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Woodstock VFW Post 5040 and Auxiliary

# July welcomes our new officers for the VFW and Auxiliary

By Matt Klos, VFW News Editor

Presiding over his last VFW meeting in June, Fred Noble was given a round of applause acknowledging his commitment to the VFW.

Mike David, Commander '07-'08, addressed members saying, "Fred Noble did a good job over this last year. He was involved with several 'Welcome Back' ceremonies for returning soldiers, in turn representing the VFW. He kept the Honor Guard and Rifle Squad together and made preparations for the rifle squad to meet at a moments notice when and where needed."

This next year, our newly elected officers will be faced with old and new challenges that will require the help of our membership. As members, we need to ensure that we do our part when called upon to lend a helping hand and provide support for our elected officers.

Good luck to the officers of both the VFW and Auxiliary in the 2009-2010 year.

These are the Auxiliary officers for 2010. From left, front: Rose Mary Hellstern, guard; Nyda Fogarty, president; Lois Freund, patriotic instructor; Viola Brown, junior vice commander; and Chris Gehrke, secretary and conductress. Back: Geraldine Salvers, one-year trustee; Michelle Patnaude, treasurer; Jessica Rathbone, two-year trustee; Barbara Gehrke, three-year trustee; and Karen Wells, chaplain. (Don Peasley Photo)

Woodstock **VFW** Post 5040's top officers are sworn in during installation ceremonies June 20 at the Woodstock Post Home. From left: Mike Lackey, Commander; Ed Lumpp, Senior Vice Commander; and Dan Regna, Junior Vice Commander. (Don Peasley Photo)





# Search turns up VFW website and a "thank you" to MCMCL

By Matt Klos

In March 2008, a story and picture in the VFW News showed McHenry County Marine Corps League members assembling care packages at the Woodstock VFW Post 5040. These were sent to Lance Corporal Terry Sielken and Lance Corporal Stephen Davis of the USMC.

On June 11, 2009, I received a note from Terry's mother, Paula Sielken, stating, "Wow, I can't believe I found this website. A year ago your organization [MCMCL] sent my son and his buddies care packages, not just some but over 40.

He wanted to send a thank you when he got home but lost the address label before he returned to the states."

"So on his behalf, THANK YOU for all you do for our guys serving. I found the site by Googling [web search service] my son's name."

Following up with Paula, she went on to say, "He was so excited when he received these packages. They were in the middle of a dull period so it helped liven their time. Terry is in the USMC, 1/5 out of Camp Pendleton. He is currently back in theatre getting ready for action. Please keep him and all of his company in your prayers."

So to the MCMCL, great job guys! Your time and effort paid off for some fellow Marines across the globe.

#### **Correction from last** months VFW News newsletter

Two people were omitted in the list of Poppy sellers, Gary Lumpp and Russ Free-



man. Russ was one of the top three sellers for Poppy Days this year. Top three sellers were Bob Gibson (1), Bill Lyford (2), and Russ Freeman (3). If you see Russ, tell him he did a "fine job". ©

#### **Newsletter trivia**

Creating the newsletter this month, the volume number of '55' stood out for two reasons. The newsletter is beginning it's 55th year of publication and the year it was started by Don Peasley was in July of 1955.

# You're a Post 5040 Member or Auxiliary Member. We need your input.

With the economy heading the way it is, recovery still looks far off and it has taken it's toll on our beloved VFW Post 5040. There are a few changes going on with the VFW that we are trying to work through in the coming months and it all comes back to our Post home.

Several questions that seem to be constant pain points are one's such as these:

How do we keep our Post running on the volunteer and part-time staff?

Can our Post survive on the limited resources that are brought in each month?

Should we raise dues or ask members to contribute additional monies each month to keep the Post going?

Sure, we have fund raisers and raffles every few months that bring in some funds, but it's very hard to keep this going on a constant basis and find the volunteer help to participate.

So why is the *VFW News Editor* airing this out in public? Because we need your help, our membership. Out of the 424 current VFW members and approximately 75 Auxiliary members, we have a meeting turnout of about 6% and 10%, respectively. This is not much, all things considered. We need your input.

What I am trying to do is spark some serious thought into what you want to see happen with our VFW Post. Send this form back with a note, anonymous even if you don't want anyone to know, but take some time to fill it out and send it back.

This is your Post and you have a say in what should be done with it. Let us know so we know what you, our membership, is thinking.

Cut out, send back



In the National VFW magazine that our members receive, there is mention every month about what VFW Posts are doing to raise funds or help out veterans and their communities. In last months edition, there was an article about some VFW Posts closing doors and donating the money from the sale of their Post home to various community organizations. While this is an extreme measure, consider VFW Post 5040 for a minute. It's been a fixture in our community for 63 years. What do you think about it?

	Overall, are you satisfied with what our VFW Post has been doing in the last year or two with regard to fundraising, community involvement, etc.?   ☐Yes ☐No
	If you are not an active member that regularly attends VFW meetings, are you concerned with what may happen with the Post home building?   □Yes □No
	Do you think it would be advantageous to sell the VFW and begin to donate the proceeds to community organizations over several years?
	Our Post is the fourth largest in our district out of 25 Posts, making up 12% of the district membership. Do you think our VFW Post should merge with another VFW Post?
	Is the VFW that you remember and were involved with at some point in your life the same VFW of today?   If not, why?
   	July is the beginning of the new VFW year. What would you like to tell your new officers with regard to our VFW, how we do things, what to change, what we can do to raise funds, suggestions, etc. (Feel free to use another sheet if needed.)
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Please send responses by July 25 to:

VFW News Editor, 269 Forest Dr., Crystal Lake, IL 60014

Robert Gordon, VFW 5040 member, has a Rascal Scooter available. It's an R5 model, 8 years old and was barely used. Willing to donate to someone who really needs it. Call 815-338-1902 if interested.

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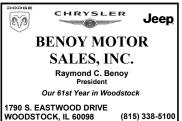
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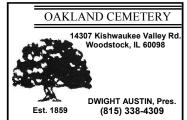
Meets Second Monday of Each Month (Except December) at the VFW at 7:30 P.M.





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July 2009						
****	★★★★★★ Post Normal Operating Hours (unless noted otherwise - closing times vary depending on patronage) ★★★★★★					
Closed	4:00 pm - 8:00 pm	4:00 pm - 8:00 pm	4:00 pm - 8:00 pm	4:00 pm - 8:00 pm	4:00 pm - 9:00 pm	3:00 pm - 7:00 pm
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28	29	30	Cub Scouts - 7 pm	VFW Ladies <b>2</b> Auxiliary Meeting 7pm	3	4
				U.S. Army Air Corps Established (1926)		Independence Day
5	Memorial Day Committee will resume meetings in October. Little League 7 pm Girls Softball 7 pm VFW Board Mtg. 6:30 pm	Woodstock Jaycees Board Mtg. 7:30pm	8	9	VFW Fish Fry (call first) 5 - 7:30 pm Lightning Raffle 7 pm	<b>11</b> Saturday Raffle 4 pm
12	VFW Officers Mtg. 7 pm  American Legion Post 412 7:30 pm	14	Veterans Assistance Commission of McHenry County 7:00 pm	Marines 7:30 pm Marines Auxiliary 7:30 pm	VFW Fish Fry (call first) 5 - 7:30 pm Lightning Raffle 7 pm	Saturday Raffle 4 pm Talisman Band 7-10pm \$10 per person cover charge
19	VFW Meeting 20 6:30 pm - Dinner (VFW Members Only) 7:00 pm - Floor mtg. Deadline for August 2009 VFW News items	21	22	23	VFW Fish Fry (call first) 5 - 7:30 pm Lightning Raffle 7 pm	25 Saturday Raffle 4 pm
26	Korean War Ended (1953) National Korean War Veterans Armistice Day	Woodstock Jaycees General Mtg. 7:30pm  World War I Began (1914)	29	30	VFW Fish Fry (call first) 5 - 7:30 pm Lightning Raffle 7 pm	Saturday Raffle 4 pm  Air Force Day

# From the Editor's Desk By Matt Klos

VFW News Editor

Yes, very short newsletter this month. For the August issue, which I will be creating in the next week or so, I will include some pictures of the car show. Want to see color photos of the show? Visit the our VFW Post 5040 website. Photographer Paul Breuninger has some nice photos to share.

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Midas Touch Towing (815)-338-3500 We had a car in our VFW lot that needed to be moved out for the car show. Turns out the car belonged to a veteran that went to the VA Hospital and stayed longer than an-

ticipated. Midas Touch towing, which normally charges for the tow, towed the car for free. Thanks, Midas Touch.

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#### Marine Corps League

McHenry County Detachment 1009

Meets every 3rd Thursday of every month, 7:30 PM Woodstock VFW Post 5040 240 N. Throop St.



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#### WOODSTOCK VFW NEWS

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### This month's issue:

- Short issue for July.
- Please fill out and send back the survey on what you want to see happen with the Post!!!!
- And more inside...

# **Upcoming Events:**

- Every Friday, Lightning Raffle and Fish Fry (pending). Please call first (815)-338-5040.
- <u>July 18</u>: Talisman band at VFW; \$10 cover charge.
- July 20: VFW Meeting.

VFW POST 5040, WOODSTOCK
We are open to the public!

### <u>VFW Post 5040</u> <u>Post Officers 2009 - 2010</u>

Commander	Mike Lackey	(815)-353-5287
Senior Vice Commander	Ed Lumpp	(630)-460-8812
Junior Vice Commander	Dan Regna	- NA -
Quartermaster	Fred Noble	(815)-338-5655
Chaplain	Pete Lockinger	(815)-338-6449
Service Officer	Ted Biever	(815)-338-9292
Judge Advocate	Dick Glawe	(815)-385-3156
Post Surgeon	Harold Irwin	(815)-338-1264
Officer-of-the-Day	Denny Burrs	(815)-338-7014
Adjutant	Alan Belcher	(815)-338-7689
1 Year Trustee	Larry Dhom	(815)-338-4134
2 Year Trustee	Brian Ritter	(815)-276-4802
3 Year Trustee	Arnie Doerfert	(815)-385-2923

#### Board of Directors 2009 - 2010

President	Bud Porter	(815)-338-4781
Vice President	Hank Enstrom	(815)-337-5856
Treasurer	Thom Gillespie	(815)-338-6826
Secretary	Don Sword	(815)-338-0068
Director	Mike David	(815)-338-5341
Director	Russ Freeman	(815)-338-3414
Director	Mike David	(815)-338-5341
Director	Bob Gibson	(815)-338-4142
Director	Charley Mathey	(815)-338-5374
Director	Mike Lackey	(815)-353-5287
Club Manager	- NA -	- NA -

# Ladies Auxiliary to VFW Post 5040 Post Officers 2009 - 2010

President	Nyda Fogarty	(815)-338-1759
Senior Vice President	Lois Freund	(815)-338-5261
Junior Vice	Viola Brown	(815)-338-1446
Secretary	Christine Gehrke	(815)-338-3533
Treasurer	Michelle Patnaude	- NA -
Chaplain	Karen Wells	(815)-338-4821
Patriotic Instructor	Lois Freund	(815)-338-5261
Guard	Rose Mary Hellstern	(815)-338-0653
Conductress	Christine Gehrke	(815)-338-3533
1 Year Trustee	Geraldine Salyers	(815)-206-3910
2 Year Trustee	Jessica Rathbone	- NA -
3 Year Trustee	Barbara Gehrke	(815)-338-1546

Woodstock VFW NEWS is published monthly by VFW Post 5040. Matthew Klos, Editor. Founded in July 1955 by Don Peasley (Editor 1955-2002). Sixteen time winner of the National VFW Awards for Best Post Publication. No. 1 in 1956, 1963, 1971, 1985, 2007 and 2009. Second in 1968, 1970, 1990, 1997 and 1999. Third in 1983, 1984, 1986, 1991, 2000, 2001. Voted Illinois VFW's best 32 times, including 1999-2001, 2005-2009.

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