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 October 9 at 7:00 p.m.

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Past Commander's Column

Hello Members and Friends,

In the past weeks, there have been several leadership changes. Our Commander and Senior Vice Commander both

resigned. Junior Vice Commander Jason Wolfe is the acting commander until a new commander is elected.

Per Section 220 of the National VFW Bylaws and Manual of Procedure, we shall nominate and elect a new commander and senior vice commander from the membership at our next Post meeting on October 9th.



Anyone else interested in either position may contact me or Jon Russell. Presently, Ken Cammer has expressed interest in a nomination for Commander.

I would like to welcome Zack Olson as our new House Committee Chairman who was elected in September. I also want to thank past House Committee Chairman Chue Fue Moua for all his hard work and dedication to the Post over the last 15 months.

Needless to say, October 9th's meeting is an important one and we need you there. Many members meet early for food, drinks, and fun in the Canteen then join the meeting at 7:00pm.

I'll see you there,

Kerry McAllen
Past Commander

Auxiliary President's Column

Fall is upon us even though it's still pretty warm. This time of year seems to go way too fast.

/there continues to be changes going on at the Post. Please continue your patience while they are working to help improve things at the Post.

Plans are being made for Veteran's Day at the Post. We may do something else this year rather than a meal as there are so many restaurants offering specials for Veterans.



Come find out what is going on by coming to a meeting the 2nd Thursday of each month at 7:00.

Take care and have a safe remainder of the summer.

Carol Welch Auxiliary President & Cootie Auxiliary President 608-216-6680 ctwelch1@frontier.com

Canteen Manager's Update: Moving Forward Together

Greetings Members and Auxiliary:

It feels good to be back writing to you! After a year away, and three months assisting in the interim, I have officially decided to return to the Canteen full time. While many of you have seen me around the canteen these past few months, please know that I wasn't the one making man-

agement decisions during that time. Now, I'm stepping fully into this role again—not to repeat the 80-hour weeks of the

past, but to provide steady, consistent support that helps our staff and Post leadership succeed.

Many of you have asked how things are going, so I want to begin with reassurance: your Canteen is in good hands. We have an incredible staff who care deeply about each other, our Veterans and their Families,



and about serving this Post. I'm honored to lead them again.

Over the next several weeks, I'll be working closely with Post leadership to stabilize day-to-day operations. My guiding priorities are simple:

Employees first, always. A strong Post begins with a strong team.

Transparency and consistency. Clear expectations and open communication build trust.

No drastic changes. We'll focus on steady progress, not sweeping overhauls.

Support where it's needed. Both staff and volunteers should feel set up for success.

Between now and our October 6th House Committee meeting, I'll be working with Brenda and Zach on immediate priorities: deep cleaning, inventory control, scheduling, and menu stabilization. You may notice some gradual



Monday, October 20th 2:30PM-5:30PM

Hall

301 Cottage Grove Drive

To book appointment, scan QR code, visit bloodcenter.org or call Kerry McAllen at 608-345-4470.

Group Code: 3955 Last Date to Donate Elsewhere: 8/25/25



changes in the coming weeks — like refreshed menus and rotating daily specials — but nothing drastic or overnight. Our focus is stability and consistency.

Most of all, I want to thank you — our members and volunteers. Every successful event, fundraiser, and busy weekend only happens because of the people behind the scenes who pitch in, whether it's selling raffle tickets, hauling tables, or just showing up to support the canteen. You matter more than you know.

Music and Event Updates:

Printed event calendars are now available for pickup at the Post, and our phone system has been updated. Both the phone and printed calendars now include all remaining 2025 music performances!

I'll be finalizing the 2026 music calendar this month, so please keep an eye on our Facebook page for announcements. I'm looking forward to reviving the atmosphere that our facility is capable of providing, and tactfully scheduling all of 2026 music with one clear and consistent calendar — no more double bookings, no more wondering who is playing!

Looking Back on September:

The Canteen hosted the third annual UW-MIA/POW Recovery and Identification Project this month. I'd like to personally thank Jon R., Kerry M., and Taryn L. for your assistance in working with the Canteen's employees and management to host a successful event.

Fun Fact, I was first hired at 7591 in October of 2021, with my very first event attended having been Ruck 22. Congratulations to Taryn and all of the Ruck 22 board members and volunteers who have made these events such successes. I'm looking forward to seeing what the dedicated members and volunteers do together for the future of events focusing on Veteran Suicide Awareness, especially with our friends and family over at Post 1318!



October is one of our busiest and most exciting months:

- Hmong New Year Events Once again, our canteen is proud to host celebrations for several Hmong clans in Dane County. These gatherings are beautifully organized by the booking parties and are a major support to our canteen. If you're able to stop in and assist during these events, I know our staff would be grateful—and you'll likely find yourself immersed in one of the most wonderful cultural celebrations we host each year.
- Monday, October 27th VFW 1318 Band (7–8pm) A great night to get those Halloween costumes ready!
- Friday, October 31st Halloween Bash & Costume Contest with Universal Sound

If you've never been to our costume party—this is your year!

Contest Entry: Upper Deck, 8–9:45pm Contest Begins: 10pm, Main Hall

Prizes: \$25 VFW Gift Certificate for the top crowd favorite in each category:

Scariest

Funniest

Best Homemade

Best Group

Best Couple

Grand Prize: The top two costumes from each category will compete for \$150 CASH!



Looking to book our space for your next event?

Please send me an email at General.Manager@VFWPost7591.org with the date(s) in order of preference. I'll check our calendar, then respond to your message and loop Lisa, our Events Coordinator in. She'll set a time to meet with you and answer any and all questions you may have.

Upcoming Volunteer Opportunities:

With a full calendar ahead, there are plenty of ways to get involved at the Post:

- Helping hands during Hmong New Year weekends (set-up, food, and clean-up support).
- Assisting with raffles and special events (I've been trying to run a 50:50 on Mondays and the Second Thursday if anyone wants to assist I'd be happy to include you!)
- Lending your time to routine upkeep projects and facility maintenance.

If you're interested, please stop by the office or email me — we'd love to have you on the team.

I truly believe in this Post and the people who make it thrive. Thank you for your support, guidance, patience, and your energy. I look forward to seeing you in the canteen, at events, and around the Post as we move forward together.

With gratitude and optimism,

Kate DeRosa General Manager – VFW Day Post #7591 608-221-9326 ext. 101 general.manager@vfwpost7591.org

Chaplain's Corner

Is Halloween Satanic?

A lot of people believe that Halloween is a satanic holiday. But is it actually? Where does Halloween actually come from? While the spooky season is often wrapped in cobwebs, costumes, and creepy imagery, its history is far less sinister than some might believe. No, Halloween is not Satanic in origin. The holiday traces its roots back thousands of years to harvest festivals and religious traditions that were neither evil nor devil worshiping. Over time, these traditions evolved through cultural exchanges, religious influences, and good old-fashioned human love for celebration. Long before anyone carved pumpkins or went doorto-door asking for candy, the Celts of ancient Ireland and Scotland celebrated Samhain (pronounced "sow-in"). This festival marked the end of the harvest season and the start of the darker half of the year. The Celts believed that on the night of Samhain, the boundary between the living and the dead was thinner, allowing spirits to pass through. Families would light bonfires, wear disguises to ward off wandering souls, and leave food as offerings to honor the dead.

Fast forward several centuries, and Halloween began to take on new forms thanks to Catholic influence. In the 8th century, Pope Gregory III established All Saints' Day on November 1, with All Hallows' Eve (October 31) serving as its vigil. This Christianized the celebration, reframing it as a time to honor saints and pray for departed souls. Over time, immigrant communities, particularly Irish and Scottish, brought Halloween traditions to North America. Pumpkin carving, trick-or-treating, costume parties, and haunted attractions developed into the holiday we know today. So no, Halloween is not Satanic. It's a time for communities to gather, kids to enjoy costumes and candy, and adults to indulge in creativity and lighthearted frights. Understanding the truth about the holiday can help bridge gaps with people who might be hesitant to join the fun.

For God and Country! ... Chaplain Darrel D. 'AJ' Feucht – CLM (Paraphrased from Universal Life Church Blog)

House Committee Chair

Greetings Shipmates,

I would like to introduce myself. I am Comrade Zach Olson, and I am the recently appointed House Committee Chair. I have big shoes to fill with succeeding Comrade Chue Fue Moua. I want to thank Comrade Chue Fue Moua for his time and commitment to this position and to our Post. He set our Post up for success and I intend to carry on with that success.

A little background on me. I served in the Navy for over 4 years as an Aviation Boatswains Mate – Aircraft Handling (ABH), I was the yellow shirt that directed aircraft. I am no pollywog; I am a Shellback. My home port was Everett, Washington aboard the USS Abraham Lincoln. Following my enlistment, I went on to receive my bachelor's and master's Degree with help from the Post 9/11 GI Bill and the Wisconsin GI Bill. My family and I are avid hockey fans, we love Badger Hockey and the Toronto Maple Leafs. Always remember, "It's a Great Day for Hockey." I am a big advocate for mental health, especially mental health for Veterans. Always check in on your fellow Comrades, family, and friends!

Enough about me, let's get underway with some business. To begin with, I want to welcome back Kate DeRosa and Brenda Newman. They will be serving as Canteen co-managers. I speak for the Post and say we are excited to have them back and can't thank them enough for their expertise.

A review has begun to update our Canteen hours and menu items. The purpose of this review is to find areas of waste and reduce costs to the Post. The House Committee will make available the new Canteen hours and new menu items when they are finalized.

The venue rental agreement & the venue conditions contract have been updated. Updates reflect new event space prices, simplified language, and outline a booking party's responsibilities for event rental.

Bravo Zulu to Comrade Kerry McAllen. Kerry has been storing old equipment, such as cash registers, heating lamp, and a salad bar, for our Post over the last two years. To move forward, this equipment will be sold by partnering with Badger Auction. We thank Comrade Kerry for allowing the Post to store the equipment while attempts were made to sell it off.

To further keep our kitchen up to code, our Canteen managers will be having our kitchen staff become Wisconsin Serv-Safe certified. This certification is administered by the National Restaurant Association. We look forward to having our kitchen staff become certified and becoming leaders in the restaurant field.

To close, I call All Hands on Deck! I call on all members of our Post to become more involved in any capacity that they can. I want to recognize the comrades and members that are putting in the "work." Let's help our fellow shipmates that have been putting in the "work" — any time that you have to volunteer is worth so much to the Post. I for one have NOT been putting in the "work." To be honest, free time can be hard to come by with having kids, a family, and working full time. But if we can just give a little of our time, that will make all the difference. You may only be able to give time for one meeting a year or volunteer for a one brat fry a year and that is ok, the Post needs that type of help.

I look forward to serving our Post as the House Committee Chair and our local community. It will not be easy, but I know when we work together this Post will do amazing things.

Anchors Aweigh,

Zach Olson House Committee Chair house.committee@vfwpost7591.org

Color Guard

You are invited to join the Color Guard at the UW Homecoming Parade on Friday October 10th. The bus leaves the Post at 4:10pm and returns at approximately 8:00pm. Watch the parade, eat and drink at The Brat House and ride safely back to the Post with the Color Guard.

A sign-up sheet will be in the Canteen if you want to join us.

Kerry McAllen Color Guard President

50/50 Queen

Cathy Hanna transferred to VFW Day Post 7591 eight years ago from Florida, joining our Auxiliary through her husband's Navy service. Cathy began volunteering during the Auxiliary annual craft fair in November. She never slowed down.

Every Monday at our weekly dollar draw, Cathy would sell 50/50 tickets. She would come over on Fridays to sell tickets to the music attendees. Memorial Day, Kentucky Derby, Ruck 22, any event Cathy would be there.

She is graciously named our "50/50 Queen" and was presented with a pink shirt she proudly wears.

Over the eight years, Cathy's efforts and our VFW patron's donations have raised over \$30,000! New lights in the parking lot, new bar stools, building inside painted and dining floor are a few items the 50/50 monies has assisted with.

Cathy will be nearly impossible to replace, BUT WE NEED SOMEONE! Each Monday, it's a one-hour commitment from five to six p.m.

Should we have a battle of the branches? Army vs Air Force? Bragging rights on which branch can bring in the most money for OUR POST!

Volunteers are always welcome!

Submitted by Linda Nellen



Cathy Hanna's going away party at the post.







Members and employees helping Cathy Hanna load her U-Haul before she moves to her new home in Florida.



Miscellaneous

Chuck Konsitzke, the Team Lead for the UW MIA RIP will be our guest for the check presentation at our 9 Oct meeting at 7:00pm.

left: Marlene Sommers celebrated her 85th birthday at Bingo which she comes to every week.



This digital messaging system will list current Post and Auxiliaries, staff, upcoming events including music, menu specials, etcetera. It will enhance our ability to communicate overall.







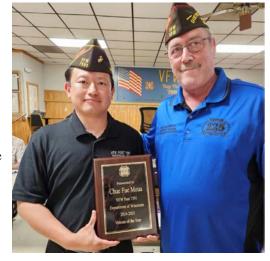
Margaritaville at the VFW, August 30th

Saturday August 30th, the VFW turned into a fun, enjoyable event. DG Smith serenaded us with Jimmy Buffet and beach songs. The crowd wore their hawaiin attire, leis were given out. Margaritas and Cheeseburger Sliders were enjoyed. Sherri and Deb handled the crowd like the professional bartenders they are. Elijah and Atom kept up

with the demand for food. The dining room had a 5 O'clock Somewhere photo op that many enjoyed. Pictured in the photos are Auxiliary members Karen Baumann and Dolly Jenkins (center photo) and bartenders Sherri Stouffer and Deb Plantz (photo on the right).

September 11th, Chue Fue Moua receives his Department of Wisconsin VFW Member of the Year award from the

District 2
Commander,
Steve
Eisenhauer.
Chue Fue
was one of
12 members
submitted for
this state-wide
award. His
application
summarizes
his
contributions



this way, "Chue Fue has dedicated himself to the pillars of our organization and over 800 hours of his personal time to volunteer in support of the mission of the VFW. He has helped to raise over \$4,000 for another organization. Chue Fue has worked at a high level for the Post and continues to do so as is evidenced by his coordination of the Post's Day of Service coordination work and as our House

Committee Chairman, an often-difficult job. Chue Fue is bringing families to the VFW with the activities he has organized. Not only does he serve in our Post home, but he serves in our community, at schools, with our color guard, and with the Hmong community. He is a leader by words AND deeds."





September 13th, 90-year-old guest Dede was surprised with a ride on Past Commander Kerry McAllen's bike during her birthday celebration at the Post. Dede's husband was a veteran and the pair were avid Harley Davidson riders. Dede had not been on a motorcycle since her husband passed away and was brought to tears by the gesture. Photos courtesy of Dede's daughter, Nadine.



Annual Jam 4 Cans

November 8th, 2024

VFW Post 7591

301 Cottage Grove Rd Madison Wi. 608-221-9326

Admission is 3 non-perishable food Items or a \$3.00 donation

Doors open at 11am Posting of the US. Colors at 12:15pm by VFW 7591 Color Guard

Band Schedule

12:15pm Posting of the US Colors
12:30pm THE OLD GOOD FRIENDS BAND
1:45pm DIAMONDS & LEAD
3pm JR
4:15pm COUNTRY RENEGADES w/ DEAN

6pm RAIL HOPPER
7:15pm VINTAGE COUNTRY
8:30pm RUSTY HEART

(Band may be subject to change)

Raffles are held in between each band. Raffle items have been donated by local merchants. Come and enjoy a full day of music and fun and maybe even walk away with some nice prizes and a good feeling in your heart! Also check out our new website for all updates at Listen to your favorite country radio station MADISON'S COUNTRY Q106.3 for more details.

All proceeds go to local food pantries to help those who may not have a holiday meal to have one and give them a fulfilled holiday. This is a great way to start out your holiday!

From the Auxiliary Chaplain

Please notify me if there is a death in our Auxiliary. I will contact the family and find out if they would like a Pass in Review at the service. I need this information ASAP so I can let everyone know.

Illness or special concern, please let me know and I will send a card or reach out with a phone call.

Thanks Karen Baumann for keeping me informed! PLEASE LET ME KNOW.

Janey Owens, VFW 7591 Auxiliary Chaplain janeyowens53@gmail.com 608-698-3585 (Call or text)



*Please save the date!*SATURDAY NOVEMBER 29, 2025

VFW POST 7591 301 Cottage Grove Rd., Madison, Wi

CRAFT FAIR

9 AM - 4 PM

50 + VENDORS, BAKE SALE, BASKET RAFFLE, 50/50 RAFFLE, LUNCH (barbecue & hot dogs)

SPONSORED BY VFW POST 7591 AUXILIARY

All Auxiliary proceeds go to benefit our Veterans.

Organizers:

Adele Crary 608-772-2096 call or text adelecrary@gmail.com

Janey Owens 608-698-3585 call or text Janeyowens53@gmail.com

Vendor Contact:

Karen Baumann 608-770-1220 cell or text karenbaumann44@yahoo.com

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.



VFW Post 7591
MANAGER
HOUSE COMM. CHAIR, ZACH OLSON
QUARTERMASTER, JON RUSSELL577-6149
COMMANDER, VACANT
CHAPLAIN, DARREL "AJ" FEUCHT 920-623-5625
COLOR GUARD / HONOR GUARD CAPT., KERRY MCALLEN
VETERANS FIRING SQUAD,
JOSEPH M. LUSTGRAAF249-2581
AUXILIARY PRESIDENT, CAROL WELCH 216-6680
AUXILIARY CHAPLAIN, JANEY OWENS 698-3585
DANE COUNTY SERVICE OFFICE
POST SERVICE OFFICER, JON RUSSELL577-6149

Madison VA Hospital Current Needs List

Diaper rash cream Diapers Newborn Diapers Sizes 1-5

Child size clothes newborn, 3 months, or 3-6 months

Nose Frida (snot sucker)

Baby nail clippers

Baby soap

Velcro Swaddles

Large print word search / Sudoku books

Model cars / planes

Below is the current list we need to provide homeless Veterans with easy / ready-to-eat food, much like you would pack a school lunch.

Granola bars (small boxes)

Rice cakes

Tuna or chicken pouches (flavored and unflavored)

Sardines

Tuna or chicken Salad kits

Beef jerky

Nuts/Trail mix (single serving size packages)
Single-serving fruit in plastic cups
Single-serving applesauce/fruit pouches
Single-serving vegetables in plastic cups

Mailing Address:

Madison VA Hospital

Community Relations – 135

2500 Overlook Terrace

Madison, WI 53705

Linda Best

POST OFFICERS FOR 2024–2025

POST COMMANDER Vacant
SENIOR VICE COMMANDER Vacant
JUNIOR VICE COMMANDER Jason Wolf
QUARTERMASTER Jon Russell
JUDGE ADVOCATE D.J. Klauser
CHAPLAIN
TRUSTEE – 3 YEAR Hunter Weist
TRUSTEE – 2 YEAR Christopher Hudson
TRUSTEE – 1 YEAR Brian Bierman
House Committee – 3 Year Mike Garvin
$\mbox{HOUSE COMMITTEE} - \mbox{3 YEAR} \ \dots \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ $
House Committee – 2 Year Chue Fue Moua
$\mbox{HOUSE COMMITTEE} - \mbox{2 YEAR} \ \dots \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ \ $
HOUSE COMMITTEE – 1 YEAR Zach Olson
HOUSE COMMITTEE - 1 YEAR Gary Fineout
SERVICE OFFICER Jon Russell
ADJUTANT Bob Madison

AUXILIARY OFFICERS FOR 2025–2026

PRESIDENT Carol Welch
SENIOR VICE PRESIDENTPhyllis Bishop
JUNIOR VICE PRESIDENT Adrianna Marks
CONDUCTOR
TREASURER Cheryl Woodards
SECRETARY Cheryl Woodards
CHAPLAIN Janey Owens & Adele Crary
GUARD Suzanne Short
PATRIOTIC INSTRUCTOR Susan Fineout
TRUSTEE – 1 YEAR Janey Owens
TRUSTEE – 2 YEAR Phylis Bishop
TRUSTEE – 3 YEAR Suzan Nast
HOUSE COMMITTEE GUEST – 1 YEAR Janet Kennedy
HOUSE COMMITTEE – 2 YEAR Nancy Smith



Dane County Service Officer 608-221-9326

V.F.W. DAY POST 7591

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

Friday N	Tuesday N
こここと	7101
7000+0	

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Big 10 and Br For Hall Re o general	PUBLIC WELCOME Big 10 and Brewers Games • Free Wi-Fi • ATM For Hall Rental information, please contact our General Manager at general.manager@vfwpost7591.org	e Wi-Fi • ATM se contact at 591.org	6:30–9:30PM KARAOKE WITH JASON	2	4-8PM FISH FRY 7-10PM MARCY & THE HIGHLIGHTS	4
3-6PM REMEMBER WITH RANDY	6:30 HOUSE MEETINGS DANCE CLASS IN HALL	7 6:30PM & 8PM BINGO!	6:30–9:30PM NORTHERN COMFORT	6–8PM PREMIER TRIVIA 7PM POST & AUXILIARY MTGS	4-8PM FISH FRY 7-10PM TOP SHELF	11
12 3-6 JACKIE MARIE	13 DANCE CLASS	14 6:30PM & 8PM BINGO!	15 4-10PM RANDY KIEL	16 6-8PM PREMIER TRIVIA	4-8PM FISH FRY 7-10PM UNITED WAY FUNDRAISER	2
3-6PM DAVE & HEATHER	2:30–5:30PM BLOOD DRIVE DANCE CLASS IN HALL	21 6:30PM & 8PM BINGO!	22 6:30–9:30PM BACK 2 BACK	230-5:30PM PREMIER TRIVIA	24 4-8PM FISH FRY 7-10PM BACK 40	25
3-6PM JULI JOHNSON	MEAT RAFFLE DANCE CLASS IN HALL	28 6:30PM & 8PM BINGO!	29 6:30–9:30PM ADAM HOWARTH	30 2:30-5:30PM PREMIER TRIVIA	31 4-8PM 7-10PM HALLOWEEN BASH & COSTUME CONTEST WITH	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 VFWPOST7591.ORG