



# VFW News

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Woodstock VFW Post 5040 and Auxiliary

## VFW booth at McHenry County Fair results

By Matt Klos

The Woodstock VFW manned a booth at the 2005 McHenry County Fair this year from August 3 - 7. For the opening ceremony at the fair, VFW Honor Guards Don Sword, Bill Lyford, and Bruce Shisler raised the American and 4H flag on Wednesday, August 3 at 12:00 noon. McHenry County Fair Queen 2004 sang the National Anthem for the opening ceremony.

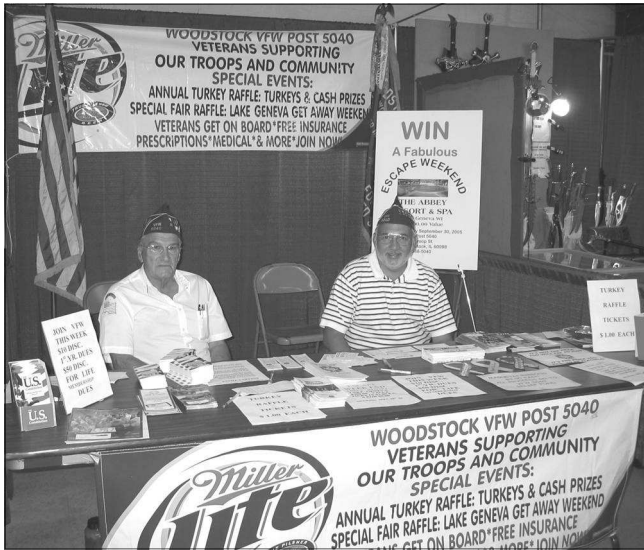
six for \$5.00.

Raffle tickets were not the only items of interest at the booth table. Literature was passed out to fair-goers about the VFW and the post signed up two new members. Small U.S. Constitution booklets were a hot item of interest to middle school students who have to take the U.S. Constitution test this year. Several hundred of these comprehensive Constitution booklets were given away.

One guest of special note was a 2000 speaker at the Memorial Day Ceremony, retired Brigadier General, U.S. Army, Ronald Mangum. He has a VFW membership in Korea and we are in the process of transferring his membership to the Woodstock VFW Post.

Thank you to all the people that helped in manning the booth during this time. Helpers included:

Don and Anita Sword, Dean Mishler, Charlie Mathey, Bill Lyford, Don Sullivan, Hank Engstrom, Russ and Donna Freeman, Jim Reece, Dick Glawe, Mike David, Ron and Freda Nehls, Bruce Shisler, Bob Gibson, Ralph Diederich, Anne Brophey, Arnie Doerfert, Ralph Ritter, Marv Monson, Thom Gillespie, and Matt Klos.



Don Sword (L) and Ralph Ritter man the Woodstock VFW table at the McHenry County Fair on August 6, 2005.

## From the Commander

By Thom Gillespie  
VFW Commander 2005-2006

Just a couple of quick notes for the membership. After the floor meeting on Monday, I received a phone call from Mrs. Porter who had a wheelchair that she wanted to donate to the VFW. I picked it up from her house on St. Johns Rd. Tuesday. It now resides in the back room, awaiting somebody in need. This chair is not the normal type that we have in the upstairs storage room. It is an electric driven chair with only about 2 months usage on it. Mr. Lawrence Porter recently moved into a nursing home in McHenry. The Porters have lived in Woodstock since the late 60's. There will be no charge for the use of any of the wheelchairs we have, but we will ask for a deposit to loan out the electric one.

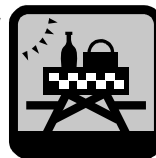
The 5th district gave me a picture hanging rack to display pictures of anyone in Iraq or Afghanistan. If you have a picture, send it to the post with a note so we can put it up.

Mark Adolphus is now handling the booking of the Hall. You can call the VFW at (815) 338-5040 or Mark at (847) 417-3446.

Don Sword reported that we had \$574 in ticket sales at the fair and \$75 in sales at the VFW Post bar for the "Escape Weekend" raffle give away. Also sold at the fair were magnetic car ribbons that brought in \$30.75.

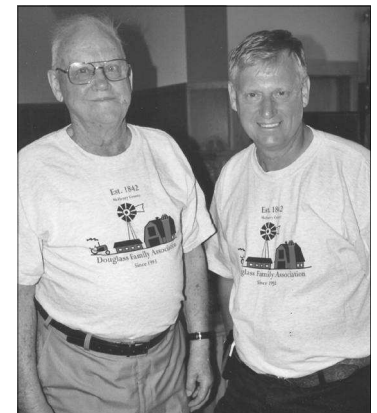
The drawing for the "Escape Weekend" at the Abby Resort & Spa in Lake Geneva, WI will take place Friday, September 30. Tickets to the "Escape Weekend" are still available for purchase for \$1.00 each or

## Date change for Post picnic: September 11



The date of the Post Picnic has changed to **September 11**. The picnic will be at John Hanson's house from 12 pm to 7 pm. Beer and pop will be supplied. Please bring a dish to pass. The Post will supply hamburgers. There will be swimming, a golf contest, baseball games, volleyball, and horseshoes. **All members of the VFW and Auxiliary welcome.** Bring your grandkids too! It was a great time last year and we had a lot of fun. His address is 2718 Deepcut Rd., Woodstock.

Please RSVP to John at (815)-338-7890. Pray for a nice day and no rain!



Fred Douglass (R) and other members of the Douglass family join Merrill Douglass, Fred's father, as Merrill observed his 95th birthday on July 22. After serving in the Vietnam War, Fred was Post 5040 Commander in 1971 and in 1980. Fred lives in East Troy, Wisconsin and is a village trustee. (Don Peasley Photo).

## VFW Post 5040 - Post Officers 2005 - 2006

Commander	Thom Gillespie	(815)-338-6826
Senior Vice Commander	Mike David	(815)-338-5341
Junior Vice Commander	Jim Clegg	(815)-334-0210
Quartermaster	Jim Reece	(815)-206-0331
Assistant Quartermaster	Anne Brophy	Unavailable
Chaplain	Howard Engstrom	(815)-338-4453
Assistant Chaplain	Charles (Chuck) Mathey	(815)-338-5374
Service Officer	Ron Nehls	(815)-568-0708
Judge Advocate	Dick Glawe	(815)-385-3156
Post Surgeon	Harold Irwin	(815)-338-1264
Officer-of-the-Day	Bruce Shisler	(815)-338-4735
Adjutant	Matthew Klos	(815)-479-8842
1 Year Trustee	Larry Dhom	(815)-338-4134
2 Year Trustee	Allen Belcher	(815)-338-7689
3 Year Trustee	Arnie Doerfert	(815)-385-2923

## Ladies Auxiliary to VFW Post 5040 Post Officers 2005 - 2006

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	Margie Humphrey	Unavailable
Conductress	Irene Brown	(815)-459-3483
1 Year Trustee	Geraldine Salyers	Unavailable
2 Year Trustee	Lois Freund	(815)-338-5261
3 Year Trustee	Margaret Webb	(815)-338-4213

## Ladies Auxiliary, from the President

By Nyda Fogarty  
Auxiliary President 2005-2006

In the past month we have lost two long time members, Joyce Fringer and Anna Marie Emricson who died on July 31st. We draped our charter for both of these Auxiliary members. We recently learned that Bernice Kolberg passed away in 2004.

Our September meeting will be a potluck dinner prior to our meeting. Please bring two dishes of food (meat will not be furnished) We will try to eat by 6:15 pm.

At our last meeting I presented membership pins to the following: Karen Wells - 5 year pin, Margaret Webb - 15 year pin, Geraldine Salyers - 10 year pin, and Irene Brown - 30 year pin.

It was reported that the Auxiliary made \$140.00 at our bake sale held during the Soup to Nuts Sale in May.

I would like to report that Rose Mary Hellstern has been laid up for some time because of a bad fall. We hope that she'll be well soon and back with us at our meetings.

On September 15 the Auxiliary will be honoring me at a dinner (at a restaurant). Everyone will meet at the Post to depart about 6:45 pm. Chris and Barb Gehrke will be in charge of this event.

## New VFW board and officer meeting times

At the August 9 Board Meeting, it was voted that the Board of Directors meeting would be split from the VFW Officer meeting. Meeting times have changed to the following:

VFW Officer Meeting:  
2nd Monday of each month, 6:30 pm

Board of Directors Meeting:  
2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month, 6:30 pm

## ✠ Chaplains Report ✠

By Howard Engstrom

Phone Calls and Cards Sent:

- Jack Meyers & Family
- Geraldine Salyers & Family
- Joe Thiede

Personal Visits:

- Earl Holm - Home
- Otis Setser - Valley High
- Herb Hensel - Valley High
- Fred Wallis - Hospital

Draped Charter:

- Robert Salyers

## Educational fund set up for children of Mark Engstrom

By Don Peasley

In response to several inquiries from members, Howard Engstrom has provided the Woodstock *VFW News* with the following information: An educational fund has been established for the children of Mark Engstrom - Luke, 13, and Tabitha, 7.

Checks should be made to Mark Engstrom Cancer Fund and donations mailed to his father, Howard Engstrom, at 1205 Thomas Drive, Woodstock. (Howard is our VFW Post 5040 Chaplain.)

Mark Engstrom, 51, son of Howard and Marian Engstrom, died Monday, August 1 from a rare and aggressive form of cancer.

Mark Engstrom earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from Taylor University, Indiana and a Master of Divinity degree from McCormick Seminary in Chicago. He was living in Crystal Lake when the cancer was diagnosed in early May.

He served as a minister, chaplain, social worker and self-employed carpenter and home decorator. He also served as volunteer chaplain for the Lake-in-the-Hills chapter of the Civil Air Patrol.

One of his favorite activities was to go sailing with his son Luke on Crystal Lake.

## Time again for the annual turkey raffle

By Matt Klos

Almost that time of year again. Time to start thinking about fall and turkeys. Jim Clegg, Junior Vice Commander, is chairing the Annual VFW Turkey Raffle and dinner which will take place the weekend before Thanksgiving which is on November 19, 2005. The Post will once again be sending out a separate mailing with Turkey Raffle tickets which you can purchase or sell to friends. Please be on the lookout for these.

Prizes and ticket price will be the same as last year. This is a good fund raiser for the Post so we encourage everyone to sell the tickets to friends, family, co-workers, etc. Last year we gave away 40 turkeys at the raffle and cash prizes. Prizes will be similar. More information to follow on this in next month's *VFW News*.

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

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

## Commander Jim Smith presents post with American flag

By Matt Klos

At the August meeting, we had a special guest member present at the meeting. Jim Smith, VFW Commander 2002-2003, attended the meeting and presented the post with an American Flag that was flown in Iraq.

A certificate certifying the flag reads:

Company A MWCS 48 HQ  
Flag Certification

Commanding Officer Alpha  
Company Marine Wing

Communication Squadron 48  
takes pleasure in presenting this  
certificate to CW03 James R.

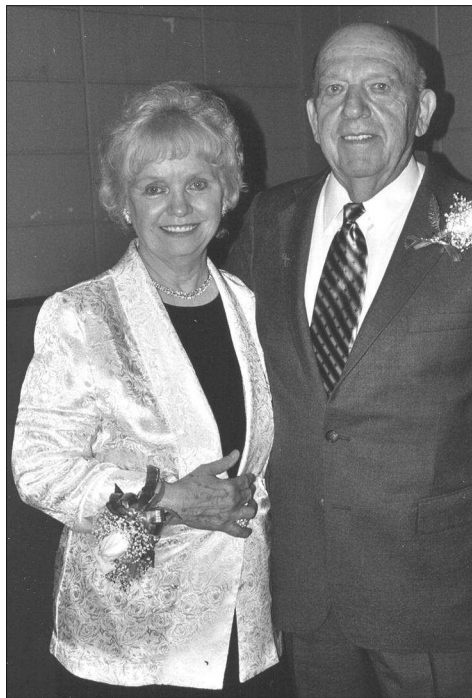
Smith attesting that American Flag  
#TQ-008 was flown over Alpha  
Company, MWCS-48

Headquarters at Camp Taqaddum  
in the Anbar Province of Iraq on  
12 December 2004.

Signed, Major J. R. Calvert.

The flag is stand alone and not in a display case. The post is seeking someone to build a proper display case for this so it can be hung in the dining room.

Jim returned from Iraq on February 22, 2005. He is now working in the Reserves, at Great Lakes Naval Base as a Calibration Officer. In this capacity, he is fixing and calibrating electronic equipment and non-electronic equipment, basically anything that deals with measurements. While in Iraq and stationed in Al Taqaddum, which is about 74 kilometers West of Baghdad, Jim was in a Motor Transport/Utilities unit where they fixed generators, air conditioners and other electrical equipment for the military.



## VFW 5040 member Zyskowski and wife celebrate 50th wedding anniversary

By Don Peasley

Chester Zyskowski, a Korean War veteran, and his wife, Eugenia Zyskowski, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary with a dinner at the Woodstock Moose on Saturday, July 30.

Chester was drafted October 10, 1950 and began his tour of duty in Korea April 13, 1951. "I remember the date," recalled Chester, "because that was the same day President Truman fired General MacArthur as Commander in Chief of U.S. Forces in Korea."

Staff Sergeant Zyskowski's training was in the infantry but his military service was in the artillery as a fire director. He left Korea in January 1952 and was discharged in July 1952, then went to pharmacy school in Grand Rapids, Michigan.

Chester worked as a pharmacist, coming to K-Mart in Woodstock in August 1981. He retired from that position in 1993 and did pharmaceutical work on a part-time basis until fully retiring in 2002.

Chester and Eugenia Zyskowski have three children: Clifford, Sonoma, California; Phillip, Arlington Heights; and Judith, Eureka, California.

## Dentist hours

In last months issue of the *VFW News*, it was mentioned that the VFW front office has been rented to Dr. John J. Schultz, DDS. The hours of his business and phone number were not mentioned. Here are the hours and phone number:

Dr. Shultz' hours of operation:

Tuesday 10am - 6pm

Wednesday 9am - 5pm

Friday 8am - 12pm

Phone: 815-338-3815

## Wednesday night dinners to return?

By Matt Klos

In an effort to generate more income for the post and bring in more people, the Board of Directors has voted to start the Wednesday night dinners once again.

However, the schedule will be a little different going forward. There would be one (1) "Wednesday Night Dinner" offered on the **2nd Wednesday night** of each month, offering one main menu item that will differ month to month.

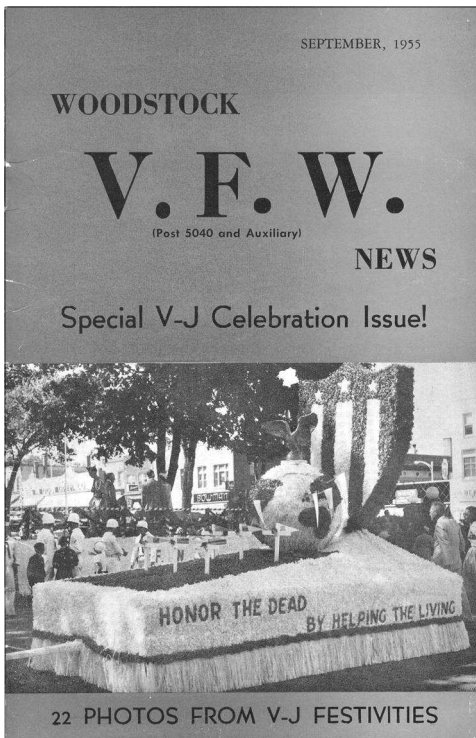
On the **4th Wednesday**, Craig Walker would be doing a "sign up only" dinner featuring his catering specialties. "Buzz's Bar-B-Que", his catering business, would be cooked out of the Post kitchen featuring a main menu item cooked on an outside grill. The meal would be served from 5pm - 7pm. Anyone wishing to have the "Buzz's Bar-B-Que" dinner would need to call several days before the Wednesday so preparations can be made and the proper food amounts ordered.

Craig is in the process of finishing up cooking school and needs a place to cater out of. The Post is currently negotiating with Craig on using our kitchen for food preparation for catering during off peak times. His catering business would possibly be available for events at the post (if a group is renting the halls). It all depends on his current job and school. If you would like to talk to Craig about a catered event, his phone number is 815-529-7242.

For more information and reservations, call the VFW Post at 815-338-5040.

It's not the price you paid to join  
It's the price you paid to be eligible.

Members of the Woodstock VFW 5040 Color Guard perform at the Northrop Grumman annual event "American Days", presenting the colors to open the event. Northrop Grumman has indicated that it will donate \$500 to the post, split between the Color Guard and Rifle Squad. Pictured is (from front) Bill Lyford, Hank Engstrom, Sid Sherwin, and Dick Glawe.



The front cover of the September 1955 VFW News issue. As quoted in this issue, "The impressive VFW float climaxed the 64-minute V-J Day parade which preceded the memorable Pageant of Drums. Enthusiastic community participation made the event a success, one Woodstock VFW is proud to have sponsored. LeRoy Corey was primarily responsible for this colorful float. (Photo by Don Peasley)."

## 50 years ago this month

By Matt Klos

With the 50th Anniversary of the *VFW News* honored in the July 2005 issue, each month until July 2006, a column will be featured looking back 50 years to the current month. In the September 1955 issue of the VFW News:

- Earl Holm is commander and goes to the National Convention. Speakers at the convention included Vice President Nixon, Billy Graham, Harry Highley of the VA, Audie Murphy. A highlight was a vote to build a memorial building in Washington D.C for about \$1,000,000 or 25 cents per member for four years. Red Cross president received a \$10,000 check from the VFW for flood relief.
- Membership Kickoff Dinner is scheduled for October 8.
- V-J Day Celebration drew 10,000 people to Woodstock.
- 22 Photos from the V-J festivities (primarily this issue was a pictorial of the V-J Celebration).

- Leonie Kennedy, Auxiliary President, gives report that Lorraine Holm is the delegate to the National Auxiliary encampment at the convention. Auxiliary overall has about 37,000 total members. National women's president Agnes Holz presented General Christenberry with a \$13,000 check to be used for the Korean people.
- Advertisers included in this issue: Thomas Merwin Undertaking, Ray Wolf Jewelers, C&E Trucking Service, Sanitary Plumbing and Heating Co., Building Material from Shurtleff's, Polizzi Bros. Food Market, Conway Dairy, Edgetown Bowling Lanes, Home Oil Company, Sneider - Leucht Funeral Home, Donahue Furniture, Wendt's Shell Service, Stewart's Locker Service, Jack Fish (Painting, Decorating), Amico (Radio & TV sales), Bob Conway's Shell Service, Dacy's (Electrical Store), Buckley's Cleaners and Launderers, R.W. Schultz (Food Plan).
- VFW News mailed by postal permit #338.

## VFW scholarships - get the word out to the schools

School will be in session soon and that means it's time to let our community schools know about the scholarships that are available at this time of the year. The deadline is only two months away. For more information on these scholarships, contact the Post or the National VFW website: [www.vfw.org](http://www.vfw.org)

### McHenry County Marine Corps League hosts the 230th United States Marine Corps birthday ball

- When: November 12th, 2005
- Where: Holiday Inn - Crystal Lake Route 31 and US Route 14
- What: Cocktails are at 6:00 pm Ceremony Starts at 7:00 pm Dinner at 7:40 pm followed by dancing, Silent Auction and Raffle.
- Who: Marines - Past - Present - Future All Veterans, Families and Friends. Open to the Public.
- Tickets: \$45.00/person before Oct 15  
\$50.00/person after Oct 16  
\$55.00/person at the door
- Dress: Semiformal
- Contact: RSVP for Tickets: McHenry County MCL P.O. Box 311 McHenry, Illinois 60098 e-mail [ruffnermb@aol.com](mailto:ruffnermb@aol.com)

### Patriot's Pen



<b>2005-2006 Theme</b> "Who Are Today's Patriots?"	<b>Entry Deadline</b> November 1, 2005
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Patriot's Pen, a youth-essay writing contest endorsed by the National Association of Secondary School Principals' contest criteria, is a nationwide competition that gives students in grades 6, 7 and 8 the opportunity to write essays expressing their views on democracy. Annually, more than 115,000 students participate in the annual contest.

Contestants write a 300-400 word essay based on an annual patriotic theme. The first-place winner receives a \$10,000 savings bond and an all-expense-paid trip to Washington D.C. The top national winners each receive a savings bond anywhere from \$1,000 to \$10,000.

### Voice of Democracy



<b>2005-2006 Theme</b> "How I Demonstrate My Freedom"	<b>Entry Deadline</b> November 1, 2005
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The Voice of Democracy, endorsed by the National Association of Secondary School Principals' contest criteria, is an audio essay contest for high school students in grades 9-12. The annual contest, which is designed to foster patriotism, allows students the opportunity to voice their opinion in a three to five minute essay based on an annual theme.

Created in 1947, the scholarship program annually provides more than \$3 million in scholarships. Each Department's first-place winner receives an all-expense-paid trip to Washington, D.C., plus the opportunity to compete for national scholarships. The first-place national winner receives a \$25,000 scholarship.

# September 2005

☆☆☆☆☆☆ Post Normal Operating Hours (unless noted otherwise - closing times vary depending on patronage) ☆☆☆☆☆☆

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
28	29	30	31	1 VFW Ladies Auxiliary 7:00 pm Auxiliary Potluck Dinner 6:15 pm	2 Fish Fry / Salad Bar 5 - 8 pm	3
4	5	6 Dirtt Group 7 pm	7	8	9 Fish Fry / Salad Bar 5 - 8 pm	10
 11 VFW Picnic at John Hansen's House 12 pm - 7 pm	12 VFW Officers Mtg. 6:30 pm American Legion 7:30 pm	13 VFW Board Mtg. 6:30 pm Dirtt Group 7 pm	14 Cub Scouts - ?? Pm	15 Marines 7 pm Marines Auxiliary 7 pm	16 Fish Fry / Salad Bar 5 - 8 pm	17
18	19 VFW Meeting 7:30 pm VFW Pre-Meeting Dinner (VFW Members Only) 6:30 pm <b>Deadline for October 2005 VFW News items</b>	20 Dirtt Group 7 pm	21 Veterans Assistance Commission of McHenry County 7:30 pm	22	23 Fish Fry / Salad Bar 5 - 8 pm	24
25	26 Girls Softball ?? Pm	27 VFW Board Mtg. 6:30 pm Dirtt Group 7 pm Jaycees 7 pm	28	29	30 Fish Fry / Salad Bar 5 - 8 pm	1



## From the editor's desk By Matt Klos, Woodstock VFW News Editor

There seems to be a lot happening at the Post these days. Maybe it's because I am Adjutant and I am attending more meetings. Commander Thom Gillespie mentioned at the last Board meeting that he is spending over 20 hours a week at the Post to make sure things are working and operational. We have raffles coming up and not enough man-power to help out with all that needs to be done. Comrades, we need help! I must admit, I don't do that much around the Post, but the stuff I do get involved in requires me to juggle work and family schedules just so I can get the newsletter and meetings in. If we had more members help out with some of the functions that go on, it would be less of a burden on everyone. But you need to come to a monthly meeting to find out what is going on. Some of this stuff is spur of the moment and we need people to help out. Without the help, ideas die, and the same people take on another task, trying to juggle more than they can handle. Please help if you can. Ok, switching gears. Since the website contest we entered was a bust, I decided to revamp the website a little. Most of the same content is there, but a different look. Take a look if you have time and let me know what you think. Until next month, take care.

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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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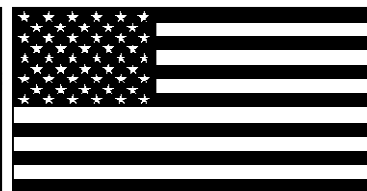
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