

# VFW POST 7692

Freedom, Wisconsin

September 2017



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FOR ALL THE LATEST POST NEWS  
AND A CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

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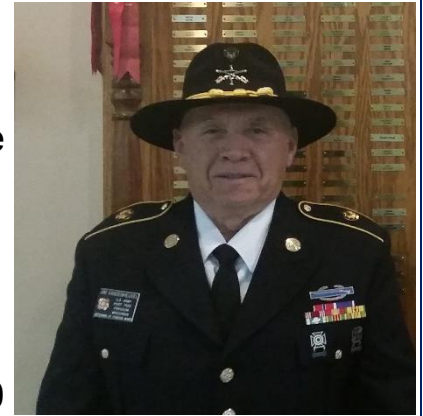
And much more....

Meetings are held the  
3rd Monday of every  
month at 7:00pm

Address:  
WI-55 N3920  
Freedom, Wisconsin  
54130-7520

## **GREETINGS FROM THE COMMANDER**

Comrades – Well, summer is winding down and fall is on its way. We have been very busy this summer with everything we had going with our VFW Post activities and hopefully our hectic pace will slow down somewhat.



I want to thank all of our members who participated in all the events we had going – our Memorial Day weekend observance, the Appleton Flag parade, the Oshkosh Truck 100 year anniversary parade, the Seymour Hamburger Fest parade, and the buddy poppy hand out nights at the Mackville Tractor pull and the WIR veteran's night. A special thank you to Denny Peters, Clyde Baumgart, Rob Bonack and Rick Weyenberg (driving the Lamers coach provided by Lamers Bus lines to the parade and back home to Freedom). I think that all those who attended the Oshkosh parade were humbled and grateful to the crowds along the parade route for their continuous applause and thanks for our service – it was awesome!

Congratulations to John Van Rossum (Freedom Middle School) for winning the VFW honorable middle school teacher national award which will be awarded to him sometime in September.

Upcoming events will be a buddy poppy hand out at the September 24 Packer game against the Bengals – hoping for a great turnout to make it a successful event.

Freedom Middle School will be presenting their annual Veterans Day observance to our Freedom veterans on Friday, November 10th. Details on page 5 of this newsletter.

I think the Post has accomplished a lot this year and hopefully increased our presence in the community and surrounding area. It is YOU, my comrades, who have made this happen. Thanks to all off you!

James Van Den Heuvel, Commander

# VFW AUXILIARY PRESIDENT GREETINGS



*Dear Auxiliary Sisters,*

*Are YOU ready for some Fall and Winter activities, flag facts and festive parties? You can take part by just being a member of the VFW and auxiliary or if you want to participate - NOW IS THE TIME TO JOIN! Membership is always important to the success of every organization. Contact our membership chairman - Judy Smits @920-788-6815 if you have any questions or concerns. You won't want to miss out on anything so keep the enclosed "Calendar of Events" handy - put together for your convenience by Cathy Vander Logt. I am looking forward to the upcoming events and my thanks goes out to the ladies that have supported the veterans of our post by attending the summer parades and activities.*

*Barbara Van Wychen, President*

## **President**

Barb Van  
Wychen

## **Sr. Vice President**

Joyce Konkel

## **Jr. Vice President**

Jen Bonack

## **Treasurer**

Judy Smits

## **Secretary**

Cathy Vander  
Logt

## **Chaplain**

Shirley  
Swiecichowski

## **Patriotic Instructor**

Jen Bonack

## **RECAPPING JUNE, JULY, AUGUST AUXILIARY MEETINGS**

With 13 sisters in attendance, President Van Wychen brought the June meeting to order. Treasurer Smits read the treasurer's report and the bills were presented.

There was no July meeting as the VFW and Auxiliary held a cookout on July 17.

President Van Wychen brought the August meeting to order with 16 sisters present. Upon reviewing the treasurer's report on available funds, bills were presented. A donation will be made to the Freedom Middle School Band for \$100. \$50 will be given to the Emergency Disaster Fund, Lillian Campbell Scholarship, Frank Brown Scholarship, Patriots Pen, and Voice of Democracy.

## **VFW AND AUXILIARY DISTRICT 8 FALL MEETING-**

The VFW and Auxiliary District 8 Fall Meeting was held on Saturday September 30, 2017 at the Radisson in Green Bay. Lorraine Uitenbroek and Lone Powell were remembered. VFW Post 7692 was represented by Commander James Van Den Heuvel, Mike Farrell, and 8th District/Post Scouting Chairman Henry Mckenna along with Auxiliary Treasurer Judy Smits, Secretary Cathy Vander Logt, and Auxiliary Sister Barb Hass. Remember these district meetings are open to all auxiliary sisters – not just officers. If you plan on attending, we would appreciate you contacting an officer.

## **APPLETON FLAG DAY PARADE**

Post comrades and auxiliary sisters participated in the annual parade Saturday, June 10 – this year honored the United States Coast Guard.

## **HAMBURGER FEST PARADE**

The VFW and Auxiliary participated in the annual Seymour parade on Saturday, August 12.

## **OSHKOSH DEFENSE PARADE**

I recently had the privilege of joining the following auxiliary sisters attending the Oshkosh Truck parade (and a few who joined us who are not auxiliary members). Members included Shirley Swiecichowski, Linda Halase, Carol Farrell, Diane Wiegand, Jen Bonack, Jeanne Forbeck, Sue Calmes, Vicki Vosters, Joanne Stein and Janice Farrell. Freedom Post 7692 color guard were honored to lead the 100<sup>th</sup> year anniversary of Oshkosh Truck, Inc. parade. What an unexpected response from the spectators that were in attendance. Applause greeted everyone throughout the parade – from beginning to end. Salutes were given by other veterans in attendance, it brought tears to your eyes! Thank you goes out to all that took part and to Lamers for donating the use of a coach bus along with VFW comrade/bus driver Rick Weyenberg to transport all members to Oshkosh and back to Freedom. *-Barb Van Wychen*

## **HANDING OUT A POPPY**

The Mackville Tractor Pull found Comrade Clyde Baumgart gathering a group of Post comrades and again distributing those beautiful little red poppies – a little over \$2500 was deposited into the Relief Fund. The WIR Veterans Night found comrades again distributing poppies at the race track and \$825 was deposited to the Relief Fund. A group of VFW members also handed out poppies at the September 24 Packer game.

## **RUMMAGE SALE**

Under the guidance of co-chairmen Kaye Springstroh, Diane Wiegand and Jeanne Forbeck, the rummage sale held in May was a HUGE success! I had planned on listing all who assisted – the pre planning, the collecting, the setting up, the taking down, the clean-up, all the behind the scenes stuff that is involved along with working on the sales those days – I knew I would miss someone. So I'm saying a special thank you to each and every one of you who made the sale such a success – over \$3,000 was collected and will be used in our veteran's assistance programs along with the Old Glory Honor Flight program. *-Judy Smits*

## **2017 RAFFLE WINNER**

The 2017 \$10,000 raffle winner came all the way from Newton, WI for her check this year. Needless to say it was probably the longest 1 ½ hr. drive Karen Kramer ever made but when she walked into the clubhouse door, the tears of happiness could not be contained...and we shed a few with her. Will 2018 be your lucky year – remember you have to buy a ticket to have a chance to stand in that winning circle!

### **VFW RAFFLE CALENDARS**

VFW raffle calendars are again available at \$20.00 and they make great Christmas presents. I also know that our Post had some winners in there this year – yep, one of those was me – and there was a big smile on my face carrying that check all the way from the mailbox to the back door. See a VFW officer if you are interested in purchasing a calendar!

### **MORE ASSISTANCE**

If we do not have the correct size wheelchair or walker at our clubhouse as our sizes are also somewhat limited – please do not hesitate to contact the Larsen-Winchester Lions Club (920-427-3244 – Tuesday only - 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and 6 to 7 p.m.) for a special size. These item are lent out at no charge and they only ask that you return them when you no longer need them.

### **FLAG DISPOSAL**

Flags will be disposed of on Saturday, October 21, 2017 at 9:30 a.m. Flags have been collected since last October. Join us afterward in the clubhouse for fellowship, cookies and coffee/hot chocolate.

### **VETERANS DAY PROGRAM AT FREEDOM MIDDLE SCHOOL**

You are invited to the Veterans Day Program at Freedom Middle School on Friday, November 10, 2017. Lunch will be in the cafeteria at 11:45am and the Program begins at 12:45pm in the field house. If you would like to attend **please RSVP to the Freedom Middle School Office at 920-788-7945 on or before November 6, 2017.**

### **VETERAN'S DAY PARTY**

Don't forget to mark your calendar for Saturday, November 11<sup>th</sup> for our annual Veteran's Day Party. Open bar at 5 p.m. – Dinner at 6 p.m. - Don't forget to bring a dish to pass! Calories will be left at the door!

### **GOLDEN AGERS DINNER**

Golden Agers Christmas Dinner – Auxiliary Present Van Wychen is in charge and any questions should be directly to her at 920-766-9247 or 920-676-1727. Again we will need salads and desserts. **FREEDOM RESIDENTS ATTENDING LAST YEAR'S DINNER ASK THAT WE SERVE AT NOON RATHER THAN LATE AFTERNOON.** We will keep you informed.

### **VETERANS CHRISTMAS PARTY**

The annual Veterans Christmas party has a few things being planned and hopefully your calendar has December 9 circled as reserved. Remember – bar opens at 12 noon – we eat at 1 p.m. (Don't forget to bring a dish to pass!)

### **THANK YOU**

Thank you to Lori Dallman for delivering a case of paper to the Auxiliary.

### **REMEMBERING OUR DECEASED VETERANS**

With special recognition to all who took the time to place a U.S. flag on the graves of all of our deceased veterans at the cemeteries of Town of Freedom, St. Peter/Community, St. Edwards – Mackville, Freedom Moravian, St. Nicholas – Freedom and Immaculate Conception – Oneida and then going out on Friday and placing a rose (over 400 roses were given to us by Agropur (make sure the next time you stop in at Simon's Cheese - say THANKS!) on every one of those veteran graves. During the graveside recognitions that were done by the post on Saturday morning, the flags waving in the breeze, the roses "standing" proudly alongside those flags, the 21-gun salute shattering the quiet of the countryside, the reciting of prayers...and Taps! (It is an extremely emotional period and may God bless each and every one of these men (and women) who made the freedom we have today possible to hold these observances and may God continue to BLESS THE U.S.A.

### **MILITARY FUNERAL HONORS**

Expressions of sympathy were extended to our auxiliary sister Judy Vande Wattering and her family when the Post was able to perform the military funeral honors in the passing of her father, a WWII veteran – Arthur Schroeder.

The Post was called upon to perform "double honors" for the family of Elizabeth and her husband Roland Pronto, Sr. Roland had passed away a number of years ago but cremains had been held until she passed. (Special note – Elizabeth's mother got lost on the way to the cemetery and the Post was willing to delay the

service a half hour – the family forever thankful of the Post’s thoughtfulness.) To our comrades – “Rest in peace good and faithful servants – and thank you for your years of service.”

In closing, a short note about this newsletter’s delay, there were some work and family issues that have come up which forced the newsletter to be a couple of weeks later than usual. If we have any members who would like to share in the fun of putting together a newsletter please let us know!

As usual, our Sunshine Ladies are busy sending out get-well wishes, thinking of you and sympathy cards along with attending funerals. May each of you find peace in the thoughts and prayers being extended to you.

And may the Lord continue to bless our service men and women who are in harm’s way that they may return safely. With the changing of colors, we are reminded of the fact that soon it will be Halloween, then Thanksgiving and following not far behind – CHRISTMAS and a Happy New Year 2018!

See you in January! *Judy* (as of September 1, 2017)

## “ENSURING RIGHTS, RECOGNITION & REMEMBRANCE”

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS (October, 2017 – January, 2018)

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| OCTOBER 14, 2017<br>(SATURDAY)                                | 48 STAR AMERICAN FLAG RETIREMENT<br>FREEDOM HISTORICAL SOCIETY                                     |
| OCTOBER 16, 2017<br>(MONDAY)                                  | VFW POST/AUX MONTHLY MEETING<br>7:00 PM @ VFW CLUBHOUSE  |
| OCTOBER 21, 2017<br>(SATURDAY)                                | VFW FLAG DISPOSAL<br>9:30 AM @ VFW CLUBHOUSE PARKING LOT   |
| NOV 8, 2017<br>(WEDNESDAY)                                    | VISIT TO COUNTRY VIEW ASSISTED LIVING FREEDOM<br>2:00 PM VFW & AUX MEMBERS WELCOME                 |
| NOV 10, 2017<br>(FRIDAY)                                      | VETERANS DAY PROGRAM 1:15 PM – 2:30 PM<br>FREEDOM MIDDLE SCHOOL LUNCH 11:45 AM – 1:00 PM           |
| NOV 11, 2017<br>(SATURDAY)                                    | VFW/AUX VETERANS DAY DINNER<br>5:00 PM SOCIAL 6:00 DINNER<br>BRING A DISH TO PASS                  |
| NOV 20, 2017<br>(MONDAY)                                      | VFW POST/AUX MONTHLY MEETING<br>7:00 PM @ VFW CLUBHOUSE  |
| DEC 2, 2017<br>(SATURDAY)                                     | FREEDOM CHRISTMAS PARADE/FREEDOM HIGH SCHOOL PARKING LOT<br>ARRIVE @ 6:00 PM STARTS @ 6:30 PM      |
| DEC 7, 2017<br>(THURSDAY)                                     | GOLDEN AGERS CHRISTMAS DINNER<br>12:30 MEAL SERVED<br>AUX MEMBERS BRING SALADS, JELLOS OR DESSERTS |
| DEC 9, 2017<br>(SATURDAY)                                     | VFW POST/AUX CHRISTMAS DINNER<br>12:00 NOON - SOCIAL 1:00 PM - DINNER<br>BRING A DISH TO PASS      |
| NO DECEMBER MEETING - MERRY CHRISTMAS & HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL |  |
| JAN 15, 2018<br>(MONDAY)                                      | VFW POST/AUX MONTHLY MEETING<br>7:00 PM @ VFW CLUBHOUSE  |
| JAN 27, 2018<br>(SATURDAY)                                    | 8 <sup>TH</sup> DISTRICT WINTER MEETING  |