

V.F.W. POST 7591



POST CHATTER

Madison, Wisconsin

POST CHATTER is published monthly by Post 7591, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Department of Wisconsin for the information and guidance of VFW members and the Auxiliary. The next meeting will be held January 11 at 7:00 p.m.

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Commander's Column

Greetings comrades,

I hope everyone had the best holiday season of 2023 that they could and are coming in strong into 2024. December was a rough month with our post losing a few members. I want to thank you all that came out to support their families.

During our December post meeting, our general manager announced that she would be leaving her position. If you know anyone who may be qualified or very close to being qualified, please have them look at our job position listed on our VFW post website for more information.

We absolutely need 1 or 2 post members that could step up as bingo supervisors one time per month. As well as we could always increase our pool of volunteers for bingo. It sounds like a lot, but Larry will be able to train anyone to do a good job and it would not be overly difficult for anyone.

We also need someone or maybe a team of 2 people to take over as brat fry coordinators. Especially because we need to begin scheduling for this summer.

I look forward to seeing you all at our January Post meeting.

Jason Boynton, Commander
jason613@gmail.com
319-504-1631



From the General Manager

December 2023 Wrap-Up:

I hope you all enjoyed the Holidays! We've been busy here in the canteen! Our annual Toys for Tots fundraiser was another success!! We were able to donate 28 overflowing boxes of toys, and a total of \$5,408.08 in monetary donations! From assistance with toy sorting, to collecting items for the raffle, taking or running food orders, etc. thank you to all who volunteered; your help is the reason why this fundraiser continues to be successful.

December 9th was jam packed with events. In addition to Toys for Tots, we also were a stop on the Ugly Sweater Pub Crawl, and watched the Army vs. Navy game.

Our Canteen partnered with Patron to host an Ugly Sweater party on December 16th, the perfect opportunity for us to bid farewell to Scott. Please help us wish him the best as he ventures to Virginia to begin his new job!

This was the first year we hosted our NYE toast at 6pm, and it may be our new tradition! Special thanks to Dave & Heather for sharing their talent with us as we celebrated the start of a new year.

January Events:

All of the following events are expected to be busy. If you're interested in how you can help in the canteen, please stop by the office or send me an email.

Wednesday, January 3rd - Badger Honor Flight Holiday Meeting

Monday, January 8th - House Committee Meeting (6:30pm)

Thursday, January 11th - Post & Auxiliary Meetings (7pm)

Monday, January 22nd - Customer Appreciation Meat Raffle (5:15pm)

Looking Ahead through 2024:

Monday, February 19th - LENA Neighborhood Meeting (5pm)

Thursday, February 15th - Lifeline Screening (see our website for details)

Sunday, February 25th - MGBMA raffle

Saturday, March 2nd - Warden's Association Banquet

Thursday, March 28th - Cottage Grove Chamber of Commerce & Monona East Side Business Alliance Job Fair

Friday, May 17th - VFW Golf Outing

Monday, May 27th - Memorial Day

Thursday, June 20th - Make Music Madison

Thursday, September 5th - MGBMA Raffle

Saturdays in October - Hmong New Year Harvest Celebrations

Saturday, November 9th - Jam 4 Cans

Saturday, November 16th - Lafollette All-Class Reunion

Saturday, November 30th - Auxiliary Craft Fair

Saturday, December 14th - Tentative date for Toys for Tots

Don't see your group's event? Please send me an email so the date can be added to future chatters.

General Canteen Updates:

Special thanks to Larry Moe for taking the lead on fixing the chairs in our main hall! Because of his dedication, we not only saved the surface of our newly waxed floor, but we also saved about 45 chairs from being discarded. This project alone likely saved us over \$2,000.

Greg S., our House Chair, has been hard at work getting our regular maintenance taken care of. He's facilitated training of the floor scrubber with a handful of people, and we're ready to spread that knowledge to any member who is interested in assisting with maintaining that space. Please see Greg if you'd like more information on how you can help keep the floor in the main hall looking new!

This month, Connor Jacobson, Cook for the Auxiliary Fish Fry as well as Bartender for the canteen, began assisting with scheduling music. If there are bands you'd like to see in our main hall or the stage in our front bar, please send him an email at VFWPost7591.EC@gmail.com, or send a private message to our Facebook or Instagram accounts.

Lastly, I have some bittersweet news to share with you:

My last day as your General Manager will be January 31st, 2024. I will be returning to The Black Bear Inn full time, with plans to purchase the business with my brother Dominick and his wife, Alicia, from our Father. I'm honestly not ready to leave the VFW, but I simply cannot pass

up the opportunity to partner with my brother and Alicia to carry on a business that our Grandfather started.

We've accomplished so much at 7591 in the past two years, and the team of employees, members, and volunteers, are the most outstanding group of humans I've had the honor to work with. I look forward to seeing all of you as a volunteer for 7591, and on the other side of the bar.

As you go about your daily life, please keep the management position in the back of your mind. Should you know of anyone who you think would be a good fit, please send them my way. I'm happy to sit down with them and share my experiences before they actually apply.

I'd like to thank my VFW family for the trust that you've instilled in me, for the lessons you've taught me, the friendships and memories we've created, and for the life experiences that you've shared with me. Because of you, I leave this position as a better person than who I was when I started.

As always, please feel free to call, email, or stop by with any questions or ideas. Wishing you all a Jubilant January, and looking forward to seeing you soon!

Kate DeRosa

General Manager - VFW Post 7591

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What is a Challenge Coin?

A challenge coin is a small, coin-like medallion or token that carries symbolic meaning, often used within military and other organizations. These coins are typically given to members of a group to signify membership or to commemorate special events or achievements. The tradition of challenge coins is deeply rooted in military culture, and they hold significant sentimental value for both current and former military personnel.

Here's a breakdown of the key aspects of challenge coins:

Origin and History:

The exact origin of challenge coins is debated, but their use is often traced back to World War I. The story goes that a wealthy officer in the U.S. Army had bronze medallions struck with the unit's emblem for distribution to his unit members. One of the recipients, a young pilot, kept the coin in a leather pouch around his neck. Later, he was captured by the enemy, who stripped him of all his belongings, except the small pouch. Eventually, he escaped and reached French lines, where his identity was confirmed by the coin, saving him from execution.

Design and Significance:

Challenge coins are usually custom-designed with sym-

bols, logos, mottos, or other distinctive elements representing the organization or event they commemorate. They vary in size, shape, and design. The design often includes elements that hold special meaning for the group, such as unit insignias, mottos, or symbols that represent the organization's values and mission.

Distribution and Presentation:

Challenge coins are often presented in a ceremonial manner. They can be given to individuals as a mark of appreciation for outstanding service, achievements, or as a token of camaraderie. In some cases, they are exchanged during a handshake or a "coin check" challenge.

Challenge Ritual:

The term "challenge coin" also refers to a tradition known as the "coin check." In this informal game, a member can initiate a coin check by holding up their coin and declaring a challenge. Others present must then produce their coins. If anyone fails to do so, they are typically required to buy a round of drinks or perform some other predetermined consequence.

Collector's Items:

Over time, challenge coins have become highly collectible items. Many military personnel and veterans take great pride in their coin collections, displaying them in special cases or shadow boxes. Some coins may become rare and valuable, especially those associated with historical events or elite units.

For both former and current military personnel, chal-

POST OFFICERS FOR 2023–2024

POST COMMANDER	Jason Boynton
SENIOR VICE COMMANDER	Dave Oates
JUNIOR VICE COMMANDER	Vacant
QUARTERMASTER	Jon Russell
JUDGE ADVOCATE	D.J. Klauser
CHAPLAIN	Darrel "AJ" Feucht
SURGEON	Vacant
TRUSTEE – 3 YEAR	Brian Bierman
TRUSTEE – 2 YEAR	James E. Ewing
TRUSTEE – 1 YEAR	Kerry McAllen
HOUSE COMMITTEE – 3 YEAR	Greg Seidlitz
HOUSE COMMITTEE – 3 YEAR	Scott Reigel
HOUSE COMMITTEE – 2 YEAR	Leigh Logan
HOUSE COMMITTEE – 2 YEAR	Gary Jugenheimer
HOUSE COMMITTEE – 1 YEAR	Darrel Feucht
HOUSE COMMITTEE – 1 YEAR	Andy Ausel
SERVICE OFFICER	Greg Seidlitz
ADJUTANT	Bob Madison

lenge coins serve as tangible reminders of shared experiences, unit camaraderie, and the pride associated with serving in a particular branch or unit. The coins often foster a sense of identity and connection among members of a military organization.

Gary Jugenheimer House Committee Member



VFW POST 7591	221-9326
MANAGER, KATE DEROSA	221-9326
HOUSE COMM. CHAIR, Greg Seidlitz	608-205-7469
QUARTERMASTER, JON RUSSELL	577-6149
COMMANDER, JASON BOYNTON	319-504-1631
CHAPLAIN, DARREL "AJ" FEUCHT	920-623-5625
COLOR GUARD / HONOR GUARD CAPT.,	VACANT
VETERANS FIRING SQUAD,	
JOSEPH M. LUSTGRAAF	249-2581
AUXILIARY PRESIDENT, SUZAN NAST	556-9237
AUXILIARY CHAPLAIN, DONNA BUTLER	695-0261
DANE COUNTY SERVICE OFFICE	266-4158
POST SERVICE OFFICER, GREG SEIDLITZ	920-350-1711



AUXILIARY OFFICERS FOR 2023–2024

PRESIDENT	Suzan Nast
SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT	Mitch Feucht
JUNIOR VICE PRESIDENT	Cindy Gonzagowski
CONDUCTOR	Chris Benson
TREASURER	Janet Kennedy
SECRETARY	Phyllis Bishop
CHAPLAIN	Donna Butler
GUARD	Fran Garcia
PATRIOTIC INSTRUCTOR	Susan Fineout
TRUSTEE – 1 YEAR	Nancy Smith
TRUSTEE – 2 YEAR	Karen Baumann
TRUSTEE – 3 YEAR	Janey Owens
HOUSE COMMITTEE – 1 YEAR	Linda Nellen
HOUSE COMMITTEE – 2 YEAR	Ann Gonzagowski



VFW 7591 CUSTOMER APPRECIATION

MONDAY JANUARY 22, 2024

MEAT & MONEY RAFFLE

Ticket sales 5:15-6:15

6 tix-\$5 or 35 tix-\$20

WINNERS ANNOUNCED 6:30

100% Payout



V.F.W. DAY POST 7591
 Dane County Service Officer
 608-221-9326

January 2024

301 Cottage Grove Road
 Friday Night Fish Fry 5:00–8:00 PM
 Tuesday Night Bingo 6:30 & 8:00 PM

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Front bar is open daily at 11am, and the kitchen is open daily from 11am-7pm (Tuesdays until 8:45pm, Thursdays until 7:45pm).	1	2 6:30PM & 8PM BINGO!	3 5PM BHF MEETING 6:30–9PM KARAOKE W/ JASON	4 5:30PM PREMIER TRIVIA 7PM COOTIE SCRATCH	5 5–8PM FISH FRY 8–11PM NO MUSIC	6
7	8 6:30PM HOUSE COMMITTEE MEETING	9 6:30PM & 8PM BINGO!	10 6:30–9PM MUSIC TBA	11 6–8PM PREMIER TRIVIA 7PM POST & AUXILIARY MTGS	12 5–8PM FISH FRY 8–11PM MARCY & THE HIGHLIGHTS	13
14 3–5:30PM EDDIE BIRTH	15	16 6:30PM & 8PM BINGO!	17 6:30–9PM MUSIC TBA	18 6–8PM PREMIER TRIVIA	19 5–8PM FISH FRY 7–10PM DAVE & HEATHER	20
21 3–6PM THE BUTCHER'S KID	22 5:15PM CUSTOMER APPRECIATION MEAT RAFFLE	23 6:30PM & 8PM BINGO!	24 6:30–9PM REMEMBER WITH RANDY	25 6–8PM PREMIER TRIVIA	26 5–8PM FISH FRY 8–11PM UNIVERSAL SOUND	27
28 3–6PM REMEMBER WITH RANDY	29	30 6:30PM & 8PM BINGO!	31 6:30–9PM REMEMBER WITH RANDY	PUBLIC WELCOME Big 10 and NFL Networks • Free Wi-Fi • ATM For Hall Rental information, please contact Kate, our General Manager at VFWPost7591.GM@gmail.com		