

# NEWSLETTER

SHELLSVILLE POST 9639 - 8926 JONESTOWN RD GRANTVILLE PA 17028-9524 - PHONE: 469-2195

COMMANDER - Glen Hoffer

3rd Qtr 2006-2007

LADIES AUX. PRES. - Dorothy Adams

## COMMANDER'S COMMENTS



Dear Member,

Well here we are starting another new year. The holiday season is over and winter is here, so be careful on the slick sidewalks and highways.

I would like to thank everyone who gave their time and helped with the events that we had this past year. There were several new people who helped, and if you can spare some time in this new year mark your calendar of upcoming events because we can always use your help.

This year is our Posts 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary, so if you would like to help plan this event please see our Chairman Fred Heckler.

As I set here in the mountains at deer camp, I started to think of all the freedoms and privileges we have here in the United States. It starts with being able to vote, the right to bear arms, freedom of speech, owning your own home, cars, camps, etc, being able to worship at the church of your choice, also work where you want to, and you can also travel and live anywhere you would like. These are just a few things that make this a great country. But then on the other hand we still have problems like people living on the streets, people who do not have enough to eat. Some people must choose to pay for food or medications, and we also have too much violence.

The United States sends help and money to almost every other country in the world but we do not help our own people. We have illegal immigrants coming to live here, because this is still a better place to live than the country they are coming from.

Here at the Post one thing we do is to support the Grantville food bank that helps needy people. If you can help the needy in anyway please do so.



Serving the Post and Community  
Glen J. Hoffer, Commander

## PRESIDENT'S DESK



Dear Auxiliary Sisters,

Thank you for the cards, phone calls and the fruit basket while I was recovering from heart valve replacement. They were greatly appreciated. Thanks to Gary & Edith Shuler for the fine job on the Voice of Democracy program and the Patriots Pen program, Edith Clemson who filled in for me in my absence, and Linda Smith for doing the last newsletter. You all did a fine job. Thanks a million!

We had no entry in the Voice of Democracy contest, but had several students from Holy Name of Jesus enter the Patriots Pen contest.

Soon it will be Valentine Day. I would like to have cards for our Veterans at the Lebanon VA Medical Center. If each member of the post would bring one regular size Valentine card to the post home we would have enough for all the Veterans. Please sign them with your first name only. You may put a message on them if you wish. I must have them by February 5<sup>th</sup> so they can be distributed on Valentine Day. Thank you for your help.

Help is needed for new **twin size** crochet afghans for B1-5A & 5B. These wards are the long term Veterans of which there are two ladies. Forty- two are needed. I would like to have them for Easter. Any color will be great. We have already given B1-4A ward theirs for Christmas. Thank you for all you do for the Veterans.

We are having a drive for items for the Ronald Mac Donald House and Hope Lodge. They are in need for items for the kitchen and cleaning supplies. Please bring them to the post home by January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2007.

Bless America! Keep her safe!



Dorothy Mae Adams  
Auxiliary President

## QUARTERMASTER'S REPORT

Shellsville VFW Post 9639 remains the largest VFW Post in Dauphin County. Even though some of our Comrades have passed away, we constantly strive to remain the County's largest VFW by recruiting new Veteran members. We are also striving to strengthen our Post Canteen through new Associate and Social members. It's great to see new members in the Post Canteen and becoming active in Post activities. The Post Canteen continues to provide quality meals and beverages at reasonable prices. **Remember, both our VFW Post and Canteen are non-profit organizations which means every cent above our operating and maintenance costs go towards programs for our members, deployed service members, hospitalized veterans, local youth and community.** Please continue to use our Post Canteen and help support our many programs. Stop in the Post Canteen as often as possible enjoy the food, drink, and hospitality. Additionally, the Small Games Of Chance offered by the Post, in the form of Pull-tabs, Punchboards, and Raffles are the greatest source of revenue to support our Post's programs. The payouts of our games are higher than any casino or slots-parlor, so try your luck while enjoying your dinner and beverages. Playing these small games of chance support our many worthwhile programs. This brings me to **the primary fundraiser of the Post, the 15-week Raffle.** The 15-week raffle tickets are on sale now, at the bar or from many of our members. The ticket cost is \$15 and provides you 173 chances to win from \$25 to \$2500 as well as admission to the Posts Raffle picnic on June 3, 2007. The picnic alone is a great time worth the price of the ticket. The prizes of the raffle total \$18,000 and only 2200 tickets are sold. The drawings are held each Wednesday for 14 weeks beginning on February 28, 2007, with the 15<sup>th</sup> week drawing held at the Picnic. **This is our main fundraiser to support our many programs.** Join us in this **FUN**draiser and buy 15-week raffle tickets. They make great gifts too!



**Yours in Comradeship,  
Thomas Gordon, Quartermaster**

## ACTIVE MEMBER DEATH BENEFITS

During the monthly VFW Post meeting at 7:30PM on January 25, 2007, there will be a discussion of, and proposal to reduce the current Post Veterans' Death Benefits. All Veteran members wishing to take part in this discussion and vote on the proposed changes should attend this meeting.

## SERVICE OFFICERS REPORT

Every VFW Post Service Officer has a solemn, unwavering mission to assist veterans and their dependents in obtaining the entitlements they justly deserve.

As an appointed VFW Post 9639 Service Officer, it is my duty to assist members of the Post, their widows and orphans and other worthy cases brought to my attention in obtaining rightful benefits from federal and state governments, in the preparation of the proper forms for applying for such benefits and in assembling evidence required in connection therewith.

This past month I was able to assist an 83 year old Battle of the Bulge veteran in a successful application for health benefits with the Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center and an application for a Veterans Pension is in process.

I can assist you in applying for rightful VA benefits, preparing and documenting applications for compensation, pension, hospitalization and other benefits. This is a free service and veterans need not be members of the VFW to qualify for assistance.

The work of a VFW Post Service Officer involves important matters like helping a veteran get outpatient treatment or gain admission for inpatient care at a VA medical center. They assist veterans and their families in filing for VA disability compensation, rehabilitation and education programs, pension and death benefits, employment and training programs, and many other programs.

The National Personnel Records Center has provided the following web site for veterans to access their DD-214 online: <http://vetrecs.archive.gov>. Military veterans and the next of kin of deceased former military members may now use the new military personnel records system to request documents.

If I can be of assistance please call the Post at 469-2095 and leave your name and telephone number and I will follow up.



**Yours in Comradeship,  
Ted Zimmerman, Service Offi-**

## POST NEWSLETTER

We are now publishing an edition of our post newsletter in full color. As of now it is only available on our website. We are also looking at the possibility of sending out the color edition to our members via e-mail. Let us know if you would be interested.

## CANTEEN UPDATE

Dear Members,

Another year has gone by. I hope everyone had a good Holiday season in 2006. Myself and the staff are looking forward to serving your needs in 2007.

Our next event is a Super Bowl party on February 4th, come out and join in the fun. We have a lot of prizes to give away through out the evening, and as always there will be plenty of good food. I hope to see you here.

Just a reminder about our banquet facilities. We do full service catering and our room can comfortably seat 80 people. Stop in and ask for our banquet menu and see what we can do for you.

I would like to thank the staff for all their hard work in 2006 and especially thank you the patrons for supporting the canteen. As always see myself or Greg with any ideas or concerns.

Kenneth Straub, Manager

## CHILDRENS CHRISTMAS PARTY

Santa wants to thank all the helpers who assisted with the children's Christmas party this year. Santa needs the help. Santa also wants to give a special Thanks to **Wal-Mart** of Palmyra for their generous donation of \$500.00 for the purchase of toys for our Children's Christmas Party. We had 97 children at our party this year.

## DATES TO REMEMBER

- 1/1 - Canteen Closed - Happy New Year !
- 1/14 - Dauphin County Council Meeting - 2 PM
- 1/18 - POST Auxiliary Meeting - 7:30 PM
- 1/25 - POST Active Meeting - 7:30 PM
- 1/25 - 27 - Mid Winter Conference
- 1/30 - VAMC Patient Birthday Party - 2 PM
- 2/11 - 18th District Meeting - 2 PM - New Cumberland
- 2/14 - Valentines Day
- 2/15 - POST Auxiliary Meeting - 7:30 PM
- 2/18 - 18th District VOD Banquet
- 2/22 - POST Active Meeting - 7:30 PM
- 2/27 - VAMC Patient Birthday Party - 2 PM
- 2/28 - First 15 Week Drawing - 7:30 PM
- 3/15 - POST Auxiliary Meeting - 7:30 PM
- 3/17 - Saint Patrick's Day
- 3/22 - POST Active Meeting - 7:30 PM
- 3/27 - VAMC Patient Birthday Party - 2 PM



## VETERAN'S DAY WEEKEND BUDDY POPPY FUNDRAISER

During this past Veterans' Day weekend, 12 of our members volunteered their time to distribute approximately **3,500 Buddy Poppies** to the public at K-mart, Wal-Mart, and Sam's Club. During the four day weekend the distribution of Buddy Poppies to the adults and American flags to the children brought in \$5,775 in donations. The Buddy Poppy distribution, during Memorial Day weekend and Veterans' Day weekend, is the Post's second largest source of income to support our Veterans' programs.

**Thank You** to the 12 members who volunteered their time during the Veterans' Day weekend, and **Thank You** to all who donated and wore the Buddy Poppies in remembrance of our fallen veterans.

## PATRIOT PEN ESSAY CONTEST

This year, 7<sup>th</sup> grade students from Holy Name of Jesus School participated in the VFW Patriot Pen essay contest. A total of 16 students wrote essays on the subjects of "**Citizenship in America**". The essays were judged at the Post level, with 3 essays being submitted to 18<sup>th</sup> District and hopefully to State Headquarters and to National for judging.

The Post's 1<sup>st</sup> Place Winner was Katelyn Swoyer. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Place Winner was Anthony Shingara, and the 3<sup>rd</sup> Place Winner was Colleen Deignan. This contest awards monetary prizes at the Post, District and State levels and go all the way to \$10,000 scholarships at the National level.

**Good Luck to our Post level winners!**

## PHONE TAX

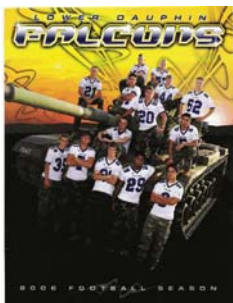
This year thanks to a court ruling everyone should be eligible for a one time phone tax refund on their Federal tax return. Look for this new item when you file your Federal tax return.

## 15 Week Raffle / Fundraiser

Tickets for our 15 Week Raffle / Fundraiser are now available. We have again printed 2200 tickets, and are making them available first to all those people who previously had them. The drawings begin February 28th at 7:30 PM and run through the picnic on June 3rd. Come out to the canteen for the drawings and try to punch out your own number. Also don't forget the picnic it's for all ticket holders, and everyone will enjoy themselves. Last year we realized over \$9,000 from this fundraiser.

## VFW POST 9639 LIFE MEMBERS PLAQUES

Annually we update the Life Membership plaques on our Wall of Honor in the Post Canteen with the Names of all VFW Life Members, from 1947 through 2006. These 9 plaques contain the names of 495 current Life Members and 257 deceased Life Members of Post 9639. In 2006, there were 37 Comrades that became Life Members. These new Life Members will be added in early January 2007. This year the Ladies Auxiliary will be adding a second plaque honoring the Life Members of our Auxiliary. If you would like to locate the recognition tag of one of our Life Members, ask one of our Canteen Staff for the alphabetical locator list, they will be happy to assist you.



## LOWER DAUPHIN FOOTBALL TEAM HELPS SUPPORT THE TROOPS

The team did an excellent job of collecting items to send to our deployed service men and women this Holiday Season. The students collected over 530 pounds of items. That translated into 55 packages sent to 12 different military organizations. Some of the packages were sent to our deployed members. If you know any of the team members, thank them for their efforts.

## NEW ACTIVE MEMBERS

The following Active Members have joined our post since the printing of our last newsletter:

Lindy C Black, Life  
Michael R. Bomberger, Life  
Jeffory L. Carter, Life  
Ambrose Crump III, Annual  
David A. Dull, Life  
Adam J. Dunbar, Annual  
Brett J. Feddersen, Annual  
David A. Fischer, Life  
Ricky L. Good Jr, Life  
David W Gyger, Life  
Stephen D Hassler, Life  
James R Jeramiah, Annual  
Robert T. Kepler, Annual  
John J Koup, Annual  
Leonard. L. Lawson, Life  
Eric H Mannion, Annual  
Kevin J. Molloy, Life  
John C Peterson Jr, Life  
Shane A Price, Life  
Michael A. Ramos, Life  
Russell A. Reigle, Annual  
Shelly A. Shaw, Life  
Shana R Wendekier, Annual  
Richard A Wilson, Life



## SOUTH HANOVER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL HONORS THE VETERANS



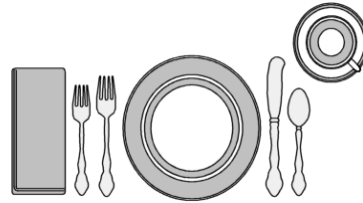
This years Veterans Day program included the fourth and fifth grade students writing essays on the theme "Home of the Free, Because of the Brave". The essays were hung in the canteen over Veterans Day weekend. Another part of the program included the students and staff getting there picture taken on the hill outside the school in the shape of "USA" These pictures were made into a certificate and presented to many veterans of the post. The certificates were also included in the packages sent to the gulf.

**Upcoming Friday Night Specials (subject to change)**

**Check The Menu Board for Daily Specials**

Jan 5 - Sicilian Meatloaf / Crab Stuffed Shrimp  
12 - Shrimp & Broccoli Fettuccini / Parma Chicken  
19 - Beef Tips over Noodles / NY Strip Steak  
26 - Baked Haddock / Smoked Pork Chops  
Feb 2 - BBQ Ribs / Broiled Crab Cakes  
9 - Chicken Supreme / Baked Meatloaf  
16 - Seafood Alfredo / Pot Roast  
23 - Filet Mignon / Chicken Breast Stuffed W/ Broc  
Mar 2 - Breaded Catfish / 16 oz T Bone Steak  
9 - Mozzarella Chicken / Broiled Seafood Platter  
16 - BBQ Pork Chops / Fresh Stuffed Flounder  
23 - Baked Salisbury Steak / Chicken Pot Pie  
30 - Broiled Trout / Slow Cooked Prime Rib

**COME OUT & ENJOY  
A GREAT MEAL**



**Kitchen Hours**

Tue & Wed  
5 PM to 9 PM

Thursday  
4 PM to 9 PM

Friday  
4 PM to 10 PM

Saturday  
Noon to 9 PM

Sunday  
9 AM to 12 PM  
4 PM to 8 PM

**I AM THANKFUL:**

**For The Taxes I Pay**

Because it means I am Employed.

**For The Mess To Clean After A Party**

Because It Means I Have Been Surrounded By Friends.

**For The Clothes That Fit A Little Too Snug**

Because It Means I Have Enough To Eat.

**For A Lawn That Needs Mowing, Windows That Need Cleaning, And Gutters That Need Fixing**

Because It Means I Have A Home.

**For All The Complaining I Hear About The Government**

Because It Means We Have Freedom Of Speech.

**For My Huge Heating Bill**

Because It Means I Am Warm.

**For The Parking Spot I Find At The Far End Of The Parking Lot**

Because It Means I Am Capable Of Walking And I Have Been Blessed With Transportation.

**For The Lady Behind Me In Church Who Sings Off Key**

Because It Means I Can Hear.

**For The Pile Of Laundry And Ironing**

Because It Means I Have Clothes To Wear.

**Eshleman Pankake Wolf**  
Shellsville VFW Post 9639  
8926 Jonestown Road  
Grantville PA 17028-9524

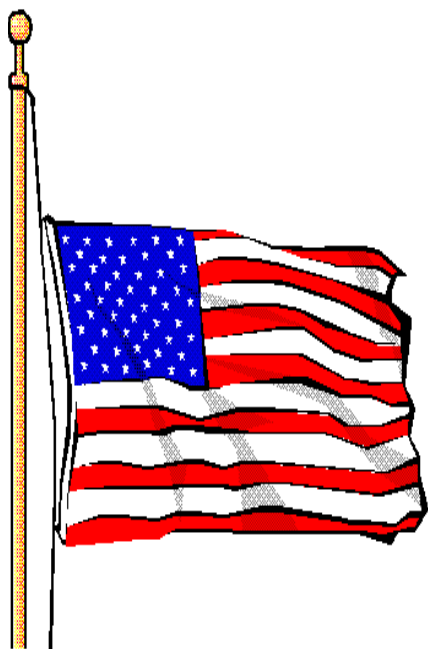
**NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION**  
**US POSTAGE**  
**PAID**  
**GRANTVILLE PA 17028**  
**PERMIT No. 8**

**Address service requested**



# Lest We Forget

Departed Comrades - Sisters - Post Members



Freda E. Askew	Glenn Parks
Lowell S. Bair	William F. Peiffer
Sarah E. Bitterman	Randall C. Semancik
Doris S. Fidler	Clarence W. Sheriff
Paul E. Landvater	Robert C. Welland
Roland S. Leh Jr	Charles R. Wilson