

May 2017
Post Newsletter
WesternSpringsVFW.org

Commander's Stuff

By Joe Barker

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At our last meeting, we held elections for next year. Thank you to all who attended, I am honored and look forward to commanding your Post for another year. I do ask for your help: we've had some really great discussions in the previous few months, and I ask that you continue these discussions in order to continually improve our Post.

With spring fully in bloom, we look forward to both the Buddy Poppy sales and the Memorial Day parade. Poppy sales are our main source of funds we use to help veterans and patriotic causes, and the Memorial Day parade provides a solemn reminder of our comrades who paid the ultimate sacrifice for our freedom. I know I am preaching to a greater choir than I could ever be, however maximum participation in both events is essential for continued success. Let me know how we can help you help others.

Thanks again for all you do.

Joe Barker

Save the Dates

May 9th – 7:30 p.m. **Post Regular meeting** at Grace Lutheran Church
May 11th – Hospital Visit
May 12th – deadline for June newsletter
June 13th – Post Installation Dinner

Quartermaster Report

By Mike Winner

(708) 829-0069

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Statement of funds as of 4/11/17:

Post General Fund	\$20,411.63
Post Relief Fund	315.00
Post Dues Reserve	0
TOTAL:	\$20,726.63

Semper Fi!

Hospital Chairman Report

By Walt Bergenthal

(708) 246-4858

During our April 11 meeting, the following were elected to the various positions from July 1, 2017, through June 30, 2018:

Commander

Joe Barker

Senior Vice Commander Chuck Bosko
Junior Vice Commander Esteban Lopez
Quartermaster Mike Winner
Chaplain Rev. Bob Geaschel
3 Year Trustee Buddy Georgeoulaksi

Also during our meeting, a \$3,000 check was presented to James Cook, assistant manager of Hines Fisher House, to be used for the maintenance of the Fisher House. These funds were made available by the Armed Forces Day Lyons Township High School football team.

Don't forget Poppy Days will be held May 23-25. Sign up with Chairman Jack Lund. We need your help!

Service Officer Stuff

By Chuck Bosko

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(312) 980-4512

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Where do I start? The beginning of course!

1. Elsewhere in the newsletter, you will notice a reservation for our annual installation dinner. This year, we will be at a new venue - Salerno's in Hodgkins! The restaurant is located next to the theaters behind the shopping center (Sam's club). As in previous years, dinner will be family style with a cash bar. Parking is plentiful, no busy street to cross and a bit closer for everyone. And if you're in the mood to play the ponies, next door is an off track place! Dinner and horses! Whoa! Please, please, please, return your

reservation by Friday, June 2, 2017. (KP otherwise)

2. Another elsewhere in the newsletter - a copy of a real DD 214 for a soldier from WW II. Not only is the individual interesting, but be sure to notice the officer signing the guy out!
3. Writing about DD 214s. During every Veteran Benefits session I conduct at the South Campus of Lyons Township High School twice a semester (notice the plug?), I begin by informing the attendees how vitally important those DD 214s really are. Every benefit, every document, anything one requests from the Federal Veterans Administration and from the State of Illinois requires a copy of ***your*** discharge- that infamous DD 214. Funeral homes, VA health care, Illinois driver's license to show "Veteran" on it - all require a copy of the readers DD 214. More importantly, inform your family of where ***your*** DD 214 is kept. One's family should not be worried about where to find the darn thing in a troubled time. Make it easy for them. And here is the big AND- keep about 20, yes 20, copies in a safe place. Not the bank safety deposit box either! Try retrieving the thing at 9 p.m. sometime! Geez. Twenty copies at home where family members can grab

one if needed. Hey, be prepared. I may inquire of you during one of our meetings if you read this paragraph. Pop quizzes. I think I'll corner one of our former education members- payback time! Yea.

4. Thinking as I pen these thoughts of how interesting explaining all the items on a DD 214 would be- what information differing agencies look for and what each item signifies. Okay, commencing next newsletter (June), I'll institute a new feature. Look for it.

A new feature (now and for the next eight editions) An "Only in America" note. For May 2017:

"Only in America can a pizza get to your house faster than an ambulance"

Did you hear? Pablo Picasso surprised a burglar in his studio. The burglar got away, but Picasso told the police he would provide a sketch of the guy. Based on the sketch, the police arrested a Mother Superior, a washing machine and the Eiffel Tower.

Allons and Airborne!
Chuck Bosko

Memorial Parade 2017

The Memorial Parade will be Monday, May 29. Invite your family, neighbors and friends to attend this most wonderful solemn event. We have been in continuous discussions with the director for the West Suburban Concert Band who in turn have been rehearsing with

the Tower Chorale. Additions this year; a medley of four new patriotic songs and during the songs for each branch of the military, the director will inform which song is which and the Tower Chorale will sing that particular song. Nice!

Your Post will appreciate your donation for the parade too! Either bring a donation to our next meeting or send it to the Post mailbox – VFW Post 10778, P.O. Box 73, Western Springs, IL 60558. BE SURE TO DESIGNATE YOUR DONATION FOR THE PARADE! As Elvis always said, "Thank You, Thank You very much."

By the Numbers

- 5 How many times all the Jelly Belly jelly beans eaten by everyone around the world could circle the Earth, estimates the Jelly Belly Candy Company.
- 98 Approximately how long, over the course of 100 years, that a water molecule spends in the ocean, according to the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality.
- 630 The height and width of St. Louis' iconic Gateway Arch, the tallest manmade national monument in the country, as chronicled in the book "50 Greatest American Places" by Brent D. Glass.
- 13 Millions of dollars spent to construct the Gateway Arch, which is said to represent the city's history as the Gateway to the West.

2017-2018

VFW 10778

INSTALLATION DINNER

June 13, 2017

Salerno's
9301 W 63rd St. Hodgkins, IL

(located next to the movie theaters behind the shopping center,
Enter off of LaGrange Rd or East Ave)

6:00 P.M. (1800 hrs) gathering & social

7:20 P.M. (1920 hrs) Dinner

Installation to follow

Reservations by June 2, 2017.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Number in group: _____

Cost: \$15.00 per person: _____

Return this reservation including check to:

Chuck Bosko, 1230 Robinhood Lane, La Grange Park, IL 60526-5313
708 205 3541