

March 2020
Post Newsletter
WesternSpringsVFW.org

Commander's Staff

By Rich Jesswein

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Beware of the “Ides of March.” Why? Well, it goes back to Roman times. The word “Ides” in Latin means “to divide.” In the Roman calendar each month had an ides. In the months of March, May, July and October, the ides falls on the 15th of the month. All the other months the ides falls on the 13th of the month.

Once again, why should we beware of the “Ides of March?” In Roman times, the 15th of March was considered a deadline to settle all debts. In modern times, it relates to William Shakespeare’s play, “Julius Caesar.” Julius Caesar is killed on the 15th of March. So much for today’s history lesson.

Now, the FTC is charging several charities that claim to help veterans, but are actually just “hood-winking” donors for their own profit. One of them is “Help Vets, Inc.” This false charity claims donor’s contributions help wounded and disabled vets, but it keeps the money for themselves. Another false charity is called “Veterans of America.” These folks use illegal robocalls to get people to donate cars, boats and other

Save the Dates

March 5th – Hospital Visit
March 10th – 7:30 p.m. **Post Regular meeting** at Grace Lutheran Church
March 13th – Deadline for April Newsletter
April 11th – 7:30 p.m. **Post Regular meeting** at Grace Lutheran Church

things of value, which they then sell for their own profit.

Now for a positive endeavor. Have you heard about the “Still Serving Campaign?” It is a new campaign to bring more awareness, respect and gratitude to veterans-like us- who remain committed to a life of service. Please take a moment to go to vfw.org/StillServing and tell your story about when you were in the military.

You will be building on a legacy of service that spans more than a century. The “Still Serving Campaign represents VFW members of every generation, so future generations as well as previous generations can know what the service was like in your time.

It’s hard to believe that I will only be writing two more letters after this. Time

has flown and “yes” I’ve really enjoyed writing these letters!!

Sooooooooooooo, with that said:

*Roses are Red
Violets are Blue
Watch out for false charities
Because they are watching you*

Till next month, CHOI

Quartermaster Report

By Mike Winner
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Statement of funds as of 2/11/20:
Post General Fund \$8,844.33
Post Relief Fund \$3,408.10
TOTAL: \$12,252.43

Semper Fidelis!

Hospital Chairman Report

By Walt Bergenthal
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Your Post had a very successful outing for two busloads of patients from Hines VA on Jan. 23 at the Mission BBQ in Downers Grove. Thanks to Adjutant Bruce Harken who set up and coordinated the effort with the restaurant and Hines.

Also, hats off to Guy Vorsanger, Esteban Lopez, Bandana Man Ray Chrostek along with bingo helpers Tom Higgins, Dan Lane, Mark Thompson and John Alfonsi who helped serve meals to the patients.

A bit of trivia – there were approximately 16 million Armed Forces who served in WWII. As of Sept. 30, 2019, approximately 389,000 were still alive. Our sympathy to the family of Life

Member Richard Skoda, who passed away in mid-February.

Parade Committee Stuff

By Chuck Bosko
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Any Post member who would rather ride than walk during the parade, give Bill Nawrot or myself a call. Bill needs to know this in order to plan enough cars. Other than this - plans are developing nicely.

Bill (708) 557-1937
Chuck (708) 205-3541

Big Moments in Space Food

1962 – John Glenn becomes the first American to eat in space. His meal: applesauce in a tube, xylose sugar tablets with water and Tang.

1968 – Astronaut ice cream (aka freeze-dried ice cream) makes it debut. You can pick up a package next time you visit the Museum of Science & Industry.

1969 – Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin celebrate being the first men to walk on the moon with a meal of bacon cubes coated with gelatin.

1985 – Crew members begin to request commercially made products, such as M&Ms and barbecue sauce.

2017 – Italian astronaut Paolo Nespoli hosts the first pizza party in space.

Source: Food Network Magazine