

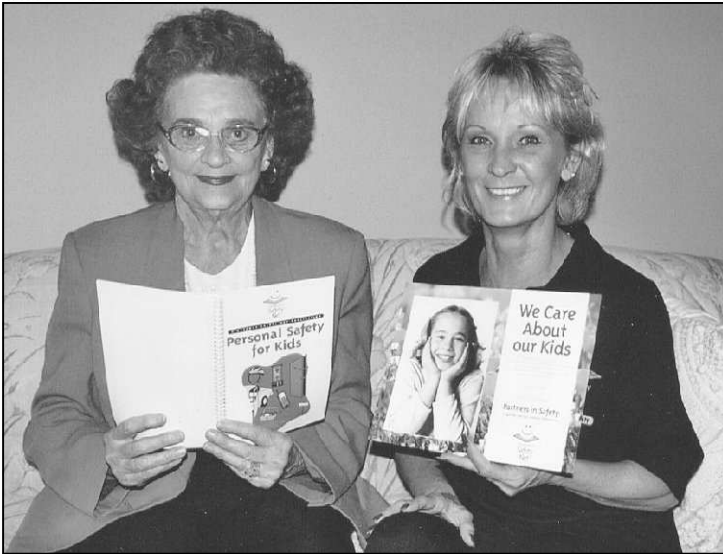
Woodstock

VFW News

Winner of 15
National Publication
Awards
State Second Place
2004
www.vfw5040.org

Woodstock VFW Post 5040 and Auxiliary

October 2004
Vol. 50. No. 4



Auxiliary to Promote Child Safety

By Don Peasley

It's called a program to "help kids live safely" and the Woodstock VFW Auxiliary is going to do something about it. Nyda Fogarty, Auxiliary president, said the VFW Auxiliary is obtaining the 128-page handbook to provide a copy for each of District 200's 950 fourth and fifth grade students.

Donna Holmes, program coordinator for Gateway Community Safety Net, is contacting area business and professional groups to invite them to participate by underwriting the cost. The book, which costs \$10.50, is called, "Personal Safety for Kids." In introducing the program to parents the publisher explains the book is to teach children that by understanding and observing a collection of safe, simple rules, "young people can stay happy, healthy and safe."

The first 95 pages concentrate on safety information in the following sections: safety at home, school, at play, and away from home. Other safety topics include burns, falls, hitchhiking, awareness of police as friends, suicide and unwelcome touching. The final section is written for parents.

An important aspect of this Safety Net booklet is advice given parents with this explanation: "This book is designed to help your kids live safely without compromising the innocence and wonder of childhood."

Holmes said the book is to be used with the parents and children reading and discussing the book's content together.

The author tells parents, "You may not agree with all ideas but you are encouraged to seek out alternate safety measures you feel are better."

As program coordinator, Holmes reminds potential sponsors as well as parents, "By taking an active role in this project concerning safety education, you are making an investment that will pay dividends for a lifetime." Sponsors will be recognized in the publication.

Ellyn Wreski, District 200 superintendent, examined the book and named Cheryl Metcalf, assistant superintendent of teaching and learning in District 200, to work with the VFW Auxiliary to implement this project.

Commenting on the importance of "personal safety for kids," the World Health Organizations declares, "Almost all accidents are preventable. Education is the most effective way to prevent accidents."

Every day, more than 43,000 North American children are injured seriously enough to require emergency room attention.

Woodstock VFW Auxiliary in a program led by Nyda Fogarty, Auxiliary president (left), is obtaining books titled, "Personal Safety for Kids." Donna Holmes, program coordinator for this Gateway Publishing Company book, says individual copies will be given to District 200 and St. Mary's fourth and fifth grade students. This will total about 1,000 students. (Don Peasley photo).

Annual Turkey Raffle Tickets On Sale Now!

By now you should have received your tickets for the VFW favorite, the Annual Turkey Raffle. Tickets are \$1.00 each. Dinner will be served on the night of the raffle for \$6.00 a plate, 6-8 pm. Other prizes to be awarded are cuts of meat and Chicago Cubs Box Seat tickets for the 2005 season - 1 game only. Hank Nulle will be distributing turkeys that night. If you cannot attend and end up winning a turkey, you can pick up your turkey from post any time its open. If you need more tickets, contact the post and we'll send you some. Plan on attending this Holiday favorite.

Mark it on your calendar.



Prizes:
1st Prize - \$150
2nd Prize - \$100
3rd Prize - \$50
and
40 Turkeys to be given away!

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

†††††††† **Chaplains Report** ††††††††

By Howard Engstrom

Personal Visits

- Earl Holm (home)
- Ray Murphy (Hearthstone)
- Joe Parker (Hearthstone)
- Otis Setser (Valley Hi)
- Del Heidenreich

Cards and Phone Visits

- Arthur Slack
- Marv Bohnhoff
- Jim Shoemaker
- Glen Fringer
- Robert Steinwehe
- Bob Gaylor

Draped Charter

(September Meeting)

- Allan Wilcox
- Alvin Mateling

It has come to my attention that there are eighteen Comrades and two Ladies Auxiliary members living in Florida. We want you people to know we do think about you and pray for your comfort and safety. Obviously we can't feel your pain as we haven't experienced the devastation you have endured in recent weeks. This message is also to any of our members living in other southeastern states hit by the hurricanes. So please, all other member of Post 5040, remember these Comrades in your thoughts and prayers. Also if you have personal friends there, a phone call or a "thinking of you" card of encouragement is in order.

Fortunately, as far as we know now, all of our members in Florida are alive. We wish them well; may God bless them! For addresses of these people, call Harold Irwin at 815-338-1264.

Ladies Auxiliary From the President

By Nyda Fogarty, President 2004-2005

We have had several responses to our recent letter that was sent out by the Secretary and Treasurer in regard to our Bakeless Bake Sale. The Auxiliary really needs the money as our finances are getting very low due to no money making projects and so few people to work on anything.

We certainly feel bad about not having the Teacher's Tea this November as we had a really great crowd last year. It does cost a great deal of money and we cannot afford to have it this year.

Our new 5th District President will be coming to our meeting on November 4th to do the Annual inspection. Try to make the meeting that night to meet her.

It is very nice the next District meeting will be held in our own Post on November 7th. It has been many years since that has occurred.

The Auxiliary is sponsoring a Community Service Project through the Gateway Community Safety Net which publishes booklets for elementary school children. Through the permission of District 200 and their Superintendent and St. Mary's Principal O'Brien, we will give booklets to all 4th and 5th grade students. These booklets cover all aspects of safety for children. The cost of these booklets (\$10.50) per child will be covered through the generosity of our local merchants and companies located in Woodstock.

We appreciate all these donations for the benefit of our local children. Each business that has contributed will be listed in the booklets. They will be ready for distribution by first part of November. Don Peasley will be covering the publicity for this project and our thanks to him for doing so.

Every member of the Auxiliary will be receiving a letter telling them about their dues that are due now for this year and about last year if it has not been paid. **DO NOT EVER SEND ANY CHECKS FOR DUES TO THE V.F.W. POST.** Send them to our Treasurer, Barb Gehrke, or to me, Nyda Fogarty.

Nyda Fogarty

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

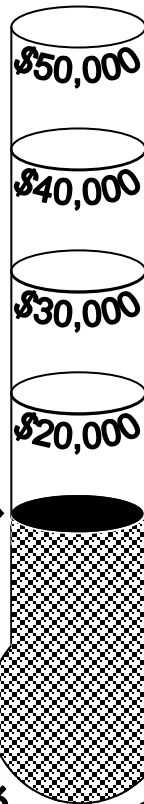
Update on Sweetheart Raffle

Hope you have been trying to sell those raffle tickets for the Sweetheart Raffle. It's coming up quicker than you think. Since the raffle was introduced in May of this year, we have only hit \$10,000 in sales. Five full months have passed, and we only have five more months left to make our goal of \$50,000!

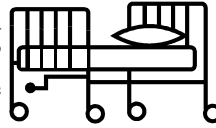
**Sales to date:
\$10,000**

We really need your help on this members. A lot has gone into the promotion of this raffle and is one of the Post's largest raffles. With 200 tickets sold, we have 800 more to sell. With the holidays around the corner, this might be the gift for that hard to buy person.

Sweetheart Raffle Sales



Do you need a hospital bed? One is available - free. It's an electric bed with sides. Contact Ralph Ritter at 815-338-5018 for details.



Oktoberfest

The October 20 Wednesday night meal will feature additional dishes.

In addition to the other menu items, Pork Roast, Sauerkraut & other side dishes will be served.

Victory Dance At Post

The Woodstock VFW is the location of a 1940's Style Victory Dance from 7 to 11 p.m. on Saturday, November 6. The event is a fundraiser for the Adult & Child Rehab Center in Woodstock.

Door prizes and a 50/50 raffle are part of the evening's activities. Join in the fun by dressing in 1940's era. There will be prizes for period attire and uniforms.

Tickets for the dance are \$20.



The money will be used to help provide many hours of therapy and nursing care for patients in need of financial assistance. Call

(815) 338-1707 for additional information.

Jim Smith - Update From Iraq

By Don Peasley

Jim Smith, who was an active member of Marine Corps Reserve unit when he was elected VFW Commander in April 2002, is now on active duty in Iraq. Chief Warrant Officer Smith is serving with A company Marine Wing Communications Squadron-48, Marine Wing Communications Squadron-38 (Reinforced), Third Marine Air Wing in Iraq. He served as VFW Post 5040 Commander June 2002 to June 2003.

Jim's wife Tamara and their children, Caitlin, 12; Jimmy, 10; Rebecca, 9; and David, 8, live in Wonder Lake. Tamara, who has a bachelor's degree from Southern Illinois University, is a stay-at-home mom, and is active with both Cub Scout and Girl Scout programs.

Before being called to active duty, Jim was committee chairman for Cub Scout Pack 776 which is sponsored by St. Mary's Church. Tamara says one challenge this summer has been her effort to develop a lawn at their new house in Wonder Lake.

"My goal is to have it 'really nice' for him when he returns home in spring of 2005. With email we are able to hear from him frequently," said Tamara.

Jim is an electronics maintenance officer serving as the unit's motor transport/utilities maintenance officer. At Al Taqaddum where Smith is stationed in Iraq, he reports the weather has been hot but is told the weather becomes cold at wintertime.

Motor transportation refers to rolling stock of HUMMVEEs and the new seven-ton MTRV (motor transport vehicle replacement). Utilities maintenance handles tactical generators and air conditioners.

"With the difficult climate conditions both sections are extremely busy," Smith reported in an email last week.

His previous duties were with an electronics maintenance company detachment in Indianapolis while serving as Post 5040 Commander.

See Jim , page 6.

Fun at John Hanson's Picnic

By Matt Klos

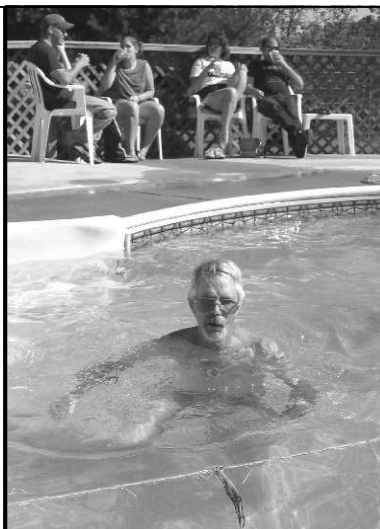
On Sunday, September 19th, a VFW Potluck picnic was held at John Hanson's house. It turned out to be a great day for the picnic, blue sky, warm - a perfect day for swimming and fun.

If you did not attend because you wanted to watch the Bears vs. Packers, you really missed out. There were three televisions airing the game, baseball and other sports.

See Picnic, page 4.

John Hanson takes a refreshing dip in his in ground pool as guests relax alongside the pool. The warm weather and cool water provided a refreshing treat for adults and children. About 50 people attended the picnic, enjoying the Bears vs. Packers, hotdogs, lots of side dishes, and plenty of liquid refreshments.

(Matt Klos photo).



Picnic, continued from page 3.

Master griller Ralph Ritter tended the grills, grilling up picnic favorites of hamburgers, hotdogs, and bratwurst. About 50 people attended the picnic, which began at 12:00 pm.

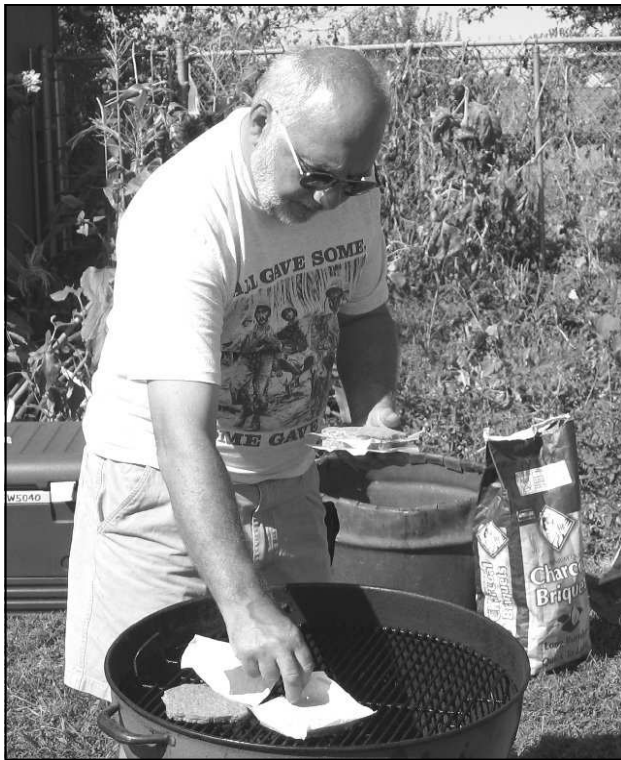
Each family that attended was requested to bring a dish to pass. There was plenty of food, which included chips, salads, tomatoes, beans, tomatoes, deserts, and tomatoes. John had a lot of tomatoes from his garden this year, so there was no shortage of tomato dishes.

Guests were treated to a variety of games including horseshoes, volleyball, and a closest-to-the-tee contest. A favorite activity on this warm day was of course John's in-ground pool. Families with younger children spent much of their time between the food tables and pool, as the children wanted to swim and use the water slide.

Overall, the day turned out very well. Thanks to John for opening up his house to VFW members and guests, providing food and fun. Also thank you to all of the people that helped John set up / take down for this event. A lot of preparation was needed to ready the pool, yard, grills, coolers, and food area.



A horseshoe tournament was just one of the games played at John Hanson's VFW Picnic. Pictured is Mike David (pitching), John's friend Charlie, Thom Gillespie (center background) and Ralph Ritter (right) (Photo by Matt Klos).



Master griller Ralph Ritter places burgers on the grill in preparation for lunch. Burgers, hotdogs, and brats were the main course of the day. The shirt Ralph was wearing is a favorite of his. It shows a picture of Vietnam soldiers with the words "All Gave Some, Some Gave All" printed above and below the photo (Photo by Matt Klos).



Guests enjoyed a variety of foods and drinks at the picnic. John has a side garage where the food table was set up. In the back of the garage there was a television set up to make sure that everyone who came that day had the opportunity to view the Bears vs. Packers game. There were lots of salads, beans, deserts, and chips for guests to enjoy (Photo by Matt Klos).

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Vote in this Year's Election

From the National VFW Website

On November 2, millions of Americans will vote their conscience at the polls. Whether you like or dislike how things are going in our country, make your voice heard by casting your vote.

Our greatest freedom is our ability to influence change through the ballot box. Voting is a right, a freedom and a responsibility. You are the catalyst for change: Become informed. It's your future...vote for it...

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National Guard Visits VFW 5040 for Early Dinner

By Matt Klos

On Saturday September 18, fifteen Guardsmen from the Woodstock National Guard, Company A 1st Battalion, 178th Infantry, 66th Infantry Brigade, 35th Infantry Division came to the post for pizza and beverages, an early dinner.

The Guardsmen came on invite from VFW Commander Sid Sherwin. The VFW had set up a booth at Flyers and Tires at Galt Airport and the Guardsman had a booth right next to the VFW booth. They got to talking and Sid mentioned that they should come down to the Post one of these days and we would treat them to some pizza, a kind of appreciation lunch for these fine soldiers and a "Thank You" for their commitment and dedication.

It just so happened that the Guard drill weekend was coming up in September and it worked out that the Guardsmen could come over for a late afternoon dinner of pizza and beverages.

ISG Steven Krause, a history teacher at Plainfield High School who has 16 years in the reserves, said that, "Activities for Saturday's drill day was a physical fitness test and class in marksmanship."

Captain Joe Kalisek, a teacher at McHenry with 14 years in reserves, 5 years Regular Army, indicated that the men were having a good time, enjoying the pizza and beverages.

When asked if any of the unit had been deployed to Iraq, ISG Krause said that none of the unit was in Iraq, however a couple of men had transferred out of the unit in order to go to Iraq.

SSG Peter Lockinger, Life Member of VFW, added that about 58 soldiers from the unit had been deployed to Ft. Polk Louisiana at the Joint Readiness Training Center (JRTC) in support of Operation Kajun Fury. The soldiers are playing the OPFOR (Opposing Forces) in mock battles to help ready soldiers who are scheduled to deploy to Iraq and Afghanistan, learning how to fight in combat in an urbanized setting, dealing with buildings, civilians, and situations not found in a jungle setting.

It turned out to be a better afternoon for one of the Guardsman, PFC Allen Townsend of Gurnee, a Pre-Med student at College of Lake County, who entered the Saturday afternoon bar raffle at the VFW. It was his lucky day, for he won a \$45.00 cash pot and also a pork tenderloin steak.

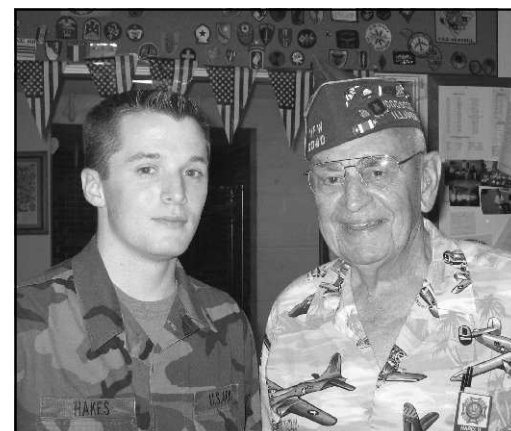
To the Woodstock National Guard, we thank you for coming out on Saturday and talking with some of the VFW members. We appreciate all you have done and for your dedication, patriotism, and protecting our freedoms.



Soldiers of the Woodstock National Guard enjoy pizza and beverages at the VFW Post 5040. The Guardsman were invited to come to the Post by Commander Sid Sherwin (Matt Klos Photo).



Harold Irwin, SSG Tim Keip, of Chicago who works as Insurance Broker, and PVT Joe Brewer, of McHenry who works at Crystal Lake Home Furnishings eat pizza and talk (Matt Klos Photo).




Youngest and Oldest for the Day.

PVT Ryan Hakes (left), Company Medic, is 21 years old, the youngest of the men there that day. He is a College Student in Rockford.

VFW Member Harold Irwin, is 84 Years old, oldest VFW member at the post on Saturday.

October 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
26	27	28	29	30	1 Fish Fry / Salad Bar 5 - 8 pm	2
3	4 Woodstock Memorial Day Committee 7 pm	5 VFW Board Mtg. 7 pm Dirtt Group 7 pm Jaycees 7 pm	6 Chicken and Ribs and Special 5 - 8 pm	7 Ladies Auxiliary 7:30 pm Jaycees 7 pm	8 Fish Fry / Salad Bar 5 - 8 pm	9
10	11 Columbus Day American Legion 7:30 pm	12 Dirtt Group 7 pm Jaycees 7 pm	13 Chicken and Ribs and Special 5 - 8 pm	14 Jaycees 7 pm	15 Fish Fry / Salad Bar 5 - 8 pm	16
17	18 VFW Meeting 7 pm VFW Pre-Meeting Dinner (VFW Members Only) 6:30 pm	19 Dirtt Group 7 pm Jaycees 7 pm	20 Oktoberfest Chicken and Ribs and Special - Pork Roast and Sauerkraut 5 - 8 pm Veterans Assistance Commission of McHenry County (7:30 pm)	21 Jaycees 7 pm Marines 7 pm Marines Auxiliary 7 pm	22 Fish Fry / Salad Bar 5 - 8 pm	23
24	25	26 Dirtt Group 7 pm Jaycees 7 pm	27 Chicken and Ribs and Special 5 - 8 pm	28 Jaycees 7 pm	29 Fish Fry / Salad Bar 5 - 8 pm	30
31 Halloween 	1	2 	3	4	5	6

Jim, continued from page 3.

"I was responsible to the company commander located in Wichita, Kansas and to the battalion commander located in Charlotte North Carolina with the complete operation of the detachment. I had to keep in constant contact with the Marines of my unit and with the Indianapolis' site's active duty staff to make sure we were ready for potential mobilization," said Smith.

When not at drill or active duty, Smith is employed with Chicago Communication Service, Elmhurst as a field telecommunications technician. That company is the local Motorola field service provider.

"I repair E911 phone systems, radio dispatch consoles, radio infrastructure and other communication devices," he said. "I am on a military leave of absence. In January 2004 I accepted orders for a six-month term of active duty to assist Marine Forces Reserve in transition to the new Navy-Marine Corps Intranet.

"I was released from those orders on May 31. I was

mobilized on June 1 with Marine Wing Communication Squadron 48 (part of the Fourth Marine Air Wing)."

Jim and Tamara met when each was on active duty in the Marine Corps stationed at Camp Lejeune, North Carolina. They have been together for almost 11 years. Tamara was on active duty for four years and been in the Reserves for four years.

As a former Marine she appreciates the demands made on her husband and provides strong support for his military endeavors.

Observed Tamara, "Jim feels it is his duty to protect and serve this country of ours. We are extremely proud of him and his service. He is willing to make a difference in the world when so many people aren't willing to try to make a difference."

Caitlyn is a seventh grader at St. Mary's in Woodstock. The younger three children attend Greenwood Elementary School.

Notice on Death of William Cooney

By Don Peasley

William Cooney, 77, has died following an outstanding career as a reporter for the San Francisco Chronicle. Nyda Fogarty, 1945 Woodstock High School graduate, has provided us with the news of Cooney's death in February.

Cooney, a 1945 St. Mary's High School graduate, was an outstanding football and basketball player under Coach Mel Stuessy. He served in the United States Navy after World War II, then obtained a degree in journalism from Marquette University in 1953.

He worked at a newspapers in San Carmel and San Jose before joining the Chronicle in 1965. His work drew praise from Chronicle colleagues at the time of his death. Chronicle editorial staff members praised his work covering federal court cases, saying he used his charm and shoe leather to develop an army of sources among judges, prosecutors and defense attorneys at San Francisco's huge federal building.

Michael Taylor, a longtime reporter at the Chronicle where Cooney worked until his retirement in 1989, said, "Bill was a thorough reporter and was highly respected by his peers in the federal pressroom."

U.S. District Judge Samuel Conti observed, "He knew who

the court reporters were. He knew who the law clerks were. Everyone in the court liked him, and therefore he was able to get news items that other reporters did not obtain."

Joseph Russoniello, who was U.S. attorney in San Francisco when Cooney covered federal court, recalled, "What you saw was what you got with him. He was a straight-shooter, fun to be around, knew his business and had a great nose for news."

Assistant U.S. Attorney Dennis Nerney said, "Bill was a no-nonsense reporter who didn't sit around and wait for a press release. He had a wry sense of humor. He knew what the rules were and he asked you the questions anyway, and there was never any hard feelings."

Cooney is survived by four children: Cathryn Ringwald, Patrick Cooney, Michaela Lindsey and Bridgid Standfield. His wife Dorothea died in 1984.

William Cooney's father, John, was a second cousin to Herbert Cooney, well-known Woodstock banker. His older brother, Neil Cooney, was Post 5040's first Commander, serving in that capacity in 1945 and until the election of April of 1946.

William, Neil, Harold and Helen Cooney Dreyer were the children of John and Catherine Cooney.

Parking Lot Work at VFW

If you notice some construction working going on at the VFW, its only temporary. In an effort to separate the 34 VFW parking spaces from the Woodstock Public Parking Lot, a 4-ft divider/sidewalk is being installed. Concrete curbs were not an option that the city said would suit as a divider. Half of the divider will be on VFW property, half on City property. The cost of the divider is \$6,000, with the VFW paying half and the city the other half.

5th District Meeting November 7 at Woodstock VFW

The next VFW 5th District Meeting will take place at the Woodstock VFW on November 7th. Lunch will be served at 12:00 pm, with the meeting following.

If you have not attended a 5th District Meeting before, try to attend this one. It's close to home and early in the new VFW year. Come out and let your District representatives know what's on your mind.

Correction

It wasn't until after printing did Dwayne Raney e-mail your editor, Matt Klos, that last months issue had in the masthead on the month of August in it. Whoops. You got an August issue in August, and another August issue in September.

Last months issue was really indeed the September issue, I just forgot to change the month. On each interior page, the date at the top of the page does say September.

If ever you find errors in the VFW News, please let me know so I can correct the version on our web page.

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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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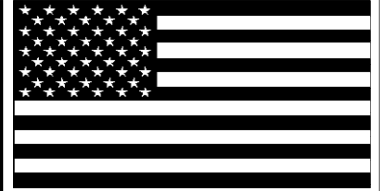
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