

VFW



VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS

MONTGOMERY MEMORIAL POST 7452

Reoccurring & Post Events to Remember

- **Post Meeting:** 3rd Wednesday of Month @ 7pm
- **Ladies Aux Meeting:** 1st Wednesday of Month @ 7pm
- **Fish Fry:** Every Friday Evening 5pm to 8pm
- **All You Can Eat Breakfast:** 1st Saturday of Month February & March
- **Lunch:** Served Daily Monday Thru Friday 11am to 2pm
- **Memorial Day Services:** Monday May 31st | 11am | Riverside Cemetery

The Commander's Report - John Behnke

I hope everyone had a joyous holidays and enjoyed their families. As we enter the doldrums of winter, activities at the Post tend to slow down. The children's Halloween and Christmas parties both were a great success and enjoyed by many. I would like to personally thank Brook and Rob Bailey and the Ladies Auxiliary for their efforts putting together the children programs. At this time I also want to personally thank all of the volunteers who helped during the 2014 and made all the Post events possible. Without their support events would not have happened. I will not attempt to name all of you individually as you know who you are....again a really BIG THANK YOU!!!

Now moving into 2015 the Post does have some upcoming events that might

interest the membership:

On Monday and Tuesday Nights there is bingo at 7pm: Lightening on Thursdays evening starting at 7pm: Super Bowl Party during the big game (Sorry the Bears are not in the big game): February 14th is the annual smelt fry and spaghetti luncheon (For those like me who don't eat fish bait, let the eagles have the smelt:). March 14th is the annual corn beef and cabbage luncheon which many people look forward to. The first Saturday of the month February thru March is All You Can Eat Breakfast from 8am to 10am (\$7 per adult).

During April's Post meeting we hold the first round of nominations for Officers of the Post for the upcoming 2015-2016 session. During May's Post meeting we hold the final round of nominations followed by elections.

If you are not pleased with how the Post is being run, then come to the Post meeting, nominate the person of your choice and vote in the elections...If you do not take part in the process, then you have no right to complain about it later.

Subject to change, Poppy days will be held on May 15th and 16th. We hope to have the following stores; 7 Eleven, Jewel, Walmart and Sam's Club. Each store will have three two hour shifts, which require a number of volunteers to staff. If you can volunteer two hours there will be sign up sheets on the Post bulletin Board. Come down and sign up. The money raised goes to Veteran programs, so you can see how important this event is. At the end of May the Post holds its annual Memorial Day Ceremony at Riverside Cemetery to

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Post Events To Remember

- **Super Bowl Party:** Sunday Feb. 1st 4pm
- **Smelt Fry & Spaghetti Luncheon:** Saturday Feb. 14th | 12pm to 4pm
- **Corn Beef & Cabbage Luncheon:** Saturday March 14th | 12pm to 4pm
- **Post Nominations:** Wednesday April 15th | 7pm
- **Buddy Poppy Days:** May 15th & 16th | 9am—3pm
- **Post Nominations & Elections:** Wednesday May 18th | 7pm

Commander Report Continued - John Behnke

Honor Veteran's who lost their life while defending and restoring freedom around the globe. Proof of this is all the American military cemeteries scattered around the world where American service members are still resting from the Revolutionary War to Present day. To those still in harms way, keep them in your prayers so that they all return safe.

Sincerely,
John Behnke
Commander

Sr. Vice Commander Report - Timothy "J" Juliett

I hope 2014 was a great year for you and yours. I'll start the 2015 calendar year by speaking to you about what I believe are the three most important asset's of any Post .

Number one on the list is a Post's membership. Without membership there is no Post. Without membership, the many benefits described by our Quartermaster in this newsletter could not have happened, nor will they happen. Higher membership roles equates to a louder voice on Capital Hill to obtain more benefits for veterans. It is imperative that we maintain high membership roles.

Number two on the list is the VFW Programs and Projects. The programs and projects below allow veterans to; help fellow veterans, give back to their local communities and create a positive image for the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

Scholarship Programs:

Voice of Democracy
Patriots Pen
Scout of the Year

Educational Outreach:

Echoes from the Wall
Educational Brochures
Veterans in the Classroom
Teacher of the Year Award

Youth Activities:

Locally, VFW Posts sponsor various youth sporting programs such as baseball and ice hockey teams. In addition many VFW Posts sponsor Boy/Girl Scout Troops and hold a variety of other youth oriented programs to build good citizenship and exemplary character in America's youth.

Community Volunteerism:

8.6 million volunteer hours to various community endeavors.

Veterans Affairs Voluntary Service
March of Dimes

Troop Support:

Military Assistance Program (MAP)

Adopt-A-Unit
Care Packages
VFW Operation Uplink

These programs/projects, along with many others, assist the VFW in fulfilling its mission to "Honor the Dead by Serving the Living".

Number three on the list is a Post's IMAGE. In communities across this country SUCCESSFUL VFW Posts have a positive Image within their local community. This positive Image was garnered by conducting programs/projects in the community. By having a positive image in the community these successful Posts have grown their membership, ultimately allowing a louder voice on Capital Hill to garner well deserved benefits for all veterans.

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College Scholarships

The VFW and one of its major supporters, Sport Clips Haircuts, have again partnered to help our veterans and their families. The VFW's "Sport Clips Help A Hero Scholarship" will provide service members and veterans with the financial assistance they need to complete their educational goals without incurring excessive student loan debt. It's just another way to say "thank you" to those who deserve it the most. You can visit <http://www.vfw.org/Scholarship/> to read more about the scholarship program and to apply.

Sr. Vice Commander Continued: Timothy J. Juliett

These three assets: (Membership, Programs/Projects and Image) are imperative to having and maintaining a successful VFW Post. Each member of our Post can assist in having and maintaining a successful post by first an foremost ensuring your membership is current, Volunteering time, if you can, to any of our many projects/programs and ultimately creating a positive image for our post within the community.

Sincerely,
Timothy J. Juliett
Sr. Vice Commander

Jr. Vice Commander: Matt Woods

I hope everyone was able to enjoy the outdoors this summer and get plenty of fun in the sun. Unfortunately winter is upon us once again. We can only hope it is not a severe as last winter.

The good news is with the colder months comes indoor activities, breakfast first Saturday of the month, Bingo on Monday and Tuesday's sales starting at 5:30, fish fry every Friday from 5-8, Smelt Fry and Corned beef and cabbage. I am hoping to start up a bean bag tournament and a poker tournament starting in January. Any one who can help with any of these activities would be greatly appreciated. Any ideas please let us know

Thank you for all the support, effort and time

Matt Woods
Jr. Vice Commander

POST EVENTS TO REMEMBER

January 2015 - June 2015

Date	Time	Event
1st Wednesday	6pm	Ladies Auxiliary Meeting
3rd Wednesday	7pm	Monthly Membership Meeting
1st Saturday	8am to 10am	Breakfast Buffet thru March
Monday's	5:30pm	Bingo Begins Monday Sept. 8th
Tuesday's	5:30pm	Bingo Begins Tuesday Sept. 9th
Thursday's	7pm	Lightening
Friday's	5pm to 8pm	Fish Fry
Monday - Friday	11am to 2pm	Lunch is Served in Lounge
Sun. Feb. 1st	5pm to ??	Superbowl Party
Sat. Feb. 14th	12pm to 4pm	Smelt Fry & Spaghetti Luncheon
Sat. Mar. 14th	12pm to 4pm	Corn Beef & Cabbage Luncheon
Wed. April 15th	7pm	Post Nominations
May 15th & 16th	9am - 3pm	Buddy Poppy Days
Wed. May, 18th	7pm	Post Nominations & Elections
Monday May 31st	11am	Memorial Day: Riverside Cemetery

MONTGOMERY MEMORIAL POST 7452

Patriotic

Dates & Battles

- Battle of Ban Houei Sane Begins: Jan. 23, 1968
- Battle of Khe Sanh Begins: Jan 21, 1968
- Battle of Khafji Begins: Jan. 29th, 1991



- Gulf War Ground War Begins: Feb. 24, 1991



Quartermaster Report: Bill Regan

VFW members share the camaraderie you enjoyed in the military. We've all been deployed to foreign war zones and/or where UN troops maintained global peace including Egypt, Kosovo and Bosnia. We've put our lives on the line defending freedom. Our families know the hardships of deployments. We understand what you want in a veterans service organization: camaraderie, strong support and effective advocacy. We're committed to serving our state and nation through the VFW's mission—"Honor the Dead by Serving the Living"—out of respect for those who went before us into harm's way.

Our strength comes from you—veterans of wars ranging back to World War I and II, Korea, through the Vietnam War and Operations Desert Storm/ Shield, and through Operations Enduring Freedom, Iraqi Freedom and New Dawn, plus many smaller military operations in between. Your membership enables the VFW to do good things for great people particularly veterans, their families, our troops and their communities. Our ability to improve lives grows with each new membership and when current members renew. Here is what the VFW has done for you on the Hill.

1917 War Risk Insurance Act Amendments

1918 Vocational Rehabilitation Act (P.L. 178)

1919 Census Act Rider on Veterans Preference Discharge Allowance

1920 Widows & Orphans Pension Act (Spanish-American War)

1921 Veterans Bureau Act

1923 Veterans Preference Point System

1924 House Veterans Affairs Committee

World War Veterans Act

World War Adjusted Compensation Act

1925 Senate Subcommittee on Veterans Affairs

1926 Spanish-American War benefits

New Johnson Act (WWI benefits)

1930 Veterans Administration (VA)

World War Service Disability Pension Act (P.L. 522)

1931 Bacharach Amendment (P.L. 743) allows borrowing on

WWI bonus certificates

1933 Wagner-Peyser Act: Veterans Employment Service

1934 Pension for widows of WWI vets

1936 Bonus bonds (\$2.4 billion) to WWI vets redeemable

1938 Armistice Day (Nov. 11) legal holiday

1940 Philippine Travel Pay Bill

National Service Life Insurance

Selective Service & Training Act

1943 Benefits to WWII veterans (P.L. 10)

Disabled Veterans Rehabilitation Act

1944 GI Bill of Rights (P.L. 346)

Veterans Preference Act

1946 Veteran Emergency Housing Act

1947 Bureau of Veterans Re-employment Rights (BVRR)

1950 Vocational Rehabilitation Act

1951 Servicemen's Indemnity & Insurance

1952 Veterans Readjustment Assistance Act (Korean War GI Bill)

1954 Veterans Compensation Act

Nov. 11 as Veterans Day (P.L. 380)

1962 Veterans Benefits Act (Cold War GI Bill)

1966 Veterans Readjustment Benefits Act (P.L. 89-358)

(Vietnam War GI Bill)

1970 Senate Veterans Affairs Committee

1972 Vietnam Era Veterans Readjustment Assistance Act

1973 Federal court agrees veterans preference applies to state jobs

1974 Vietnam Era Veterans Readjustment Assistance

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Patriotic

Dates & Battles

- Battle of Iwo Jima Begins: 19 Feb. 1945



- Battle of Manila: 3 Feb. 1945
- Battle of El Guettar Begins: 23 Mar. 1943
- First Battle of Fellujah Begins: 4 Apr. 2004



- Spring Offensive in Italy Begins: 6 Apr. 1945

Quartermaster Report Continued: Bill Regan

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| 1976 Veterans Education & Employment Assistance Act | Veterans Compensation Act | Reed outpatient debacle |
| 1977 Post-Vietnam Era Veterans Educational Assistance Act | Department of Veterans Affairs Act | 2008 Record VA discretionary budget approved |
| 1978 Veterans preference preserved | Veterans Judicial Review Act | GI Bill for the 21st Century signed into law |
| Veterans & Survivors Pension Improvement Act | Veterans Benefits & Improvement Act | 2009 Advanced Appropriations for VA becomes law |
| Veterans Day returned to Nov. 11 | 1989 VA becomes a Cabinet department | 2010 Family Caregiver Legislation signed into law |
| 1979 First joint meeting of House/Senate Veterans Affairs committees | Court of Veterans Appeals | Ensured all VA and DOD health care programs were recognized as |
| Vietnam Veterans Outreach Program (creates Vet Centers) | 1990 Agent Orange service-connection | meeting minimum coverage standards under national health care law |
| 1980 VFW calls for Agent Orange study | 1991 Agent Orange Act (P.L. 102-4) | 2011 VOW to Hire Heroes Act |
| Veterans Rehabilitation & Education Amendments | Persian Gulf War Veterans Assistance Act (P.L. 102-25) | VFW stopped TRICARE premiums from increasing annually |
| 1981 Former POW Benefits Act | Veterans Benefits Improvement Act (P.L. 102-86) | 2012 Honoring America's Veterans and Caring for Camp Lejeune Families Act |
| Veterans Health Care, Training & Small Business Loan Act | 1992 Veterans Health-Care Act | Extended USERRA protections to veterans working for TSA |
| 1982 Veterans Employment and Training Service (VETS) | 1996 Veterans Health-Care Eligibility Reform Act | 2013 Reinstated Tuition Assistance Programs |
| Vietnam Veterans Memorial dedicated | 1999 Veterans Millennium Health-Care and Benefits Act | Stolen Valor Act Passed |
| 1983 Emergency Veterans Job-Training Act | 2003 Concurrent receipt for military retirees rated 50% disabled or more (P.L. 108-136) | Stopped Creation of Distinguished Warfare Medal (Drone Medal) |
| 1984 Montgomery GI Bill | 2004 Full concurrent receipt for military retirees rated 100% disabled (P.L. 108-375) | PLEASE PAY YOUR DUES SO WE CAN CONTINUE THE FIGHT |
| Veterans Dioxin & Radiation Exposure Compensation Standards Act (P.L. 98-542): Agent Orange & Atomic Exposure | 2005 Traumatic Injury Insurance supplemental created | Yours in Comradeship |
| 1987 New GI Bill Continuation Act | 2006 Protestors banned from military funerals | Bill Regan |
| 1988 Radiation-Exposed | 2007 VFW calls for VA/military healthcare system review after Walter | Quartermaster |

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VFW National Home

The VFW National Home for Children serves as a living memorial to America's veterans by helping our nation's veteran and military families during difficult times. The VFW National Home for Children was founded in 1925 as a place where the families left behind by war -- mothers and children, brothers and sisters -- could remain together, keeping the family circle intact even when their serviceman didn't come home.

Today's families face different challenges -- reintegration, post-traumatic stress, high unemployment and rehabilitation from battlefield injuries, among others -- and the National Home has evolved over our decades-long history to meet those changing needs.

Whether we help a family find strength and support close to home through our Helpline, or they become part of our campus community, military and veteran families can count on the VFW National Home for Children to help them build better lives together.

Special Announcements

Lifetime Membership Special:

Until March 31st, 2015 the post is offering a \$50 reduction if you upgrade your membership from an Annual to a Lifetime. This offer is only good for current members of the Post. Example: If your age attained on Dec. 31st is 41-50, the Lifetime Membership fee would be reduced to \$325 from \$375.

Men's Auxiliary to VFW Post 7452 Being Formed:

Several meetings ago a motion was made and passed to begin the process of forming a Men's Auxiliary to our Post. Eligibility to join is set forth by Article XIII Sec. 1302 of our the VFW By-Laws.

It States: Membership in the Men's Auxiliary to the Veterans of Foreign Wars shall be limited to husbands, widowers, fathers, grandfathers, sons, grandsons, brothers and half brothers who attained that status prior to age sixteen (16) of persons who were or are eligible for membership in the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States. Members must not be less than sixteen (16) years old. Persons eligible for membership in the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United

States shall not be eligible for membership in the Men's Auxiliary.

A Men's Auxiliary is a separate entity that is allowed to be formed under the VFW National Charter and By-Laws. A Men's Auxiliary would operate in much the same way/capacity that our current Ladies Auxiliary does. A Men's Auxiliary has its own By-Laws, Chain of Command and can hold various events to assist veterans.

However, Per Article XIII Sec.1303 of the VFW By-Laws it states: The By-Laws adopted by any such Auxiliary shall not conflict with the Congressional Charter, By-Laws, Manual of Procedure, Ritual, or laws and usage of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States or Department. Such By-Laws shall conform to the rules prescribed by the respective Department and Post.

Having a Men's Auxiliary to the VFW is advantageous to the longevity of our post. If someone you know is eligible to join per the previously stated rules, please contact Comrade Al Yankel or any of the Post Officers.

Home and Email Address Update:

Please ensure you keep your home and email address up to date with the Post. Any member can accomplish this by registering for a login/password on the VFW National website at <http://www.vfw.org>. Once logged in you can change this information. This information being correct is vital to your Post contacting you about events, delivering this newsletter and much more! Or you can call the post and leave your information with the Quartermaster.

Friday Night Fish Fry Specials During Lent:

In observance of Lent, the post will be having specials on fish and shrimp dinners beginning Friday February 20th thru Friday March 27th. Friday night fish fry's are held from 5pm to 8pm.

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VFW National

Military Service

VFW National Military Services (NMS) offers support and assistance to the military community in many different ways through its four programs, Operation Uplink™, Military Assistance Program, Unmet Needs and the VFW "Sport Clips Help A Hero Scholarship" program. Whether it's helping service members and their families through long deployments or cope with rough financial times, NMS programs put our military families first. From providing free phone time and financial assistance to farewell and welcome home ceremonies and college scholarships, the NMS department is here supporting our troops day in and day out. Some say they've got your back. We prove it. The VFW NMS programs are funded solely by the generosity of our donors.

Ladies Auxiliary President: Vickie Wiedert

Amazing!! The Holidays are here and gone already! Our year 2014 has been speeding by!

So much going on! Our Bingo sessions have kept SEVERAL of us on our toes. The extra help we have been blessed with has had a positive impact on our restructured Bingo. Thank you Ladies!

The Halloween and Christmas parties were a great success. For Christmas we had a generous donation from Kohl's Dept. Stores of stuffed animals and books. We also received generous donations from our MBA & MVA for both parties as well. Our Ladies Auxiliary would like to extend our heartfelt thanks for all your support. With Santa, hot dogs, candy bags and gifts, the kids' had a great Christmas at the VFW.

Another project, headed by

Carol Graf, had the kids filling stockings and wrapping presents for our local Hope for Tomorrow veterans. Generous donations of clothes, personal items and money were also taken to the home on Lake St. The Ladies Auxiliary extends deep gratitude to all that contributed and supported that program.

The New Year will fly by with preparations for our Smelt Fry & bake sale in February.

Corn beef & cabbage, with bake sale also, will be in March. Please check this news letter for the calendar of events for other VFW activities for the up coming months.

In April we will hold our annual elections for officers. Renewed interest in our Auxiliary has brought about more active participation in our activities and our meetings.

We are looking up for a prosperous year.

This past year has been sorrowful with the passing of so many "Sisters". To the families of Teresa Secor, Margaret Preston, Matilda Metz, Norine Gore, Sue Ward, Ruby Shore, Millie Vanderhoff and Loretta Gates we express sincere sympathies and prayers. Also, to Patsy Hornburg for the loss of her husband. We wish all of you peace and comfort.

We wish Happy Birthday, Happy Anniversary to those celebrating in the next few months. As always, keep your Veterans in your prayers and your flags flying.

Sincerely, Vickie Weidert
President

Legislative News

Veterans' Compensation Cost-of-Living Adjustment Act of 2014:

S.2258 was introduced on April 28th, 2014. The Bill became Pub.L. 113-181 on September 26th, 2014 and became effective as of December 1st, 2014.

This was a bill to provide for an increase in the rates of compensation for veterans with service-connected disabilities and the rates of dependency and indemnity compensation for the survivors of certain disabled veterans, and for other purposes.

VFW ACTION CORPS VICTORIES:

Ongoing: Continuing to press the Senate on passage of S. 1982, a comprehensive veterans' benefits bill that includes expansion of caregiver programs, improved mental health programs, and in-state tuition. To date, the VFW Action Corps has sent 10,000 messages to every Senate office.

August 2014: Pushed Congress to pass the compromised *Veterans Access, Choice and Accountability Act of*

2014 which will provide necessary resources, reduce appointment waiting times, and provide veterans timely access to quality VA health care.

January 2014: Repealed reductions in cost-of-living adjustments for military retirees after generating more than 30,000 emails and countless phone calls to every Congressional office on Capitol Hill.

MONTGOMERY MEMORIAL POST 7452

**Veterans of Foreign Wars Montgomery
Memorial Post 7452**

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Montgomery, IL 60538

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Newsletter: newsletter@vfw7452.org

Membership: membership@vfw7452.org

Website: <https://www.vfw7452.org>

Facebook:

<http://www.facebook.com/vfw7452>

The Montgomery Memorial Post 7452 was chartered on May 25th, 1946 by returning World War II Veterans. The post is located at 121 N. River Street in Montgomery, Il right along the Fox River.

We welcome inquiries about membership, donations, volunteer services, veterans benefits, community programs, special events and support activities.

COMMITTED TO HELPING OUR COMRADES AND COMMUNITY!

National Veteran's of Foreign Wars

The V.F.W traces its roots back to 1899 when veterans of the Spanish-American War (1898) and the Philippine Insurrection (1899-1902) founded local organizations to secure rights and benefits for their service: Many arrived home wounded or sick. There was no medical care or veterans' pension for them, and they were left to care for themselves.

In their misery, some of these veterans banded together and formed organizations with what would become known as the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States. After chapters were formed in Ohio, Colorado and Pennsylvania, the movement quickly gained momentum. By 1915, member-

ship grew to 5,000; by 1936, membership was almost 200,000.

Since then, the V.F.W's voice had been instrumental in establishing the Veterans Administration, creating a GI bill for the 20th century, the development of the national cemetery system and the fight for compensation for Vietnam vets exposed to Agent Orange and for veterans diagnosed with Gulf War Syndrome. In 2008, V.F.W won a long-fought victory with the passing of a GI Bill for the 21st Century, giving expanded educational benefits to America's active-duty service members, and members of the Guard and Reserves, fighting in Iraq and Afghanistan.

The V.F.W also has fought for improving VA medical centers services for women veterans.

Besides helping fund the creation of the Vietnam, Korean War, World War II and Women in

Military Service memorials, the V.F.W in 2005 became the first veterans' organization to contribute to building the new Disabled Veterans for Life Memorial, which opened in November, 2010.

Annually, the 2.1 million members of the V.F.W and its Auxiliary contribute more than 11 million hours of volunteerism in the community, including participation in Make A Difference Day and National Volun-

teer Week.

From providing \$2.5 million in college scholarships and savings bonds to students every year, to encouraging elevation of the Department of Veterans Affairs to the president's cabinet, the V.F.W is there.

