

**November 2020**  
**Post Newsletter**  
WesternSpringsVFW.org

**Commander's Stuff**

**By Esteban Lopez**

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Impressive! Well done! Weather was kind and the Post delivered a massive sale of poppies. Congratulations to all who made it possible!

We would like to thank Danny Legan's family and friend, and the Western Springs Rotary Club for the help reaching our goal this year. Special thanks to our top scorer Tom Higgins and to our Post members who contributed to the success of the sales. We are looking to surpass this year poppies sale next year. GO 10778!

Memorial Post 10778 of Western Springs, Illinois, received a recognition plaque from the State of Illinois Veterans of Foreign Wars, placing First Place on Category I for the Hospital Veterans Affairs Volunteer Services Program (VAVS). Congratulations!

**VA News**

Navy Blue Water

More than 22 thousand (22k) claims were granted to Blue Water Navy Veterans in 2020. The National archives is digitizing more than 1,800 deck logs to determine ship locations, which help

**Save the Dates**

Nov. 10<sup>th</sup> – 7:30 p.m. **Post Regular meeting** at Grace Lutheran Church  
Nov. 13<sup>th</sup> – deadline for December newsletter  
Dec. 8<sup>th</sup> – 7:30 p.m. **Post Regular meeting** at Grace Lutheran Church

the VA confirm service. VA estimates 420-560k Vietnam-era veterans may be considered Blue Water Navy Veterans.

**Flu Season**

It's flu season! You can get shots at Walgreens or go to the VA for one. Get vaccinated Remember, the flu shot does not give you the flu. Although the vaccination does not protect from all strains of the flu, it does give you protection against some strains of the flu. Some protection is better than none.

**Pandemic**

Wilmette's last American Legion Post will cease operations on Nov. 11, 2020 with a 21-gun salute. Like many other Posts, the current situation has dealt a formidable blow, making it difficult to continue operations. COVID19 is still with us. Continue to protect yourselves

and others. When meeting in public or in close quarters, wear masks.

### **Fisher House**

The Maryland-based Fisher House Foundation, which offers free hotel-like housing facilities for the families of military members and veterans receiving treatment at VA medical centers, has opened its sixth new location this year.

Fisher House never charges a lodging fee. Since the first two Fisher Houses opened in 1991, is estimated it had saved military and veteran families \$500 million in out-of-pocket costs for lodging and transportation.

That is all for now. See you all in the next meeting!

Ad Maiora

### **Quartermaster Report**

**By Mike Winner**

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#### Statement of funds as of 10/15/20:

Post General Fund	\$6,585.61
Post Relief Fund	9,981.07
TOTAL:	\$16,566.68

### **Parade Committee Update**

**By Chuck Bosko**

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The Memorial Day Committee recently meet to discuss several options for 2021. As of this writing, there is a certain degree of uncertainty. I have discussed this issue with the village hall staff and of course, they, I, everyone simply just does not know what will develop. However, contingency plans are in place.

Two plans unfolded: a full parade and observance or just an observance.

**Full Parade:** This will of course be the event as we know it: a parade consisting of vets in front, followed by the Grand Marshall, convertibles, motorcycles, LTHS and Nazareth marching bands, youth groups and whoever else participates followed by the gathering at the Tower for the observance with the West Suburban Concert Band and Tower Chorale.

**Just the observance:** No parade, simply announcements via publicity in local media outlets, posters, etc. The Observance will consist of a presentation by the Grand Marshall (guest speaker), music and songs by the WSCB & Tower Chorale. This is the type of event presented by the Village of Burr Ridge on Armed Forces Day the week before Memorial Day.

The consensus of the committee is without a parade, we have no idea of the turnout. The parade is an institution and citizens from Western Springs and surrounding villages attend this event. It is after the parade that many folks walk over to the Tower to listen to the music and listen to the selected Grand Marshall share her or his thoughts of why Memorial Day is so important.

So-the consensus of the committee, we will pick up from where we left off and pray for the best. Our choice of the Grand Marshall for 2020, Michael Holub, has been invited for 2021 and he has graciously accepted.

A hornet's nest is the 2020 version of a Pinata! 2021 has got to be better for everyone. Let us pray for that. America needs a break. America needs a PARADE!