



# VFW News

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Woodstock VFW Post 5040 and Auxiliary

## Happy anniversary VFW Post 5040! Celebrating 60 years from 1956 - 2006

By Matt Klos

Happy anniversary to our VFW Post! This month marks the official anniversary date which is on March 4. On March 4, 1946, the Post was chartered with 224 members. Of these 224 original charter members, about 29 are living within the area. The following is a list of these individuals:

- Erwin Bauman
- Robert Behler
- George Burke
- Francis Dittburner
- Sam Dykstra  
(address unavailable)
- Victor Hermanson
- Richard Howell  
(location unknown)
- Harold Irwin
- Wilbur Kiefer
- Vernon Kopsell
- Robert Korslin
- Delbert Lee
- Charles Mansfield
- Al Mansfield
- Richard May
- Jack Meyers
- Dean Mishler
- Raymond Murphy
- Harry O'Brien
- Don Perkins
- Loren Pulver
- Richard Rabbit
- Jim Rousey Jr.
- Walter Silliman
- Oscar Sommer
- Matt Tanzer
- Joe Thiede
- Gordon Wallis
- Jack Wendt

If you know of any other charter members that are living but not listed above, please contact Mike David (815)-338-5341, Harold Irwin (815)-338-1264, or Don Peasley (815)-338-1533.

The anniversary **celebration is scheduled for April 29** starting at 5:00 p.m. We are having the celebration on this date so those that travel out of town for the winter months will be able to join in the celebration. Please see page 3 for more details.

Bud Pflug is collecting photos of all members for a special display that night. These photos would be of you at the time you were in service. If you have a photo you'd like to share, see page 3 on the invitation on where to send the photo. We would also like to display some wartime memorabilia on the night of the anniversary. If you would like to share this as well, again please contact Bud Pflug.

Keep in mind, this dinner is to celebrate the Post Anniversary of 60 years! All post members are welcome, new and old. For the older members, it's a chance to get together again with people you may not have seen in a long while. For new members, it's a chance to get to know who the predecessors are that have been working on keeping this Post alive and functioning to maintain a presence in the Community of Woodstock. See page 3 for our official invitation.

### Wednesday night dinners are coming back!

By Kathy Gillespie

Beginning on March 1, 2006, each Wednesday night dinner will consist of **one main course** to be offered along with soup, salad, potato and a vegetable. Cost will generally be \$8.00 per plate, with the exception of special meals (such as Prime Rib) which will be \$10.00 per plate. Serving hours will be the same as the Friday Fish Fry, 5:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. Be sure to check the calendar in each month's *VFW News* for a listing of the dinners served each Wednesday.



### Blood drive exceeds previous year donations

By Matt Klos

About 45 people stopped in for breakfast at the Post Blood Drive and Pancake breakfast on January 29. Breakfast consisted of pancakes, eggs, and sausage cooked by our own Post members and Chairman of the blood drive, Sid Sherwin.

"We did good this year. It was a great success," beamed Sid Sherwin, Chairman of this year's blood drive, as he flipped pancakes. Sid started the annual blood drive last year. For many years our Post did not have a blood drive, so Sid revived the drive beginning last year.

The blood drive was held from 9 am - 1 pm. **27 pints of whole blood were donated.** Last year, only 19 pints of blood were collected.

"We had a lot of first time donors," commented Heartland Blood Center Team Lead Carol Fiore.

Helping collect blood were team members Ana Gaspar, Ashley Neat, Abigail Sanchez, Rhonda Crooks. This team was based out of Aurora. The donation bus that was parked in the VFW parking lot on donation day is one of two buses that go as far north as Richmond and as far south as some parts of northern Indiana in order to collect blood for our region.

See **BLOOD DRIVE**, page 4.

## 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 Smith	(815)-653-9238
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

Our 5<sup>th</sup> District President, Carolyn Gratz from Antioch Post conducted our annual inspection at our last meeting on February 2. The third District meeting of this year was held on Sunday, February 19, in Elgin.

Just a few more dues for this year are outstanding. The year will be over on June 30. If you are one of the ones who haven't yet paid, please try to get them in. Send them to the Treasurer, Barb Gehrke, or to me.

Look on your dues card to see when you joined and if you are due a membership pin (5, 10, 20, 25, 30 years or more) please call me and I will get a pin to you. If you know anyone who is eligible to be a member and would like to join the Auxiliary, have them contact me and I will send them a membership application card to fill out.

We send all our sympathy to Rose Mary Hellstern whose daughter, Claire Hellstern, passed away on January 21 in Chicago where she lived. The funeral was at St. Mary's church in Woodstock and burial in Galena, Illinois. Claire's father, Francis Hellstern, was a long time teacher at Clarence Olson School and was the VFW Auxiliary. teacher of the year in 1974.

## Auxiliary charter member Buckley dies

By Don Peasley

Mary Harriette Buckley, a charter member of the Woodstock VFW Auxiliary, died at her home in Poplar Grove on Sunday, January 8. Mary Harriette and her husband, Patrick, owned and operated Buckley's Cleaners in Woodstock after their marriage in 1946.

She graduated from St. Mary's High School and attended Clark College in Iowa. Patrick and Mary Harriette moved to Belvidere in the 1960s where they established Orchid Cleaners serving customers in Belvidere and Marengo.

An attractive woman with a pleasant personality, Mary Harriette was a life-long musician and avid reader.

Survivors include her son, Patrick (Wendy) Buckley, Belvidere; three daughters, Colleen Buckley-Reynolds, San Francisco, Maureen Buckley, Point Roberts, Washington, and Aileen Buckley, Rockford; three grandchildren, Heather Buckley and Alex and Miguel Mancha; and a half-brother, James (Fran) Bennett, Woodstock.

Her husband, Patrick, preceded her in death.

## ✠ Chaplains report ✠

By Howard Engstrom

### Phone / Cards:

- Stan Danielson
- Fred Wallis
- Roger Behm

### Personal Visits:

- Joe Thiede - several visits to hospital and home
- Fred Wallis - home
- Glenn Anderson - Hearthstone
- Eugene Thayer - Hearthstone
- Roman Krysiak - Hearthstone
- Mrs. Bruce Shisler - Hearthstone

### Draped Charter:

- William R. Leanna Jr. (charter will be draped at March 20, 2006 meeting).



## Brophy graduates advanced training course

By Matt Klos

Ann Brophy, our VFW Assistant Quartermaster, recently graduated from Judge Advocate Officer Advanced Course which she participated in from January 8 - 21.

Brophy, an Army Reserve Captain in the 416th Engineering Command (soon to be Theater Engineering Command), has been in the Army 6 years, 7 months.

For the course, Anne traveled to Charlottesville, VA to the Judge Advocate School on the grounds of University of Virginia.

See **GRADUATION**, page 7.

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# Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States



WOODSTOCK VFW  
POST 5040  
(815) 338-5040

Thom Gillespie,  
Commander

60TH ANNIVERSARY

HONORARY

CO-CHAIRMEN

Ray Benoy  
Jack Fish  
Don Peasley  
Joe Thiede  
Don Sword

60TH ANNIVERSARY

CO-CHAIRMEN

Mike David and  
Sid Sherwin

COMMITTEE

MEMBERS

Alan Belcher  
Ray Benoy  
Hank Enstrom  
Matt Klos  
Don Peasley  
Bud Pflug

## 60TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION!

WE CORDIALLY INVITE YOU to join your friends and fellow veterans to participate in Woodstock VFW Post 5040's 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration!

Date: Saturday, April 29, 2006 at the Post Home.

Time: Reception at 5 p.m. Dinner at 6:30 p.m.

7:45 p.m. Presentation of two awards and introducing

Charter members, Past Commanders, Past Auxiliary Presidents

Cost: \$12.50 per person. Please return reservation form below by April 5, 2006

ATTENTION: We would like you to send us as soon as possible your photo at the time (or about the time) you were in service for a special display to be on view before and after the dinner at the Post Home.

Send photo to: Bud Pflug  
240 Throop Street,  
Woodstock, Illinois, 60098.

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## RESERVATION FORM

Yes, I/we plan to attend the VFW 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary dinner.

Number attending \_\_\_\_\_ Name \_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate number attending and tear off at perforated line. Mail form with check or money order (payable to Woodstock VFW Post 5040) to: Woodstock VFW 60th Anniversary Committee  
240 Throop Street  
Woodstock, Illinois, 60098.

# Blood drive

Continued from page 1

"I want to thank everyone who helped with the drive this year," commented Sid. "And thank you to the public for coming down to give blood and have breakfast at the Post."

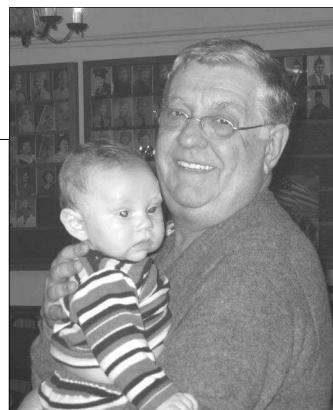
Profit from the pancake breakfast was about \$107, after expenses and a newspaper ad fee were taken out.

When asked if he would do the blood drive again next year, Sid said there would be a pretty good possibility of him doing it again.

At the last General Meeting on February 20, Sid commented that Heartland would like to try to have some more blood drives throughout the year taking place inside the VFW. Having additional drives will certainly be under consideration by the committee.



Ralph Ritter, Bill Lyford, Sid Sherwin (chairman of the blood drive), Charlie Mathey, Hank Enstrom, Bob Gibson, and Mike David gather around the preparation table. Each of these Post members helped throughout the blood drive by taking money, pre-screening blood donors, making food, dishwashing, etc. (Matt Klos photo.)



Hank Enstrom babysits a child inside the VFW for a short time while the mother was on the bus outside giving blood. (Matt Klos photo.)



VFW members and friends provide the good turnout for the VFW-sponsored blood drive January 29. Carol Fiore, team leader for Heartland Blood Centers, is with two among the more than 26 people who donated blood, Thom Gillespie and Ralph Ritter. (Don Peasley Photo)



Ashley Neat gives Marine Bob Riner of Bull Valley some juice to replenish his fluids after his blood donation. (Matt Klos photo.)

## Thiede acknowledges Engstrom's services as Post Chaplain

By Don Peasley

Joe Thiede, a Woodstock VFW charter member who has been hospitalized for many days during the past few weeks, has firsthand knowledge of the extraordinary caring and consideration provided veterans by Howard Engstrom, Woodstock VFW chaplain.

"Engstrom visits both VFW and American Legion members. He visits veterans who are not members of any veterans organization when he is notified of a veteran in poor health," said Thiede.

"He made me feel relaxed and shows he really cares and is concerned. He has visited me both at home and at the hospital. I've been in and out of the hospital so many times he's become a regular at the Memorial Medical Center on Doty Road," observed Thiede.

Thiede urges VFW and Auxiliary members to let Engstrom know about a veteran who would welcome the Chaplain's call.

"He calls on people of all faiths and has a special ability to incorporate religious faith and a serenity within his visits."

Thiede also had a good word to say for Memorial Hospital's fulltime Chaplain, Randy Wakitsch, a regular visitor to patients at the Doty Road building.



## New life membership board in place

The new portion of the Life Membership Board is now installed (blank board to right of nameplates). Thank you to Jim Shoemaker for building this board.



## Soup to nuts sale



By Russ and Donna Freeman

Once again it's time to think about our Soup to Nuts Sale, our annual sell-anything-indoor-garage-sale. Put aside all the old treasures you have no use for anymore. The sale will be Friday, May 12 and Saturday, May 13. We will also need help the Wednesday, May 10 and Thursday, May 11 to pick up items from homes.

As a reminder, items should be clean and in good working order. Suggested items are: books, dishes, curtains, bedspreads, working appliances, tools, furniture, etc.

The Post does not have the storage space to hold large items, so hold on to them until they can be picked up (or dropped off) closer to the date of the sale. If you need a pick-up, call us at 815-338-3414 the first week of May.

# Spaghetti dinner and auction a success despite weather

By Matt Klos and Don Sword

With temperatures in the teens, about 70-72 people braved the cold to come out to the VFW Post 5040 spaghetti dinner and auction on February 18. Dinner was served at about 6:00 pm, with auctioning starting at 7:30.

Mike Powers, of Powers Auction and Equipment Sales, was the Auctioneer for the night. Ray Benoy contacted Mike for this event. Powers has been in the auctioneering business for about 30 years, beginning when he was 18 years old. Although the auction started out a little slow, Mike got things rolling with some quick jokes and people soon began to start bidding. It didn't take too long to get through all the items, and within 45 minutes it was pretty much over with.

Dinner brought in about \$432, and the bar sold about \$315 in drinks. After taking out expenses, about \$2,450 was donated to the Post through the auction itself. Mike Powers, the auctioneer who donated his auctioneering services for free for the night, donated \$100 to the Post. We also

had one female buyer, when writing out her check to pay for her item, donated \$75 extra to the Post. Thank you very much for these donations.

In total, 23 items were auctioned off. Items were donated from local businesses and individuals. On a special note, one of Don Sword's neighbors, Elmer Dalton, donated much of the larger appliance items. A Sears Executive, Dalton is not a veteran himself but goes out of his way to help veterans. His father was a WWII veteran. Dalton donated the reverse osmosis system, Kenmore water purifier, dehumidifier, worklight, side-by-side refrigerator, crock pot, and roaster oven. Thank you, Elmer!

Don Sword commented, "I want to thank everyone that came out for the auction this night. Thanks to our auctioneer, Mike Powers; thanks to the bar and kitchen staff; thanks to the Elmer Dalton for the donated items; thanks to all the other sponsors who donated items; thanks to Judy David and Pat Ritter for collecting money; thanks to Mike David who helped with the microphone in the audience."

Here is the list of sponsors the donated items for the raffle:

- Benoy Motors: (2) 5" Portable B/W Televisions

- Elmer Dalton:
  - ◊ Rival 6-Qt Gour Crock Pot
  - ◊ Rival 20-Qt Roaster Oven
  - ◊ Watts Reverse Osmosis System
  - ◊ Kenmore Deluxe Water Purifier
  - ◊ Bionaire Quietech Dehumidifier
  - ◊ 1000 Watt Commercial Worklight
  - ◊ Kenmore Side-by-Side Refrigerator
- Mike David: 2 Cubs Baseball tickets
- Woodstock Auto Body:
  - ◊ (2) \$100 Auto Rental Certificates for repairs at W.A.B.
  - ◊ (1) \$100 off auto repair Certificate with any repairs over \$500
- Donahue's Furniture: \$100 off certificate with any purchase
- Bohn's Ace Hardware: Drill and Flashlight kit
- Coleman's Caterers: \$40 Coleman Tavern and Grill Certificate
- Phil Meier: (3) Rawlings #1 Golf clubs
- Pentair Water:
  - ◊ (2) Milwaukee Brewers Baseball tickets
  - ◊ (2) Milwaukee Brewers Baseball tickets w/parking pass
- VFW 5040: Booze Basket
- Pirro Brothers Restaurant: \$25 gift certificate.

## Commander's column

By Thom Gillespie  
VFW Commander 2005-2006

The current status of the post is stable but could be better. Allen Belcher is doing my portion of the X-sheet reporting so I can do the Quartermaster's (QM) job. My wife is taking over as club manager in addition to doing about 2/3 of the QM's job (the same approximation that Daneal was doing while I was QM). Anne Brophy had agreed to be the membership Assistant QM, but was called to active duty before she got a handle on the duties. Bill Lyford is the Assistant QM for the Bar/Canteen.

Bill Lyford asked me what my plans were for next year. He said he would take the position of QM if I would stay on as Commander. Before I can make a decision on that issue I need all the current officers to say what they have done in their positions. I need officers who have the time to commit to the VFW, not just the wish to "help in some fashion".

I can continue as the Commander/QM but I cannot be the Club Manager, Voice of Democracy / Patriot Pen chairman, Veterans day coordinator, Awards chairman, Pull Tab chairman, and the list goes on.

See **COMMANDER**, page 7.

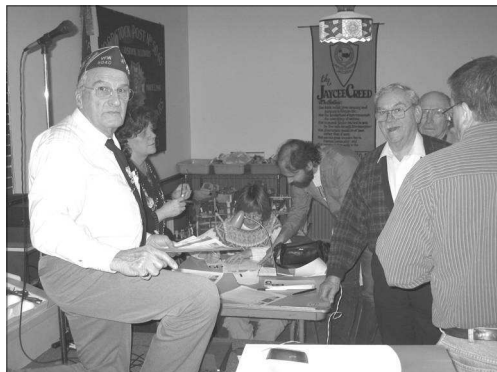


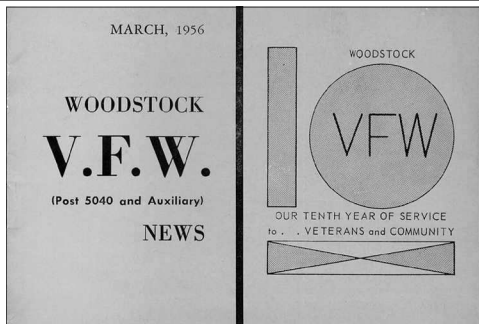
Don Sword, Chairman for this event, stands by the items to be auctioned off at the VFW Spaghetti Dinner and Auction on February 18. Retail suggested price of the items auctioned off totaled \$3,476. (Matt Klos photo).

Calena Magnuson (L), Becky Gillespie's daughter, collects dinner money from patrons while Bob and Pat Gaylord look over the serving tables to ensure food is stocked. Kevin Cetera (far right), volunteer busser for the evening, builds a plate of spaghetti for himself. (Matt Klos photo.)



Commander Thom Gillespie (center) looks over Judy David's (seated) shoulder as she inspects paperwork for auctioned items. Judy David and Pat Ritter (2nd from left) helped to keep track of who bought what item and collected money from people who bought auctioned items. (Matt Klos photo.)





The front cover of the March 1956 *VFW News* issue. "VFW members plan their part of the city they will cover in the Heart Fund Drive, unmindful they are an ideal target for a photographer. Work in the Heart Fund drive by VFW members and the Auxiliary typified the spirit of unselfish giving. Eight civic organizations united to raise more than \$2,000 one Sunday afternoon. Photo taken at Moose Lodge." (Don Peasley photo.)



Bill Lyford and Charlie Mathey rebuilt the stage steps and added a hand rail for safety in response to the January 2006 *VFW News* article asking for volunteers to rebuild the steps. The original steps were set at different heights causing people to trip on them when ascending or descending the stage. Thanks guys! (Matt Klos photo).

## 50 years ago this month

By Matt Klos, *VFW News* Editor

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 March 1956 issue of the *VFW News*:

- Earl Holm reminds members to show their cards in order to enter the Post. Don't forget, only members are allowed in. Writes last column while in office and states that membership is at an all time high of 560.
- 10th Anniversary set for May 5, 1956 at the Post.
- Drill team, organized by Roy Stackhouse and Earl Holm, is growing and making appearances around the area at parades and special town days.
- A choral and white 1956 Buick convertible will be given away at the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Festival. Each member who sells five books (\$25 worth) of tickets

on the car will get their yearly due paid in full.

- Auxiliary nominates members for positions. Installation will be April 7. (Elections were held just after the *VFW News* went to press).
- National Awards given out to Post members for their outstanding job in membership work.
- Election of Post Officers will take place on March 19.
- 17 flags were given to schools and Scout troops by the Auxiliary as part of its Americanism program. This was part of the National VFW Auxiliary program to place a flag in every home, school, and church and to have every public building display the flag.
- Auxiliary President, Leonie Kennedy gives thanks to all the chairman in the VFW Auxiliary that helped out in the past year: cancer chairman, child welfare, Christmas party for 500 children, Post dinners, fish fry chairman.

Trustee's Report of Audit of				
The books & records of the Quartermaster & Adjutant of 5th Dist. POST 5040				
Department of ILLINOIS for 2005				
FISCAL Quarter >>>	Jan 1 Thru Dec 31, 2005			
POST 5040	Start of Year	Year In	Year Out	End of Year
1. Nat & Dept Dues	\$1,577.50	\$1,859.50	\$2,310.50	\$1,126.50
2. Admin or App Fees	(\$99.47)	\$2,244.47	\$2,145.00	\$0.00
3. POST Gen Fund	\$9,376.00	\$30,785.57	\$27,207.96	\$12,953.61
4. POST Relief Fund	\$2,638.54	\$7,330.06	\$6,101.20	\$3,867.40
5. Post Dues Reserve Fund	\$1,108.26	\$1,339.00		\$2,447.26
6. Post HOME Fund	\$1,328.32	\$37,636.31	\$38,603.68	\$360.95
7. New Building Fund	\$6,345.24	\$8,208.79		\$14,554.03
8. Fly Flag Book Fund	\$3,185.09	\$132.00	\$1,275.63	\$2,041.46
9. Memorial Day Fund	\$2,606.25		\$350.00	\$2,256.25
10. Raffel Account	\$17,855.42	\$30,522.17	\$45,377.59	\$3,000.00
11. Other in Post Account	\$1,631.91	\$7,742.51	\$6,819.69	\$2,554.73
12. Rifle Squad	\$508.00	\$2,658.00	\$350.10	\$2,815.90
13. Post Bar / CANTEEN Acct.	\$3,571.74	\$122,146.27	\$125,125.80	\$592.21
14. Pull Tab Account IL. LISC. P-0839	\$7,425.80	\$4,994.00	\$9,117.28	\$3,302.52
15. Savings Account Interest		\$335.44	\$335.44	\$0.00
Totals:	\$59,058.60	\$257,934.09	\$265,119.87	\$51,872.82
Post and Saving Total:	\$30,205.64	\$100,271.65	\$85,499.20	\$44,978.09
Operations			Reconciliation of Fund & Account Balances	
Have required payroll deductions been made?	Yes	Savings Acct	\$35,500.04	\$35,500.04
Tax Payments been made to ST. & Fed?	Yes	Canteen Bar	\$2,569.96	\$764.02
Sales Taxes collected & PAID?	Yes	Post Acct	\$13,087.57	\$9,306.24
Club employees bonded?	some	Pull Tab Acct	\$3,802.52	\$3,302.52
Amount of outstanding bills?	\$ -	Raffel Acct	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
Value of Real Estate?	\$ 540,000.00	Uncleared Checks	\$6,087.27	
Amount of Liability Insurance?	\$ 2,000,000.00		Amcore Bank Total	\$51,872.82
Owed on Mortgages & Loans?	\$ -		difference	\$0.00
<b>Trustee's &amp; Commander's Certificate of Audit</b>				



# Graduation

Continued from page 2.

This course is required as a part of her MOS (Military Occupational Specialty). Technically, now that she has finished the course and after four years in grade, Anne can seek promotion to Major, perhaps early next year.

When asked what she really liked about the course, Anne replied, "I really enjoyed meeting the people and hearing about all of their adventures in the military here and abroad. I was involuntarily transferred from the 91<sup>st</sup> Legal Support Organization in 2003 to the 416th ENCOM to be deployed. Many of my friends at the 91<sup>st</sup> didn't even know what happened to me. I had the chance to catch up with three of my old team members while I was there."

Anne will be taking more training in the future. "I plan on attending annual training in El Salvador and perhaps the Bahamas in support of New Horizons missions being run by my command."

I asked Anne if she had plans for returning to Iraq. Her comment, "If I get called upon to go, I would go without question. If I am going to get activated, I would rather be deployed OCONUS rather than CONUS - for the sake of the adventure and to let those with families stay closer to them. With that said, I am not putting my name on any deployment lists. I had the chance to go and want to let others that are interested deploy as well."

Being in the military creates many memorable experiences and unforgettable events. Anne commented on her experience in the military, "I really enjoy being in the Army. I have met some lifetime friends. I was in ROTC at Marquette University for two years before I blew my knee out preparing for the Army Navy Football game. Many years later, after reconstructive knee surgery and law school, I was able to join again.

One of my favorite stories is that my paternal grandfather was a Captain in an

Engineering unit in WWII. I had always hoped to be a Captain like him. As luck would have it, my rank was "pinned on" in theater by a two star Engineer General while attached to an Engineering Unit.

My father, a dentist who applied for the military 7 times unsuccessfully, tried to get to Kuwait to be there for the rank "pinning on" under the guise of a reporter for the Dental Journal or Elks Journal. He was unable to make it though.

My grandfather is deceased but my grandmother and father are so proud. My dad wants me to stay in long enough to make Major so that he can pin rank on me someday. I am proud to serve in the United States Army."

Anne, on behalf of the Woodstock VFW Post 5040, congratulations on the graduation. Thanks for the time you have given to the Post. We are proud to have you in our ranks as a member, a veteran, and a soldier. Keep up the good work and best of luck in the future. **Hooah!**

# Commander

Continued from page 5.

I don't know what each members abilities and desires are for the post. I have heard numerous times "ask so-and-so to do that." If any member sees something not being done at the post contact me or one of the officers or bring it up at a meeting.

Everyone knows the difference between good and bad, right and wrong, but each of us draws the line differently. My 10 year affiliation with the Woodstock Moose is over because of what they allow to happen rubs me so badly. The VFW has some similarities to what I didn't like at the Moose but they are minor.

The general membership needs to make their opinions known on the direction this VFW should go. I think this building is too big, too old, and requires too much upkeep. If the members wish for me to stay on as Commander next year my #1 priority is to get a group of organizations to go together and build a new building and sell this one.

If the members want to keep this building they should elect a different Commander. I would stay on as QM in that case and my #1 priority would be youth involvement (Little League, VOD/PP).

My short time as the bar/canteen manager was such a fiasco that I am having nothing at all to do with it. Any questions in that area should be directed to the board of directors.

Trustee's Report of Audit of				
The books & records of the Quartermaster & Adjutant of 5th Dist. POST 5040				
Department of ILLINOIS for the Quarter ending Mar 31,2006				
FISCAL Quarter >>>	Jan-06			
POST 5040	Start of Qtr	QTR In	QTR Out	End of Qtr
1. Nat & Dept Dues	\$1,126.50	\$103.50		\$1,230.00
2. Admin or App Fees	\$0.00		\$315.00	-\$315.00
3. POST Gen Fund	\$12,953.61	\$1,677.00	\$2,024.05	\$12,606.56
4. POST Relief Fund	\$3,867.40	\$50.00	\$550.00	\$3,367.40
5. Post Dues Reserve Fund	\$2,447.26			\$2,447.26
6. Post HOME Fund	\$360.95	\$335.00	\$6,550.89	-\$5,854.94
7. New Building Fund	\$14,554.03	\$325.00		\$14,879.03
8. Fly Flag Book Fund	\$2,041.46			\$2,041.46
9. Memorial Day Fund	\$2,256.25			\$2,256.25
10. Raffel Account	\$3,000.00			\$3,000.00
11. Other in Post Account	\$2,554.73	\$607.00	\$826.62	\$2,335.11
12. Rifle Squad	\$2,815.90		\$223.38	\$2,592.52
13. Post Bar / CANTEEN Acct.	\$592.21	\$7,601.13	\$5,745.36	\$2,447.98
14. Pull Tab Account IL. LISC. P-0839	\$3,302.52		\$1,500.00	\$1,802.52
15. Savings Account Interest	\$0.00			\$0.00
Totals:	\$51,872.82			\$44,836.15
Post AND Savings Total	\$44,978.09	\$3,097.50	\$10,489.94	\$37,585.65
Operations			Reconciliation of Fund & Account Balances	
Have required payroll deductions been made?	Yes	Savings Acct	\$35,500.04	\$35,500.04
Tax Payments been made to ST. & Fed?	Yes	Canteen Bar	\$3,938.18	\$2,619.79
Sales Taxes collected & PAID?	Yes	Post Acct	\$7,214.98	\$1,913.80
Club employees bonded?	some	Pull Tab Acct	\$1,802.52	\$1,802.52
Amount of outstanding bills?	\$ -	Raffel Acct	\$3,000.00	\$3,000.00
Value of Real Estate?	\$ 657,000.00	Uncleared checks	\$6,619.57	
Amount of Liability Insurance?	\$ 2,000,000.00		Quicken Total	\$44,836.15
Owed on Mortgages & Loans?	\$ -		Bank Total	\$44,836.15
<b>Trustee's &amp; Commander's Certificate of Audit</b>				



Spc. Dan Spellan, Army (L), and Spc. Jordon Florko, Army (R), join Commander Thom Gillespie after sworn into membership at VFW Post 5040 on February 20. Both were eligible for VFW membership by receiving the Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal which is one of the newest campaigns recognized by the VFW as eligible service for VFW Membership. (Matt Klos photo.)



After ceremonies commemorating the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Challenger disaster, VFW members pause by the Challenger outside the Woodstock Learning and Technology center for this photo. The VFW Rifle Squad conducted the flag-raising to start the memorial service. From left: Bill Lyford, Chuck Mathey, Hank Enstrom and Bob Gibson. (Don Peasley Photo)

## Post “heats up” after furnace installation

By Matt Klos

Like your individual home, the furnace that heats your home is a critical component in the functioning of your house. The VFW home is currently heated by boiler heat and uses a lot of energy. While the boiler still works, we can save money if we supplement this heat source a more efficient heat source.

Two high efficiency furnaces for the Post were bought recently to supplement the boiler heat that was originally installed in the Post when it was constructed. The high efficiency furnaces will help cut down on heating costs. They are each 120,000 BTU’s and are 92% efficient.

Ralph Ritter and Charlie Mathey have been working on this project by installing the furnaces. One furnace is located in the lower meeting hall and one located in the upper meeting hall. Custom support racks were fabricated by Ralph and Charlie for the lower hall furnace and Bud Porter created the rack for the upper meeting hall furnace.

On a side note, having volunteers do work like this at the post saves on a lot of money. Look at the example to the right when the furnaces were installed, the lower furnace work partially completed by hired contractors and the upper furnace work completed by Ralph Ritter, Charlie Mathey, with hardware donated by Bud Porter:

<b>Lower Hall installed First</b>	
Furnace cost from Grainger:	\$1,053.00
Ralph Ritter And Chuck Mathey installed the furnace.	
<b>L&amp;M Sheet Metal / Tin Work</b>	
Labor to measure unit at the VFW:	1.5 Hours
Labor to fabricate the unit:	4.5 Hours
Labor to install unit at VFW:	6.0 Hours
<b>Total labor:</b>	<b>12 Hours</b>
Labor Rate \$90.00 per hour:	\$1,080.00
Sheet Metal, Registers, Connectors and Misc. Parts:	\$ 188.00
<b>L&amp;M Total Cost Total:</b>	<b>\$1,248.00</b>
Plastic Piping for Exhaust:	\$60.00
Programmable Thermostat and cover:	\$75.00
Miscellaneous Gas piping and valves:	\$50.00
<b>Grand Total:</b>	<b>\$2,486.00</b>
<b>Upper Hall installed Second</b>	
Furnace cost from Grainger:	\$1,053.00
Ralph Ritter And Chuck Mathey installed the furnace.	
Tin Work purchased from Menards:	\$250.00
Ralph Ritter and Chuck Mathey formed and installed tin work.	
Plastic Piping for Exhaust:	\$60.00
Programmable Thermostat and cover:	\$75.00
Miscellaneous Gas piping and valves:	\$50.00
<b>Grand Total:</b>	<b>\$1,488.00</b>
New gas piping was required for the new furnaces:	
Cost of pipe and hangers Donated by Bud Porter	\$0.00
New Shutoff valves and Misc. Fittings	\$250.00
Labor to install pipe Pipe installed by Chuck Mathey and Ralph Ritter	\$0.00
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$250</b>



Charlie Mathey stands next to the upper hall furnace explaining how the venting would be tied into the meeting hall. This was the second high efficiency furnace installed to help heat the Post. (Matt Klos photo.)

**Thanks Ralph, Charlie and Bud for volunteering your time and skills. You helped save the Post money and at the same time keep it running!!**



# March 2006

☆☆☆☆☆☆ 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
26	27	28	1 Wednesday Night Dinner - Fried Chicken (\$8) 5 - 8 pm	2 VFW Ladies Auxiliary 7:00 pm	3 Fish Fry / Salad Bar Special: Salmon Loaf 5 - 8 pm	4
5 Memorial Day Committee 7 pm Little League 7 pm Girls Softball ?? pm	6	7 Dirtt Group 7 pm	8 Cub Scouts - ?? Pm Wednesday Night Dinner - Prime Rib (\$10) 5 - 8 pm	9	10 Fish Fry / Salad Bar Special: Chicken Bake 5 - 8 pm	11
12 VFW Officers Mtg. 6:30 pm American Legion 7:30 pm	13	14 VFW Board Mtg. 6:30 pm Dirtt Group 7 pm	15 Veterans Assistance Commission of McHenry County 7:30 pm Wednesday Night Dinner - Ham (\$8) 5 - 8 pm	16 Marines 7 pm Marines Auxiliary 7 pm Little League - Jr. Draft 6 pm	17 Fish Fry / Salad Bar Special: Corned Beef and Cabbage 5 - 8 pm  <b>St. Patrick's Day</b>	18
19	20 VFW Meeting 7:30 pm VFW Pre-Meeting Dinner (VFW Members Only) 6:30 pm <b>Deadline for April 2006 VFW News items</b> Girls Softball - Draft ?? pm	21 Dirtt Group 7 pm <b>General Primary Election</b> Election Polling down- stairs 5 am - 7 pm.	22 Up and Down hall booked - <b>No Dinner Served Tonight.</b> Little League - Draft 6 pm	23 Little League - Draft 6 pm	24 Fish Fry / Salad Bar Special: Lasagna 5 - 8 pm	25
26	27 VFW Board Mtg. 6:30 pm Jaycees 7 pm Dirtt Group 7 pm	28 VFW Board Mtg. 6:30 pm Jaycees 7 pm Dirtt Group 7 pm	29 Wednesday Night Dinner - Swiss Steak (\$8) 5 - 8 pm	30	31 Fish Fry / Salad Bar Special: Chicken Kiev 5 - 8 pm	1

Thanks for  
the hand!



The following projects were mentioned in previous *VFW News* letters but not the actual people that worked on them. A big thanks to Tom Shulfer (Construction) and Chuck Mathey for building the handicap ramp for the Dentist Office. Tom is not a member and spent 9-10 hours building this ramp at no charge to the Post. Tom also volunteered two days each time, four days total, helping setup the Vietnam Moving Wall memorial when it came to town. We would also like to thank Bud Porter for building the hand rail for the 2 handicap ramps at the Post. Great job guys and thanks for the work!

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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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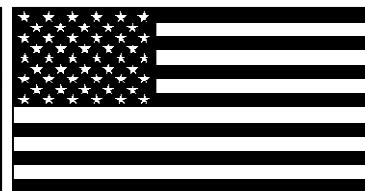
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