

April 2022
Post Newsletter
WesternSpringsVFW.org

Commander's Stuff

By Esteban Lopez

630-765-1848

lopez_esteban@hotmail.com

Spring is here! Nice weather is seen in many days, although we still have some cool days. The good news is that life is growing all around us. As we adventure more during the day, please stay safe.

The restrictions for COVID-19 have been eased but there is still a chance for a spike. Taking precautions is wise and a good way to enjoy our first days of spring.

Spring also brings other things like taxes. If you qualify, you can get your taxes done for free. Please check the IRS site at www.irs.gov/individuals/military for information on how you may qualify for a refund if your disability rating was increased. Another source from the IRS is www.irs.gov/individuals/seniors-retirees for seniors and retirees.

An important issue to be aware of are the many scams online or by telephone. For the latest scams, please visit the IRS web page at www.irsvideos.gov/Individual/ScamsFraud. Be on the alert for scams that include social security benefits and credit cards. As we are trained to be aware of our surroundings, our world also includes

Save the Dates

April 12th – 7:30 p.m. **Post Regular meeting**

April 15th – deadline for May newsletter

May 10th – 7:30 p.m. **Post Regular meeting**

the cyberworld. Be Alert, Be Aware, Be Safe.

Post News

The new ballot for Post officers was presented at the last meeting. Congratulations to all officers and appointees to their new posts. To make it official, we are to take a vote at the April meeting. There is still time for changes. Therefore, if you are interested in holding an elected or appointed position, or have someone in mind, let our outgoing Adjutant know.

VA News

The Department of Veterans Affairs is awarding 36 capital grants totaling approximately \$64.7 million to community organizations under VA's Grant and Per Diem program to improve the quality of housing options for veterans experiencing homelessness.

Veterans Affairs released its Asset and Infrastructure Review report on March 14 that includes recommendations by the VA Secretary to cement the department as the primary, world-class provider and coordinator of veterans health care for generations to come.

Department of Veterans Affairs hospitals outperform community hospitals on 10 of 11 metrics in Medicare's latest Hospital Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems patient survey report.

That's all for now. Until next time.
Stay Safe!

Ad Maiora

Quartermaster Report

By Mike Winner

(708) 829-0069

Gonakadet@att.net

Statement of funds as of 2/11/22

Post General Fund	\$5,089.99
Post Relief Fund	269.36
TOTAL:	\$7,783.59

Semper Fidelis!

Installation Dinner at Zoo

Be sure to check elsewhere in this month's newsletter for the Installation Dinner reservation information and return slip. Members of the Post and spouses and/or guests will be able to enjoy the surroundings of Brookfield Zoo on June 14, 2022, which is Flag Day.

Our dinner will be at the Discovery Center, which is close to the Northeastern part of the Zoo. Entrance is the Zoo's south parking lot – next to Riverside-Brookfield High School.

Attendants at the gate will supply the route to the Discovery Center.

Reservations must be received to me by May 26, 2022. Please let me know of special dietary needs.

For more information or concerns, call Chuck Bosko at 708-205-3541.

History of the Easter Bunny

On Easter Sunday, children across the globe wake up to find their baskets filled with chocolate eggs, small toys and other Easter basket fillers. While the Easter Bunny isn't technically real, the tradition has been alive for around 300 years thanks to generations of parents.

Rabbits and hares have long been associated with springtime celebrations. As far back as the fourth century, early pagans celebrated the renewal of life and the vernal equinox. The symbol of their celebration was Eostre, the goddess of dawn and fertility, who was represented by the symbol of a rabbit or egg.

As Christianity spread across Europe around the year 500, the timing of this springtime observance coincided with Easter, so the two celebrations merged into one.

The egg-laying, chocolate-delivering Easter Bunny as we know it doesn't appear in history until the 1600s when the legend of a rabbit called "Osterhase" (aka Easter hare) was said to lay colorful eggs for children to find on Easter Sunday. When the first Europeans arrived in America a hundred years later, the tradition came with them. Kids made their own nests or baskets for Osterhase to leave eggs for them. And so the tradition of making and filling Easter baskets was born.

Source: Better Homes & Gardens