

Woodstock

VFW News

Woodstock VFW Post 5040 and Auxiliary

Winner of 15
National Publication
Awards

State Second Place
2004

www.vfw5040.org

January 2005
Vol. 50. No. 7

VFW Post 5040 From the Commander

By Sid Sherwin
Commander 2003-2004

Seasons Greetings From The Officers and Staff at Post 5040. This past year was filled with lots of successful events and plenty of good times. I would like to thank everyone that made this all possible. We have had quite a few new members join us in the past year; welcome aboard!

(Please take time to remember those comrades that have passed on in the past year. God bless them.)

In 2005 I am expecting lots of excitement and life to come to our post and we have a great and better year ahead! We are starting out this new year with a blood drive on January 30th at 10:00 am to 3:00 pm at our local post. Start your donation off right with an "All You Can Eat Pancake Breakfast" for only \$5.00. You can't beat the price or the hospitality! You'll be happy to know that our wholesome breakfast is being cooked by the officers themselves. Come join us. We'll be here to join you in giving the spirit of life. (See page 3 for more details.)

On February 12th we have another fantastic get together, the Sweetheart Raffle, as we will be giving away over 11,000\$ in prizes!!!! You bet! So we need you to get out there, spread the word, and get those tickets sold. This is the biggest fund raiser we have ever had to this day! We will have a great dinner and wonderful entertainment!

By the way, membership dues are due at this time. If you have not paid them yet, please do so. Thank you, from all of us. And thanks for a fantastic year.

Yours truly,

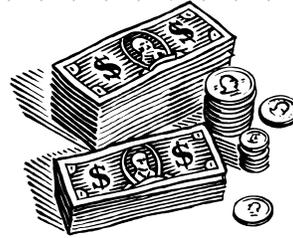
Sid Sherwin

Commander

Wednesday Night Dinners

Chicken and Ribs and "Candy's Special" from 5:00-8:00 pm. All you can eat. Included are two soups and a full salad bar.

Open to the public. \$7.95



Sweetheart Raffle February 12, 2005

Ticket Price: \$50.00 each

Post 5040 members, this is it. We are now down to our last month for the sweetheart raffle. Ticket sales have not been what we had hoped for, but with your help we can change all that. We currently have sold about 300 tickets. Our goal was to sell 1,000. We have a lot of catching up to do.

Sign Up Early for Sweetheart Raffle Dinner

Choice of Prime rib or Chicken Kiev

\$25.00 per couple (\$12.50 single) prepaid to Post with two complimentary drink tickets (one if single).

\$25.00 at the door without drink tickets.

A live band will be playing, so plan for a full night of entertainment, raffle prizes, and fun.

Sweetheart Raffle

Prizes:

1st Prize: \$5,000

2nd Prize: \$3,000

3rd Prize: \$2,000

4th Prize: \$1,000



If you plan on attending the dinner, we **encourage** you to **prepay** your dinner so we can get an accurate count of how many dinners we should prepare for.

If you plan on only attending the raffle, you do not have to buy a dinner.

See page 3 for Pre-Pay Dinner Remittance Coupon.

For additional information on the Raffle, Official Rules, and a form to obtain raffle tickets (see also page 6) from Post 5040, please see the website at:

www.vfw5040.org

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	(815)-338-4134
3 Year Trustee	Michael David	(815)-338-5341

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

<u>Personal Visits</u>	<u>Draped Charter (December Meeting)</u>	<u>Cards and Phone Visits</u>
• Ed Gates	• Robert Hemmingsen	• Marvin Bohnhoff
• Earl Holm	• Theodore Pierce	• Robert Hemmingsen Family
• Del Heidenreich		• Wilbur Kiefer
• Herb Hensel		• Kent Korst
• Wilbur Kiefer		• Theodore Pierce Family
• Ray Murphy		• James Schmieding Family
• Leon Rahn		
• Otis Setser		
• Howard Simpson		

A Year of Thanks

By Candy Forte

I would like to thank all my staff help for 2004 for their dedication and help that they have given for this past year. It can be a lot of work at times, but we still manage to have fun at what we do. Have a great year and I look forward to a great 2005 with you. Happy New Year.

Ladies Auxiliary From the President

By Nyda Fogarty, President 2004-2005

I want to thank all of you who sent in your check for the bake-less bake sale. It certainly helped a lot and if you haven't sent it in its not too late.

Our Christmas party and dinner was very good on December 2nd. The Past Presidents dinner and gift exchange was held at the Heritage House in Harvard on December 9th.

Our Guard in Auxiliary has been confined for sometime in Northwestern Memorial Hospital in Chicago after surgery. We hope Rose Mary Hellstern will recover soon and be back with us very soon as we miss her very much and the Auxiliary wishes her **well**.

There are a number of members who have not paid their dues for this year. Also, some long time members owe this year and for last years dues as well. If they are not brought up to date soon they will be dropped from the membership. The amount of the benefit per day for hospital confinement has been increased quite a bit with our insurance. So I hope the members will pay their dues as the end of our Auxiliary year is only six months away.

The Auxiliary has a lot of membership pins. These are for years of belonging to the Auxiliary from five years up to 50 years. Look at your membership card and it will tell the year you became a member. If you are eligible for a pin please let me know and we will give you your pin.

Our **February 3rd** meeting will be a potluck dinner at 6 pm. The **5th District President**, Patty Rapanos, will be doing her **inspection** and she has been invited to attend the dinner preceding the meeting.

At the Christmas party we had a drawing for three free dues for the next year. Your dues had to be paid up and you had to be present. Those who won were: Lois Freund, Nyda Fogarty, and Ruth Gehrke. That was a nice Christmas present. We thank Chris Gehrke for taking charge of the Christmas party.

I wish everyone a Very Happy New Year!!

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.

January Blood Drive at Post 5040

By Matt Klos



Heartland Blood Centers

Your community blood service since 1943.

Sid Sherwin, VFW Post 5040 Commander, is chairing a blood drive for the VFW at the end of January. The blood drive is scheduled for **January 30** (that's a Sunday) from **10:00 am to 3:00 pm**. The blood collection agency that will be on site is Heartland Blood Center which will have a mobile coach in the VFW Parking lot to perform the collections. Yes, this will be a heated environment and you won't be donating in a cold motor home.

To help replenish you after you give blood, Sid and the officers will be cooking a **Pancake Breakfast from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm at a cost of \$5.00 per person**.

All donors will receive a **\$25.00 Restaurant.com** gift certificate.

The post has not sponsored a blood drive for many years, so this is a nice community project and a great way to start the year. I usually give every 8 weeks and my next donation is at the end of December, but to help with this drive I plan on waiting until January 30 for this drive.

For an appointment, please contact the Woodstock VFW at 815-338-5040, or Sid Sherwin at 815-338-5573. Please bring a photo ID to the Blood Drive.

If you plan to donate, please be aware of some of the qualifications:

- you must be in good health and feeling well
- at least 17 years of age
- weigh 110 pounds or more
- you should eat something before you donate
- you have not donated blood within the last 8 weeks
- there is a 12 month waiting period after a tattoo or body piercing
- if you have an allergy, you can still donate if you have no acute symptoms on the day of donation
- if you are on antibiotics, donors acceptable after last dose
- if you have asthma, donors acceptable if under control
- if you had cancer, donors acceptable if pronounced cured after 5 years and in good health
- if you have a cold or flu, you cannot donate
- if you had dental surgery, donor acceptable after 72 hours
- if you have high blood pressure, donors acceptable provided blood pressure is within normal ranges at time of donation
- if you are on medications, please bring a list of medications taken to determine if you qualify to donate
- a history of heart attack, coronary artery disease, angio-

plasty or heart surgery disqualifies you as a donor

These are just some of the qualifications. There are other qualifications concerning pregnancy, surgery, malarial risks, medications, and residency outside the United States. If you have a question on eligibility, contact Heartland Blood Center at 1-800-7 TO-GIVE (1-800-786-4483).

Report on Turkey Raffle, November 2004

"The Turkey Raffle was a great success this year, compared to prior years past. There was a lot of community involvement. It was great," commented Mike Dave, Chair of this year's Turkey Raffle.

The numbers say it all. 316 dinners were served and the total number of patrons numbered between 350 and 400. The post netted about \$7,333.00 A great success!

Mike David wants to thank everyone involved in preparing this event, those that help set up, the kitchen help, and the patrons of the community that came down to support the post.

Thanks go to Kelly and the bar staff, Candy and the Kitchen staff. Thank you very much for your hard work to pull this off.

Other prizes awarded other than of course the cash prizes and turkeys were an additional 24 paddle wheel prizes that included Chicago Cub tickets.


Pre-Pay Dinner Remittance Coupon
For Sweetheart Raffle Dinner

If you plan on attending the dinner, we encourage you to sign and prepay your dinner so we can get an accurate count of how many dinners we should prepare for. Please send this coupon back with your check to prepay your dinner before the end of January 2005.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: _____

Please send me the following dinner tickets:

____ Prime Rib x \$12.50 Sub-Total: _____

____ Chicken Kiev x \$12.50 Sub-Total: _____

I am enclosing a Grand Total of: _____

I understand that with my prepaid dinner I will also be receiving a complimentary drink ticket for each pre-paid dinner.

VFW Post 5040
Mail To: Sweetheart Dinner Prepay
 240 Throop St
 Woodstock, IL 60098



Jack Wendt Presented with World War II Honor and Remembrance Medallion

By Matt Klos

On December 6, I received an email from MSG Jack Crossman, a life member of VFW Post 5040, wanting to give his uncle, Jack Wendt, also a life member of VFW Post 5040, a special Christmas gift. This gift would be the presentation of the Non Commissioned Officers Association (NCOA) World War II Honor and Remembrance Medallion.

Jack Crossman is a Master Sergeant in the U.S. Army and has been serving for over 27 years. He is currently stationed in St. Louis as a Security NCOIC, Human Resources Command; 96B Intelligence Analyst.

Jack's uncle, Jack Wendt, was a PFC in the U.S. Army serving during WWII from 1943-1946. He was attached to E Company, 387th Infantry Regiment, 97th Infantry Division as a BAR man.

The NCOA World War II Honor and Remembrance Medallion was created with the intent to honor these special veterans with a specially cast medallion and presentation box that would be retained as memento by the family for remembrance by their family and future generations. The medallion itself can be worn around the neck and the presentation box has some history about WWII and "The Greatest Generation."

The Presentation to Jack Wendt was something to be remembered and be proud of, especially since it was done by his nephew. As World War II veterans get older, keeping their legacy alive and remembering what this war was all about becomes essential for current and future generations to reflect on. Jack Crossman made sure, with the presentation at the VFW meeting, that his family will have something for future family generations to connect a family member with WWII.

For more information on this medallion, visit the web page at: www.ncoa.egastores.com



Jack Wendt, left, was presented with the WWII Honor and Remembrance Medallion by his nephew, MSG Jack Crossman (Matt Klos photo).

Deceased Members During 2004 Remembered

The following 28 VFW Post 5040 members were remembered at the last meeting of the 2004 year with a bell tolling. Each of deceased Veterans will be remembered for their duty to country and the contributions they made. May God bless each of our departed comrades and their families:

Last Name	First	City	ST
Barnes	Roy	McHenry	IL
Beck	James	Crystal Lake	IL
Bradley	Ronald	Crystal Lake	IL
Carroll	Frank	Woodstock	IL
Dykstra	Sam	Mountain Home	AR
Evanoff	William	Woodstock	IL
Fidler	Ralph	Delavan	WI
Greenlee	Robert	Ames	IA
Greenwald	LeRoy	Woodstock	IL
Hemmingsen	Robert	Elgin	IL
Holz	Kurt	Crystal Lake	IL
Kendrick	Robert	Canton	MS
Koster	Edward	Cary	IL
Mateling	Alvin	Wauconda	IL
Moritz	David	Woodstock	IL
Neuchiller	Bernard	Woodstock	IL
O Neill	William	Woodstock	IL
Pierce	Theodore	Harvard	IL
Shilvock	John	Crystal Lake	IL
Slack	Arthur	Woodstock	IL
Smith	Harlan	Harvard	IL
Smith	Harold	Marengo	IL
Soehrmann	Howard	Algonquin	IL
Tessmer	Donald	Huntley	IL
Wasberg	Robert	Crystal Lake	IL
Wenk	Ruth	Bloomington	IL
Whitman	August	Wonder Lake	IL
Wilcox	Allan	Marengo	IL



Bears
vs.
Packers



The Marine Corps League is having a Bears vs. Packers Party on Sunday, January 2nd at 12:00 pm at the Post 5040. All the chili you can eat and beer you can drink for \$20.00 per person. Raffles are planned as well as a lot of fun. Come join the party and root for your favorite team.

Three New Members Sworn In - All Family

By Matt Klos

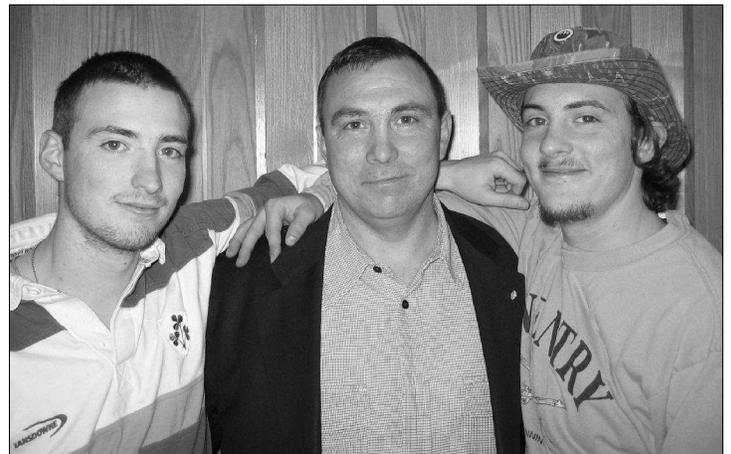
At the December meeting we had a special event take place in the swearing in of new VFW Post 5040 members. Not only were three of the new members related, but it was a father and his two sons. Something like this does not happen very often and I have not heard of it before. This is a great accomplishment for a family of veterans to all become members on the same night.

The father, Jim Elsinger, is a Lieutenant Colonel in the Army. He served in Desert Storm and Afghanistan in Operation Enduring Freedom and Noble Eagle. His military career spans 26 years and is currently assigned to Joint Forces HQ as Deputy Ops Director. Previously he was with the 29th Division(L) S3, 175th Infantry.

Jeremiah Elsinger was an Army Specialist (SP-4) in Tactical Transportation Support. He was deployed to Kuwait and southern Iraq in Operation Iraqi Freedom in 2003-04. There he was an Equipment/Supply Mount in Baghdad with the 1485th Transportation Company.

Joseph Elsinger was in the Air National Guard, 113th Air Maintenance Squadron. He supported the Joint Task Force in Southwest Asia during Iraqi Freedom in 2003 where he was a Crew Chief of an F-16 Fighter Wing.

Post 5040 extends a warm welcome to these new members. Welcome comrades!



Son, Joseph Elsinger (left), father Jim Elsinger (middle), and son Jeremiah Elsinger (right) were sworn in as new members of VFW Post 5040 at the December meeting. The top undated photo shows all three men in uniform, the bottom was taken at the post meeting on December 20, 2004 (Bottom photo by Matt Klos).

Hugh Mullin - Congressional Medal of Honor

By Don Peasley

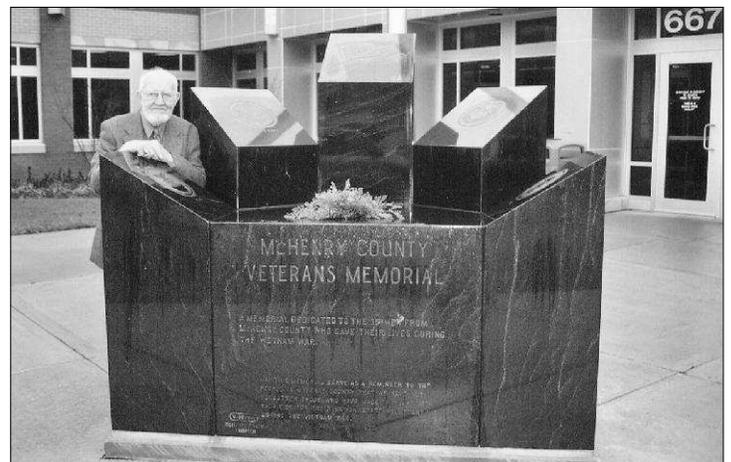
A recent mention of Elmer Bigelow in the VFW News prompted the following recollection from Jack Meyers:

"Your account of Elmer Bigelow's action aboard the USS Fletcher was a wonderful report. Bigelow went beyond the call of duty, saved his ship and lost his life. He deserves great praise for his deed.

"His heroism act was performed during World War II. The account said he was the only McHenry County man to receive the Congressional Medal of Honor. However, Hugh P. Mullin, a seaman, United States Navy, Richmond, received the Congressional Medal of Honor for heroic action, too.

"Mullin, born in 1878, was a Richmond resident. The citation issuing the Congressional Medal of Honor on January 8, 1900, stated, 'On board the USS Texas during the coaling of that vessel at Hampton Roads, Virginia, on November 11, 1899, Mullin jumped overboard while wearing a pair of heavy rubber boots at a great risk to his life, and he rescued Alfred Kosninski, Apprentice Second Class. Kosninski had fallen overboard. Mullin supported him until Kosninski was safely hauled from the water.'"

Meyers said this information was printed in the Congressional Medal of Honor, published by Sharp & Dunnigan Publications.



Don Peasley stands by the McHenry County Veterans Memorial. The memorial was moved to the McHenry County Government Center Administration Building on Ware Road earlier this year. The granite monument was first located at the east entrance to the Government Center. The present location provides more visibility and prominence for the beautiful structure honoring the 35 McHenry County men who died during the Vietnam War. (Don Peasley Photo)

Follow Up on Patriots Pen and Voice of Democracy Winners

By Don Peasley



The Woodstock VFW Post 5040 and Auxiliary sponsored the Voice of Democracy essay and the theme for 2004 was, "Celebrating Our Veterans' Service." Students from high schools throughout McHenry County were invited to enter the contest.

Michael Koerner, 17, Huntley High School senior, is this year's Woodstock VFW Post 5040 Voice of Democracy winner.

In his winning essay he wrote, "I thank those noble individuals for ensuring the flag continues to fly, citizens continue to vote and the spirit of our country perseveres.

"The cornerstone of our national defense is in the hearts of those men and women courageous and selfless enough to risk their lives to continue the American prosperity."

The two organizations also sponsored a Patriotic Pen Essay Contest for elementary school students. Theme for this contest was, "What Service to Our Country Means to Me."

Kelsey Harding, sixth grade student at St. Mary's Elementary School, Woodstock, is the Patriotic Pen Essay Contest winner. In her essay she salutes the thousands of people who provide service to the United States—the President of the United States, people in the Armed Forces and members of the police and fire departments.

Hank Enstrom and Chris Gehrke are co-chairmen for these VFW and VFW Auxiliary patriotic programs involving students from throughout McHenry County.

Essay winners and their parents will be guests at the VFW meeting Monday, January 17. Fifth District winners will be announced at the Fifth District dinner at Antioch in mid-January.

**HAPPY NEW YEAR COMRADES!
FROM WOODSTOCK POST 5040**

There's still time left! Get Your Sweetheart Raffle Tickets Today! Use the below order form:

No. _____

Buyer: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Seller #: _____

(line of perforation)

Sweetheart Raffle

Sponsored by Woodstock VFW Post 5040
Supporting Post, Community Funds and Special Community Events

When: Saturday, February 12, 2005
Where: VFW 5040
240 Throop, Woodstock, IL 60098
Phone: 815-338-5040

Dinner, Meet Raffles, Attendance Drawing 5:00 and Prize Drawing at 9 P.M.
\$50 Donation Only 1,000 Tickets

Grand Prize \$5,000

2nd Prize \$3,000 3rd Prize \$2,000 4th Prize \$1,000
Ticket Seller Prize \$100 each winner Winner attendance bonus \$100 to above prizes.

Winner need not be present. Visa & Mastercard accepted. Subject to rules at www.vfw5040.org
Printing by Higgins Printing, Inc. 847-635-7700

Please send me a VFW Sweetheart Raffle Ticket(s) of which said raffle is to take place on February 12, 2005. I am enclosing \$50.00 for each ticket requested. The check will be made payable to VFW Post 5040.

Here is my ticket buyer information:

Buyer Name: _____

Street: _____

City: _____

Zip Code: _____

Phone Number: _____

Number of tickets: _____

Check Total: _____
(# of tickets x \$50.00)

Send check and form to:
VFW Post 5040
Sweetheart Raffle Ticket Request
240 N. Throop Street
Woodstock, IL 60098

For inquiries on mailed requests, please call the post (815)-338-5040.

From the Editors Desk

By Matt Klos



Happy New Year Post members and Ladies Auxiliary! Hope you had a great holiday season. As we enter into another year, we are starting out with a bang. We have a Blood Drive and the Sweetheart Raffle coming up. By now you are probably sick and tired of hearing me push this raffle in the newsletter, but we appeal to the membership to sell these tickets and bring some money into the post. Without fund raisers like this, we cannot give out as much money to special VFW programs and donate like we want to. Each month requests come into the post from many organizations asking for donations, and the Post with its limited funds has to be selective in who gets funds and who does not. Its not easy to do. Please help out if you can.

As we go into the new year, we are still engaged in a war on the other side of the world where our military service men and women each day take on the risk of death. Remember them in your prayers. They are doing a job that nobody wants to do, all in the name of Freedom, something we all take for granted sometimes. **We are proud of all our service members!**

January 2005

☆☆☆☆☆☆ 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	31	1
2 Marine Corp League Packer - Bear Party 12 Noon. \$20 for chili and beer; all you can eat and drink. Open to public.	3 Woodstock Memorial Day Committee 7 pm Little League 7 pm	4 Dirtt Group 7 pm	5 Chicken and Ribs and Special 5 - 8 pm	6 VFW Ladies Auxiliary 7:00 pm	7 Fish Fry / Salad Bar 5 - 8 pm	8
9	10 American Legion 7:30 pm	11 VFW Board Mtg. 7 pm Dirtt Group 7 pm	12 Cub Scouts - ?? Pm Chicken and Ribs and Special 5 - 8 pm	13	14 Fish Fry / Salad Bar 5 - 8 pm	15
16	17 VFW Meeting 7:30 pm VFW Pre-Meeting Dinner (VFW Members Only) 6:30 pm Deadline for February 2005 VFW News items	18 Dirtt Group 7 pm	19 Veterans Assistance Commission of McHenry County 7:30 pm Chicken and Ribs and Special 5 - 8 pm	20 Marines 7 pm Marines Auxiliary 7 pm	21 Fish Fry / Salad Bar 5 - 8 pm	22
23	24 Girls Softball ?? pm	25 Dirtt Group 7 pm Jaycees 7 pm	26 Chicken and Ribs and Special 5 - 8 pm	27	28 Fish Fry / Salad Bar 5 - 8 pm	29
30 Blood Drive at the Post Pancake breakfast for donors, \$5.00. Donation times from 10 am - 3 pm.  Heartland Blood Centers Your community blood service since 1943	31	1 Dirtt Group 7 pm	2 Chicken and Ribs and Special 5 - 8 pm	3 VFW Ladies Auxiliary 7:00 pm	4 Fish Fry / Salad Bar 5 - 8 pm	5

VFW News Advertisers

To all the VFW News advertisers. A letter was sent out your company on December 20, 2004 detailing the yearly ad rate of \$100 for the 2005 year. Also included is a questionnaire sheet about your ad asking if you need changes, have a new logo, etc. Please be sure to return this questionnaire with your ad renewal check. Also, if any of you would like to have a free web link on the VFW website, let me know.

- VFW News Editor

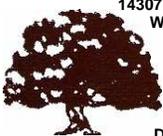
815-338-0492 **ACE Hardware**



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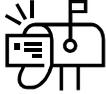
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1211 N. Seminary, Woodstock 815-338-1710

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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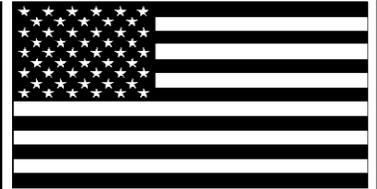
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 of Each Month at the VFW
 7:30 P.M.

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Contact Matt Klos (address at top of this page) for details and pricing info.

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