

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 March 14 at 7:00 p.m.

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Commander's Column

Greetings comrades,

March marks the anniversary of when Operation IRAQI FREEDOM began in 2003. The first air operation was on or about the 9th when leaflets were intended to keep civilians around Iraq safe and uninvolved. The ground operation began on the 20th, and I was personally part of the ground offensive. We faced little resistance in the open areas but did face resistance coming into numerous cities, especially Nasiriyah, Kut and Baghdad. While we had some combat-related injuries in my unit, our first loss was not combat related and was Wisconsin native Kurt Straseskie from Beaver Dam while attempting to save others when a helicopter crashed in a canal near his location.



March 29th is Vietnam Veterans Day. The American Legion has a great explanation as to why we celebrate on that day: March 29, 1973 is the day U.S. Military Assistance Command, Vietnam was disestablished, and the day the last U.S. combat troops departed Vietnam. Also on that day, Operation Homecoming was completed when the last of 591 U.S. prisoners were released and returned to the United States. Look for upcoming information honoring our Vietnam Veterans this month. I want to personally thank those Post members who have mentored others.

Spring is near and that means we can soon begin outdoor events comfortably. We will resume brat frys possibly as early as April. We will participate in the VFW Day of Service, which is set for May 4, which is also Kentucky Derby

day. I will be looking to schedule our adopt-a-highway and need 6 to 8 volunteers to make that happen. And if we can, also beautify our property as necessary and walk around homes in our community and offer to replace some tattered flags. These are all the things I hope we can accomplish this year.

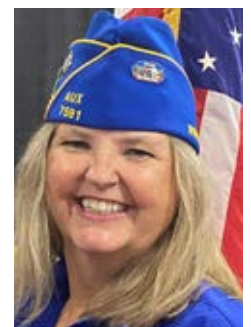
For Superbowl Sunday, our new Junior Vice and Auxiliary President organized a handful of volunteers to make chili and a few folks to volunteer to serve with a suggested donation that went to Heat for Heros. Congratulations on their efforts and thank you to all who assisted. They were able to raise over \$200 for a great cause.

Jason Boynton, Commander
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319-504-1631

Auxiliary President's Column

Sisters and brothers,

I came back well rested and a bit sunburned from the National Mid-winter Conference, a Cruise to Cozumel thru Veteran's Travel Service. We had good representation from our Post and Wisconsin. Attending was department vice president Cheryl Woodards, grand cootie Woody Woodards, past president Janey Owens, and our conductor, Chris Benson. Also attending from department were our past department president Faith Elford, current president Sherie Rosenau and state commander Ron Ramos. It was thoroughly reju-



venating, and only a 3-hour time commitment for one meeting. The moist sea breeze helped my cold, and I got some much-needed rest.

Networking is the big takeaway for this event. Mentoring and expanding our circle of contacts, be it friends or volunteers with the Auxiliary and Post makes us and our organization stronger, more vibrant, and ready to serve our veteran community. Lack of mentoring shrinks our membership where it may become more like a clique and seem closed or unfriendly to new members. You were a new member once. Do you recall who mentored you? My goal is to make sure I meet each new member and have a meaningful conversation with them. Please make it yours, too.

Elections are coming up. Please consider nominating someone for a position. We have 3 or more positions open.

March brings changes to the canteen and new possibilities. As the new management becomes familiar with operations, the Auxiliary will review restarting the fish fry and other revenue opportunities. Please come help us decide the direction the Auxiliary will go. Hope to see you at the March meeting!

Suzan Nast
Auxiliary President

From the Post Service Officer

Our GM Kate has left for other adventures after over two years of service to our Post. We are extremely grateful to Kate for her amazing accomplishments that have benefited the Post, Auxiliary, and so many veterans.

After Kate's departure as GM, many people have stepped up to fill the void. I am especially thankful to our Commander, Jason, and Quartermaster Jon for stepping up for countless hours to help me. The role I have in filling the gap without a GM affirmed to me the value we had with Kate, and the countless hours and behind-the-scenes things she did to keep this Post going.

There seems to be light at the end of the tunnel regarding a new GM and back-of-house manager. I am very excited for the next month as I expect both positions to be filled soon with very capable people. Stay tuned!

READ THIS: If you tell me something, I forgot before you finished saying it. If there is something that I need to know about building maintenance, concerns about the bar, canteen, or kitchen operations, or anything else, please text me, email me, or write a note and put it in the CDR/QM mailbox. If you talk to me in passing while I am doing other things, I will never remember.

Last month an older woman reached out to our Post for help. She lived out of state, and her friend was in Madison needing assistance. After getting the back story, I got

to work making plans to assist this Veteran. I advised the woman that I would have to get proof of her friend being a Veteran and would have to talk to him. He wasn't calling me, and the more I spoke to this woman, the more red flags. This was a fraud. I contacted Madison Police who verified this was a fraud. They spoke to her and asked me to speak with her. It was discovered that she had never met her "internet" friend in person and had lost her money. After running out of money, she contacted Madison area Veteran groups to assist, which is how I got involved and discovered the red flags. Look out for your elders. As people age, there are big fancy medical words that I can't spell that basically mean part of the brain makes some elderly persons susceptible to being taken advantage of. Hearing this woman cry on the phone after losing so much money was not easy.

We also helped a couple of Veterans in need this month. One is getting on his feet. He was hired for a decent paying job but did not have any business casual clothing as was required by his new employer. I took him shopping, and now he has a casual business "starter kit" to get him through until his first paycheck. He also was given a gas card to be able to get to work until his first paycheck. This Veteran was extremely grateful to our Post and asked me to pass on his thanks and gratitude to our members.

We have electric scooters, wheelchairs, walkers, etc. available at no charge for those in need. If you, or anyone you know could use these, please reach out.

Do good. Be good.

Greg



Special thanks to Cathy Hanna, our 50/50 queen! She is dedicated every week to raising funds for special projects around Post 7591. Jason recently presented her a custom jersey for her hard work!

Chaplain's Corner

What happened to the Twelve Apostles?

They may be the most famous entourage of all time. The Twelve Apostles were Jesus' earliest disciples, accompanying him on his journeys to spread the gospel. But what happened to them?

Peter: A fisherman by trade and was the first pope. Fate: Crucified by Nero. Peter requested he be crucified upside down, feeling unworthy to die in the same manner as Jesus.

Andrew: Peter's brother and patron saint of Ukraine, Romania, and Russia. Fate: Crucified in the Greek city of Patras on an 'X' shape, which came to be known as Saint Andrew's Cross.

James the Great: Known as James the Great or James Son of Zebedee, he was the first apostle to be martyred. Fate: Beheaded at the behest of King Herod.

John: Brother to James the Great and author of the Book of Revelation. Fate: The only apostle to die of natural causes in old age.

Thomas: Believed to go on as a preacher in India following the resurrection. Fate: Pierced through the chest with a spear.

Philip: Only mentioned eight times in the New Testament. Fate: Likely hanged, stoned, or crucified.

Matthew: A tax collector. Fate: King Hyrcanus of Ethiopia had him stabbed with a spear.

Bartholomew: Following the resurrection, Bartholomew traveled Armenia and India spreading the word of Jesus. Fate: Possibly beheaded.

James the Less: The other James. Fate: Beaten and stoned to death in Jerusalem.

Jude (Thaddeus): Ministered in Syria, Mesopotamia, and Libya. Fate: Clubbed then struck with an ax.

Simon: Known as the Zealot. Fate: Sawn in half in Persia.

Judas Iscariot: He betrayed Jesus in the Garden of Gethsemane for 30 pieces of silver. Fate: Unclear as he either hanged himself or died accidentally in a fall.

And now you know! Some of which I did not even know. Blessings Comrades.

For God and Country!

(Paraphrased from Universal Life Church Blog)

Chaplain Darrel D. 'AJ' Feucht

Patriotic Trivia

A sincere thank you to all of you who have been patronizing Hubbard Avenue Diner in Middleton!

You may know that for several years now, this restaurant has been a true partner to our VFW 7591 in providing delicious pies for the Auxiliary Fish Fry on Fridays. Ashley Williams is so proficient with everything! Take a break! Check it out sometime soon, caring and courteous service always.

Susan Fineout

Patriotic Instructor



On February 1st, Life Member Timothy Seidlitz Jr. was promoted to the rank of Chief Master Sergeant (E-9) at Hill AFB, Utah. For those of you who may not know, CMSgt Seidlitz is the slightly less handsome little cousin of our House Chair/Service Officer Greg Seidlitz. Congratulations Timmy. We're proud of you!

POST OFFICERS FOR 2023–2024

POST COMMANDER	Jason Boynton
SENIOR VICE COMMANDER	Dave Oates
JUNIOR VICE COMMANDER	Tim Zoromski
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	Gary Fineout
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



VFW POST 7591	221-9326
MANAGER	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

Bingo Openings

Bingo is booming and we are still looking for two call-back volunteers. If you have some time on either the second Tuesday or the fourth Tuesday of the month, why not give it a try? The work consists of calling back the numbers when a patron has a bingo; this runs from 6:30pm to about 10:00pm. We have lots of regulars among the players and getting acquainted with them and your other co-workers is fun.

Attention Cancer Victims

Are you an Auxiliary member who has been diagnosed with cancer? If your answer is “yes,” you may be eligible for a cancer grant. Please contact Karen Baumann at 770-1220 for information.

Emergency Disaster

Should you experience a fire, tornado, or other major damage to your home, you could qualify for a grant from the VFW’s state Emergency Disaster Relief Fund. The damage needs to be in excess of \$5,000 and you must apply within 30 days of its occurrence. Contact the Quartermaster at 221-9326.

Want to Get More Involved?

Member volunteers are always needed for Post and Auxiliary activities. Contact the Post Commander or the Auxiliary President to see what choices are available.