

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 February 13 at 7:00 p.m.

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Commander's Column

Greetings Comrades and Friends,

I want to begin by letting you know how proud I am of all of you for the good work you have done this year for the post. We still have several months ahead of us filled with volunteer opportunities, fundraisers, celebrations, meetings, and fellowship at our canteen. You'll notice that I listed our canteen last and that is because we exist to serve veterans, their families, and military members; not to run a bar. Many of us love our canteen and it's a great place to collaborate and relax.



While we enjoy our canteen, I ask that you continue to help our post achieve All-State and All-American. For both, we need to reach 102% membership. Presently, membership is at 99.04% with 415 members. We need 13 more members to reach our goal. You can help by attending our next membership telethon. Contact me or SVC Dave Oates to volunteer. Let's strive to be the best post together.

Your post earned Red Carpet recognition and will be recognized during the Department of Wisconsin Mid-Winter Conference February 14–15, 2025, at the Marriott Waterfront Hotel & Convention Center in Oshkosh. This conference is for all VFW members who would like to attend. You can register here [Events - vfwwi.org](https://www.vfwwi.org)

The Voice of Democracy and Patriot's Pen committee is planning the annual awards ceremony to be held for the winners and participants before our meetings on February 13th at 6:00pm. This event is more special when our mem-

bers are present. It conveys that what they have written is important – and it is – you will be impressed by what the winners, whom you will hear, have written. Please put this on your calendar.

Elections are in April and nominations will be open in March for all three line officers; commander, senior vice commander, and junior vice commander. Typically, our junior vice commander and senior vice commander will accept the nomination for the next higher positions and the position of junior vice commander will need to be filled. Will this be you? It could be. We will also be seeking two, three-year house committee members. Think about it and let me, Dave Oates, or Tim Zoromski know, and we will be happy to answer your questions.

Thank you to our continuous members who have renewed their memberships for the year. Remember, no matter when you renew your membership, your renewal date will stay the same so feel free to renew early and check that box early. Also, consider becoming a life member and

Important dates to remember

- Feb 1st National Freedom Day
- Feb 6th Cootie Scratch 7:00pm
- Feb 9th Chili cookoff
- Feb 13th VOD/PP Award Ceremony 6:00pm
- Feb 13th Post & Auxiliary Meetings 7:00pm
- Feb 14th-15th . VFW Mid-Winter Conference, Oshkosh
- Feb 15th Sinking of U.S.S. Maine 1898
- Feb 28th Liberation of Kuwait – End of Operation Desert Storm 1991

dispense with annual renewals. If this appeals to you, you can renew and upgrade on-line at vfw.org/renew. You will need your member number from your card. If you need that information, the quartermaster, Senior Vice Commander, or I can provide that to you.

Our next post meeting is **February 13th at 7:00pm** after the VOD and Patriot's Pen awards ceremony. Our meetings are available via Microsoft Teams and this information is emailed to all members with a valid email address on file with VFW National. Remember, we provide food for our Post and Auxiliary members after our meetings. Please check your contact details at vfw.org to verify its accuracy.

As always, feel free to contact me if you have any questions or want to volunteer. We never have enough volunteers.

Kerry McAllen
commander@vfwpost7591.org
608-345-4470 (cell)

7591 Color Guard

During the cold months we continue to focus on fund-raising and seeking new members to march in parades and to participate in presentation of the Colors and in funeral honors. If you are a Post or Auxiliary member who is interested in joining us or learning more, contact me.

Kerry McAllen
Color Guard President
608-345-4470



Day Post 7591 Color Guard with G Co Instructor-Inspector

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.

Auxiliary President's Column

Greetings sisters and brothers,

The mid-winter convention is just around the corner, and you may still attend. It is in Oshkosh on February 14 and 15th. See the auxiliary website to register.

The auxiliary had a last-minute chili and sloppy Joe sale at the post in January to provide food since the post cooks were unavailable. Thanks to Janet Kennedy, Karen Baumann, Nancy Smith, and Louise Billings for stepping up at the last minute!! There may be more of these coming up but as more of a planned closed kitchen with more notice. This is a good opportunity to raise funds for the auxiliary!

Elections are coming up and we need all of you to consider nominations for all auxiliary positions. We need your attendance at the April meeting in which both nominations and elections are held. This is a vote for the future of our auxiliary that supports our veterans.

We are making do without a historian and we need all of you to step up and take the time to submit pictures of events you attend. Auxiliary members may email pictures to Cole.Slominski@gmail.com. Be sure to include a brief caption identifying people and events. Also, committee chairs may also write chatter articles and share details of events. Thanks!!

Hey!!

Just a reminder that the auxiliary meetings are at 7 pm on the 2nd Thursday of the month in the post dining room. Please come! Please come early this month as the Patriots Pen and Voice of Democracy Awards winners will present their essays at 6 pm. We also would like a few helping hands to set up at 5 pm.

Members, thanks to many of you we have a great start on membership so far. Annual members, thanks for continuing to support our auxiliary with your membership and consider a lifetime membership. The life membership dues have not increased in quite a while, and this may soon change. Please consider investing in the future of your auxiliary and supporting veterans.

Lastly, don't forget to enter and/or support the post's own Chili Cook-off on February 9th, Super Bowl Sunday. See Post Facebook announcement for details. I am looking forward to seeing many of you there and tasting some great chili!!

Best,
Suzan Nast
Auxiliary President



Manager's Column

Hello Everyone!

We've got an exciting month ahead! To kick things off, don't miss our Annual Chili Cook-Off on February 9th from 12:00 PM - 4:30 PM. It's going to be a deliciously heated competition, with all proceeds going to Heat and Housing for Heroes. Come for the chili, stay for the great cause!

Right after the cook-off, we'll be hosting a Super Bowl Party – the perfect way to wind down after the cook-off festivities! Grab your friends and enjoy the game with us.

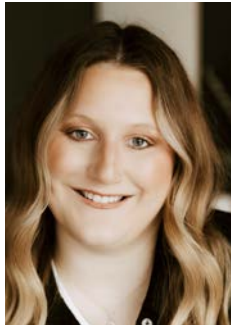
We've also got some new music acts lined up this month that you won't want to miss. We've heard a lot of positive feedback, and we encourage you to come out, show your support, and enjoy the talent! Our live music scene is really heating up, so don't miss out!

And if you're planning a special event this year, remember that we're booking up fast for 2025! Now's the time to secure your date and ensure your event is a hit. Get in touch with us today to reserve your spot.

We're also excited to announce an updated menu! Instead of daily specials, we'll now be offering weekly specials—so there's always something new to try every week. We can't wait for you to check it out.

Looking forward to seeing you this month!

Alyssa Damon
General Manager - VFW Post #7591
301 Cottage Grove Rd. Madison, WI 53716
Post/Office: 608.221.9326



January 4, Post Canteen – Patrons enjoy the expansive potluck provided by members during the Packer / Viking game.

Chaplain's Corner

Tragedy In Our Own Backyard

I am changing up my monthly newsletter article slightly as I believe it is important to try and provide some assistance during and after a tragic event. It was the morning of 16 December 2024, and I was returning from Minnesota after visiting my son. I noted my phone was getting more texts than normal. Thought I would take a look. The first one was, "Chapi, something happened, and we are going to need you." Some of you know that I am the chaplain for Maple Bluff PD/F&R and a chaplain for Dane County Sheriff's Office – Peer Support Team. That text started a very difficult and emotional week.

We are all devastated by the violence and loss of innocent life. Why these individuals? I was asked that once when I lost my first soldier as a commander. My chaplain looked at me and said, 'the Lord does not decide who goes, it is the Lord's word that helps us cope.' Those words have stuck with me since and have gotten me through some very difficult times, this one included and will continue to do so.

We will process and mourn the loss of life the best we can. It is important to all those impacted by this tragedy in that there is one take away for everyone. You do not have to do it alone. This community has united, come together and that should at least give you a starting point for your healing and recovery. That tells you that you do not do it alone.

I was asked by the County to attend Rubi's service. I am glad they did. It is amazing the power of healing in numbers. I would also ask that you remember Erin as well. It was an incredibly difficult day and will take a long time to heal, but heal we will, as a community, together. God bless everyone.

For God and Country! ... Chaplain Darrel D. 'AJ' Feucht
- CLM

(Paraphrased from Universal Life Church Blog)



Quartermaster Jon Russell presents a donation from Day Post VFW 7591 to G Co.

Have You Ever Attended a “Welcome Home”?

On the first Wednesday of every month, our Post, VFW Day Post 7591, has the good fortune to host the meeting of a very highly respected organization known as the Badger Honor Flight of Wisconsin. If there exists another group, society, club or organization that provides a Veteran with the opportunity to realize the value of their service to our Country more than the Badger Honor Flight, I am not aware of it.

The Badger Honor Flight is a hub of the Honor Flight Network of which there are over 128 hubs across the country. All the hubs are non-profit organizations and exist to offer a free flight to Washington, D.C. to any Veteran that applies to tour and view the monuments that have been constructed in their honor at our Nation’s Capital.

All the meeting attendees are volunteers, gladly giving of their valuable time to perform the many duties that must be undertaken, to ensure that each Veteran that travels to Washington, D.C. receives the Honor and Respect due to them for their service to our Country. Many of our Post members have had the opportunity to be part of an Honor Flight and you may have crossed paths with them and overheard them discussing how wonderful the experience was and will always be remembered.

There are six flights scheduled every year, three in the spring and three in the fall. Badger Honor Flight since its beginning in 2010 has now flown over 5,000 Veterans on this trip. Each Veteran is required to appoint a Guardian that joins them on the flight and ensures that the Veteran is safe, does not get lost, pushes the wheelchair if needed and takes care of any request to ensure that the Veteran is comfortable.

We as a Post can be justifiably proud that we are supporting Badger Honor Flight by providing our home as a site for their meetings. Proud as a Post and providing a space for their meetings allows them to perform the planning and communication to their members for the conduct of their mission. “The Trip of a Lifetime”

If you have not gone on an Honor Flight and have served during the Korean War or Vietnam War period as a Veteran, you qualify to apply. Website: badgerhonorflight.org or phone 608.616.0243 for information. You are also welcome to attend the BHF Meeting on the first Wednesday of each month, beginning at 7:00 p.m. at the Post.... See you there!

VOLUNTEER – YOU MAY LIKE IT! – WELCOME HOME!

Gary Jugenheimer



Chris Benson and Adrianna Marks display the quilt made by the Quilts of Valor Group. Adrianna received the quilt as a gift on Veterans Day.

A yellow poster for a chili cook-off event. At the top, it says "UFW POST 7591" with lightning bolt icons on either side. Below that, the words "CHILI" and "COOK-OFF" are written in large, stylized letters. The date "02/09/2025" is on the left, and "12-430pm" is on the right. In the center, it says "BENEFITS HEAT AND HOUSING FOR HEROES" and "Prizes for Top 3". At the bottom, it says "301 Cottage Grove Road Madison WI". There are illustrations of three chili peppers (red, orange, and green) and a red starburst containing "\$5 DONATION". The text "Live DJ" is at the bottom right.

Family Fun This May

In this forest, our post and auxiliary will build a bike path for the kids. That's right, on May 3rd, we will participate in the VFW's Day of Service and have agreed to partner with Lake View Community School on Madison's north side to help them build a bike path in their school forest. This will be fun for the whole family. The school has all the tools and materials we need so all we need is you! Food, beverages, and fun will be provided at the post for all volunteers afterwards.

Save the date May 3rd, 10am – 2pm at 1802 Tennyson Ln., Madison.

Questions? Contact Chue Fue Moua or Kerry McAllen.



January 4, Post Canteen – HC member Leigh Logan and Commander Kerry McAllen goof around during the Post and Auxiliary Packers party.



Past G Co Adopt a Unit Liaison John Loose poses with company Instructor-Inspector



January 9th, Post Meeting – Senior Vice Cdr David Oates reads recognition letter from VFW Commander-in-Chief for recruiting one new member each. The recognition came with a pin denoting the number of recruits.

IN MEMORIUM

VFW Post 7591 extends its condolences to the family of

Arthur Ostrander, USMC, Vietnam
15 January 2025

May he rest in peace with the thanks of a grateful nation for the services he performed for our Country and the VFW.



VFW POST 7591	221-9326
MANAGER	221-9326
HOUSE COMM. CHAIR, CHUE FUE MOUA	358-8871
QUARTERMASTER, JON RUSSELL	577-6149
COMMANDER, KERRY MCALLEN	345-4470
CHAPLAIN, DARREL "AJ" FEUCHT	920-623-5625
COLOR GUARD / HONOR GUARD CAPT., KERRY MCALLEN	345-4470
VETERANS FIRING SQUAD, JOSEPH M. LUSTGRAAF	249-2581
AUXILIARY PRESIDENT, SUZAN NAST	556-9237
AUXILIARY CHAPLAIN, JANEY OWENS	698-3585
DANE COUNTY SERVICE OFFICE	266-4158
POST SERVICE OFFICERVACANT

Madison VA Hospital Current Needs List

Visa Gift Cards \$20 – \$50

Maze puzzle books

Lego sets

Diaper rash cream

Diapers, newborn

Diaper garbage bags

Velcro Swaddles

Child size clothes 0–3 and 3 months, gender neutral

Hospice Comfort Cart (for families of hospice patients)

Cheez It crackers

Rice Krispy treats

Ritz Bits

granola bars

Goldfish crackers

Pop-tarts

Animal crackers

Microwaveable popcorn

Mailing Address:

Madison VA Hospital

Community Relations – 135

2500 Overlook Terrace

Madison, WI 53705

Linda Best, an Auxiliary member who also
volunteers at the VA Hospital

POST OFFICERS FOR 2024–2025

POST COMMANDER	Kerry McAllen
SENIOR VICE COMMANDER	Dave Oates
JUNIOR VICE COMMANDER	Tim Zoromski
QUARTERMASTER	Jon Russell
JUDGE ADVOCATE	D.J. Klauser
CHAPLAIN	Darrel "AJ" Feucht
TRUSTEE – 3 YEAR	Christopher Hudson
TRUSTEE – 2 YEAR	Brian Bierman
TRUSTEE – 1 YEAR	James E. Ewing
HOUSE COMMITTEE – 3 YEAR	Chue Fue Moua
HOUSE COMMITTEE – 3 YEAR	Tim Zoromski
HOUSE COMMITTEE – 2 YEAR	Greg Seidlitz
HOUSE COMMITTEE – 2 YEAR	Gary Fineout
HOUSE COMMITTEE – 1 YEAR	Leigh Logan
HOUSE COMMITTEE – 1 YEAR	Gary Jugenheimer
SERVICE OFFICER	Vacant
ADJUTANT	Bob Madison

AUXILIARY OFFICERS FOR 2024–2025

PRESIDENT	Suzan Nast
SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT	Mitch Feucht
JUNIOR VICE PRESIDENT	Dean Larson
CONDUCTOR	Chris Benson
TREASURER — INTERIM	Janet Kennedy
SECRETARY	Carol Welch
CHAPLAIN	Janey Owens
GUARD	Suzanne Short
PATRIOTIC INSTRUCTOR	Susan Fineout
TRUSTEE – 1 YEAR	Karen Baumann
TRUSTEE – 2 YEAR	Janey Owens
TRUSTEE – 3 YEAR	Phyllis Bishop
HOUSE COMMITTEE GUEST – 1 YEAR	Janet Kennedy
HOUSE COMMITTEE – 2 YEAR	Nancy Smith



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

February 2025

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
			PUBLIC WELCOME Big 10 and Brewers Games • Free Wi-Fi • ATM For Hall Rental information, please contact our General Manager at VFWPst7591.GM@gmail.com			
2 3–6PM TOP SHELF	3 DANCE CLASS IN HALL	4 6:30PM & 8PM BINGO!	5 6:30–9:30PM KARAOKE	6 6–8PM PREMIER TRIVIA	7 4–8PM FISH FRY 7–10PM MARCY & THE HIGHLIGHTS	8 PRIVATE EVENT IN HALL
9 12–4 CHILI COOKOFF 3–6 JACKIE MARIE 5:30 SUPERBOWL	10 DANCE CLASS IN HALL	11 6:30PM & 8PM BINGO!	12 6:30–9:30PM NORTHERN COMFORT	13 6–8PM PREMIER TRIVIA 7PM POST & AUXILIARY MTGS	14 4–8PM FISH FRY 7–10PM BACK 40	15 MARILYN'S VALENTINES IN HALL
16 3–6PM ADAM HOWARTH	17 DANCE CLASS IN HALL	18 6:30PM & 8PM BINGO!	19 6:30–9:30PM BACK 2 BACK TRIO	20 6–8PM PREMIER TRIVIA	21 4–8PM FISH FRY 7–10PM CATASTROPHIC HEROES	22 CELEBRATION OF LIFE IN HALL
23 3–6PM DAVE & HEATHER	24 DANCE CLASS IN HALL	25 6:30PM & 8PM BINGO!	26 6:30–9:30PM ADAM CARL	27 6–8PM PREMIER TRIVIA	28 4–8PM FISH FRY 7–10PM TOP SHELF	Front bar is open daily at 11am, and the kitchen is open daily from 11am-8pm (Mondays until 7pm, Sunday until 6pm).

FOR MORE INFO, VISIT US AT VFWPST7591.ORG