

NEWSLETTER

Shellsville Post 9639 - 8926 Jonestown Road Grantville Pa 17028-9524 - Phone: (717) 469-2195

COMMANDER - Fred Hechler

2nd Qtr 2007-2008

LADIES AUX. PRES. - Linda Smith

COMMANDER'S COMMENTS



Dear Members,
 Another summer has gone by and fall is once again upon us. That means football season. Remember to come out to the Post Canteen on Sundays to watch the games with friends.

Also this fall, don't forget to support the ladies auxiliary by coming out to the October ham dinner.

In the last newsletter, I indicated I would set a date and time to meet with the younger membership. Those who are interested, I have set Wednesday October 10th at 7 pm aside to meet.

Another thing I would like to point out there will be a collection barrel in the entranceway of the club. This is for much needed items for at the Lebanon VAMC. Please take the time and see what items that are needed and help out. You will find the list of items in this newsletter.



YOU can make the difference

Remember keep the troops in your prayers and that they return home safely.



Fred W. Hechler
 Post Commander

PRESIDENT'S DESK



Dear Sisters,
 Fall is here bringing changing colors & cooler temperatures. It also brings the kick-off season for many Auxiliary activities & programs. We will join the GVFC and participate in the Halloween parade Oct. 18 and still hold our meeting at 8:00 pm. Oct. 27 is our Ham Dinner (4:00 pm) and Make A Difference Day (be sure to report how you made a difference in someone's life).

The 5 month long process for the Voice of Democracy (high school) audio contest and Patriot's Pen (grades 6, 7 & 8), essay contest will be winding down with the Nov 1 entry deadline. Post judging must be completed by Nov 15th. Consider our veterans on Election Day Nov 6th and be sure to vote. We will round out November with our District President, Deb Rothemel, attending our meeting for District inspection.

December is busy for everyone, but we also have Wreaths Across America Day on the 15th, and our Holiday meal / meeting (6:30 pm) on the 20th.

As you can see there are MANY opportunities for participation in your Auxiliary. The Ham Dinner alone needs various set-up people, 2 ticket/money takers, a hostess, several servers, several cooks, numerous dessert makers and 2 dessert servers! Please plan on giving some of your time to at least one of these important events.

Handle yourself with your head. Handle others with your heart.

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Linda Smith, President

QUARTERMASTER'S REPORT

Members of VFW Post 9639,

In the previous newsletter it was disclosed that we would be conducting a survey concerning the Post Canteen. This survey was open to all members and guests of the Canteen and was conducted from June 13th through July 31st. There were 65 questionnaires received, addressing likes, dislikes, and suggestions to the Canteen Board of Directors. In this short column, I will identify the major likes, dislikes, and suggestions.

The top positive Comments addressed:

- Good atmosphere created by staff & patrons
- Good food, daily specials, and desserts
- Good prices
- Good service

The top negative Comments addressed:

- Canteen too smoky
- Lack of lighting in bar dining area
- Outdated décor and worn furnishings
- No ATM machine

The top Suggestions focused on:

- Banning smoking in Banquet room
- Placing smoke-eaters in bar area
- Modifying Canteen lighting
- Upgrade furnishings and décor

Please be assured that each and every response on the 65 questionnaires has been read and discussed by the Board of Directors. During the next few months you will see some minor changes in the Canteen. Some changes may be visible while other changes may be unnoticed by our members. In all cases, the changes will be made to **benefit the members of Shellsville VFW Post 9639 Canteen**, and decisions made by the Canteen Board of Directors are made on behalf of the VFW Post members. We value our Canteen members, whether Active, Associate, Auxiliary, or Social.



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

CANTEEN UPDATE

Dear Members,

I would like to start by thanking all those who filled out the surveys we put out. The Quartermaster will elaborate on it in his article. Look for some changes.

We will be doing a Sunday Night Football Promotion with 75 cent Coors Light and Coors Light Drafts. We will also be having some promotional give away items.

Join us on November 10th for an ALL YOU CAN EAT **VETERANS DAY BUFFET** the day before Veterans Day. Seating will be at 4 PM running until 8 PM. Adults will be \$7.99 and children 12 and under will be \$4.99.

Social and Associate dues notices have just gone out, please pay early.

Kenneth Straub, Canteen Manager

100% Active Veteran Membership Goal for 2008

As of June 30, 2007, our VFW Post had 650 active Veteran members. This was 24 Veteran members short of achieving 100% membership for 2007. While we took in 27 new Veteran members, 32 of our Veteran members passed away. We continually need to recruit new Veteran members in order to achieve our goal of 100% VFW membership. If we achieve 100% membership for 2008, by December 15, 2007, VFW Department Headquarters will provide our Post with \$1,000. These funds will go a long way towards providing programs and benefits for our Veterans, Community, and Youth.

This is not an easy task since **30 new Veteran members need to be recruited in the next 3 months**. As members of Post 9639, please ensure your 2008 dues are paid by December 15th at the latest. Additionally, **if you know of a service member who has been deployed during World War II, Korea, Desert Storm, Bosnia, Kosovo, Iraq, or Afghanistan and may be eligible for Active VFW membership, please contact one of our Post officers**. Active Veteran memberships make fine holiday presents too.

vfw9639@verizon.net



vfw9639.org

Post 9639 Canteen Pool League

September 4th was the date all Canteen pool shooters were waiting for. This was the start of the Singles Pool League. This league will run until November 21st, if you want to see fun being enjoyed by all, stop by and see these shooters in friendly competition. They shoot every Tuesday starting at 7:30 PM and it's something to see, all these men and women enjoying themselves.

If you want to join in the fun there will be a doubles league starting sometime in January with a sign up sheet being posted on the Canteen wall prior to start-up. If pool is not your thing then think about getting involved in one of the many other activities connected with the Post or Canteen. Remember this is your Post and Canteen and neither of them can succeed without your help.

Dates to Remember

10/6 - Woods Close - Up - 9 AM
10/8 - Columbus Day, Fly your Flag
10/10 - Fall Road Clean-Up - 6 PM
10/18 - Halloween Parade - 6 PM at Post
10/18 - POST Auxiliary Meeting - 7:30 PM
10/21 - Dauphin County Council Meeting - 2 PM
10/25 - POST Active Meeting - 7:30 PM
10/27 - Ladies Auxiliary Ham Dinner - 4 PM
10/30 - VAMC Patient Birthday Party - 2 PM
Nov - Sign up for the Children's Christmas Party
11/4 - 18th District Meeting - 2 PM - Lebanon
11/6 - Election Day - GET OUT and VOTE
11/11 - Veterans Day - Fly your Flag
11/10-12 - Buddy Poppy Fundraiser - All Weekend
11/15 - POST Auxiliary Meeting - 7:30 PM
11/21 - POST Active Meeting - Wednesday-7:30PM
11/22 - Thanksgiving - Canteen Closed
11/26 - Decorate Canteen for the Holidays
11/27 - VAMC Patient Birthday Party - 2 PM
12/7 - Pearl Harbor Day - Fly your Flag
12/15 - Children's Christmas Party - 12-1 PM
12/18 - VAMC Patient Birthday Party - 2 PM
12/20 - POST Auxiliary Meeting - 7:30 PM
12/25 - Christmas - Canteen Closed
12/27 - POST Active Meeting - 7:30 PM
12/31 - New Years Eve
1/1 - Happy New Years - Canteen Closed

May it bring us

"Peace, Good Health and Much Happiness"

AUXILIARY RECEIVES AWARDS

Past Auxiliary President, Dorothy Adams, was given the "Life - Time 2007 Award" signed by the President of the United States. This award is for volunteering over 4,000 hours in a lifetime. Along with the award she also received a citation from the Pennsylvania House of Representative, a citation from the Civil Air Patrol at Fort Indiantown Gap, and the Past President's letter and pin. Bea Gernert presented it at the Ladies Auxiliary meeting.

Awards received at the VFWA department convention

1. Americanism - Most Literature -
Teresa Bell, chairman
2. Legislative - Most Contacts -
Beth Leffler, chairman
3. Veterans & Family Support Best Stand-down program - Teresa Bell, chairman
4. Voice of Democracy Award -
Edith Shuler, chairman
5. Patriot's Pen Award -
Edith Shuler, chairman
6. VFW National Home - Most Campbell Labels -
Terrie Hechler, chairman
7. Legislative Most Outstanding Program -
Beth Leffler Chairman

All these awards were the effort of the chairman and the members who help with time and information for the reports we submitted to the department chairman. Thank you ladies for a job well done.

LEBANON VA MEDICAL CENTER

There are about 240 Veterans including 3-5 women at the Medical Center at any given time. We are collecting items for these patients. Everything will be appreciated. Thank you for caring and sharing.

Body lotions
Shampoo & Conditioner any sizes
Toothpaste any size (no Colgate)
Denture tablets
Fix-a-dent
Liquid bath soap any size
Aerosol Deodorants any size
Disposable Razors
Writing paper, envelopes and stamps
Holiday cards; Easter, Mothers Day, Fathers Day, Veterans Day, etc
White socks for the men, knee hi for the ladies

We can also purchase canteen books in your name if you want to donate cash. These items will be delivered on December 1st.

\$10 SUMMER RAFFLE & FAMILY PICNIC

We again had a successful family Picnic. Many thanks to all those who helped with this years event. With the raffles the canteen realized \$2,247.00 profit. We plan to use these proceeds to make some improvements to the canteen. We want to recognize the following businesses for their contributions of prizes for our raffle.

Crossroads Café
Holiday Inn, Grantville
Hornung's Ace Hardware
John M. Herr & Sons Feed Mill
Jonestown Bank, Grantville
Ono Volunteer Fire Company
Ron's Beer Depot
Seaman's Market
The Feed Store
The Tire Mart
Wachovia Bank, Harrisburg

These businesses supported us now lets support them.

15 WEEK FUNDRAISER

Hey, it's almost that time again. We anticipate having the 15 Week Raffle tickets available by Thanksgiving. As always tickets will be distributed to those people who sold them last year. We may be able to accommodate one or two new sellers this year, so if you are interested contact either Randy Eckert or Lloyd Eshleman.

HERSHEY ENTERTAINMENT & RESORTS

Thanks to all those who volunteered at Hershey Park this summer. A reminder that a **Fall Picnic Party** will be held on 19 October. Everyone who received credit for working 100 hours between 1 January and 1 October of this year is eligible to attend. More details to come. Join in the Games, Food and Fun! All our park volunteers enjoyed the July picnic.

CHILDRENS CHRISTMAS PARTY

December 15th

12 PM to 1 PM Ages 10 and Under

All children attending the Christmas Party MUST be pre-registered by December 1st.
See a bartender to register.

Chances on a Wagon Full of Toys
\$1.00 per chance or \$5.00 for six chances

Ladies Auxiliary HAM DINNER

Oct 27, 2007
4 PM -7 PM

Adults \$7.50 Kids (4-12) \$4.50
Under 4 Free

Come out an enjoy a great Ham Dinner



Breast Cancer Hospitalization Bill in Congress

A mastectomy is when a woman's breast is removed in order to remove cancerous breast cells/tissue. If you know anyone who has had a mastectomy, you may know that there is a lot of discomfort and pain afterwards. Insurance companies are trying to make mastectomies an outpatient procedure. Let's give women the chance to recover properly in the hospital for 2 days after surgery.

From a nurse:

I'll never forget the look in my patients eyes when I had to tell them they had to go home with the drains, new exercises and no breast. I remember begging the Doctors to keep these women in the hospital longer, only to hear that they would, but their hands were tied by the insurance companies. So there I sat with my patient giving them the instructions they needed to take care of themselves, knowing full well they didn't grasp half of what I was saying, because the glazed, hopeless, frightened look spoke louder than the quiet "Thank you" they muttered.

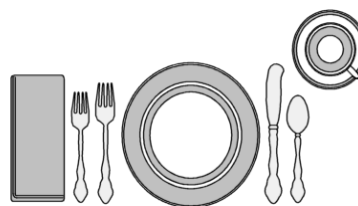
Contact your legislature today about this important bill.

Upcoming Friday Night Specials (subject to change)

Check The Menu Board for Daily Specials

Oct	5 - Scallops Wrapped in Bacon / Baked Meatloaf
	12 - 16 oz Porterhouse Steak / Pot Roast
	19 - Broiled Haddock / Roast Pork over Filling
	26 - Broiled Seafood Platter / Stuffed Peppers
Nov	2 - Salmon & Crab Pinwheels / Baked Haddock
	9 - Broiled Crab Cakes / Stuffed Pork Chops
	16 - Filet Mignon / Ham Pot Pie
	23 - Lobster Ravioli / Baked Lasagna
	30 - 12 oz Rib eye / Shrimp Scampi
Dec	7 - Stuffed Flounder / Stuffed Chicken Breast
	14 - Broiled Salmon / Cabbage Rolls
	21 - Lobster Tail & Steak / Sicilian Meatloaf
	28 - Smoked Pork Chops / NY Strip Steak

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

TOMB OF THE UNKNOWN SOLDIER

For a person to apply for guard duty at the tomb, they must be between 5' 10" and 6' 2" tall and their waist size cannot exceed 30". Other requirements of the Guard: They must commit 2 years of life to guard the tomb, live in a barracks under the tomb, and cannot drink any alcohol on or off duty for the rest of their lives. They cannot swear in public for the rest of their lives and cannot disgrace the uniform (fighting) or the tomb in any way. After two years, the guard is given a wreath pin that is worn on their lapel signifying they served as guard of the tomb. There are only 400 presently worn. The guard must obey these rules for the rest of their lives or give up the wreath pin.

The shoes are specially made with very thick soles to keep the heat and cold from their feet. There are metal heel plates that extend to the top of the shoe in order to make the loud click as they come to a halt. There are no wrinkles, folds or lint on the uniform. Guards dress for duty in front of a full-length mirror.

The first six months of duty a guard cannot talk to anyone, nor watch TV. All off duty time is spent studying the 175 notable people laid to rest in Arlington National Cemetery. A guard must memorize who they are and where they are interred. Among the notables are: President Taft, Joe E. Lewis (the boxer) and Medal of Honor winner Audie Murphy, (the most decorated soldier of WWII) of Hollywood fame. Every guard spends five hours a day getting his uniforms ready for guard duty.

Guarding the Tomb is not just an assignment, it is the highest honor that can be afforded to a service-person. The tomb has been patrolled continuously, 24/7, since 1930.

Guards are changed every thirty minutes, twenty-four hours a day, 365 days a year.

Guards take 21 steps during their march across the tomb of the unknowns, it alludes to the twenty-one gun salute, which is the highest honor given any military or foreign dignitary.

Guards hesitates for 21 seconds after their about face to begin their return march, again it alludes to the twenty-one gun salute.

Guards gloves are moistened before they start their tour to prevent losing their grip on the rifle.

Guards carry the rifle on the shoulder away from the tomb. After their march across the unknowns, they execute an about face and move the rifle to the outside shoulder.

**ETERNAL REST GRANT THEM O LORD, AND
LET PERPETUAL LIGHT SHINE UPON THEM.**

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

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Lest We Forget

Departed Comrades - Sisters - Post Members

Eugene G. Buhrman

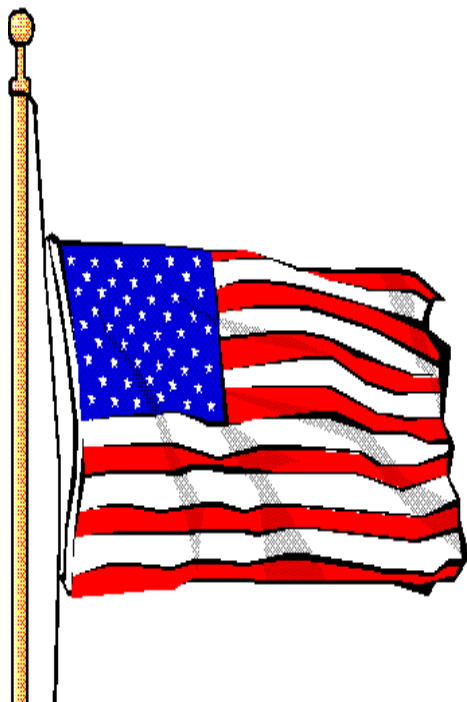
Mabel F. Funk

Jay C. Hileman

Edwin E. Hubley

Leonard H. Kozlowski

Pauline E. Neidlinger



America is number One thanks to our Veterans