stood up and cooked breakfasts and dinners, thank you. I know some of us got it by default or because there was no one else to help. I get it. My biggest hope for next year is that those who can will do 1 meal per season. You don't have to do it alone. If we can get a few teams who work together well, it lessens the load for everyone. We have a core of people who can help. If you are new to wanting to prepare a meal I suggest you pick a breakfast. They are the easiest to do and everyone loves to come on down. Everyone has 1 thing they like to make for the family. Why not try it on us? If you can't help, come and eat. You won't be disappointed.

I am optimistic for next year. Let's think of events that are fun, serving to/for our beloved vets and our community. Let's plan and make it happen. Everyone has ideas. Submit them, ponder them, and share them. Come visit for a beer and idea sharing and camaraderie.

I close by saying come play Post Tuesday bingo, Barry's bingo on Monday and Thursday, and other events and celebrations. You may be surprised.

Important Days in June

June 6, 2020 - D-Day (1944)

June 14, 2020 - Flag Day

June 14, 2020 - Army Birthday

June 21, 2020 - Father's Day

June 23, 2020 - Coast Guard Auxiliary Birthday

June 25, 2020 - Anniversary of the start of the Korean War (1950)

June 27, 2020 - National PTSD Awareness Day



Post and Auxiliary Installation



Doug Mayotte & Paul Gremse



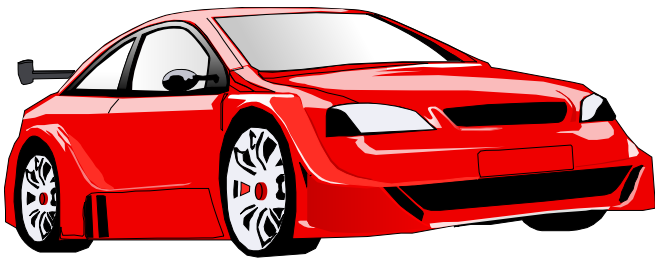
**Warren Tellgren, Greg Almendares,
MJ Davies & Jandra Czarnek**

CAR SHOW

September 11th

Volunteers Needed:

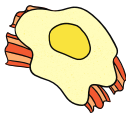
- Check In/registration
- Parking lot planner/set up
- Overflow parking with neighboring businesses
- Flyer design, publication, distribution
- Work with City of Sheridan
- etc, etc, etc!!!!



Join us every Sunday

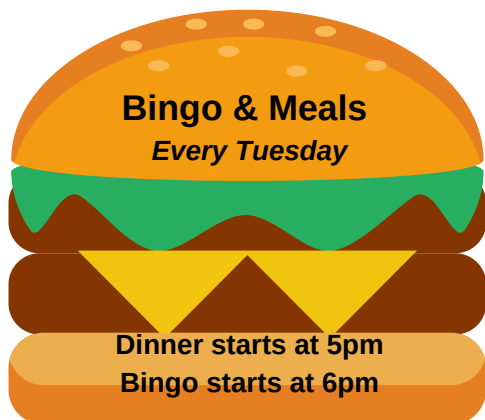
BREAKFAST

June 6th, 13th, 20th, 27th
@ 9:00am - 12:00pm



Karaoke Night

**Saturday June 19th @
6:00pm**



Bingo & Meals
Every Tuesday

Dinner starts at 5pm
Bingo starts at 6pm



AMERICA Says

*Thursday, June 17th
6-8pm*



*Auxiliary
Members*

June Birthdays

*Post
Members*

Herrera, Letitia	1st
Springfield, Beverly A	2nd
Stansberry, Jacquelyn	2nd
Bomgardner, Valerie	3rd
Flanagan, Holly M	4th
Martinez, Deborah	4th
Eldridge, Christie	8th
Kuhn, Leatha	8th
Welch, Christa	8th
Wyckoff, Gerald (Gary)	12th
Kary, Judy	13th
McNamara, Ruth	14th
Montgomery, Ruble	20th
Scott, Colette	24th
Czarnek, Jandra D	26th
Dunst, Frank	28th
Kaber, Judy Ann	28th
Orlowski, Patricia	29th
Nickell, Cathie	30th
Pette, Alane	30th

Brewer	William	1st
Duram	Christoph	1st
Hohn	Robert	1st
Roy	Donald	1st
Stimpfling	Robert	1st
Burleson	Larry	2nd
Skizinski	Paul	2nd
Spies	Ben	3rd
Bernhardt	Kenneth	5th
Edwards	Roger	5th
Micka	Daniel	7th
Herring	Peter	8th
Baker	Ellen	9th
Camacho	Earnest	10th
Consolver	Robert	11th
Beardsley	Gary	13th
Sebok	Louis	15th
De Herrera	Carlos	17th
Romero	Jerry	17th
Holman	Donald	18th
Kreutzer	Virgil	18th
Smith	Tommy	21st
Harvey	Kyle	22nd
Sanders	Albert	22nd
Flanagan	James	23rd
Petersen	Lester	23rd
Butts	Kenneth	24th
Bornhoeft	Theodore	27th
Martin	James	27th
Rayburn	William	27th
Mc Gee	BJ	28th

