

NEWSLETTER

Shellsville Post 9639 - 8926 Jonestown Road Grantville Pa 17028-8654 - Phone: (717) 469-2195

COMMANDER - Daniel Stefanowich Jr

Fall 2011

LADIES AUX. PRES. - Linda Smith

COMMANDER'S COMMENTS



Dear Members,

I love this bar - It's a great song by Toby Keith and it reminds me of our Post Canteen. We have a great canteen; our Canteen offers a friendly atmosphere, great food and excellent prices and it is here as a service for our members to enjoy.

As proud as I am of our Canteen, that is not what I want to be known for. Too often, when someone refers to "the VFW" they are really talking about the Canteen. It's kind of like the Dallas Cowboys Cheerleaders; the Dallas Cowboys are a football team, not a cheer squad, but they do have one. Our VFW Post is a *Veterans Service Organization*, not a "bar", but we do have one.

Just as the Dallas Cowboys are measured by their accomplishments on the grid-iron, our Post is measured by what we do for our veterans, service members and their families, and, our community. Each year our Post contributes nearly \$20,000 and literally thousands of volunteer hours to over 40 organizations, programs and charitable causes. Only "the best of the best" (about one percent) of VFW Posts are designated as an *All American Post*, and we have held this honor for three years in a row. This, ladies and gentlemen, is what I want to be known for - not cheap beer.

All of our members have a veteran affiliation of some type. Even our *Social Members*, each of whom are sponsored by a veteran, are "...members of the community who support Veterans, Veterans' programs and share the patriotic ideals of the parent organization."

I encourage **ALL** of you to be involved in, and to be proud of, the great work we do as a *Veterans Service Organization*. By all means, enjoy our Canteen but please never forget what we are truly about.



Respectfully Yours
Daniel Stefanowich Jr, Post Commander

PRESIDENT'S DESK



Dear Sisters,

Our busy season is beginning and we will need everyone's help to keep on track. Let's make it another successful year.

Starting Sep 15th meeting, copies of the Secretary and Treasurers report will be handed out at the meetings and be available on line. Ask for access to the Aux area on our web site. This is being done on a four month trial basis to see if it reduces the length of the Ritual and encourages more of our 450 + Sisters to attend meetings. Fall Conference runs Sept 16-18. Several of your officers will be attending to get detailed information on this year's programs.

Our Fall Ham Dinner and Soup Sale will be held Saturday, Oct 15th (see article). Manada Hill Inn Inc will be cooking for us. (Thank you in advance!) We will still need a set-up crew, dishwasher, servers, deserts, and tear down crew. Make some time to help with this fundraiser.

Our Oct meeting is being shifted to the 19th a Wednesday. This will give us more flexibility for, and hopefully more participation in, the Grantville Halloween Parade scheduled for the 20th. The Post has a float where several members of our Post and Auxiliary can sit and distribute candy. The Auxiliary ensures no one feels left out by handing out animal crackers to the infants and toddlers.

Make a Difference Day is October 22nd. Make a difference in someone's life or at your Post. Donate to a Veterans organization. Volunteer your time and comradeship at the Post and Auxiliary activities.

For November, we have our first formal District 18 meeting on the 6th in Mechanicsburg; national elections on the 8th, Holiday care packages; our meeting and Inspection on the 17th, and, Happy Thanksgiving on the 24th. WHEW!!!!

Knowledge is knowing a tomato is a fruit.
Wisdom is knowing not to put it in fruit salad.



Linda Smith, President

QUARTERMASTER'S REPORT

Dear Members,

As Quartermaster, it is my responsibility to share with you the financial condition of both the Post and the Canteen. As most of you know, the VFW Post and the Canteen are two separate legal organizations, requiring two separate sets of financial records.

The funds generated by the VFW Post's fund-raising efforts are used for our Veterans' programs, as well as our programs that support the Community and Youth. Therefore, our support of these programs is dependant upon the amount of income generated by our annual fund-raising efforts. The VFW Post operates on a fiscal year to coincide with the election of our VFW Post Officers. The Post's funds fluctuate from a high point of approximately \$24,000 to a low point of approximately \$6,000 annually, with funds being depleted throughout the year as the various programs are provided and revenues are received from the various fund-raisers. The Post's Trustees on a quarterly basis audit the Post's financial accounts. Generally, the Post's funds are highest at the beginning of the fiscal year, July 1st, since it is right after two of our biggest fund-raisers, the Memorial Day weekend distribution of Buddy Poppies and our 15-week raffle and picnic.

In regard to the financial condition of the VFW Post Canteen, we are operating "in the black", after a few challenging years of losses, prior to 2009. Those previous losses were primarily due to the increased cost of utilities, insurance, and other operating expenses. The Canteen's six-member Board of Directors work very hard at holding down prices in the Canteen to encourage our members and their guests to come and share their comradery and friendships. Since May 2009, Manada Hill Inn Inc. has provided the kitchen and dining operations for our Post Canteen, and has greatly improved the quality of our food service. As members, please continue to utilize the Canteen as often as possible for your food, drink, and friendships, and help support our VFW programs.



Thomas Gordon,
Quartermaster

SERVICE OFFICER'S REPORT

Viet Nam Veterans

There have been big changes in regard to Agent Orange claims in the past year. Three new diseases have been added to the list of presumptive diseases associated with Agent Orange. They are Parkinson disease, Chronic B-Cell Leukemia and Ischemic Heart Disease.

In the VA's January 2010 Compensation and Pension bulletin they listed blue water vessels that were being accepted as serving in Vietnam waterways and were exposed to Agent Orange. Additional vessels continue to be added to that list. If a veteran's service aboard one of these ships can be confirmed through military records during the time frames specified, then exposure to herbicide agents can be presumed without further development.

Another Compensation and Pension bulletin also states that herbicides were used at several Thailand bases in base defense procedures. Korat RTAFB, Nakhon Phanom RTAFB, Ubon RTAFB, Udorn RTAFB, and U-Topal RTNAF are among those bases. In these cases you must stress your living and work areas in relation to the base perimeter.

If any of these changes affect you, or if you have any questions contact a Post Service Officer for assistance.

Early Bird Members Specials

The Department of PA will select 10 Active members to be awarded Life Memberships who pay their 2012 dues early. The earlier you pay the more chances you have at wining one of these prizes. Life membership will be awarded to those who have paid their dues by the end of October, November, and December.

15-WEEK RAFFLE / FUNDRAISER

This fundraiser is over for this year. We had another great year making \$12,803, thanks in part to the many man-hours donated by volunteers towards the program. If you have any suggestions for improvements let us know before next years program gets started in the fall. At least right now the only change we are thinking about is changing the means of drawing the winners. We again anticipate having the raffle ticket available for the ticket sellers by Thanksgiving. We are told that many tickets are used for Christmas presents, what a great idea.



KITCHEN UPDATE



The
Manada Hill
Inn, Inc.

CANTEEN UPDATE

To our membership;

We are experiencing one heck of a hot summer! Hopefully by the time you read this things will become a little more bearable. We are looking forward to some nice fall weather, all the football, World Series and everything that makes Autumn such a special time of year.

As you can see from our enclosed special calendar we are adding some new delights as well as traditional cooler weather favorites like our great chicken pot pie, Tuesday night buffets, roast beef buffets, and of course "all you can eat" Fried Oysters and our Thanksgiving Day Spectacular.

The Manada Hill Inn, Inc. would like to welcome the new members to the Post. We hope you will take advantage of our great food and pricing. We offer first rate restaurant quality food service at considerably lower prices than public restaurants. Please let us know of any questions you have concerning the kitchen operation and catering. We make our living serving and satisfying the needs of club members.

We would also congratulate Commander Dan Stefanowich. We look forward to working with him and the Board and anticipate a successful year ahead.

We have heard some voices of displeasure concerning non-smoking evenings. We must continue to grow our party business in order to help us keep our prices down. We knew when we came to Post 9639 two years ago that the party and catering business would be essential to our success here. Please bear with us on those evenings we have a private function. Smoking is usually allowed by 8 or 9 o'clock on those nights.

We are very grateful for the continued support we receive from the membership and the Board and we hope to serve this club for many years to come.

Sincerely and in service,
Grant Kyler and Mike Lawyer
The Manada Hill Inn, Inc.
717-829-3432
manadahill@gmail.com

Harrisburg Senators



The Harrisburg Senators honor the VFW with a night at the park. Discount tickets were available on line. Our Poppy Queen was also on the field.

Dear Members:

I want to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support, especially in the midst of these excruciating Dog Days of Summer.

We have added a new bartender, Stephanie Hollen. Stop in, say hi and welcome her. We also have a new cleaning person for those of you who stop in during the day her name is Bernadette Lyons. Steph & Bernie are welcome additions to our staff.

In case you haven't noticed we recently contracted to have the tin roofs and the outside doors painted. Volunteers have replaced the exterior door at the loading dock. Volunteers are currently working on painting the lettering and graphics on the front of the building. Hopefully that will be done by the time the newsletter comes out. Two additional volunteers have also spent many hours working in the picnic area. They painted the kitchen and have also painted many tables. Their goal is to have all the tables done by the end of the summer.

Tammy Grove, Canteen Manager

Dates to Remember

- 9/9 - Patriot Day Fest- 6 11 PM
- 9/11- Patriot Day
- 9/15 - POST Auxiliary Meeting - 7:00 PM
- 9/22 - POST Active Meeting - 7:30 PM
- 9/22 - Canteen Meeting - Following Post Meeting
- 9/27 - VAMC Patient Birthday Party - 2 PM
- 10//8 - Golf Tournament - 1:30 PM Shotgun Start
- 10/9 - Woods Close - Up - 9 AM
- 10/15 - Ladies Auxiliary Ham Dinner - 4 PM
- 10/15 - Winter Newsletter Articles to the Editor
- 10/19 - POST Auxiliary Meeting - (Wed) 7:30 PM
- 10/20 - Halloween Parade - 6 PM at Post
- 10/22 - Fall Road Clean-Up - (Donuts 8:30) 9 AM
- 10/26 - VAMC Patient Birthday Party - 2 PM
- 10/27 - POST Active Meeting - 7:30 PM
- 10/27 - Canteen Meeting - Following Post Meeting
- Nov - Sign up for the Children's Christmas Party
- 11/6 - 18th District Meeting - 2 PM - Mechanicsburg
- 11/8 - Election Day - **GET OUT and VOTE**
- 11/11 - Veterans Day - Canteen opens at noon
- 11/11 - 13 - Buddy Poppy Fundraiser - All Weekend
- 11/16 - Newsletter Labeling 6 PM
- 11/17 - POST Auxiliary Meeting - 7 PM
- 11/23 - POST Active Meeting - Wednesday-7:30PM
- 11/23 - Canteen Meeting - Following Post Meeting
- 11/24 - Thanksgiving Buffet - Open to the Public - Bar Closed
- 11/28 - Decorate Canteen for the Holidays
- 11/30 - VAMC Patient Birthday Party - 2 PM

**Prestigious Honor of
“All-American Post”
Third Time**

This past year, 2010/2011, the Eshleman-Pankake-Wolf (Shellsville) Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 9639 again received the prestigious honor of being named an “All-American Post”. Annually, the VFW State Commander nominates those Posts that have fulfilled mandatory requirements, grow by 5% in membership, and support the many Veterans programs necessary for consideration of this high honor. Prior to 2008/2009, our Post never received this National honor even though we had been named an “All-State Post” numerous times by the VFW State Commander.

Being named an “All-American Post” by the VFW National Commander for the third time is truly an honor, since **less than 2% of all the VFW Posts in the Nation are awarded this honor**. In fact, only 9 VFW Posts in Pennsylvania out of the 505 VFW Posts received this honor in 2010/2011. This shows that the members of VFW Post 9639 support our Veterans and service members, Community, and Youth.

PATRIOT’S PEN CONTEST

Annually, roughly 112,000, students from grades 6-8, enter to win one of several savings bonds totaling \$1.2 million, as well as an all-expense-paid trip to Washington, D.C. for the National first place winner.

Students draft a 300-400 word essay, expressing their views based on an - always patriotic - annual theme chosen by the VFW Commander-in-Chief.

WHO CAN ENTER:

The Patriot's Pen program is open to students in grades 6-8, who are enrolled in a public, private or parochial high school or home study program in the United States and its territories.

HOW TO ENTER:

Students should first ask a teacher or youth group leader to supervise their progress in the competition. Next, it's time to start drafting considering the 2011-2012 theme: ***"Are You Proud of Your Country?"*** Essays must be no less than 300 words and should not exceed 400 words and should be submitted to the Post, along with the completed Patriot's Pen entry form no later than Nov 1, 2011.

JUDGING CRITERIA:

Knowledge of the Theme, Theme Development, and Clarity of Ideas.

Questions: e-mail: rgrubb@vfw9639.org

Additional Information and Forms are available at:

<http://vfw.org/community/programs/>

Post NEWSLETTER

In 2010/2011 the Spring Edition of our Post Newsletter received first place recognition at both State and National levels in the “VFW National Publication Contest” for a post our size. This contest is for communicating important VFW news and information that promotes growth and participation in VFW programs. On August 29th, Past Commander Gordon will be traveling to the National Convention in San Antonio and will receive the award on behalf of our post.

First Annual Patriot Day Fest

Please join us for our first annual Patriot Day Fest, a wine and music festival scheduled for Friday evening from 6 pm to 11 pm, September 9th 2011 at the VFW picnic grounds. The festival will feature some of our local wineries, local musical talent and local food vendors. Ticket price is \$15 in advance or \$20 at the gate with proceeds benefiting various veterans programs. Please be aware that this is an ‘adult only’ event for our 21 and over crowd.

Voice of Democracy (VOD) Program

Each year, more than 51,000 high school students from across the country enter to win a share of the \$2.2 million in educational scholarships and incentives awarded through the VFW’s Voice of Democracy audio-essay competition.

WHO CAN ENTER:

The Voice of Democracy Program is open to students in grades 9-12, who are enrolled in a public, private or parochial high school or home study program in the United States and its territories.

HOW TO ENTER:

Students should first draft their essay based on the 2011-2012 theme: ***"Is There Pride in Serving in Our Military?"*** Students should then record their reading of the draft to a CD. The recording should be no shorter than 3 minutes and no longer than 5 minutes (plus or minus 5 seconds). Entries begin at the Post level. Once the student has created their essay and completed burning the audio version to a CD or Audio Cassette, they should submit their (double space) typed version, CD/Cassette and the Voice of Democracy entry form to our VFW Post no later than November 1, 2011.

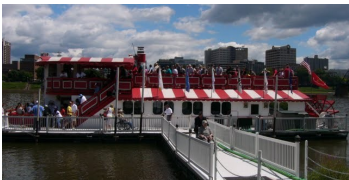
Flag Retirement Program

This years annual flag retirement ceremony was conducted on June 22nd. With the help of local Boy Scouts, we retired over 600 flags.

At this year's ceremony we had the honor to have with us members of the Viet Nam Veterans of America, Chapter 542 of Harrisburg, Perform a "Field Cross Ceremony". The ceremony symbolizes the initial battlefield ceremony and marking of the burial spot of a fallen comrade.



Pride of the Susquehanna, River Boat Cruise



Each summer the 18th District of the VFW sponsors monthly River Boat Cruises for the veterans in the area nursing homes and hospitals. Some coming from as far away as Martinsburg West Virginia. Our Post is very supportive of this veterans event and active in District activities. On cruise day, members from our post as well as members from other Veterans organizations meet at 10 AM sharp to start getting ready for the days events. As the buses arrive, we help the veterans get situated on the boat. After the cruise the veterans are treated to a picnic lunch before heading back home.

Poppy Queen



The Post, On May 26th crowned Eve E. Shumaker as Poppy Queen for 2010/2011.



Eve is following in her mother Tanya's footsteps who was herself a Poppy Queen. Since her crowning Eve has assisted in distributing Buddy Poppies, rode in the Annville Memorial Day Parade, and attended a Senators game.



Post Golf Outing

Please come out with your foursome and enjoy a great day of golf and Post camaraderie. This event will be held on Saturday, October 8th at the Manada Golf Club. It will be a 1:30 Shotgun Start. Food and beverages will be included in the cost. Please look for the sign up sheet at the VFW Canteen for more details and to register for this event.

Ladies Auxiliary Ham Dinner And Bean Soup Sale



Oct 15, 2011
4 PM to 7 PM

Adults \$8.50 Kids (4-12) \$4.50
Under 4 Free

"Come Out and Enjoy a Great Dinner"

Eshleman-Pankake-Wolf
Shellsville VFW Post 9639
8926 Jonestown Road
Grantville PA 17028-8654

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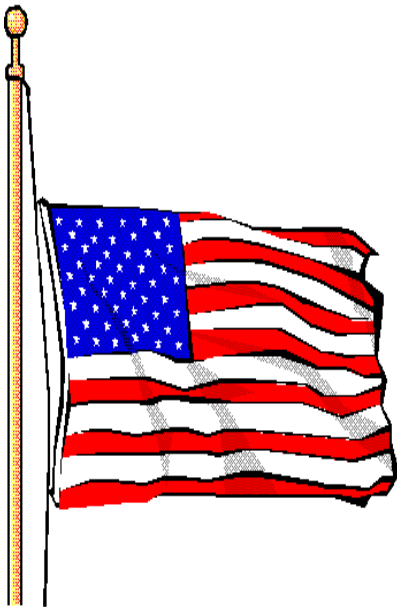
Address service requested



Lest We Forget

Departed Comrades - Sisters - Post Members

- Ruth A. Campbell
- Stanley L Dove
- Corena A. Dunkle
- Oliver S. Ebersole
- Gary E. Kling
- Harry E. Jameson
- John H. Learn
- Charles W. Lenker Sr.



America is number One thanks to our Veterans

The Manada Hill Inn. Inc.

At the Shellsville VFW Post 9639

Presents Our Fall Line-up of Daily Specials

Thu Sep 1- Stuffed peppers	\$ 6.45
Fri Sep 2-.Coconut Shrimp	\$ 9.95
Strip Steak	\$11.25
Sat Sep 3- Delmonico Steak	\$13.95
Almond Chicken	\$10.95
Sun Sep 4- Sunday Brunch Buffet 8-12	
Tue Sep 6- Chicken Pot Pie AYCE	\$ 6.25
Wed Sep 7- Baked Lasagna	\$ 6.75
Open Faced Roast Beef Sand	\$ 5.95
Thu Sep 8- Salisbury Steak	\$ 6.45
Whitefish au gratin	\$ 7.25
Fri Sep 9- Surf and Turf	\$14.25
Sun Sep 11- Sunday Buffet Brunch 8-12	
Tue Sep 13- Return of the Tuesday Buffet, W/ Carved Beef, Ham, Chicken, and Fish	\$ 7.95
Wed Sep 14- AYCE Spaghetti and Meat Sauce	\$ 6.45
French Dip	\$ 6.95
Thu Sep 15- Chicken Beau Sejour	\$ 6.45
Ham Steak	\$ 7.25
Fri Sep 6- Shrimp Scampi	\$ 9.95
Prime Rib of Beef	\$14.95
Sat Sep 17- Beef Buffet OPEN TO THE PUBLIC . W/ Ham, Chicken, and Fish	\$10.95
Sun Sep 18- Sunday Buffet Brunch 8-12	
Tue Sep 19- Chicken And Waffles	\$ 6.25
Cajun Chicken Salad	\$ 7.25
Wed Sep 20- Salisbury Steak	\$ 6.25
Thu Sep 22- Filled Chicken Breast	\$ 6.45
Fish Fry	\$ 8.25
Fri Sep 23- Broiled Swordfish.	\$12.45
Prime Rib of Beef.	\$14.95
Sun Sep 25- Sunday Brunch Buffet 8-12	
Tue Sep 27- Filled Chicken Breast.	\$ 6.45
Wed Sep 28- Sauteed Chicken Livers	\$ 7.25
BBQ Country Ribs	\$ 7.95
Thu Sep 29- Stuffed Cabbage	\$ 6.45
Giant Taco Salad	\$ 6.25
Fri Sep 30- Delmonico Steak	\$13.95
Weiner Bachendel	\$ 9.95
Sat Oct 1- Surf and Turf, Strip and Crab Cake ..	\$14.25
Shrimp Tempura	\$ 9.95
Sun Oct 2- Sunday Buffet Brunch 8-12	
Tue Oct 4- AYCE Chicken Pot Pie	\$ 6.25
Wed Oct 5- Ham and Cabbage	\$ 6.45
Whitefish au gratin	\$ 7.25

Thu Oct 6- Shrimp Salad Platter	\$7.45
Filled Pork Chop	\$6.95
Fri Oct 7- Prime Rib of Beef	\$14.95
Sauteed Chicken Livers.	\$ 8.25
Sat Oct 8- Strip Steak	\$10.95
Shrimp Scampi	\$ 9.95
Sun Oct 9- Sunday Buffet Brunch 8-12	
Tue Oct 11- Tuesday Buffet w/Carved Beef, Ham, Fish, and Chicken	\$ 7.95
Wed Oct 12- Baked Lasagna	\$ 6.45
Fish Fry	\$ 7.95
Thu Oct 13- Swiss Steak	\$ 6.45
Stuffed Peppers.	\$ 6.25
Fri Oct 14- BBQ Spareribs.	\$10.95
Delmonico Steak	\$13.95
Broiled Swordfish	\$11.95
Sat Oct 15- LADIES AUX HAM DINNER-4p.m. Please Support our Ladies at this great gathering	
Sun Oct 16- Sunday Buffet Brunch 8-12	
Tue Oct 18- Belly Buster Fish.	\$ 7.25
Baked Meatloaf	\$ 6.45
Wed Oct 19- Ham and Green Beans	\$ 6.45
Cajun Chicken Salad	\$ 6.95
Thu Oct 20- Roast Chicken w/ Filling	\$ 6.95
Baked Meatloaf	\$ 6.45
Fri Oct 21- Coconut Shrimp	\$ 9.95
Beef, Terya ki	\$ 9.95
Chicken Cordon Bleu	\$10.95
Sat Oct 22- AYCE Fried Oysters	\$12.95
Sun Oct 23- Sunday Buffet Brunch 8-12	
Tue Oct 25- Stuffed Peppers.	\$ 6.45
Chicken and Waffles	\$ 6.45
Wed Oct 26- Filled Pork Chops	\$ 6.95
Lasagna	\$ 6.45
Thu Oct 27- Chicken Parmesan	\$ 6.95
Fri Oct 28- Broiled Swordfish	\$11.95
Prime Rib of Beef	\$14.95
Sat Oct 29- Sauteed Chicken Livers.	\$ 8.95
Strip Steak	\$11.95
Sat Oct 30- Sunday Buffet Brunch 8-12	
Tue Nov 1- AYCE Chicken Pot Pie	\$ 6.25
Wed Nov 2- Ham and Cabbage	\$ 6.25
Chicken Parmesan.	\$ 6.95
Thu Nov 3- Baked Meatloaf	\$ 6.45
Belly Buster Fish	\$ 7.95

(Some specials may be altered due to availability or changes in banquet scheduling . Thanks for your understanding.)

Fri Nov 4- Surf and Turf, New York Strip and Crab Cake	\$14 .25
Chicken Beau Sejour	\$ 9.95
Sat Nov 5- Almond Chicken	\$10.95
Stuffed Flounder	\$12.25
Sun Nov 6- Sun. Buffet Brunch 8-12	
Tue Nov 8- Chicken and Waffles	\$ 6.25
Open Faced Roast Beef Sand	\$ 6.25
Wed Nov 9- Pork and Kraut	\$ 6.25
AYCE Spaghetti and Meat Sauce	\$ 6.45
Thu Nov 10- Stuffed Peppers	\$ 6.45
Sautéed Chicken Livers	\$ 7.95
Fri Nov 11- Prime Rib Dinner	\$14.95
Broiled Swordfish	\$12.95
Sat Nov 12- AYCE Fried Oysters	\$12.95
Sun Nov 13- Sunday Brunch Buffet 8-12	
Tue Nov 15- Tuesday Buffet with Carved Beef, Ham, Fish, chicken	\$ 7.95
Wed Nov 16- Filled Chicken Breast	\$ 6.45
Thu Nov 17- Pork and Kraut	\$ 6.25
Fri Nov 18- Chicken Chesapeake	\$12.95
New York Strip	\$12.95
Sat Nov 19- Flounder au gratin	\$ 9.95
Weiner Schnitzel	\$ 9.95
Sun Nov 20- Sun. Buffet Brunch 8-12	
Tue Nov 22- AYCE Chicken Pot Pie	\$ 6.25
Wed Nov 23- Fish Fry	\$ 7.45
Thu Nov 24- THANKSGIVING BUFFET 11 to 4	
Fri Nov 25- BBQ Spareribs	\$11.45
Stuffed Flounder.	\$10.95
Sat Nov 26- Shrimp Scampi	\$ 9.95
Chicken Beau Sejour.	\$ 8.25
Sun Nov 27- Sunday Buffet Brunch 8-12	
Tue Nov 29- Spaghetti and Meat Sauce AYCE ..	\$ 6.25
Wed Nov 30- Ham and Cabbage	\$ 6.25
Roast Chicken w/ Filling	\$ 6.75

Food Service at VFW Post 9639
Provided by



The Manada Hill Inn. Inc.

Grant Kyler And Mike Lawyer

717-829-3432

manadahill@gmail.com

**(some specials may be altered due to availability or changes
in the banquet room scheduling . Thanks for your
understanding.)**

The Manada Hill Inn.Inc. would like to thank the Post Membership and the Board of Directors of VFW Post 9639 for your continuing support of our service.

Reservations are always available and appreciated.

Its time to schedule your Christmas party in the banquet room or catered at your location. Please call us for rates and information.