

October 2019
Post Newsletter
WesternSpringsVFW.org

Commander's Stuff

By Rich Jesswein

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Do you see the frost on the pumpkins?? Well, I don't know if we've had a frost yet, but if we haven't, it isn't far away.

October is an exciting month. Football is in full swing, both collage and pro. There is still baseball (but I don't think any Chicago teams are playing). And lest we forget, hockey, collage volleyball, and I'm sure I'm missing some sports.

But that's not all. We have our Patriots Pen and our Voice of Democracy deadlines to our Post by Oct. 31. If you have a child or grandchild, get them involved (it's free).

Talking about free, don't forget to get a flu shot. It is also free at most places.

I would be remiss if I didn't mention that Oct. 13 is the birthday of the U.S. Navy! On Oct. 14 we celebrate Columbus Day. Oh!! I just about forgot, we celebrate Halloween on the 31st as well.

I want to thank those of you who joined our Post this year!! You made it possible for our Post to achieve the distinct honor of 100% membership for the 2018-2019 year!! With that, we

Save the Dates

Oct. 8th – 7:30 p.m. **Post Regular meeting** at Grace Lutheran Church

Oct. 10th – Hospital Visit

Oct. 11th – Deadline for November Newsletter

Oct. 31st – Deadline for Patriots Pen and Voice of Democracy contests

Nov. 12th – 7:30 p.m. **Post Regular meeting** at Grace Lutheran Church

qualify for a drawing of a \$1,000 stipend toward attending the 120th VFW National Convention in Orlando, Florida. Should we win, we already have a volunteer to attend the meeting – over very own chaplain Bob Geaschel!!

I hope all of you visited the Vietnam Honor Wall in Queen of Heaven cemetery in September. If you missed it, you missed something really special!!

Once again, I've taken too much of your time, sooooooooooooooooooooo

Roses are Red

Violets are Blue

To those of you who joined our Post

It was sooo good to see you

Till next month, CHOI

Quartermaster Report

By Mike Winner

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Statement of funds as of 8/13/19:

| | |
|-------------------|-------------|
| Post General Fund | \$9,732.92 |
| Post Relief Fund | \$3,331.69 |
| TOTAL: | \$13,064.61 |

Semper Fidelis!

Hospital Chairman Report

By Walt Bergenthal

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On Aug. 31, a pizza party at the Home Run Inn in Darien was held for seven residential care facility patients from Hines Hospital.

Bruce Harken made the party arrangements. Many thanks to the Keith Watson family of Western Springs, who sponsored the outing. Son Max Watson helps us out occasionally with bingo.

Halloween Fun

Why do we trick-or-treat?

In the mid-19th century, Irish immigrants to North America brought with them the Gaelic celebration of All Hallows' Eve, replete with trick playing and fortune telling.

Lisa Morton, author of *Trick or Treat: A History of Halloween*, says that back then, the pranks were pretty mild.

“Shop signs were switched, gates disassembled, and flour-filled socks were flung at those wearing black coats,” Morton says.

Over time, the mischief evolved into straight-up vandalism, and people often awoke on Nov. 1 to broken windows or blazing fires.

At the height of the Great Depression, some cities even considered banning the holiday. But a few, like Chicago, had a better idea – to busy the idle hands of potential troublemakers with festivities and encourage homeowners to do the same.

Because money was scarce, families often held “house-to-house parties,” which kept the children moving door to door for a different entertainment or a treat. Thus modern trick-or-treating was born!

Top 10 Halloween Candy in 2018

1. Skittles
2. M&Ms
3. Snickers
4. Reese's Cups
5. Starburst
6. Candy Corn
7. Hot Tamales
8. Hershey's
9. Tootsie Pops
10. Jolly Ranchers

Sources: Real Simple Magazine and Radio.com