

VFW Parking Lot No Longer Open to Public

By Don Peasley

The city of Woodstock's 20-year lease with the Woodstock VFW parking lot on Throop Street expires Wednesday, September 1st and will not be renewed. The VFW will supervise its area of about 35 parking spaces, the northern one-third of the current Throop Street parking lot, for exclusive use by VFW members, patrons and guests.

Ralph Ritter, VFW member, said, "Our membership is getting older. Many are using canes and walkers."

He added that he believes more members will attend VFW events if they can park in the VFW lot.

"The city assisted us by putting a crosswalk from the Metra lot at Throop and Washington streets," he said. "However, this is still a long walk for some members and requires crossing Throop Street," he added.

Ritter said the VFW is excited about reserving parking spaces near the building for VFW members, patrons and guests.

Ritter is working on plans to place a small barrier between the VFW lot and the city lot, which is adjacent to the Chop Suey Hut. Ritter said stripes on the VFW lot will be painted blue to further identify the lot as a private area.

"Official signs will be posted to mark the private parking area and announce that unauthorized vehicles will be towed," said Ritter.

Ritter said the stairs that lead from the parking lot to the gas station at Washington and Main streets also will be closed.

City officials explored the possibility of purchasing the VFW building and parking lot. Both parties obtained appraisals. A wide difference of opinion on the value of the property terminated the discussions.



Woodstock VFW members staff a booth at the McHenry County Fair to sell chances on the Sweetheart Raffle and to seek memberships. Several members staffed this booth in Building D and staffed a similar booth at Flyers and Tires at Galt Airport August 14-15. From left: Chuck Mathey, Don Sword and Bill Lyford. (Don Peasley Photo).


Past Commander Jim Smith in Iraq

By Tamara Smith, Jim's Wife

I thought you might like to know that my husband, Jim Smith, arrived in Iraq last Thursday, August 12th. He is serving with Marine Wing Communications Squadron 38, 3rd Marine Air Wing. He is a lifetime member and served as the post commander (2002-2003) a couple of years ago. His current mailing address is:

CWO3 James R. Smith, USMC
 A Co, MWCS-38, 3D MAW
 UIC 41137
 FPO AP 96426-1137

[Editor's Note: Jim, on behalf of the post, good luck in Iraq and we will be thinking of you and praying that you and the other Marines in your unit remain safe. Thank you, Tamara, for providing Jim's information.]


 Tickets still available for the
Sweetheart Raffle on
 February 12th, 2005.
 Increase your odds of winning some
 prize money...see page 3 for
 details.

FOR RENT

The front office that is adjacent to the VFW is once again available for rent starting September 1, 2004. If you know of any business that would like to rent this, please contact the post at 815-338-5040.

VFW Post 5040 - Post Officers 2004 - 2005

Commander	Sid Sherwin	(815)-338-5573
Senior Vice Commander	Bill Lyford	(815)-337-0025
Junior Vice Commander	Henry "Hank" Enstrom	(815)-337-5856
Quartermaster	Thom Gillespie	(815)-597-1319
Chaplain	Howard Engstrom	(815)-338-4453
Assistant Chaplain	Charles (Chuck) Mathey	(815)-338-5374
Service Officer	Ron Nehls	(815)-338-3671
Judge Advocate	Elmer "Bud" Pflug	Not Available
Post Surgeon	Harold Irwin	(815)-338-1264
Officer-of-the-Day	Bruce Shisler	(815)-338-4735
1 Year Trustee	Henry Nulle	(815)-337-7529
2 Year Trustee	Larry Dohm	Not Available
3 Year Trustee	Michael David	Not Available

VFW Post 5040 Ladies Auxiliary Post Officers 2004 - 2005

President	Nyda Fogarty	(815)-338-1759
Senior Vice President	Bonnie Kagel	(815)-648-4958
Junior Vice	Viola Brown	(815)-338-1446
Secretary	Christine Gehrke	(815)-338-3533
Treasurer	Barbara Gehrke	(815)-338-1546
Chaplain	Karen Wells	(815)-338-4821
Guard	Rose Mary Hellstern	(815)-338-0653
Conductress	Irene Brown	(815)-459-3483
1 Year Trustee	Margaret Webb	Not Available
2 Year Trustee	Geraldine Salyers	Not Available
3 Year Trustee	Lois Freund	Not Available

Woodstock VFW News is published monthly by Woodstock VFW Post 5040, 240 Throop Street, Woodstock, IL 60098. (815)-338-5040

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Woodstock VFW Post 5040, c/o VFW News Editor, 240 Throop Street, Woodstock, IL 60098.

†††††††††† Chaplains Report ††††††††††

By Howard Engstrom

Personal Visits

- Stan Danielson (Home)
- Otis Setser (Valley Hi)
- Delmar Heidenreich (Valley Hi)

Draped Charter (August Meeting)

- August Whitman

Cards and Phone Visits

- August Whitman Family
- Ed McNett
- Leon Rahn
- Arthur Slack
- Joe Thiede

Please keep me informed of news about families and comrades ill or in need. May God keep our soldiers serving in our military safe while over in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Informal Post Picnic Scheduled

Past Commander John Hanson is having a picnic at his house for all VFW members and their guests.

Date of the picnic is **Sunday, September 19**. Time is noon till 7 PM. Address of John's home is 2718 Deep Cut road in Woodstock.

Activities will be horse shoe pitching, baseball, volley ball and swimming in his in-ground pool. Bring your grand kids if you want to. We will be having free beer and pop. We will be cooking hamburgers, hot dogs and brats. **Please bring a dish to pass.**

If you plan on going, please R.S.V.P to John so we can get some idea of how many people may be attending. He can be reached at 815-338-7890.

You will need to bring your own bug spray.



Turkey Raffle Just Around the Corner

Our annual Turkey Raffle tickets have been ordered. The raffle will be on Saturday, November 20. Mike David will be the Chairman this year.

The turkey dinner will be again be served for \$6.00. The raffle will include gift certificates, raffling off Chicago Cubs Box seats, other meats, etc. Format of the drawing will be about the same as last year. Cost of tickets will be \$1.00 each. More information will be following in the months news-letter.

Ladies Auxiliary From the President

By Nyda Fogarty, President 2004-2005

Quite a few have paid their dues for last year (2003-04) since their names were in the VFW News. Dues of \$15.00 are due for the 2004-05 year are due as of July 1st. You can mail them to: Barb Gehrke

864 Wicker St.

Woodstock, IL 60098

I attended the wake for a former longtime member Marge (Boone) Harrington this past month. She moved from her home on Edgewood Drive in Woodstock to Apache Junction, Arizona several years ago. Our sympathy to all her family.

The Auxiliary needs a money making project so we can keep up with our contributions that the Dept. and National require. We voted to have a bakeless-bake sale.

Notices for the dues and the sale will be going out in the mail in the very near future.

The Auxiliary voted not to put on our annual Teacher's Tea this fall as we do not have the money in our Treasury to do this. It runs into quite a bit of money and we do not have it. We are very sorry not to have this as we certainly appreciate our Teachers and enjoy honoring them every year.

Our prayers go out to Geraldine Salyers and her children for her husband Robert Salyers who has been in several hospitals over the last few months.

Nyda Fogarty

Sweetheart Raffle - Increase Your Odds Of Winning Some Prize Money

By Matt Klos

By now you have heard the VFW promoting the Sweetheart Raffle in the last few issues of the *VFW News*. One of the reasons for this raffle is the need for additional funds for our post. We are simply running out of money. That's why this raffle is so large and why we are pushing so hard for it.

Okay. You might be saying to yourself, "\$50.00, that's a lot of money". But don't forget, the prizes are \$5000, \$3000, \$2000, and \$1000. Only 1000 tickets and 4 large prizes. That's a 1 in 250 chance of winning one of the prizes. Want to make these odds even better? You can! But the portion of the winnings decreases.

Here's how: create a ticket pool! Get several friends and/or family members to each buy a ticket, then put all buyer's names on every ticket. Easy as that. Think of it as an office lottery pool where co-workers put money into a pool and then buy a bunch of tickets to increase their odds.

Here's an example. Say you have 2 friends, and each of you buy a ticket and all 3 names go on each ticket. That's 3 tickets. The odds now are 1 in 83 of you winning something. If one of you won the \$1000 prize, divide that 3 ways and each of you walks with \$333.33. If one of you won the \$5000 prize, divide that 3 ways and each of you get \$1666.67. How do you like that? Want even more odds? Try getting 5 people from work or your immediate family to each buy a ticket and put everyone's name on each ticket. Odds now are 1 in 50 that you will win something. If one of you won the \$1000 prize, divide that 5 ways and each of you walks with \$200.00. If one of the tickets won the \$5000 prize, divide that 5 ways and each of person gets \$1000.

One last thought. Each ticket can only win one cash prize. But think about it. Say you are in a pool of 3 people. If by luck of the draw, one of those 3 tickets won the \$5000 prize and another won the \$3000 prize, that would be \$8000 split 3 ways...\$2666.67. So, what are you waiting for? Go out and get some people together and buy some tickets. Get a pool going and you just might walk away with a nice chunk of cash.

Sales to date:
\$7,800

Sweetheart Raffle Sales

Thanks For the Help at Fair and Airport

By Don Sword

I wish to thank those of you who helped with the VFW booth at the McHenry County Fair and the Flyers and Tires at Galt Airport:

- Bruce Shisler
- Howard Engstrom
- Bill Lyford
- Charlie Mathey
- Hank Enstrom
- Thom Gillespie
- Dick Glawe
- Arnie Doerfert
- Marvin Monson
- Don Sullivan
- Russ and Donna Freeman
- Sid Sherwin
- Ralph and Pat Ritter
- Mike David
- Ron and Frieda Nehls
- Bob Gibson
- Dean Mishler
- Alan Belcher

We sold a couple of \$50.00 tickets, signed up some new members, and had a lot of inquiries in becoming a member. We also met several veterans who didn't know that they qualified to become members, so we gave them information on the benefits of being a member and applications to join. Several expressed the desire to do so. There was also a lot of interest for the dining room from people who didn't know they could come in to eat at the post on Wednesdays and Fridays. The Sweetheart Raffle Committee met on August 17 to firm up plans to call the membership to buy and sell \$50.00 raffle tickets.



Don Sword (left) and Ralph Ritter work the tent set up at Galt Airport on August 15, 2004 promoting the Sweetheart Raffle and distributing VFW leaflets of information to patrons. (Matt Klos Photo).



Highway Cleanup

The post is signing up for Highway Clean Up in Woodstock for the coming year. Three or four times a year, usually a six man team will go out and clean up the highway designated as our cleanup road. The post cleans up the roadway from Dean Street to the viaduct (west of Dean Street).

September 2004

☆☆☆☆☆☆ Post Normal Operating Hours (unless noted otherwise) ☆☆☆☆☆☆

Closed	4:00 pm - 9:00 pm	4:00 pm - 9:00 pm	4:00 pm - 10:00 pm	4:00 pm - 9:00 pm	4:00 pm - 10:00 pm	3:00 pm - 7:00 pm
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29	30	31	1 Chicken and Ribs and Special 5 - 8 pm	2 Ladies Auxiliary 7:30 pm Jaycees 7 pm	3 Fish Fry / Salad Bar 5 - 8 pm	4
5	Labor Day 6 Woodstock Memorial Day Committee 7:pm	7 VFW Board Mtg. 7 pm Dirtt Group 7 pm Jaycees 7 pm	8 Chicken and Ribs and Special 5 - 8 pm	9 Jaycees 7 pm	10 Fish Fry / Salad Bar 5 - 8 pm	11
12	13 American Legion 7:30 pm	14 Dirtt Group 7 pm Jaycees 7 pm	15 Veterans Assistance Commission of McHenry County (7:30 pm) Chicken and Ribs and Special 5 - 8 pm	16 Jaycees 7 pm Marines 7 pm Marines Auxiliary 7 pm	17 Fish Fry / Salad Bar 5 - 8 pm	18
19 Post Picnic at John Hansen's house (see page 2 of VFW News)	20 VFW Meeting 7 pm VFW Pre-Meeting Dinner (VFW Members Only) 6:30 pm	21 Dirtt Group 7 pm Jaycees 7 pm	22 Chicken and Ribs and Special 5 - 8 pm	23 Jaycees 7 pm	24 Fish Fry / Salad Bar 5 - 8 pm	25
26	27	28 Dirtt Group 7 pm Jaycees 7 pm	29 Chicken and Ribs and Special 5 - 8 pm	30 Jaycees 7 pm	1 Fish Fry / Salad Bar 5 - 8 pm	2

Help Needed for Mail Delivery Efficiency

By Harold Irwin

Help is needed regarding your Woodstock *VFW NEWS*. Quit a few copies are being returned by the post office marked "Temporarily Away." How are we to know when you will return? Because you don't let us know we withhold mailing until a later month when we hope you may be home.

Each undeliverable copy costs the VFW an additional 37 cents. Arrangements you make with the post to handle your mail while you are gone do not apply to the *VFW NEWS*. Therefore, you must notify us by mail, e-mail, or call 815-338-5040 and tell us whether to hold your *VFW NEWS* for later mailing.

If you are going to be gone for several months (that is, during the winter months), give us your temporary mailing address well ahead of your departure, with your departure date and your returning date. We'll mail it where you want us to send it. In addition, if you are moving to a new address, get it to us as soon as possible, so we can get it into the computer for the next mailing.

Don't forget, if you have access to a computer, you can also download the latest copy of the *VFW NEWS* and save the post ever more postage.

Thank you for your assistance.

New Members Sworn In

At the August meeting, we had three new members sworn in to the VFW Post 5040. They were Andrew Aiello (not pictured): home from Iraq, Marine, who just got out of the service. James Reece (left): US Army, Military Police, reserve 11 years. He just back from Iraq February 10. David Weisbacker (right): transfer from DeKalb Post, Army, Desert Storm veteran, Intelligence. Sid Sherwin (center) was happy to see that the post is getting new and younger members. Sid encourages our new members to attend future meetings and hope that you all come back to future meetings. Welcome to the post!



Burial Benefits for Members of the VFW and Ladies Auxiliary

By John Kippen, Family Service Counselor

Service Corporation International (SCI) is a Funeral Home and Cemetery provider of which Querhammer and Flagg Funeral Home, Crystal Lake, and Marengo-Union Funeral Home, Marengo, belong to. They are part of a group of over 1,800 funeral homes and 1,300 cemeteries throughout the US and Canada that make up SCI.

SCI offers burial benefits to VFW and Auxiliary members with endorsement through the VFW National Committee. SCI is the only Funeral Home and Cemetery providers that have this endorsement for members in the United States. The endorsement provides for VFW and VFW Auxiliary Members benefits such as:

- Some Goods and Services free of charge to members
- Specially Designed Wooden VFW Flag Case to store and display the United States Flag that is received at the funeral of a deceased Veteran.
- Use of our 24 hour Compassion Helpline for people to obtain the help of specially trained counselors around the clock and every day of the year. These services are provided for the remaining spouse or family members who are having an especially difficult time dealing with the grief associated with the passing of a loved one.
- An AfterCare Planner that is to be used by the family for use in settling the estate of a loved one who has passed away.

The value of these offerings is \$465 and are provided free of charge to the VFW and VFW Auxiliary member. A 10% discount on any other Goods and Services that are provided directly through the funeral home is also available. This can amount to a fairly large amount of money when one looks at the average cost of these items and a funeral service being approximately \$6,000 to \$10,000. Funeral Homes Goods and Services that the 10% discount would be applied to are:

- Base Funeral Home Charges for use of the facility
- Cost associated on the day of the Funeral
- Removal of the Body from the place of death within
- Limousine (if requested by the family)
- Motor Vehicle costs associated with returning the member if they are located somewhere other than their local area. (Winter home, vacation, visiting distant relatives.)
- Any of the costs that are included with the Dignity Memorial Funeral or Cremation Plan Packages that are available.
- Embalming
- Preparation of the Body
- Cost of Visitation
- Hearse
- Memorial Cards, Acknowledgement Cards, and Register Book
- Burial Vaults
- Internet Memorial Site
- Cost of an Anatomical Donation
- Caskets
- Cremation Castkets
- Cremation Urns
- Service Vehicle charges

In addition to these VFW Member savings there is an additional means of saving some funeral expense costs through the use of pre-plan arrangements and starting the funding of these plans. With the use of pre-planned arrangements and funding anyone can lock in current costs of funeral expenses even if they are used 50 years from now. The costs of the Funeral Home Goods and Services has been locked in when the funding begins. Time payments can also be provided for someone who would prefer these types of arrangements.

Our funeral homes also work with churches and cemeteries all throughout Northern Illinois and the United States if someone is to be buried in another town other than Crystal Lake or Marengo. This can be easily accommodated to provide for someone's particular needs.

If the arrangements are at the time of death of a VFW Member call Querhammer & Flagg or Marengo-Union Funeral Home. Our Funeral Directors can set up a time for arrangements for the family. If pre-planning these arrangements you would also call either of the Funeral Homes (see below) and ask to speak with John Knippen – Family Service Counselor for Pre-planning a funeral. The telephone numbers and addresses are as follows:

Querhammer and Flagg Funeral Home
500 West Terra Cotta Avenue
Crystal Lake, Illinois 60014
815-459-1760

Marengo-Union Funeral Home
505 East Grant Highway
Marengo, Illinois 60152
815-568-8131

Casino Trip Planned

There will be an Elks/VFW Casino Bus Trip to Jummer Casino in Rock Island on October 10 leaving 8:30 am VFW Parking Lot Cost \$10.00 Sign up by Oct 1, 2004.


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Letters to the Editor...

If you would like to send a letter to the editor, please send it to the following address (do not send it to the post address):



Matt Klos
VFW 5040 News Editor
269 Forest Drive
Crystal Lake, IL 60014
(815)-479-8842

And for those of you with access to the internet, you can e-mail me at:

matt.klos@vfw5040.org

Visit our Post Website:
www.vfw5040.org

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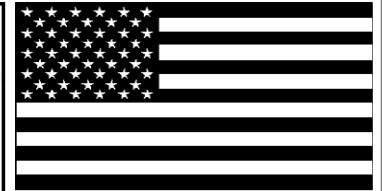
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