

NEWSLETTER

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

COMMANDER - Fred Hechler

4th Qtr 2007-2008

LADIES AUX. PRES. - Linda Smith

COMMANDER'S COMMENTS



Dear Members,

With Spring just a few weeks away we will be getting ready to do outside projects. Please make sure you read the articles inside the newsletter and pay special attention to the Quartermasters article pertaining to volunteers.

Right now the post is currently helping a young gentleman named Karl Way who is going for his Eagle Scout. This is the highest honor you can obtain in the Boy Scouts. The project he is going to do for the Post will be located over at the parade grounds. He has designed a ceremonial burn area to dispose of old American flags for us. This has been something we have been looking at doing for some-time. By having such an area it will allow us to dispose of old flags in an honorable and proper way. The area will entail Cherry trees, flagpoles and a controlled burn area in the center of the design. It is truly a nice design that Karl Way has come up with. If you would like to make a monetary contribution to the project please see the article inside the newsletter for details.

The Post is also currently working on having a new sign placed out at Route 743. The last one that was out there was removed due to a car accident. The new one we are looking at will be a 3' x5' that is being donated. Keep your eyes out in the future for it and let us know what you think of it.

Also the Post is still looking at holding a Past Commander's Dinner sometime in April or May. More information will be forthcoming. This is a tradition that my comrades and I would like to start up again. Remember, keep the troops in your prayers and that they return home safely.



Fred W. Hechler, Post Commander

PRESIDENT'S DESK



Dear Sisters,

Hopefully Spring has Sprung by the time you are reading this letter and we can all enjoy the sunshine. Although the seasons continue to change, the level of participating Sisters seems to stay the same. **WE NEED YOUR HELP!**

Nomination and election of the 2008-09 Auxiliary officers will be held at our April 17 meeting. Please be sure you are there to support your Sisters that are willing to take on these responsibilities. We also need volunteers to Chair the various programs to support our veterans.

Our Ham Dinner is May 10. Please do not force us to rely on the same 8-10 people that run your meetings. Some of our long standing helpers cannot physically handle helping for the entire event anymore. **WE NEED NEW BLOOD.** We also need bakers for our famous desert table.

We will be voting on changing our meeting time to 7:00 pm at our May 15th meeting (to be effective July 2008). However, I will need a good showing at the meeting to get this properly passed.

One of our most important (and under staffed) events is our Memorial Day (May 23-26) Buddy Poppy distribution. PLEASE sign up soon for a few hours at one of the 3 planned locations.

We are discussing rewarding participating Sisters with a beverage chip just like the Post does. Please be sure to let your officers know your opinion on this.

Don't be afraid that your life will end,
be afraid that it will never begin.



Linda Smith, President

QUARTERMASTER'S REPORT

Dear Members,

I'd like to devote my column to the "V" word. No, not Veterans, or Victory, or Valor, but the word Volunteers. Our VFW Post is made up of over 1,500 Veterans, Auxiliary members, Associate members, and Social members, but where are all these members when our many programs are planned and set-up? There are fewer than 2% (30 members) that Volunteer to perform 95% of our many programs.

In January, who was at the Post Canteen to help take down the Christmas decorations, or help install the new ceiling tiles? In February, who was at the Post Canteen to prepare for Valentines Day, or visited a Veteran at the VA hospital? In March, who helped with the preparation for the annual community Easter Egg Hunt or addressed and sent out the 1,200+ newsletters? Every month there is some VFW function or program that needs your Volunteer support. **Where were You?**

On Saturday, April 19th, who will help set-up the picnic grounds for the summer? On May 23rd through May 26th, who will help distribute Buddy Poppies? These are just a few of the many upcoming functions that need a few hours of your volunteer support.

If you say you have never been asked to help, than this is an open invitation to each one of our members, Veteran, Auxiliary, Associate, and Social, to become more involved with your VFW Post activities.

We need You, if we are to continue with our many programs to support our veterans, deployed service members, community and our youth.

Some tasks are physical, like moving 90 picnic tables into place at the picnic grounds. Some tasks are easy, like placing labels on the newsletters, or decorating the Canteen for holidays, or helping with the road clean-up; but one thing is for sure, we all have a good time and friendships are made between our members. I believe every member has a talent that can benefit our Post. So Volunteer to give a few hours to Your VFV Post programs. Please pick up the phone and call Assistant Quartermaster Randy Eckert or myself at 469-2195, and say: **"I believe in our programs, what can I do to help?"**

Get involved, make some friends, and have some fun!

CANTEEN UPDATE

Dear Members,

I want to thank everyone who came out to our New Years Eve and Super Bowl parties, they were both very successful, and a good time was had by all.

The 15 Week picnic is right around the corner on June 1st. As always we will need some help, if you can help for even 2 or 3 hours it would be appreciated, just let us know.

We have recently gone through some changes in staffing. Gary Price has moved up to the position of Kitchen Manager. If you have any new menu items you want him to make let him know. We also have a new employee both behind the bar and in the kitchen. Please welcome Jaime as our new bartender and cook.

In closing I would like to thank the staff and those who have volunteered their time in making some of the changes in and around the canteen.

Kenneth Straub, Canteen Manager

Spring is once again here, and we are starting to see new life all around us. As the flowers and trees bud with color, let us think for a moment about our Freedoms. Just as a flower blossoms in the summer, withers in the fall, and appear to die in the winter, only to reappear and bud in the spring; so to is the life cycle of our Freedoms. Our brave Comrades were called by our Nation to sow the seeds of Freedom and Democracy throughout the world. Though many have given the ultimate sacrifice, their memory will never die but lives on in each of us. Each Spring when we think about the new life around us, let us remember that the Freedoms we enjoy come from the sacrifices of our Comrades, both past and present. Don't wait until Memorial Day to honor our Comrades. **Memorialize our service members everyday by proudly flying the American Flag, supporting the VFW's programs, and proudly Voting in every election. The greatest memorial to our service members is the preservation of our Freedoms.**



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

15 WEEK RAFFLE / FUNDRAISER

This fundraiser is already in full swing. Drawings are being held every Wednesday evening at 7:30 PM. Come out to the drawings and try to punch out your own number. The final drawing will be at 3:00 PM at the raffle picnic on June 1, 2008. The picnic is for raffle ticket holders only. As I am writing this article there are still a few remaining tickets, but they will not last long. This raffle is the post's biggest fundraiser.

Food will be served from Noon until 5:00 PM. No food will be served during the raffle drawing. We ask that you take all you can eat, BUT eat all you take. Please, No Tables Reserved unless you stay with the table.

**ALL UNSOLD TICKETS
ARE THE PROPERTY OF POST 9639**

Dates to Remember

- 4/5 - Road Clean-Up - 9 AM
- 4/9 - Veterans River Boat Cruise - 10 AM
- 4/15 - VAMC Patient Birthday Party - 2 PM
- 4/17 - POST Auxiliary Meeting - 7:30 PM
- 4/19 - Picnic Woods Opening - 9 AM
- 4/20 - Dauphin County Meeting - Gratz - 2 PM
- 4/24 - POST Active Meeting - 7:30 PM
- 4/26 - Soft Ball Season Opening Ceremony - 9 AM
- 4/27 - 5/3 - Salute to Volunteers Week
- 5/4 - 18th District Meeting - Mechanicsburg 2 PM
- 5/10 - Auxiliary Ham Dinner - 4 PM - 7 PM
- 5/11 - Mothers Day
- 5/14 - Veterans River Boat Cruise - 10 AM
- 5/15 - POST Auxiliary Meeting - 7:30 PM
- 5/17 - Armed Forces Day
- 5/22 - Place Flags at Cemeteries 6 PM
- 5/22 - POST Active Meeting - 7:30 PM
- 5/23-26 - Poppy Fund Raiser - All Weekend
- 5/26 - Memorial Day Ceremonies & Celebration
- 5/27 - VAMC Patient Birthday Party - 2 PM
- 6/1 - 15 Week Picnic - Noon - Canteen Closed
- 6/11 - Veterans River Boat Cruise - 10 AM
- 6/11 - Road Clean-Up 6 PM
- 6/15 - Fathers Day - Hug your Father
- 6/19 - POST Auxiliary Meeting - 7:30 PM
- 6/24 - VAMC Patient Birthday Party - 2 PM
- 6/26 - POST Active Meeting - 7:30 PM



Support Our Troops



BUDDY POPPY DISTRIBUTION

During the upcoming Memorial Day weekend members of our Post will be distributing **Buddy Poppies** to the public at Harrisburg K-mart, Wal-Mart, and Sam's Club. Please contact the Post and let us know if you can help with this very important activity. A few hours of your time would be greatly appreciated. The Buddy Poppy distribution is the Post's second largest source of income to support our Veterans' programs.



BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA®

A Boy Scout Needs Your Help To help the VFW

Karl Way is currently a Life Scout with Boy Scout Troop 27 in West Hanover Township. He is working toward the rank of Eagle Scout. He has chosen as his Eagle Scout project, the building of a flag disposal area for Shellsville VFW Post 9639. This will be located on their parade grounds. The estimated cost of the project is between \$2,500 and \$3,000. The project requires that Karl raise this money through donations. All checks should be made out to Boy Scout Troop 27, Karl Way. Any donations received by Post 9639 will be forwarded to Karl. All donations, large or small will be appreciated. Contact numbers for this project are; Karl Way, 652-1563, Fred Hechler, Tom Gordon, and Clarence Klinger at the Post 469-2195. Thanks you for your help.



100th PINT

Sister Carole A. Gochenaur of the Ladies Auxiliary has been a member of the post since October of 1976. Since that time she surpassed the unbelievable mark of donating her 100th pint of blood.

WAY TO GO CAROLE

\$10 SUMMER RAFFLE & FAMILY PICNIC

This year we are again having a raffle with our family picnic, on August 10, 2008. We are printing 1000 tickets. There will be 50 prizes drawn and each ticket will have three chances to win. The tickets will be available at the 15 Week Picnic. If you are interested in selling these tickets contact one of the canteen officers.

NEW MEMBERS FOR 2007

Sally C. Adams
Cory P. Angell
Leslie W. Black
Kyle M. Brojakowski
James A. Goodale
James L. Harmon
Matthew Hetrick
Cody M. Kantner
Lloyd D. Kapp
Joseph H. Kennedy Jr.
John F. Lenker Jr.
Brunell J. McIntyre
Kevin McNamara
Patrick T. Milford
Steven C. Moyer
Debra A. Newell
Geraldo Ortiz
Arnold R. Perry
Robert S. Pinchorski
Walter F. Pudlowski
Robert E. Rathfon
Byron E. Schieber
Troy L. Schrader
Rodney L. Shomper
Jeremy D. Smith
Matthew S. Soule
Susan E. Stuck
Richard K. Thomas Jr
Jeffrey P. Vanderzee
Matthew Verghese
Richard S. Werni II
Michael J. Winpenny
James D. Zimmerman

Thank you who have renewed your 2008 Membership

Ladies Auxiliary



May 10, 2008

4 PM to 7 PM

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

Under 4 Free

“Come Out and Enjoy a Great Dinner”



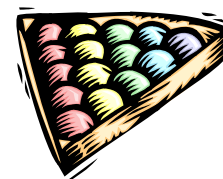
A framed print depicting the air assault in the Ia Drang Valley of Viet Nam, will be at our Apr 24th meeting. It is signed by the principles involved: LTC Moore, CSM Palmely, Bruce Crandall (1 of 2 helicopters awarded the Medal of Honor for actions in that battle), and others. The print will be at the Post from 6 PM until after the regular meeting.

This was the first major battle of Viet Nam and involved members of the famous Seventh US Cavalry and associated assault aircraft. The movie and book “We were soldiers ... and young” is based on this battle.

We would hope that veterans fo the Viet Nam war will stop by and see this print.

Post 9639 Canteen Pool League

Doubles Pool League



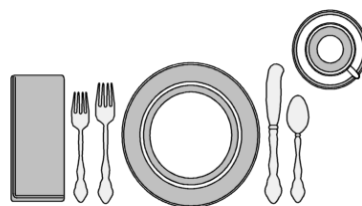
Talk about fierce competition, currently there are only 4 games separating the top team and the next six teams. Team 4, Gary Koons and Dave Kneer and Team 6, Wayne Brodbeck and Alice Kveragas are tied for first. Check the next edition to read about the final outcome or stop by Tuesday and watch.

Upcoming Friday Night Specials (subject to change)

Check The Menu Board for Daily Specials

- | | |
|-----|---|
| Apr | 4 - Chicken Supreme / Beef Stroganoff |
| | 11 - Chicken Marsala / Broiled Crab Cakes |
| | 18 - Chicken Pot Pie / Baked Haddock |
| | 25 - Rib Eye & Shrimp / Fresh Chicken Parmesan |
| May | 2 - Stuffed Chicken Breast / Cajun Catfish |
| | 9 - Roast Turkey over Filling / Beef Pot Pie |
| | 16 - Seafood Alfredo / Roast Garlic Pork w/ Filling |
| | 23 - Baked Ham / Salmon Cakes |
| | 30 - Broiled Seafood Platter / Baked Meatloaf |
| Jun | 6 - Mozzarella Chicken / Baked Lasagna |
| | 13 - Stuffed Peppers / Chicken Tarragon w/sauce |
| | 20 - Broiled Crab Cakes / Chicken Cordon Blue |
| | 27 - 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 10 PM
Saturday 4 PM to 9 PM
Sunday 9 AM to Noon 4 PM to 8 PM

I watched the flag pass by one day, it fluttered in the breeze.
A young Marine saluted it, and then he stood at ease.
I looked at him in uniform, so young, so tall, so proud.
With hair cut square and eyes alert, he'd stand out in any crowd.
I thought how many men like him, had fallen through the years.
How many died on foreign soil, how many mothers' tears?
How many pilots' planes shot down, how many died at sea?
How many foxholes were soldiers' graves? No, freedom isn't free.
I heard the sound of Taps one night, when everything was still.
I listened to the bugler play, and felt a sudden chill.
I wondered just how many times that Taps had meant "Amen,"
When a flag had draped a coffin, of a brother or a friend.
I thought of all the children, of the mothers and the wives,
Of fathers, sons and husbands, with interrupted lives.
I thought about a graveyard at the bottom of the sea,
Of unmarked graves in Arlington. No, freedom isn't free.
Enjoy Your Freedom & God Bless Our Troops
When you read this, please stop for a moment and
Say a prayer for our servicemen.
Of all the gifts you could give a US Soldier,
Prayer is the very best one.



VFW Post 9639 Canteen Inc.

MANAGER WANTED

The Board of Directors are accepting applications for the full time position of Canteen Manager.

Background in either Food or Beverage
Management Experience recommended

Current PA Drivers License required

Clear Criminal Record required

Microsoft Office skills a plus

Pay based on experience

Mostly evening hours

Veteran preferred

Send or e-mail your resume to the attention of:

Eshleman-Pankake-Wolf, VFW Post 9639

Board of Directors

8926 Jonestown Road

Grantville PA 17028

Vfw9639@verizon.net

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

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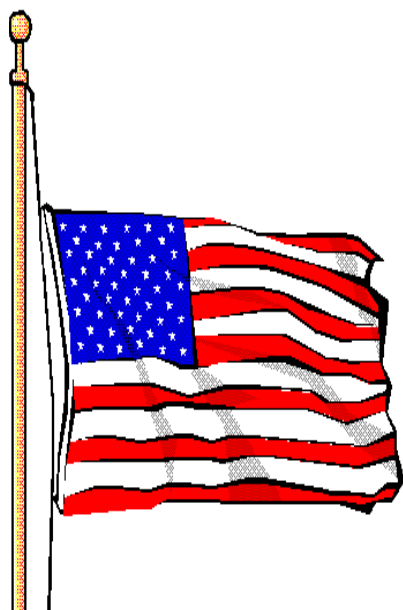
Address service requested



Lest We Forget

Departed Comrades - Sisters - Post Members

Barry G. Albright
Dean L. Bartell
William E. Clemson
Charles E. Finney
Beulah M. Horst
Pauline Kurtz
Ben F. Mader III
Glen R. Murphy
Robert D. Zimmerman



America is number One thanks to our Veterans