

NEWSLETTER

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

COMMANDER - Fred Hechler

1st Qtr 2008-2009

LADIES AUX. PRES. - Linda Smith

COMMANDER'S COMMENTS



Dear Members,

Once again summer is upon us. This means vacations, cutting grass and the start of a new Post year. It is my privilege to be elected as Post Commander for a second year. There are still many things that can be done to make the Post even better. This coming year I would like to get more volunteers to sign up and help with various

projects that take place.

This summer and in the fall we will have various projects that will require volunteer help. If you would like to help and can spare the time please contact the post or speak to one of the officers when you see them. We could always use the extra help.

Once again we had a very successful 15-week picnic with approximately 800 people in attendance throughout the day. It was great to see many old friends plus have a good time with new friends. Everyone had a great time. I would like to personally thank all the volunteers who were there. Without you, it would have been very difficult to pull this function off. Well done!

I would also like to thank Karl Way for the great job he has done building the ceremonial flag disposal pit located at the picnic woods. It truly looks nice. With this now built, we along with other organizations, will be able to retire old American flags with the respect they truly deserve.

I would like to encourage the younger active members to come out to the monthly Post meetings. They are the fourth Thursday of the month at 7:30 p.m.

Everyone enjoy the summer and be safe. Remember our troops in your prayers that they are protected and return back soon.



Fred W. Hechler, Post Commander

PRESIDENT'S DESK



Dear Sisters,

Thank You for the additional people to serve and lots of baked goods to make our Ham Dinner a success. Special Thanks to Gary for all of his work with the filling and all of the other food preparation.

Thank You for re-electing me as your President. I still need Chairwomen for some of our programs, but Sisters have stepped-up to take all the offices.

At our May meeting we changed the meeting time to 7:00 pm, effective July 17th. We also voted to reward function participants with a beverage chip. Thank You for helping our Auxiliary to adapt to current needs. If you have any other suggestions to improve our Auxiliary, tell an officer, or better yet, come to a meeting and present it yourself.

Please give the Auxiliary any changes in contact information as early as possible.

Keep collecting those Box Tops for Education, Campbell labels, and aluminum can pop tops.

Be sure to get your Family Picnic tickets. Not only are they your admission to a delicious, musical picnic, but each ticket counts as 3 numbers in the drawing too! If anyone is interested in running an Auxiliary fundraiser/activity at the picnic please let me know ASAP.

Change can be scary and changes are happening everywhere. Please say an extra prayer for our members, their families and the world at large...Pray for the sick and for good health, for the bereaving and newly born, for the financially troubled and those with plenty, for those in danger's way, for guidance...

Be kinder than necessary,
for everyone you meet is
fighting some kind of battle.



Linda Smith, President

QUARTERMASTER'S REPORT

Members of VFW Post 9639,

It's time to take **Pride** in our accomplishments during the past year under the leadership of Commander Fred Hechler, and to look forward towards the upcoming year. During the past year we have not only provided benefits for our Veterans and service members, but additionally, we have supported our local Community and our Youth. Listed below are a few of the programs and benefits we have provided and activities that we supported during our past year, and you can see just how involved we are, and how beneficial we are in our Community.

Post Veteran Members Support:

- Veterans' Death Benefits
- Veterans' funeral Honor Guard
- Flags for gravesites

Veterans Support:

- VAMC Veterans' River Cruises
- VAMC Veterans' Birthday Parties
- VAMC Senators Baseball Games
- VFW National Home for Orphans
- PA Scotland School for Veterans' Orphans
- VFW Homeless Veterans' Fund

Deployed Soldier Support:

- Buddy Poppies
- Care packages for deployed soldiers
- Operation Uplink – Phone cards
- USO

Community and Youth Support:

- East and West Hanover Youth Baseball
- East Hanover Youth Football
- East Hanover Community Easter Egg Hunt
- Grantville Fire Company
- Grantville Food Pantry
- Adopt-A-Road Jonestown Road clean-up
- Arthritis Foundation
- American Diabetes Association
- Hospice of Central PA

These are but a few of the many programs we support.



**Be Proud and Support Your VFW
Tom Gordon, Quartermaster**

VFW POST 9639 FINANCIAL SUPPORT NEEDED

In the Quartermaster's Report I have listed many of the programs our Post supports. As members of this fine organization, we should all be proud that we provide support to our veterans, current military service members, our local community, and our youth. I hope ALL members support the programs through our four primary fund-raisers.

- **Annual 15-week raffle and June picnic**
- **10-week Summer raffle and Family picnic**
- **Monthly Post raffle tickets**
- **Buddy Poppy distribution donations**

You may purchase raffle tickets from various members of the Post or at the Post Canteen. Please support our fund-raisers to ensure the continuation of our Post's many programs.

Post Officers 2008 - 2009

Commander.....	Fredrick Hechler
Senior Vice Commander.....	Ted Zimmerman
Junior Vice Commander.....	Richard Grubb
Quartermaster.....	Thomas Gordon
Adjutant.....	Clifford Kreiser
Judge Advocate.....	Dave Kyle
Chaplain.....	Mike Kreiser
Surgeon.....	Richard Adams
Trustee 3 Year.....	Gary Shuler
Trustee 2 Year	Ray Carter
Trustee 1 Year.....	Clifford Kreiser

Post Auxiliary Officers

President.....	Linda Smith
Senior Vice President.....	Edith Clemson
Junior Vice President.....	Dorothy Adams
Treasurer.....	Georgia Giddings
Secretary.....	Georgia Giddings
Chaplain.....	Arlene Hetrick
Conductress.....	Edith Shuler
Guard.....	Terrie Hechler
Trustee 3 Year.....	Diane Suhr
Trustee 2 Year.....	Jeannine Spittle
Trustee 1 Year.....	Linda Morrow

Canteen Board of Directors

Chairman.....	4 Yr Mike Kreiser
Vice Chairman	1 Yr Clarence Klinger
Recording Secretary	2 Yr Randy Eckert
Member	3 Yr Glen Hoffer

TREASURERS REPORT

Dear Sisters,

The Department Ladies Auxiliary requests that dues be paid by December 15th.

If you are paid before October 31st, you are eligible for a Life Membership Drawing in November.

For those of you who have an Auxiliary Death Benefit, you will lose that benefit if you are not paid by December 15th. Anyone delinquent will also lose out on their ability to file for a cancer grant from National in the event you would get cancer.

Please pay your dues early and ensure you do not lose out on any of your benefits.



Georgia M. Giddings, Treasurer

CANTEEN UPDATE

Dear Members,

The canteen Board of Directors wants to introduce you to Grace Sadler, our new canteen manager. She comes to us with a ServSafe Certification, in Food Service. She has a state RAMP Certification as a bartender. And is working on her Associates Degree in Hospitality Management, at Harrisburg Area Community College. Grace was also in the Marine Corp Reserve from 1994-1998 stationed at Willow Grove.

We still have a vacant position for a cook and a bartender. If you are interested in either position ask for an application.

We are requesting items for a raffle at the Family Picnic. If you know anyone willing to contribute a prize, please let us know. August will be here before you know it.

PENNSYLVANIA GULF WAR VETERANS BONUS

Pennsylvania is now recognizing the service of its Gulf War veterans – as well as certain surviving family members – through a new bonus program officially launched on April 4th.

The state's Persian Gulf Conflict Veterans' Bonus provides a one-time benefit for anyone who:

- served with the U.S. Armed Forces, a reserve component of the U.S. Armed Forces or the Pennsylvania National Guard;
- served on active duty in the Persian Gulf theater of operations during the period from August 2, 1990 until August 31, 1991 and received the Southwest Asia Service Medal; and
- was a legal resident of Pennsylvania at the time of active service.

Eligible veterans qualify for payment of \$75 per month – up to \$525 – for each month of active service in the Gulf War theater. An additional benefit of \$5,000 may be awarded if the veteran was declared a prisoner of war at any time during the period of qualifying service or died in active service or as a result of service-connected injury or disease. In the case of deceased veterans, payments go to the surviving spouse, children or parents, in that order.

An estimated 32,000 military personnel from Pennsylvania served on active duty in the Gulf War theater. The Gulf War bonus mirrors similar initiatives undertaken in previous decades on behalf of Pennsylvania's World War II, Korea and Vietnam Veterans. The program is administered by the Pennsylvania Department of Military and Veterans Affairs.

Individuals who received a bonus or similar compensation from any other state are not eligible for the Pennsylvania program. The deadline for applying for benefits is August 31, 2015.

For detailed instructions on how to apply, visit www.persiangulfbonus.state.pa.us.

vfw9639@verizon.net



vfw9639.org

Dates to Remember

7/4 - Independence Day - Fly Your Flag
7/9 - Veterans River Boat Cruise - 10 AM
7/17 - POST Auxiliary Meeting - 7:00 PM
7/20 - Dauphin County Meeting-Hummelstown-2PM
7/24 - POST Active Meeting - 7:30 PM
7/29 - VAMC Patient Birthday Party - 2 PM
8/3 - 18th District Meeting - Gratz - 2 PM
8/10 - Family Picnic - 12 - 5 PM - Canteen Closed
8/13 - Veterans River Boat Cruise - 10 AM
8/13 - Road Clean-Up - 6 PM
8/21 - POST Auxiliary Meeting - 7:00 PM
8/26 - VAMC Patient Birthday Party - 2 PM
8/28 - POST Active Meeting - 7:30 PM
9/10 - Veterans River Boat Cruise - 10 AM
9/18 - POST Auxiliary Meeting - 7:00 PM
9/30 - VAMC Patient Birthday Party - 2 PM
9/25 - POST Active Meeting - 7:30 PM

Past Post Commander Glen Hoffer

Past Post Commander Glen Hoffer was elected to take the helm of the 18th District of the Department of Pennsylvania VFW for 2008-2009. The 18th District; Dauphin, Lebanon and Cumberland counties, is the second largest district in the state and encompasses 30 posts and has 9000 members. Comrade Hoffer is the first person from our post to hold the position of District Commander since 2000.

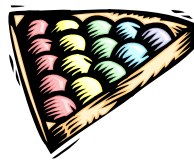
15 WEEK RAFFLE / FUNDRAISER

This fundraiser was again a big success. This annual event is the Posts biggest fundraiser. Thanks to all of you for purchasing the raffle tickets and a special thanks for those who sold our raffle tickets. This year we realized over \$9,600 profit. That goes a long way in funding our many VFW programs.



BUDDY POPPY DISTRIBUTION

During this Memorial Day weekend 16 members of our Post distributed **Buddy Poppies** to the public at Harrisburg's K-mart, Wal-Mart, and Sam's Club. The 16 members donated 146 hours to this project that raised \$5,050. That will go towards our Veterans' programs.



Post 9639 Canteen 2007-2008 Doubles Pool League

It was a hard fought contest with the outcome only decided the last night of pool, the results are as follows:

1st place winner, the team of: Gary Koons and Dave Knerr (spelled with two R's),

2nd place winner, the team of: Carl Bower and Carlos Ramos.

It was a fun filled 15 weeks that just seemed to fly by with all 10 teams separated by just a few games all 15 weeks. All ten teams had the distinction of being able to beat any one of the other teams at any given time. This is unique in a pool league. All of the committee members want to thank all the participants for their co-operation and help during the league and hope to see everyone back for the singles league.

The sign up sheet for the singles league will be placed upon the canteen wall the latter part of August with league play the first or second Tuesday in September 2008. Sign up and join in the fun, Come give it a try.

\$10 SUMMER RAFFLE & FAMILY PICNIC

We again will be having a big raffle in conjunction with our family picnic on Aug 10th. There will be 50 prizes drawn, and each ticket will have three chances to win. If you are interested in selling these tickets contact one of the canteen officers. Every Raffle ticket owner is welcome to the picnic. Tickets are also available at the Canteen, with-out the raffle option for children 4-9 for \$4.50 and for 10 and older for \$8.00. The picnic will be Aug 10th from Noon until 5 PM. Music will be by "**Lonesome Travelers**".

HERSHEY ENTERTAINMENT & RESORTS

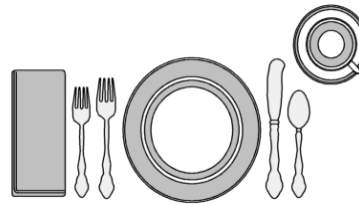
Thanks to all those who volunteered at Hershey Park so far this spring. A reminder that the **MID SUMMER BINGO BASH** will be held on 24 July from 4 - 7 PM. Everyone who received 25 credit hours between 1 January and 6 July of this year is eligible to attend. Join in the Games, Food and Fun! You can remain in the park after the party.

Upcoming Friday Night Specials (subject to change)

Check The Menu Board for Daily Specials

- Jul 4 - Chicken Supreme / Beef Stroganoff
- 11 - Chicken Marsala / Broiled Crab Cakes
- 18 - Chicken Pot Pie / Baked Haddock
- 25 - Rib Eye & Shrimp / Fresh Chicken Parmesan
- Aug 1 - Stuffed Chicken Breast / Cajun Catfish
- 8 - Roast Turkey over Filling / Beef Pot Pie
- 15 - Seafood Alfredo / Roast Garlic Pork w/ Filling
- 22 - Baked Ham / Salmon Cakes
- 29 - Broiled Seafood Platter / Baked Meatloaf
- Sep 5 - Mozzarella Chicken / Baked Lasagna
- 12 - Stuffed Peppers / Chicken Tarragon w/sauce
- 19 - Broiled Crab Cakes / Chicken Cordon Blue
- 26 - Prime Rib / Stuffed Chicken Breast

**COME OUT & ENJOY
A GREAT MEAL**



Kitchen Hours
 Mon & Tue
 Closed
 Wed
 5 PM to 9 PM
 Thursday
 4 PM to 9 PM
 Friday
 4 PM to 9 PM
 Saturday
 4 PM to 9 PM
 Sunday
 9 AM to Noon
 4 PM to 8 PM



Congratulations to Scout Karl Way on the completion of the Flag Disposal (retirement) Unit that he designed and constructed for VFW Post 9639 and any other organization that wants to properly dispose of United States of America flags. Karl volunteered to construct this unit to meet requirements to obtain his Eagle Scout award.



This is the highest award given to a Scout. Picture #1 shows Karl and his helpers preparing the base for the start of construction. Pictures #2 & #3 shows Karl and his helpers at various stages of construction. Picture #4 shows Karl and his helpers putting the finishing touches to the unit. Picture #5 shows Karl in front of the finished unit. A third flag pole has since been added to enable the flying of the U.S., the State, and the POW/MIA flags simultaneously. A solar light has been installed to properly illuminate it at night. While it is basically a VFW project all



Americans Legions, Amvets, Marine Corp posts, or any other organization needing a proper means to dispose of flags are more than welcome to use the unit. I think all members, both Active and Social of VFW Post 9639 and all members of the various organizations who will have occasion to make use of this unit owe Karl and all his helpers a big thank you for all their hard work, dedication and patriotism in completing this project. By the time you read this news letter a dedication ceremony will have been held on June 4th at the VFW post parade grounds.



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

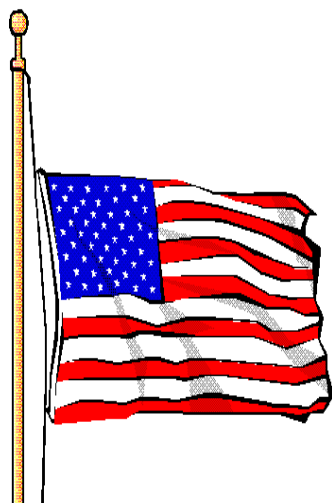
NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION
US POSTAGE
PAID
GRANTVILLE PA 17028
PERMIT No. 8

Address service requested



Lest We Forget

Departed Comrades - Sisters - Post Members



Joan M. Berkoski
Mervin W. Etnoyer
Earl S. Farling Jr.
Robert E. Felsburg Jr.
Doris L. Fosnacht
William A. Jones Sr.
Ruth M. Leeper

Paul G. Paponetti
Norman J. Simmons
Joseph Skowronski
Harry J. Solomon
Jonathan W. Wenrich Sr.
Ralph E. Wilhelm Sr.

America is number One thanks to our Veterans