



NO ONE DOES MORE FOR VETERANS

Celebrating our Youth

By Commander Jarrod McReynolds



Comrades and brothers and sisters of the Auxiliary greetings.

The McReynolds family was busy these last two weeks with a visit to the VFW National Home in Eaton Rapids MI for a tour of the grounds and a Halloween party. Then we placed wreaths at the Argonne Cross as part of the 85th MOC trip to DC, it has been a busy month. With that said our Post is still hard at work.

Both George Americanism and Citizenship Chairman, and Junior Vice Janet Schaak Youth Activities Chairman have been busy with the Teacher of the Year, Voice of Democracy and Patriot Pen Programs. Thanks to the both of these comrades for all of their hard work on these vital VFW programs.

As we move into November we will be working on the Safety program submissions. Don Herman Safety Chairman has been working hard on getting submissions. If you know if a

Fire Fighter, EMT, Policeman that is deserving of being recognized, please let Don know.

Thank you to everyone that came out to the Members dinner, it was a great night, and it was great being able to recognize the hard work of many with some deserving awards. Also thank you to the team that worked so hard during the Booya event, while I could not be in attendance I have been told it was another great year!!

We have two big events this month. The Support the Service event with the Minnesota Vikings starting at 5 PM Friday the 15th. Then we have the Vincent event to assist a Veteran family in need. We will have some great silent auction items, and other games at both of these events.

As always thank you all for your hard work, and making Palmer Lake VFW Post 3915 the best VFW Post in the State of Minnesota.

Commander
Jarrod McReynolds

PALMER LAKE VFW POST #3915



www.palmerlakevfw.org

IN THIS ISSUE

Auxiliary News

The latest from our Auxiliary President Page 2

Prayer Corner

Page 3

Community Service

Page 3

Membership Page 4

Youth Activities Page 4

Honor Guard Page 4

Safety Page 5

Other Stuff Page 5

The Cootie Corner Page 5

Veterans Issues Page 6

Legislation Page 7

Veterans and Post Activities Page 8

Americanism and Citizenship Page 10

Up-coming Holidays

Dates to Note

Help Wanted & Contact Us

A new take on volunteering Page 11

The Canteen

Oct Calendar Page 12

Miscellaneous

Page 13

Auxiliary News

By President Tracy McReynolds



Greetings Auxiliary members,

I trust you are all enjoying your fall.

Thanksgiving is right around the corner and we have lots to be thankful for. What are you thankful for?

We have had a very busy fall in our home. We have traveled to the National Home for Children with some of our friends and Auxiliary and Post members from other posts. Our family has just recently returned from a Cootie event in Washington DC called Tomb Trek. Jarrod got to lay wreaths at the Argonne Cross at Arlington Cemetery. We have been busier than ever and have enjoyed our trips as a family. We are blessed and very thankful for the experiences we have been able to partake in, and all of this is because of the members that we have been introduced too. We are also very thankful that the VFW and Auxiliary of Post #3915 have entrusted us to be your leadership.

October was a huge success with Booya, and Post Clean up. Thank you to all the members and non members who helped with these events. Your generosity and care do not go unnoticed.

Thank you all for your continued support in helping our veterans and their families.

Thank you for your support,

Tracy McReynolds

Auxiliary Email: Auxiliary.vfw3915@gmail.com

UNWAVERING SUPPORT



FOR UNCOMMON HEROES™
CHARTER 1966

November 10th we will be having a Pancake breakfast to honor all Veterans. This is a free event and it goes from 9 AM-12 PM

November 24th we have a Benefit for a 34th ID Veteran and his family 2-6 PM

Our next meeting will be Tuesday November 12th at 6:00 PM, I hope to see you there.

PANCAKE BREAKFAST TO HONOR OUR VETERANS

Palmer Lake VFW

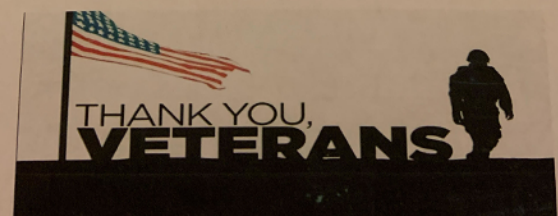
Sunday November 10 9:00-12:00



Pancakes, sausage, fruit, coffee, juice, great company and the best part

Free and Everyone is Welcome

"Take a moment to remember our Vets past and present"



Prayer Corner

By Chaplin Nate Gehl



Palmer Lake VFW is not only a Veteran's organization, but also a family. We grow, work, laugh and morn together.

Please keep Bob Whitcraft, Andrea Fierst, and Lynn Olkives and their families in your thoughts and prayers as they continue to battle cancer.

Oh Lord,

As the Holidays approach, we ask that you watch over our service personnel and protect them in the days ahead and may they and their families all celebrate with happiness.

Amen

Give thanks

*to the Lord, for
He is good; His love
endures forever.*

Psalm 107:1



Community Service

Senior Vice Jonell Wilson



Greetings from your Community Service Chair.

Palmer Lake Supports the "Blue Star Mothers – Chapter 7 – North Metro"

Hard to believe but Christmas is just around the corner. On November 21 st at 7:00 PM the Blue Star Mom's and anyone who would like to volunteer are

packing the boxes to mail to the Troops for Christmas.

HOW CAN I HELP?

There are a few different way to help make a difference.

1. Starting on October 29th until November 20th there will be a collection box located in the club. By the box there is a list of the types of items you can donate. Some great ideas would be food and snacks. Beverages, but they must be dry like hot chocolate mix or instant coffee no liquids. Other ideas would be toiletries including travel size toothpaste, shampoos, razors, baby wipes. Games and activities are always welcome, cards, batteries, dice, cribbage boards, audio books and adult coloring books. Greeting cards for them to send home are some great ideas. Also socks and plain white T-Shirts (no advertising) make great donations.

2. Monetary Donations. Each box cost approximately \$18.00 to mail. Approximately 150 boxes will be packed on the 21st . Nope no freebies from the USPS.

3. There will be envelopes by the donation box set up in the club. You can put money in the envelope and give it to a bartender. They will deposit it in the safe that night and Andrea will make sure we get it to the Blue Star Mom's.

Regardless of how you choose to volunteer your time, always remember to log your community services hours in our community service log on our website.

[Click Here](#)

If you have questions or have an idea on a Community Service activity, feel free to send an email to the Commander (see link on the contact page).

Thank you everyone for your continued community service contributions.

Share the Veterans Crisis Line Number to Save a Life

Crisis Line. This confidential, toll-free, 24-hour-a-day hot line serves Veterans and their loved ones year-round. Reach qualified, caring responders:

by phone at 800-273-8255,

via on-line chat on their website, or

by text message at 838255.

Membership

Junior Vice Janet Schaak



If you bring in a lead that turns into a new member, you will get your name in the drawing for a \$100 Post Gift card. We currently need 9 New members or reinstates to reach 100%. We also sit in 8th place for membership in our division. Remember we need to be in the top 50 to qualify for All-American Post honors. Let's do it this year!!!

Youth Activities

Program Chair Janet Schaak

The 2019-20 theme is:

What Makes America Great



Each year more than 132,000 students in grades 6-8 enter the VFW's Patriot's Pen youth essay contest. The national first-place winner wins \$5,000 and an all-expense-paid trip to Washington, D.C. The first-place winner from each state competes for national awards totaling \$55,000, with each first-place state winner receiving a minimum of \$500 at the national level.

The essay contest encourages young minds to examine America's history, along with their own experiences in modern American Society, by drafting a 300- to 400-word essay, expressing their views based on a patriotic theme chosen by the VFW Commander-in-Chief.

Honor Guard

Honor Guard Commander Robert Hystad



Established in 1947, our **Voice of Democracy** audio-essay program provides high school students with the unique opportunity to express themselves in regards to a democratic and patriotic-themed recorded essay. Each year, nearly 40,000 9-12 grade students from across the country enter to win their share of \$2.1 million in educational scholarships and incentives awarded through the program.

The national first-place winner receives a \$30,000 scholarship paid directly to the recipient's American university, college or vocational/technical school. A complete list of other national scholarships range from \$1,000-\$16,000, and the first-place winner from each VFW Department (state) wins a minimum scholarship of \$1,000 and an all-expense-paid trip to Washington, D.C.

Other stuff

BOOYA UPDATE

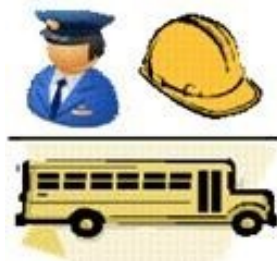
Past Commander Lee Ulferts and Booya Dave received awards from 2 star General Neal from MACV. ALSO the BLUE STAR MOTHERS received an award during the booya. Booya sold out by 3:40 PM and made \$2850+.



Safety

Program Chair Don Herman

Have you entered into the
Community service report
your safety Volunteer work?



If you have participated, or assisted in any work that deals with Pedestrian Safety, Drug Awareness, Recreational Safety, Highway Safety, Home and Fire Safety or other Safety projects please submit this on the [Community Service and Volunteer form](#).

Don't forget to also include Time spent donating blood anything that you do for the betterment of others has a place on the Community service and Volunteer form.

The Cooties Corner

By CCDB Terry Wagner



As we enter into the holiday seasons let us not only remember our deployed service members but also our veterans confined to hospitals, veteran's homes, and extended care facilities. Join us for our annual turkey raffle on November 22nd. This event along with the proceeds from the nut and candy machines' in our post, allow us to continue our local efforts to "Keep them smiling in beds of white."



I invite anyone that would like to learn more about the Cooties and possibly joining us, to talk to any of our officers about membership.

To contact me:

E-mail at wagnerterry@comcast.net

Or phone at 612-581-2719

Terry E. Wagner

CCDB PT (Sticktites) #66



COOTIES TURKEY RAFFLE!!



FRIDAY NOVEMBER
22ND
5PM

Veterans' Issues

By Post Service Officer Jeff Jarosz

**The journey of a pint of life
saving blood begins with you.**

Dear Valued Blood Program Leader,

Thank you for hosting a blood drive. Your willingness to open your doors and recruit blood donors is vital to the lives of the patients that we serve. Your support and generosity helps to ensure blood needs are met locally. And, once that is done, assists the Red Cross in ensuring blood is available when and where it is needed the most – the ongoing fulfillment of our mission depends on you!

Your blood drive held in September is now on its way to helping hospital patients at the below hospitals. You and your team should be proud!

While there may have been other hospitals that benefited from your efforts, the following hospitals received the majority of blood products collected from your drive.

**UNIV OF MINNESOTA MED CTR-WEST BANK
PARK NICOLLET METHODIST HOSPITAL
UNITY HOSPITAL
MAYO CLINIC HEALTH SYSTEM NEW PRAGUE
UNITED HOSPITAL DISTRICT**

FREE LEGAL ADVICE FOR VETERANS

Up coming dates for legal clinics in Anoka for 2019-2020 are:

Thursday, Dec 5 2019 - 9 A.M. - 3 P.M.

Thursday, Mar 5, 2020 - 9 A.M. - 3 P.M.

Thursday, June 4, 2020 - 9 A.M. - 3 P.M.

Thursday, Sept 3, 2020 - 9 A.M. - 3 P.M.

Anoka County Government Center
Room 237 2100
3rd Avenue Anoka, MN 5530

This is interesting. I saw the movie *Flags of our Fathers* and now two of the Marines that the movie was all about were not the Flag Raisers. See the full story on page 14.

This comes from Dr. Patrick Teefy, Cardiology Head at the Nuclear Medicine Institute University Hospital, London Ont. Canada

Let's say it's 7:25 pm and you're going home (alone of course) after an unusually hard day on the job. You're really tired, upset and frustrated. Suddenly you start experiencing severe

pain in your chest that starts to drag out into your arm and up into your jaw. You are only about five km from the hospital nearest your home. Unfortunately you don't know if you'll be able to make it that far.

You have been trained in CPR, but the guy that taught the course did not tell you how to perform it on yourself.

HOW TO SURVIVE A HEART ATTACK WHEN ALONE?

1. Since many people are alone when they suffer a heart attack without help, the person whose heart is beating improperly and who begins to feel faint has only about 10 seconds left before losing consciousness.
2. However, these victims can help themselves by coughing repeatedly and very vigorously.
3. A deep breath should be taken before each cough, and the cough must be deep and prolonged, as when producing sputum from deep inside the chest.
4. A breath and a cough must be repeated about every two seconds without let-up until help arrives, or until the heart is felt to be beating normally again.

I have attached a list of restaurants serving free meals on Veteran's Day - see pages 17 & 18

If any member has questions about their earned VA benefits, Minnesota Veteran's benefits or questions about filing a VA claim, I can be reached at jajarosz@q.com or 763-434-9708

Jeff

Anoka County Veterans Advocate

Attached is the Anoka County Veterans Advocate link that has some very interesting information for all veterans. [Click Here](#)

TRICARE

Sign up for TRICARE email updates [Click here](#)

Pharmacy Copayments to Increase Starting Jan. 1, 2020 On Jan. 1, some copayments for your prescription drugs will increase. If you get your prescriptions through the TRICARE Pharmacy Home Delivery or at a retail network pharmacy, you'll pay anywhere from \$2 to \$7 more starting Jan. 1. Congress made this change in the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2018.

Read the [full article](#).

Veterans' Issues

By Post Service Officer Jeff Jarosz

Here is the latest news on the Blue Water Agent Orange claims.

DO NOT ATTEMPT TO FILE A CLAIM YOURSELF, USE THE ANOKA COUNTY VETERAN SERVICE OFFICE, THE VFW SERVICE OFFICE OR CALL JEFF JAROSZ, YOUR POST SERVICE OFFICER AT 763-434-9708 TO ANSWER YOUR QUESTIONS ABOUT STARTING A CLAIM.

Veterans Affairs officials are confident they'll be able to start processing "blue water" Vietnam veterans disability claims at the start of next year, but also acknowledged a tight timeline ahead for the training and technology work to get the department ready for those cases.

But House lawmakers expressed concerns that even minor hiccups in that work could mean significant delays for veterans who have already waited decades for their benefits.

"These people have waited too long, and we finally have the legislation in place," said Rep. Mike Bost, R-Ill., ranking member on the House Veterans' Affairs committee's panel on disability assistance. "We need to get it done."

In June, President Donald Trump signed into law legislation finalizing presumptive benefits status for "blue water" veterans who served on ships off the coast of Vietnam during the war there. Under VA rules, veterans who served on land in the war are presumed to have toxic exposure related to spraying of the defoliant known as Agent Orange during the war, but sailors on ships off the coast of Vietnam were not given the same concession.

Now, with the new law, as many as 90,000 veterans could be eligible for the new presumptive status and thousands of dollars a month in disability benefits.

But the legislation allowed VA officials to delay processing those cases until Jan. 1, 2020, even though some cases were already being considered due to a federal court ruling earlier in the year.

Advocates and some lawmakers have complained that the wait has put another unfortunate burden on veterans suffering from Agent Orange exposure for decades. On Wednesday, in an update hearing before the committee, VA Deputy Under Secretary for Field Operations Willie Clark repeated that the delay was needed to get department systems in line for an expected flood of claims.

In the last few days, Veterans Benefits Administration officials have sent out letters to more than 77,000 veterans whose past disability claims connected to Agent Orange exposure have been denied. Those individuals will have to refile with the department next year if they want their cases reconsidered.

Clark said a ship locator tool to help claims processor verify veterans' assignments during the war should be finished the first week in December. New training for those processors is scheduled to be finished by December 13. Eight regional processing offices will be assigned with handling the new cases to ensure consistency and efficiency in finishing the claims reviews.

"We are on track to begin awarding the benefits on Jan. 1."

Lawmakers said they are hopeful but wary.

Rep. Elaine Luria, D-Va. and chairwoman of the disability assistance panel, questioned whether officials are scanning enough deck logs to ensure a complete look at veterans eligibility. She also echoed concerns from veterans advocates that individuals will have to navigate a confusing array of forms and other paperwork that will further delay benefits processing.

"Veterans feel the burden is always put upon them," she said. "We want to make this as simple as possible for them instead."

Other lawmakers voiced concerns that the department for now is not including submarines patrolling the waters, despite evidence sailors aboard would have been susceptible to the same toxic exposures.

Clark said officials are still troubleshooting those issues. He said benefits officials are committed to working with veterans to help them better understand the process, and prepared to make adjustments as needed. They will also prioritize cases of veterans more than 85 years old, and those facing terminal illnesses or financial hardship.

More information on filing for claims is available on the VA web site.

Legislation

By Program Chair Larry Fonder

Greetings Palmer Lake Comrades, Friends, & Family,

Having just gone through the rigors of purchasing a home, credit is fresh on my mind. We all know the importance of a good credit score and the vigilance required to protect it and the nearly insurmountable pains to remove erroneous negative information. Fortunately, the House of Representatives agrees and has introduced H.R. 4360, VA Over-payment Accountability Act

[Read More Here](#)

The bill serves to hold the federal VA accountable for the submission of erroneous information to a consumer reporting agency regarding the indebtedness of any person who has been determined by the Secretary to be indebted to the United States by virtue of the participation of that person in a benefits program.

Simply put, if the VA mistakenly establishes a debt due to over-payment of VA benefits and reports the debt to a credit agency, the VA must fix the mistake with the credit agency and have the erroneous information removed. As simple as it sounds, the action is huge – as anyone who has gone through the pains of removing

incorrect information from their credit report can testify!

If you receive VA pension, compensation, or education benefits, you run the risk of incurring an erroneous debt – despite the incredible work by the people at the VA, mistakes happen, however this legislation will work to correct it when they do.

Comrade Larry Fonder

VFW3915legislativechair@gmail.com



The VFW Action Corps Weekly, an easy-to-read electronic newsletter that highlights the VFW's advocacy efforts on Capitol Hill. Immediate access to a nationwide database of contact information for all elected officials, a congressional directory.

Regular VFW "Action Alerts" on how to get involved when our nation's veterans, service members and their families need their voices heard on Capitol Hill.

To view this week's edition: [Click here](#)

Veteran and Post Activities

By Program Chair Blair Sorvari

POST ACTIVITIES (Open to all Post, Auxiliary Members and their Guests)

Monday Texas Hold'em Poker – Starts at 7 pm and goes until one individual has all the chips. This is open to All Members and Guests and there is no cost to play. Winners receive Palmer Lake Gift cards and can earn points to larger Tournaments.

Wednesday and Friday – Bingo (6:30) and Bargo (7:30) respectively

Tuesday (5:00) and Saturday a (3:30) – Meat Raffles

Tuesday - Horseshoes \$6 and play starts at 6 PM

Friday - \$3 burger nights

Saturday - Cribbage starts first Sat in October - Noon sharp. Sign-up starts at 11 AM, **first come, first served**

The Post is now serving lunch while supplies last:

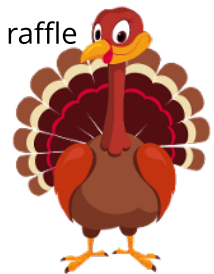
Monday - one of either soup or chili - \$3

Tuesday - a sandwich - \$3 or \$4

Wednesday - Tacos - 2 for \$3

Thursday - Manager's Choice

Don't forget the Cootie's turkey raffle on the 22nd



Mid Winter Conference Room and Banquet Signup now open

When the leaves fall that is a sure sign it is time to start thinking about the mid winter conference in Minneapolis January 17, 18 and 19. Because a great deal of business is conducted at this meeting the Commander often asks some of the Post leaders to attend the conference and/or banquet. The Quartermaster is charged with reserving rooms and purchasing banquet tickets for those comrades.

If you are one of those folks the commander has asked to attend there is an easy request form you need to complete. You must submit your request before December 15th so all the requests can be combined and submitted. The form is located at: [Click Here](#)

Tom Heinrich, Quartermaster

Palmer Lake VFW Post 3915

Minnesota Vikings Salute to Service on Friday Nov 15th! 5PM

-Vikings Legends/Players

-Vikings Cheerleaders

-Salute to Service Apparel Giveaways

-Viktor appearances

It'll be fun! Arrive early

-Silent Auction

-Photo Op's

-KFAN

Veteran and Post Activities

VOLUNTEER NEEDED

Are you the type of person who is great with organizing records and who is looking for a unique volunteer opportunity at the Post? This volunteer opportunity would be right up your alley.

As published in October's General Orders the Department Quartermaster has advised all Posts to verify they have each members application for membership on file. This is to satisfy the IRS requirement for our exempt status.

Our Post does maintain the original application for membership from each of our members. However, over the years the drawer containing this information has become disorganized and, well, kind of a mess. It needs some tender loving care. The project would require the use of the current membership list and then locating the application and properly filing the application. Unneeded applications can be archived.

The advantage of this project is it can be done at your convenience and no time deadline is required. It just needs to keep moving forward. The project ends when 100% of our current members have an application on file. Our post has between 500 and 600 members at any given time.

If you are the right person for this task please contact the Quartermaster at 3915Quartermaster@gmail.com

Tom Heinrich, Quartermaster

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT



Steve and Judy Peterson just celebrated their 35 Year Membership at Palmer Lake VFW Post 3915. When they joined the organization, they fondly remember when the canteen (bar) was a house in the front of our existing hall. In 1985, Steve helped build the existing canteen along with many other Post Members.

Steve became eligible for membership in the VFW because of his service in Vietnam with the Army's 25th Infantry Division from 1969-1970. While in Vietnam, Steve was awarded the Army's Commendation Medal as well as the Combat Infantry Badge for service under fire.

As a Post Member and Officer of the Day, Steve also serves with the Honor Guard, assists with the Blood Drive, Gun Safety and many other Post events.

Judy is currently 1st Year Trustee in the Auxiliary and has volunteered for many of the Auxiliary fundraising events and enjoys assisting where needed. The Peterson's are having fun in retirement and they just celebrated their 44th wedding anniversary! Steve and Judy have valued the friendship and comradery of the many wonderful, dedicated people they have met in the VFW organization over the years.

(If you are or know someone who should be in the members spotlight please send their story to the editor.)

Americanism and Citizenship

Program Chair George Hunt

Upcoming Holidays Dates

November from the Latin "Novem" because this had been the ninth month of the early Roman Calendar

Nov 3 - Daylight Saving time ends

Nov 5 - Election Day

Nov 10th - U.S. Marine Corps Established (1775)

Nov 11 - Veterans Day and Signing of WWI Armistice (1918)

Nov 21 - Grenada Campaign Ended (1983)

Nov 28 - Thanksgiving Day



In 1789 Pres George Washington called on the people of the US to acknowledge God for affording them "an opportunity peaceably to establish a form of government for their safety and Happiness" by observing a day of thanksgiving.

In 1863 Thanksgiving became a national holiday by Pres Abraham Lincoln asking his fellow citizens "to set apart and observe the last Thursday of Nov next as a day of thanksgiving "

In 1941 Congress designated the fourth Thursday in November as Thanksgiving Day, thus creating a federal holiday.

Thanksgiving dates back to the 1600's, with the most famous being the Pilgrims in Plymouth Mass. who feasted for 3 days with the Wampanoag people in 1621.

Turkey became traditional because at one time it was an expensive and rare treat. Astronauts Neil Armstrong and Edwin Aldrin ate roast turkey in foil packets for their first meal on the moon.

Dates to Note

Next Aux meeting November 12th at 1800

Next Post meeting November 13th at 1900

Next Hospital Visit November 19th at 1900 meet at the post at 1830

Veterans Day Ceremony Nov. 11th Minneapolis Vets Home @1400

PP/VOD/TOTY Awards Banquet Dec. 2nd Coon Rapids VFW #9625 @1830

7th District Meeting December 7th Brooklyn Park #3915 @10:00

Annual Midwinter Conference Jan. 18-20 Minneapolis Marriott Center

Blue Star Mom's meet the 3rd Thursday of every month.

Blood Drive Monday, November 4th 2019

Monday, January 13th 2020

Monday, March 16th 2020

Monday, May 11th 2020

Monday, July 6th 2020

Monday August 31st 2020

2nd Annual Ice Fishing Contest - February 21, 2020

Help Wanted

Content Contributor/Video Editor – Looking for an individual that is tech savvy that can assist in uploading and managing YouTube content, along with editing video content. Maybe also an opportunity to record content. There is no pay associated with this job, it is strictly volunteer.

Email - palmerlake.vfw3915@gmail.com

Newsletter Journalist – This newsletter should be more than just the commander or the President giving out information. If you have something you want to share, this is your chance. Send an email to the newsletter editor at editor.palmerlakepost3915@gmail.com with an article or a picture you want added to the newsletter, it will be looked at, and someone will be in touch with you.

Contact us

Commander palmerlake.vfw3915@gmail.com

Auxiliary President Auxiliary.vfw3915@gmail.com

Newsletter information editor.palmerlakepost3915@gmail.com

Club Manager clubmanager.vfw3915@gmail.com

Lawn Care Team davthomp07@gmail.com



Club Manager Andrea Moy

- NOVEMBER -						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					PRICE IS RIGHT! 10AM	1 BLOODYS + SCREWDRIVERS \$3.50 MEAT RAFFLE + RACES 3:30 KARAOKE 730
FREE TACO BAR NOON!	MEMBER DRAWING 5:30 POKER 7PM HAPPY HOUR 6-8PM	MEAT RAFFLE 5PM GUEST DRAWING 530 HAPPY HOUR 6-8	AUX. DRAWING 530 BINGO 630 HAPPY HOUR 6-8	7 PRICE IS RIGHT! 10AM BARGO 730 DJ JEFF 930	8 BLOODYS + SCREWDRIVERS \$3.50 MEAT RAFFLE + RACES 330 LIVE MUSIC - TAILSPIN - 730-1130	9 BLOODYS + SCREWDRIVERS \$3.50 MEAT RAFFLE + RACES 330
\$3.50 BLOODYS + SCREWDRIVERS 10-5 VIKINGS 720	MEMBER DRAWING 5:30 POKER 7PM HAPPY HOUR 6-8PM	MEAT RAFFLE 5PM GUEST DRAWING 530 HAPPY HOUR 6-8	AUX 530 DRAWING BINGO 630 HAPPY HOUR 6-8	14 OPEN BAND 8PM HAPPY HOUR 6-8	15 MN VIKINGS STS TOUR! 630-830 NO BARGO!!! DJ JEFF 830	16 BLOODYS + SCREWDRIVERS \$3.50 MEAT RAFFLE + RACES 330 KARAOKE 730
\$3.50 BLOODYS + SCREWDRIVERS VIKINGS NOON	MEMBER DRAWING 5:30 POKER 7PM HAPPY HOUR 6-8PM	MEAT RAFFLE 5PM GUEST DRAWING 530 HAPPY HOUR 6-8	AUX DRAWING 530 BINGO 630 HAPPY HOUR 6-8	21 KARAOKE 730 HAPPY HOUR 6-8	22 COOTIES TURKEY RAFFLE 5PM BARGO 730 DJ JEFF 930	23 BLOODYS + SCREWDRIVERS \$3.50 MEAT RAFFLE + RACES 330 MUSIC TRIVIA 8PM
BLOODYS + SCREWDRIVERS \$3.50 10AM-5PM	MEMBER DRAWING 530 POKER 7PM HAPPY HOUR 6-8PM	MEAT RAFFLE 5PM GUEST DRAWING 530 HAPPY HOUR 6-8	AUX 530 DRAWING THANKSGIVING EVE PARTY 8PM - DJ JEFF HAPPY HOUR 6-8	27 OPEN 10AM-1AM THANKSGIVING	28 BLACK FRIDAY! BARGO 730 DJ JEFF 930	29 BLOODYS + SCREWDRIVERS \$3.50 MEAT RAFFLE + RACES 3:30 KARAOKE 730

Veterans' Issues

By Post Service Officer Jeff Jarosz

Warrior In Iconic Iwo Jima Flag-Raising Photo Was Misidentified, Marines Corps Acknowledges

Historians determined that Cpl. Harold 'Pie' Keller was one of the six men who raised

(NBCNEWS.COM 16 OCT 19) ... Corky Siemaszko

The list of heroes immortalized in the iconic photo of the U.S. flag being raised over Iwo Jima has been revised again.

The Marine Corps acknowledged on Wednesday that for 74 years, it had misidentified one of the six fighting men who appeared in the Pulitzer Prize-winning photograph by Associated Press photographer Joe Rosenthal.

The admission came after three historians, using film footage from atop Mount Suribachi and photos taken by other soldiers who were there, concluded that Cpl. Harold "Pie" Keller — not Pfc. Rene Gagnon — was one of the flag-raisers in the photograph.

The findings of historians Stephen Foley, Dustin Spence and Brent Westmeyer were confirmed by a special investigative board convened by the Marines and by investigators from the FBI's Digital Evidence Laboratory.

"Without the initiative and contributions of both private historians devoted to preservation of our history and the FBI's Digital Evidence Laboratory, the Marine Corps would not have this opportunity to expand on the historical record of the second flag raising on Mount Suribachi," the Marine Corps said in a statement.

The addition of Keller's name comes three years after an earlier Marine Corps inquiry concluded that Pfc. Harold Schultz was one of the six flag-raisers, not Navy hospital corpsman John Bradley as had been believed for seven decades.

"Regardless of who was in the photograph, each and every Marine who set foot on Iwo Jima, or supported the effort from the sea and air around the island is, and always will be, a part of our Corps' cherished history," the Marines' statement read. "In the words of General David H. Berger, Commandant of the Marine Corps, 'they are all heroes.'"

The discovery that Keller, a Purple Heart winner who fought in the biggest battles of the Pacific theater, was in the Rosenthal photo came as a shock to his family in Brooklyn, Iowa.

"He never spoke about any of this when we were growing up," Keller's daughter, Kay Maurer, 70, told NBC News. "We knew he fought in the war, we knew he was wounded in the shoulder at one point...But he didn't tell us he helped raise the flag on Mount Suribachi."

There was evidence Keller was there hanging in plain sight on the family's living room wall — a framed photo of another renowned Rosenthal photo from Feb. 23, 1945, the so-called Gung Ho shot of 18 Marines on the summit with the flag in the background, Maurer said.

"Now we know he's in that photo, too," Maurer said of her father, who got his nickname after he ate too much pie before a football game and threw up in front of his friends. "When I would ask him about the photo on our wall, he would say something like, 'That group raised a flag.' He just never spoke much about this when we were growing up."

Keller and Gagnon both died of heart attacks in 1979. Keller was 57 and there was no mention of Iwo Jima in his obituary. Gagnon was 54 when he died seven months later and is buried in Arlington National Cemetery. His obituary on the cemetery site refers to him as an "Iwo Jima Flag Raiser."

There were actually two Iwo Jima flag-raising on Feb. 23, 1945, to signal that one of the bloodiest battles of World War II was won. The first flag was deemed too small by military brass and replaced a few hours after it went up with a second, larger flag. Rosenthal's prize-winning picture was of the second flag-raising.

"Private First Class Gagnon played a significant role in the flag raising on Mount Suribachi and his role will never be diminished," the Marines said in a statement. "He was directly responsible for getting the larger second flag to the top and returning the first flag for safe keeping. Without his efforts, this historical event might not have been captured, let alone even occurred."

Spence, Foley and Westmeyer are military historians who have long had a keen interest in Iwo Jima and what

Veterans' Issues

By Post Service Officer Jeff Jarosz

happened there.

Foley, who is Irish, was one of the two historians who worked on confirming that Schultz was in the Rosenthal photo, not Bradley. Bradley was the subject of the bestseller "Flags of Our Fathers," which was written by his son, James Bradley. It was later turned into a movie by Clint Eastwood.

Maurer said Westemeyer had long harbored suspicions that Gagnon was not one of the six flag raisers. "The first time he thought it might be my dad was because of his stature," she said.

Keller was a strapping, square-jawed Marine while Gagnon was more slender and had a distinctive mole on this face, Westemeyer said.

Westemeyer's suspicions hardened into certainty in 2014 after he immersed himself in the film footage that was taken on the summit by Sgt. Bill Genaust, a Marine cameraman who was killed in action a week later.

"After watching Genaust's footage a thousand times over, I was a 100 percent certain Gagnon was not in the number two position," Westemeyer said.

Westemeyer was referring to the position of the men who appear in the Rosenthal photo, which until Wednesday was, from left to right, Ira Hayes, Schultz, Michael Strank, Franklin Sousley, Gagnon and Harlon Block.

Of the six figures in the photo, the man in the position second from the right is the most obscured in Rosenthal's photo.

Westemeyer, who lives in Iowa, said he shared his belief with Foley via an Iwo Jima forum to which they both belonged. Foley, in turn, had been in contact with the California-based Spence.

"I started peppering Steve, 'It's Harold 'Pie' Keller,'" Westemeyer said.

They compared stills from Genaust's footage with photographs of the scene taken from different vantage points by other photographers who were there, including Army Pft. George Burns. Spence tracked down the Burns photographs at Foley's urging and after reading an NBC News article in 2016 about Burns and

another forgotten military photographer, Marine Sgt. Louis Burmeister.

Foley then tracked down a photograph in 2017 taken by Marine Pvt. Bob Campbell, which showed two men saluting as the six men are raising the flag.

Also, a closer look at Rosenthal's prize-winning photo revealed what appeared to be the "reflection of a ring" on the left hand of the man in the second spot, Spence said.

"Keller was married, Gagnon wasn't," Spence said.

In fact, Keller met and married his wife, Ruby, in a "whirlwind romance" while home on leave in February 1944, Spence said.

There were other clues in the photographs they collected, Spence said, like the camouflage pattern and creases on Keller's helmet matching that of the man in the second spot.

But it was a Campbell photo that shows Gagnon, with his telltale mole visible, reaching for the first flag while Keller and the others are raising the second flag on the summit that sealed it for the historians.

"Campbell's Exchange photo was made public many, many moons ago," Westemeyer said. "We simply did not focus on who was lowering number one."

Keller was slated to go to officer training school at Quantico, Virginia, when the war ended and he decided, instead, to go home. He returned to his job as a telephone lineman and raised two sons and his daughter, Kay.

"I think he just came home and wanted to put it all behind him," Maurer said. "Just carry on."

Maurer could recall only a couple of other tidbits from the war that his father told her.

"Once he told me what jungle rot was," she said. "The other thing we knew about was that he got to see Eleanor Roosevelt when she visited the troops."

Maurer said she learned from her mother that her father had nightmares from time to time when he first came home from the war. She said that, in time, they stopped. But habits her father picked up in the service

Veterans' Issues

By Post Service Officer Jeff Jarosz

stuck with him.

"When he ate, he would always leave a little food on his plate," Maurer said. "We were always told to clean our plates but he never did. Finally I asked him why and he said: 'When I was in the war, we weren't always sure when we would get our rations. So I would save a bit. I can't break that habit now.'"

Veterans' Issues

By Post Service Officer Jeff Jarosz

Here is a list of some of the restaurants giving free Vet meals on Nov. 11.th.

54th Street Grill, Nov. 11, 2019. Free entree, up to \$12, for Veterans and Active Duty Military. Proof of service required, Dine-in Only. [More info.](#)

A

Applebee's, Nov. 11, 2019: One of 8 entrées to choose from for a free meal. Military ID or proof of service required. You can read all about the offer in our post [here](#), and get [more information](#) and check out all of Applebee's [locations](#) on their website.

B

Baker's Square, Nov. 11, 2019. Free breakfast choice of one FREE Rise & Shine where guests can enjoy two eggs served with seasoned hash browns or fresh fruit. Served with your choice of toast, buttermilk pancakes, English muffin, bakery muffin or biscuit. Participating locations with proof of military service. [More info.](#)

BJs Restaurant and Brewhouse, Nov. 11, 2019. Free entree, up to \$14.95 value, plus a free Dr. Pepper beverage. Offer valid to all active duty military and veterans, with proof of service. Dine-in only. [More info.](#)

Burntwood Tavern, Nov. 11, 2019. Free lunch or dinner for all active duty military and veterans. Proof of service or ID required. Available at all locations. [More info.](#)

C

Calhoun's Restaurant, Nov. 11, 2019. Veterans and Military members eat free on Veteran's Day. Proof of Service required. [Locations.](#)

California Pizza Kitchen, Nov. 11, 2019. Choose a pizza, full-size salad, or pasta from the special Veterans Day Menu. Participating locations; Dine-in only. Please come in uniform or bring your military I.D. or other proof of service. [More info.](#)

Cattlemens Steakhouse, Nov. 11, 2019. Free 8 oz Sirloin Steak Dinner on Veterans Day. Call your local Cattlemen's for details and to verify participation. Proof of service required. [More info.](#)

CentraArchy Restaurants, Nov. 11, 2019. Free meal for veterans at select [locations](#) of New York Prime, California Dreaming, The Tavern at Phipps, Chophouse New Orleans, Carolina Roadhouse, Joey D's Oak Room, Chophouse '47 or Gulfstream Café. Find all the details at CentraArchy Restaurant's [website](#).

Chop House, Nov. 11th 2019. 50% off any dine-in lunch or dinner entree to veterans with military ID or in uniform.

[Locations.](#)

Chili's, Nov. 11, 2019. Free meal from a select menu. Dine-in only and participating locations only. Proof of military service required. [More info.](#)

Cici's Pizza, Nov. 11, 2019. Free pizza buffet with Military ID. [More info.](#)

Connors Steak & Seafood, Nov. 11th 2019. 50% off any dine-in lunch or dinner entree to veterans with military ID or in uniform. [Locations.](#)

Cotton Patch Café, Nov. 11, 2019. Free meal for current and former military members. Choices include full-size chicken fried steak or chicken fried chicken. Proof of service required. You can [learn more](#) on Cotton Patch Cafe's site, as well as seeing where your nearest [location](#) is.

Country Cookin, Nov. 11, 2019. Free salad bar or \$5 off any entree for current and former military. Proof of service required. [More info.](#)

Cracker Barrel, Nov. 11, 2019. Complimentary slice of Double Chocolate Fudge Coca-Cola® Cake for dessert or a Pumpkin Pie Latte (iced or hot). [More info.](#)

F

Famous Dave's, Nov. 11, 2019. Free 2 Meat Lunch Combo served with choice of side and cornbread muffin – for veterans and current military members. Bring proof of service. Participating locations only. [More info.](#)

Farmer Boys, Nov. 11, 2019. Free Big Cheese cheeseburgers to veterans and active duty military with valid proof of service. [More info & participating Locations.](#)

G

Golden Corral, Nov. 11, 2019 (5pm – 9pm): The 19th annual Golden Corral Military Appreciation dinner is available to any person who has ever served in the United States Military. If you are a veteran, retired, currently serving, in the National Guard or Reserves, you are invited to participate in [Golden Corral's Military Appreciation dinner](#), which you can learn all about in our post [here](#).

Veterans' Issues

By Post Service Officer Jeff Jarosz

Grub Burger Bar, Nov. 11, 2019. Free entree for active, inactive, and retired military personnel. Proof of military service is required. [More info.](#) Find your nearest [location](#) here.

H

Houlihan's, Nov. 11, 2019. Free meal from Veterans Day menu for active military and veterans with ID at participating locations only. [More info.](#) [Locations.](#)

Hy-Vee, Free Breakfast, Nov. 11, 2019. Free Veterans Day breakfast from 6am – 11am at all participating Hy-Vee supermarkets with in-store dining. You can get all the details [here](#).

I

IHOP, Nov. 12, 2019. Free Red, White and Blue pancakes from 7 am – 7 pm. Participating locations only. Please call ahead to verify participation.

J

Joe's Crab Shack, Nov. 11, 2019. 20% Off on Veterans Day, applies to tables of 4 or less. [More info.](#)

L

Little Caesars® Pizza, Nov. 11, 2019. Free pizza or \$5 HOT-N-READY Lunch Combo to all US Armed Forces veterans and active military members between 11:00 AM and 2:00 PM. With proof of military service, at participating stores nationwide. Call ahead to verify participation. [More info.](#)

Logan's Roadhouse, Nov. 11, 2019 (3 pm – 6 pm). Free entrée from the American Roadhouse Meals menu for veterans and active duty military personnel. 10% discount year-round. Call your local Logan's Roadhouse for details and to verify participation. [More info.](#)

M

Manhattan Bagel, Nov. 11, 2019. Free Bagel and Cream Cheese with I.D. (no official link; we received notification via press release) [Locations.](#)

M Italian Restaurant, Nov. 11, 2019. Free lunch or dinner for all active duty military and veterans. Proof of service or ID required. Available at all locations. [Locations.](#)

O

O'Charley's, Nov. 11, 2019. Free meal from the "Veterans Thank You Menu" for veterans and active duty service members on November 11th at participating locations only (some locations may offer a meal from the \$9.99er menu). [More info.](#) [Locations.](#)

Orange Leaf Frozen Yogurt, Nov. 11, 2019. FREE* froyo for all retired and active duty military at participating locations. [More info.](#)

R

Red Robin, Nov. 11, 2019. Free Red's Tavern Double and Bottomless Steak Fries for all Red Robin guests with a military ID or proof of service. [More info.](#)

Rodizio Grill, Nov. 11 – 14, 2019. Veterans eat free with the purchase of one Full Rodizio. Proof of Service required. Verified for Denver location. Participation may vary at other locations – please call ahead.

T

Tuscan Kitchen, Nov. 11, 2019. Free lunch, 11 am – 4 pm. At all 4 locations located in Massachusetts and New Hampshire (Boston's Seaport, Burlington, Salem and Portsmouth). Reservations can be made by calling the desired location directly. The complimentary reservations include one guest per veteran/active military personnel. [Locations.](#)

V

Village Inn, Nov. 11, 2019. Free INN-credible V.I.B. breakfast for veterans and active duty military. Valid on 4 INN-credible items: Cheese Omelette, Strawberry Crepe, Hickory-Smoked Bacon or French Toast. Add-on V.I.B INN-credible items and Supreme items are not included with offer. Call ahead to verify participation of your local Village Inn. [Locations.](#)

W

Wild Wing Café, Nov. 11, 2019. A complimentary meal with proof of service. Veteran may choose from any Awesome Salad, Wild Wrap, Beefy Burger, or Chicken Sandwich. Participating locations only. [More info.](#)