

First Issue is behind Me

By MATT KLOS

Comrades, I just wanted to say that I hope you enjoyed last months news letter. As the new editor, getting out that first issue is the hardest thing to do. I learned a lot about formatting of this letter and the considerable amount of it takes to put this together. The good thing is that I have a nice template prepared, so this months news letter will take considerably less time. I appologize for the pictures last month. I am still in the process of trial-and-error for getting the format right for the off-set printing process, so bear with me. Since I did not receive any email or letters specifically saying that the new format of the news letter was unacceptable, I take it then that I did an okay job. I did receive some comments from members and suggestions were made which I will take into consideration. Thank you to those that made those.

One thing you may notice about this news letter that is different from previous news letters that Don Peasley edited is **content** (or lack of it). This is a Post newsletter that is voluntarily written and content contributions are voluntarily made. There are a select number of people within the post that have made most of the contributions that you will read. Specifically these are Ralph Ritter, Dwayne Raney, and Harold Irwin. I really thank them for being the "eyes" and "ears" for me since I cannot cover most of what goes on at the post. But they can't do it all. Some of you are involved with the different commitees that the VFW has and there are specific things that you do and contribute to the communittee. Why not, as the saying goes, "toot your own horn"? Let others know what you are doing. I'm sure that there are many members in the post that are unaware, myself included, of the things you are doing as a contribution on behalf of the post. I would like to include these things in our newsletter. Yes, writing a short summary of an event takes time. Think of it as writing a letter. Just sit down and write as if you were writing a friend. It doesn't have to be long and I will do my best to format it a little and make it flow if needed. Content is the key though. Without you, the members, taking an active part to make a small written contribution, this letter will get smaller and smaller. If you don't want to write, then tell someone orally what you have done. Your input does count!

On That Note...

By Ralph Ritter, Quartermaster

- The 2nd Quarter financial report has been approved by the Commander and the Trustees. Copies have been forwarded to the Fifth District. Any member that wants to inspect the financial books can do so at any post meeting from now on. You also are invited to come to the office and see any of the financial books. It will show where the money is coming in and where we are spending the Posts assets.
- The loan at the Amcore bank for \$9,000 has been renewed from 9% interest to 7%.
- The Post voted to donate our old used Bingo Machine that has not been used for several years to a needy Post in Wisconsin.
- Arvie Widmayer is doing well and is back at home now. He would like to thank everyone for their cards and prayers. He is well enough to have visitors now. Please stop by to see him.

Eat Out and Let Us Do the Cooking

Everyone needs to eat dinner. But thinking about that, you need time to prepare, cook the food, set the table, eat the food, and then clean up. What fun is that night after night? Come on down to the post on Wednesday or Friday (or both) and enjoy a meal cooked by the post. It's a treat to get out, enjoy the company of other post members and people in the community. Wednesday we have a Chicken/Rib dinner and Friday we have a Fish Fry dinner. There is a menu available for other items as well which are served on those nights. We need 100 people to eat on Wednesday and Friday nights to break even on the cost to put on the meal. Invite your friends, your neighbors, and your family.

Ladies Auxiliary FROM THE PRESIDENT

By NYDA FOGARTY, President 2002-2003

I would like to remind all Auxiliary members that your dues for this next year are now due. They are \$15.00. In October, National sends out dues notices automatically to everyone so if you should receive one after you have paid, just disregard notice. Send your dues to Barb Gehrke at 864 Wicker St. or in care of the Post. The Auxiliary will have their "OWN" installation dinner and celebration on Thursday, September 5th. It will start at 6 P.M. for cocktails and dinner at 7 P.M. The Auxiliary will furnish rolls, coffee, decorated cake and fried chicken. Please bring a vegetable, salad, casserole, jello or potato dish so we will have a variety. Please try to attend and give your support to all the ladies who volunteered to take an office this year to keep the Auxiliary going.

The Auxiliary will have a dinner on Sept. 25th to honor our outgoing President, Barb Gehrke. It will be at the VFW. We will meet at the Post at 6:30 P.M. Please send a check or monetary donation for a gift. Send to me at 1290 Mitchell St. or to Chris Gehrke at 111 Peach Tree Lane.

We will try to organize a schedule for workers for the Bingo food stand at this next meeting for people to volunteer one Friday a month to sell food for a couple of hours. This is our only money making project for the Auxiliary. It is very important to us and to the people who attend bingo.

Your Contribution Needed!

Heard something that the VFW Post or Ladies Auxiliary should be informed of? Have a story to contribute? Would like to have a photo printed? Have something for the good of the order? Then have it mentioned in the Woodstock VFW News! Comrades, your contribution is needed to keep this paper informative on post events and things that are constantly taking place in and around the post related to the VFW and Ladies Auxiliary. As current Editor, I am only able to contribute what I know of, and most of what is included in this Newsletter is from members like you! This is your newsletter. Many post members depend on it for post information and current events that have taken place at or around the post. Do your part. Contribute to help make this a great newsletter!

- Thanks, the Editor, Matt Klos

Ladies Auxiliary Elected Officers 2002-2003

President	Nyda Fogarty
Senior Vice President	Bonnie Kagel
Junior Vice	Viola Brown
Secretary	Christine Gehrke
Treasurer	Barbara Gehrke
Chaplain	Karen Wells
Guard	Rosemary Hellstern
Conductress	Irene Brown
1 Yr. Trustee	Joyce Monson
2 Yr. Trustee	Ruth Gehrke
3 Yr. Trustee	Geraldine Salyers

Are You Handy in the Kitchen and Have some Spare Time to Contribute?

Sue Lamz resigned as our cook to go onto better opportunities. Candy is back cooking for the time being until we get a replacement cook. Candy has been at the post for the last 20 plus years, doing every job. The person will need to cook both the Wednesday night Chicken dinners and Friday night Fish Fry dinners. Other duties include food ordering and preparing special party meals. If you know someone who can fill this position have them call the post. Ask for Ralph or Candy.

An Officer of the Post: Post Judge Advocate

By Dwayne Raney

The Post Judge Advocate shall give the Post Commander such legal assistance, incident to his office, as he may request, and perform such other duties as may be usually incident to the office or as may from time to time be required of him by the laws and usages of this organization or lawful orders from proper authority.

This a direct quote from Section 218, Officers and Chairmen Duties and Obligations, found on Page 82, in the white pages section, of the Manual of Procedure. I feel the membership, whether a newer member or an "older" member, needs to be made aware of the duties of the officers so often not known or regarded as important and vital to the successful operation and existence of the Post.

Roof Project Number Two

Submitted by Ralph Ritter

We finished seal coating the dome part of the roof today (8/29/02). A **BIG** thanks goes to Charley Mathey, Pat Sonnenberg, Nick Skyba, Bill Lyford and Ralph Ritter. The roofing crew also removed the old disconnected water cooler from the roof. This was used many, many years ago for air-conditioning. The total cost to the Post was around \$120 to reseal the roof.

Nice job guys!

Senior Fair

There will be a Senior Fair Wednesday, September 11. Music, food, bingo, expo of senior related products and services to be available for fair goers. Hours 10 a.m. to 4 p.m, age 55 and over. Held at the McHenry County Fairgrounds. For information call the Chamber 815-338-2436.

V F W
Post
5040
Officers

Commander - Jim Smith
Senior Vice Commander - Marvin Monson
Junior Vice Commander - Sid Sherwin
Quartermaster - Ralph Ritter
Chaplain - Marvin Bohnhoff
Assistant Chaplain - Chuck Mathey
Service Officer - Ron Nehls
Judge Advocate - Dwayne Raney
Post Surgeon - Harold Irwin
Officer-of-the-Day - Bruce Shisler
Trustees - Thom Gillespie, Alan Belcher, Jon Showers

Have a Party to Throw? Celebrating an Event? We have the Facilities!

The **VFW Hall** can be **rented** for your next event to accommodate many groups of different sizes. The down stairs is \$100 and upstairs is \$150. Additional charges are:

- Air Conditioning
- Cleanup
- Security When Required
- Kitchen Use If Needed
- Bartender Charges For Upstairs
- Minimum Tip For The Bartender(s)
- Party's Start At 7PM Until 1AM (Earlier Starts Have Additional Costs)

Contact **Ralph Ritter** for dates and costs. Call the post at 815-338-5040.

Good Eats!

Turkey Raffle and Turkey Dinner

When: **November 23**

Where: **Woodstock VFW Post 5040**

Cost: **\$1.00 per ticket or 10 for \$10**

Sell 1 book of 10 tickets and receive a free Turkey Dinner. Meal will start at 6 PM. Cash prize and Turkey winners will be drawn at 9 PM. We will have 12-15 paddle wheel drawings from 6-9 PM. Prizes will be Turkeys, booze and other meats this year.

Tickets should be available on or around September 1 at the bar. A sign up sheet will be available. We will also be mailing out 1 book of tickets to each member. If you win and you're from out of town, we will make arrangements to get your prize or cash to you.

Sid Sherwin is this year's chair person. If you would like to help Sid call him at home after 6:30 PM at 815-338-5573

Tribute to September 11th

Author Unknown

Osama Bin Laden, your time is short
We'd rather you die, than come to court.
Why are you hiding if it was in God's name?
You're just a puke with a turban; a pathetic shame.

I have a question, about your theory and laws;
"How come you never die for the cause?"
Is it because you're a coward who counts on others"
Well here in America, we stand by our brothers.

As is usual, you failed in your mission;
If you expected pure chaos, you can keep on wishing
Americans are now focused and stronger than ever;
Your death has become our next endeavor

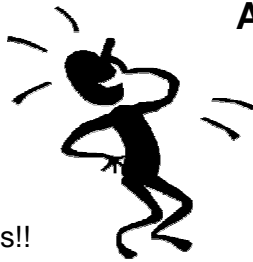
What you tried to kill, it doesn't live in our walls;
It's not in buildings or shopping malls.
If all of our structures came crashing down;
It would still be there, safe and sound.

Because pride and courage can't be destroyed;
Even it the towers leave a deep void.
We'll band together and fill the holes
We'll bury our dead and bless their souls.

But then our energy will focus on you;
And you'll feel the wrath of the
Red, White and Blue

So slither and hide like a snake in the grass
Because America's coming to
Kick your ass!!!

All Kidding Aside...



Kids say the darnest things!!

A kindergarten pupil told his teacher he'd found a cat. She asked him if it was dead or alive. "Dead." She was informed. "How do you know?" she asked her pupil. "Because I pissed in its ear and it didn't move," answered the child innocently. "You did WHAT?!?" the teacher exclaimed in surprise. "You know," explained the boy, "I leaned over and went 'Pssst!' and it didn't move."

A small boy is sent to bed by his father. Five minutes later.... "Da-ad...." "What? "I'm thirsty. Can you bring a drink of water?" "No. You had your chance. Lights out." Five minutes later: "Da-aaaad....." "WHAT?" "I'm THIRSTY. Can I have a drink of water??" "I told you NO! If you ask again, I'll have to spank you!!" Five minutes later....."Daaaa-aaaad....." "WHAT!" "When you come in to spank me, can you bring a drink of water?"

An exasperated mother, whose son was always getting into mischief, finally asked him, "How do you expect to get into Heaven?" The boy thought it over and said, "Well, I'll run in and out and in and out and keep slamming the door until St. Peter says, 'For Heaven's sake, Dylan, come in or stay out!'"

One summer evening during a violent thunderstorm a mother was tucking her son into bed. She was about to turn off the light when he asked with a tremor in his voice, "Mommy, will you sleep with me tonight?" The mother smiled and gave him a reassuring hug. "I can't dear," she said. "I have to sleep in Daddy's room." A long silence was broken at last by his shaky little voice: "The big sissy."

It was time, during the Sunday morning service, for the children's sermon. All the children were invited to come forward. One little girl was wearing a particularly pretty dress and, as she sat down, the pastor leaned over and said, "That is a very pretty dress. Is it your Easter Dress?" The little girl replied, directly into the pastor's clip-on microphone, "Yes, and my Mom says it's a bitch to iron."

When I was six months pregnant with my third child, my three year old came into the room when I was just getting ready to get into the shower. She said, "Mommy, you are getting fat!" I replied, "Yes, honey, remember Mommy has a baby growing in her tummy" "I know," she replied, but what's growing in your butt?"

A little boy was doing his math homework. He said to himself, "Two plus five, that son of a bitch is seven. Three plus six, that son of a bitch is nine....". His mother heard what he was saying and gasped, "What are you doing?" The little boy answered, "I'm doing my math homework, Mom." "And this is how your teacher taught you to do it?" the mother asked. "Yes," he answered. Infuriated, the mother asked the teacher the next day, "What are you teaching my son in math?" The teacher replied, "Right now, we are learning addition." The mother asked, "And are you teaching them to say two plus two, that son of a bitch is four?" After the teacher stopped laughing, she answered, "What I taught them was, two plus two, THE SUM OF WHICH, is four."

One day the first grade teacher was reading the story of Chicken Little to her class. She came to the part of the story where Chicken Little tried to warn the farmer. She read, ".... and so Chicken Little went up to the farmer and said, "The sky is falling, the sky is falling!" The teacher paused then asked the class, "And what do you think that farmer said?" One little girl raised her hand and said, "I think he said: 'Holy S*#! A talking chicken!'" The teacher was unable to teach for the next 10 minutes.

Give Him a Pat on the Back and Say "Thanks"

By Matt Klos

Whether you know it or not, just going to the post for a VFW meeting does not keep it running. There are many people behind the scenes that keep the post running and have committed much of their time to keeping the post open. One of these people is Ralph Ritter. Since last July when the post was having some leadership difficulties, Ralph took it upon himself to become an active member of the post. I don't think, at that time, he realized how much time and effort would be needed. Ralph has become the post handyman, fixing and replacing broken and out of date items, bartender, janitor, etc. Ralph has even recruited his wife to help out the post. This is real dedication and shows how much he cares about our post and making it a success. Ralph has now taken on the job of VFW Quartermaster, which is even more responsibility on his plate. He has spent countless hours organizing the office, paperwork, records, etc. He deserves a thank-you, so the next time you see him working the bar or working outside, stop and just say "Thanks Ralph". I'm sure he will appreciate it.

September 2002

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 Memorial Day Committee (7:00 pm)	3	4	5 VFW 5040 Ladies Auxiliary Meeting (7:30 pm) Woodstock JC's (7:00 pm)	6	7
8	9 American Legion Post 412 Meeting (7:30 pm) Woodstock Little League (7:00 pm)	10 VFW Staff Meeting (7:00 pm) Dirt Group (7:00 pm) Woodstock JC's (7:00 pm)	11	12 Woodstock JC's (7:00 pm) Harley Hogs - McHenry Independent Riders (7:00 pm)	13	14
15	16 Men's Post Meeting Dinner (6:30 pm)	17 5040 Staff Meeting (7:00 pm) Dirt Group (7:00 pm) Woodstock JC's (7:00 pm)	18 Veterans Assistanc Commision of McHenry County (7:30 pm) Voice of Democracy (7:30 pm)	19 Marines Meeting (7:00 pm) Marines Auxiliary (7:00 pm) Woodstock JC's (7:00 pm)	20	21
22	23 VFW 5040 Men's Post Meeting (dinner 6:30 pm meeting 7:30 pm)	24 Dirt Group (7:00 pm) Woodstock JC's (7:00 pm)	25 ***** Last Day to Submit articles to the VFW News *****	26 Woodstock JC's (7:00 pm)	27	28
29	30	Dirt Group (7:00 pm) Woodstock JC's (7:00 pm)		Woodstock JC's (7:00 pm)		

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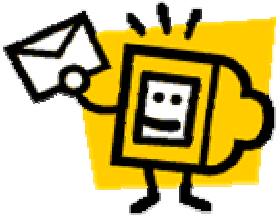
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Letters to the Editor....

If you would like to send a letter to the editor, please send it to the post addressing it to the **VFW NEWS Editor, c/o Post 5040**. And for those of you with access to the internet, you can e-mail me at:

klos_m259@yahoo.com

(that character between the "s" and "m" is an underscore)

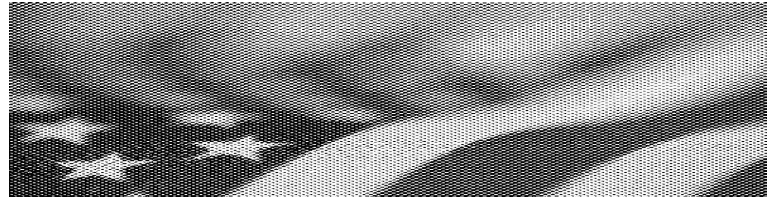
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Submitted By Harold Irwin

Now is the time to call or write the Post, Attn: "Bulk Mail," or e-mail me to let us know what your winter address will be, and what day you'll be receiving mail at your destination, whether leaving or returning. However if you deviate from those dates, either earlier or later, please let us know at the Post or e-mail: hirwin@owc.net. If the timing isn't right, we will mail the current issue with next month's News. We have winter addresses for 26 of you. Many of you leave your home address for a while, then we get your 5040 News back marked "Temporarily Away" at 37 cents cost to the Post. We don't know if you're gone for a short or an extended time. When we receive T.A.'s, we stop mailing the News for 3 months or until you contact us. Temporarily changing your address or having your mail stopped doesn't include the VFW News. A supply of back issues is available at the Post.

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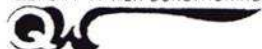
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