

**August 2021**  
**Post Newsletter**  
WesternSpringsVFW.org

**Commander's Stuff**

**By Esteban Lopez**

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Summer – what a difference a month makes. We are in full summer heat and our Post continues its mission to honor the fallen of Western Springs.

Members of the Post have met at different addresses throughout Western Springs and in adjacent towns to remember the members we lost this past year. Flags were presented to the families of:

- Wendell Seedy Ulrich
- Danny Legan
- Fred Rodriguez
- Joseph Gorski
- Jack Schaus and
- Jack Lund.

Thanks to all members who participated in the event. Special thanks to Bruce Harken for leading the effort.

Our challenge these coming months is recruitment. Warm welcome to our first new member this year.

**Veteran News**

The Department of Defense announce 16 million honorably discharged veterans will now be able to access the

**Save the Dates**

Aug. 10<sup>th</sup> – 7:30 p.m. **Post Regular meeting** In person and Zoom

Aug. 13<sup>th</sup> – deadline for September newsletter

Sept. 14<sup>th</sup> – 7:30 p.m. **Post Regular meeting** In person and Zoom

American Forces Travel website. For more information, visit [www.americanforcetravel.com](http://www.americanforcetravel.com)

The Department of Veterans Affairs is offering a new COVID-19 Refund Modification option to assist veterans who require a significant reduction in their monthly mortgage payments because of the COVID-19 pandemic. In some cases, veterans can receive a 20% payment reduction — in others, the reduction can be even larger.

Next meeting is Aug. 10, 2021. See Zoom info after this article.

Have a great summer and stay safe!

Ad Maiora

Scheduled Zoom meeting.  
Topic: VFW Post Meeting  
Aug10, 2021 07:30 PM

Join Zoom Meeting  
[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86960146185?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86960146185?pwd=OW9rcellubzJqTWZ6MldBT01VbUdsZz09)  
pwd=OW9rcellubzJqTWZ6MldBT01VbUdsZz09

Meeting ID: 869 6014 6185  
Passcode: 10778

Dial by your location  
+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

### **Quartermaster Report**

**By Mike Winner**  
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#### Statement of funds as of 7/14/21

Post General Fund	\$6,173.69
Post Relief Fund	10,426.67
TOTAL:	\$16,600.36

Semper Fidelis!

### **Committee Seeks Nominations for Grand Marshall**

**By Chuck Bosko**  
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Please refer to the procedure for nominating an individual as the Grand Marshall for the 2022 Parade and Observance. The committee is initiating this selection process now as many individuals may already be approached for next year. So, as you read this note if you believe you have a terrific person in mind, let the committee know.

Forward your selection to me by Aug. 31, 2021. During our September meeting, the committee will meet,

review all nominations and select the 2022 Grand Marshall.

Questions or concerns can be forwarded to me.

Allons and Airborne!  
Chuck

### **History of Beach Reads**

It's August, which means there's still time to sneak in a beach read or two. But how did this summer pastime come to be?

The concept of the summer "beach read" book goes all the way back to the Victorian era, when advances in transportation made it possible for city people to escape to coastal areas and resort getaways during the summer months.

The publishing industry targeted this new category of potential customers by marketing books as "summer reads" ideal for the beach, the cabin or the Adirondack chair.

In fact, this cultural shift sent books in a whole new direction. The novel, previously considered rather vulgar, was now an acceptable pastime for those who could afford such leisure time.

Here are some books to consider adding to your summer reading list:

American Spy by Lauren Wilkinson

Empty Planet by Darrel Bricker and John Ibbitson

Inland by Tea Obreht

The Municipalists by Seth Fried

Don't Point That Thing at Me by Kyril Bonfiglioli

## **Submitting candidates for Grand Marshall of the Memorial Day Parade and Observance**

Believe it or not, there is a procedure when submitting a candidate as a Grand Marshall. And here is the most important reason- an avoidance of disappointment.

When a member of our Post wishes to submit a candidate, it is to be in writing and forwarded to the Memorial Day Committee. This committee is comprised of your fellow VFW 10778 members. The committee actually commits to reading the qualifications and reasons for the individual, discusses the merits of each individual and arrives at a consensus. This has been the process since 10778 has been organizing the event.

The following is the format to be used when submitting your nomination:

1. Name of individual
2. Veteran's branch of service and period served
3. Member of the VFW. Not necessary, but nice.
4. Military awards, honors, citations, etc.
5. What has veteran done since service- career, civic, volunteer, etc.?

And here is the gotcha!

6. In your opinion, why are you nominating this individual? Why should this person be the Grand Marshall?

We select individuals for all the above reasons. Not because we desire to feel good about ourselves or to allow the nominated to "feel good." No, the rationale we select a Grand Marshall goes beyond our own Post. We want the public to become aware of what a true veteran is, has done, is doing and will continue to do for America and our communities.

Yes, we do honor our own members and if there is any doubt, look at the past GMs. The committee is sincere when the selection of a GM is at hand. Without doubt, it is the most important task we accept and accomplish.

Therefore, should any member decide to nominate any individual for the Memorial Day Parade and Observance, please do so following the procedure above and send it to the parade chair who currently is the VFW member below.

Thank you and as always- ALLONS!

Chuck Bosko  
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Address:  
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La Grange Park, IL 60526

## **DEAD AND WOUNDED BY BRANCH OF SERVICE**

Serving in Vietnam	%	Killed	Wounded	Total	% of Branch	% of Killed or Wounded
Army... 1,407,000	67	38,179	96,802	134,982	9.5	63.8
Marines... 294,000	14	14,836	51,392	66,228	22.5	31.3
Navy... 126,000	6	2,556	4,178	6,734	5.3	3.1
Air Force... 273,000	13	2,580	931	3,511	1.2	1.6
<b>TOTAL... 2,100,000</b>		<b>58,151</b>	<b>153,303</b>	<b>211,454</b>		

## **VIETNAM CASUALTIES BY VOLUNTEER OR DRAFTED (FIGURES ARE FOR ENLISTED ONLY)**

	Volunteer	Drafted	Reserve	Natl Guard	Unknown
Army...	16,374	16,964	69	68	69
Marines...	12,784	683	406	---	25
Navy...	1,764	-----	148	---	13
Air Force...	808	-----	1	1	96
<b>TOTAL...</b>	<b>31,730</b>	<b>17,647</b>	<b>624</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>203</b>

## **VIETNAM ENLISTED CASUALTIES BY RACE, ETHNICITY AND NATIONAL ORIGIN**

	White	Black	American Indian	Asian	Unknown
Army...	28,044	5,095	138	241	26
Marines..	11,888	1,860	73	76	1
Navy...	1,823	78	7	17	---
Air Force...	735	82	1	9	79
<b>TOTAL...</b>	<b>42,490</b>	<b>7,115</b>	<b>219</b>	<b>343</b>	<b>106</b>