



Woodstock VFW News

Woodstock VFW Post 5040 and Auxiliary

National VFW
Publication Winner
2001

Winner of 15
National Publication
Awards

April 2003
Vol. 48. No. 10

Man Who Helped Bring Traveling Wall to Woodstock Honored

By Don Peasley

The Woodstock VFW will formally salute Phil Meier for funding the Vietnam Traveling Wall during last year's Memorial Day observance. The program for Meier and his wife Betty will be held before the regular VFW meeting Monday, April 21 at 7:15 p.m.

Sid Sherwin, chairman of the recognition program said the American Legion Marine Corps League and VietNow will join the VFW in making a contribution in Meier's name to Shriners Children Hospital in Chicago. Meier, member of the Masonic Lodge, has long been an enthusiastic participant in Masonic Lodge's Shriners program.

Meier was determined to obtain the wall for Woodstock after seeing it at Round Lake six years ago. Meier, owner of Quality Water Conditioning in Woodstock since 1967, paid the \$3,000 fee and waited for a reply.

"The display itself and the reaction of people observing this tribute prompted me to contact Traveling Wall officials," said Meier, World War II Navy veteran.

"As a veteran who served in the Pacific Theater, I appreciate what those who fought in Vietnam went through. I felt they did not get adequate recognition for the sacrifices and hardships they endured," said Meier. "Bringing the wall to my hometown was one way to honor those men and women."

Sherwin, Vietnam War veteran, said the Moving Wall display provided an outstanding opportunity for McHenry County residents to familiarize themselves with the impact of the Vietnam War when the wall was in the Woodstock Square for ten days.

Bless Our Troops

Written by an Unknown Veteran Soldier
March 17, 2003

God bless the troops that serve today
For me, it feels like yesterday

I wish to send a soldier home
To their parents arms so safe and warm

If their place I could take
It is there I'd die, in God my soul to take

Not another veteran wall should be built
But toward God, peace and love should we all tilt

God bless our troops!!!



Operation Iraqi Freedom

War in Iraq - Our Troops Need Our Support

As we have seen from the recent events in the past few weeks, we know that our country once again calls on its military to perform a duty that all Veterans of Foreign Wars are familiar with. We have sons, daughters, grand children, neighbors, friends, and even spouses that are, at this time, serving their country in a foreign conflict. Many of us can relate to this in some fashion, be it many years ago or even in more recent times. Emotions are high, we are anxious, we worry, we cry.

With modern technology we see war in such a way that never has been seen in prior conflicts. Information comes to us in real time through television, radio, and the internet. Be it good news or bad news, we hear it, we see it, we feel it in our hearts and souls. It does not stop. It is hard to ignore.

Whatever we are feeling does not compare to the soldier that is in or near Iraq. They are doing their job they've been trained to do, defending freedom, and ready to pay the ultimate sacrifice as hard as that is to comprehend. Please remember our military men and women in your prayers and support their loved ones here at home.

I Got Your Back

(author unknown)

I am a small and precious child, my dad's been sent to fight.
The only place I'll see his face is in my dreams at night.
He will be gone too many days for my young mind to keep track.
I may be sad, but I am proud.
My daddy's got your back.

I am a caring mother. My son has gone to war.
My mind is filled with worries that I have never known before.
Every day I try to keep my thoughts from turning black.
I may be scared, but I am proud.
My son has got your back.

I am a strong and loving wife, with a husband gone.
There are times I'm terrified in a way most never know.
I bite my lip and force a smile as I have watched my husband leave.
My heart may break, but I am proud.
My husband's got your back.

I'm a soldier's sister; my brother's out at sea.
He's on the way to Iraq today, to fight for you and me.
I pray for him each day and night, and my voice often cracks.
The tears may come, but I am proud.
My brother's got your back.

I am a soldier, serving proudly, standing tall.
I fight for freedom, yours and mine, by answering this call.
I do my job while knowing the thanks it sometimes lacks.
Say a prayer that I'll come home.
It's me who's got your back.

VFW Post 5040 - Men's Post **Officers 2002 - 2003**

Commander	Jim Smith	(815)-653-9238
Senior Vice Commander	Marvin Monson	(815)-338-5805
Junior Vice Commander	Sid Sherwin	(815)-338-5573
Quartermaster	Ralph Ritter	(815)-338-5018
Chaplain	Marvin Bohnhoff	(847)-223-1216
Assistant Chaplain	Chuck Mathey	(815)-338-5374
Service Officer	Ron Nehls	(815)-338-3671
Judge Advocate	Dwayne Raney	(815)-338-1652
Post Surgeon	Harold Irwin	(815)-338-1264
Officer-of-the-Day	Bruce Shisler	(815)-338-4735
1 Year Trustee	Thom Gillespie	(815)-597-1319
2 Year Trustee	Alan Belcher	(815)-338-7689
3 Year Trustee	Jon Showers	(815)-338-4675

VFW Post 5040 **Ladies Auxiliary** **Post Officers 2002 - 2003**

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	Rosemary Hellstern	(815)-338-0653
Conductress	Irene Brown	(815)-459-3483
1 Year Trustee	Joyce Monson	(815)-338-5805
2 Year Trustee	Ruth Gehrke	(815)-338-5093
3 Year Trustee	Geraldine Salyers	Not Available



Chaplains Report **By Marvin Bohnhoff**

Our condolences to Helen Book and her family. Her husband, Howard "Bill" Book of Woodstock, died on March 22, 2003. Howard was a life member of the post and Helen is a member of the Ladies Auxiliary. Howard was a Navy veteran from WW II.

A draping of the Charter was performed at the March meeting for the following:

- John Hinner
- Eugene Dangerfield

Taps was played in honoring our fallen comrades.

"The Lord bless all of our comrades."

Memorial Day Memorabilia **Still Needed**

Local businesses on the Woodstock Square will be displaying war memorabilia in some of their windows from past conflicts in honor of Memorial Day.

Jon Showers will be heading this up and is asking members of the post if they have any items to display for this purpose to contact him. Please leave a message at the post before May 1 if you have some interesting items you'd like displayed so others can view through the windows.

Post 5040 Reaches 100% **Paid Membership**

Last issue, there was a list of VFW members that had the status as "unpaid" membership. Well, the men on this list received a special gift from the post.

Rich Coombe, Jr., candidate for Jr. Vice Commander 2003/04 for Illinois, paid a visit at the March meeting and, in the effort to get membership numbers up, offered to pay half of the cost for all unpaid members if the Post was willing to pay the other half.

Post members at the meeting agreed to pay the one half of membership. So, all the members that were listed are now paid up to date and the post is now at 100% paid membership. A big thank-you goes out to Rich for helping out our delinquent members - you're paid up now!



VFW Grand Drawing - \$1550 Raffle

Saturday, May 10th, 7:00 pm. Only 96 tickets available at \$50.00 each (as of March 24).

You may purchase a ticket on the installment plan, but it must be paid in full by April 15th. The odds of winning a prize are pretty good too. Consider that you have about a 1 in 14 chance of winning a prize. That's better than the lottery!

\$3,750.00 IN CASH PRIZES!!!!!!

- 1st Prize \$1,550.00
- 2nd Prize \$450.00
- 3rd Prize \$350.00
- 4th Prize \$250.00
- 5th Prize \$150.00
- Every 20th drawn wins \$100.00

You need not be present to win but the five big prizes will get a \$50.00 bonus if the winner is present. There will also be an attendance drawing for \$50.00 plus any bonus money left over. Drawing benefits the Building Fund. Signup sheet will be available at the bar. Don Sword is chairman of this event.

In conjunction with this event, a prime rib dinner is also planned to Honor Ray Benoy for the contributions he has made over the many years to the VFW and community at large. The pending schedule of this event is cocktails at 6:00 p.m. and dinner at 7:00 p.m. More details to follow in next month's VFW News.

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

VFW Recipient of Funds From Midwest Antique & Classic Motorcycle Club

By Don Peasley

The Woodstock VFW is a major recipient of money distributed by the Midwest Antique & Classic Motorcycle Club. Sidney Sherwin, treasurer, said \$12,100 was available through its annual flea market and antique show at the fairgrounds. He said gifts of \$500 each were made to 15 food pantries in communities where club members live.

"Members were quite aware of the demands made on area food pantries and were determined to do what they could to help alleviate the shortages in some communities," said Sherwin.

A \$2,000 gift was presented the Woodstock VFW. Its members helped with presenting the antique show last

September. Gifts of \$400 to the Walworth Scouts and \$200 to Woodstock Scouts were given for assistance with that show.

Sherwin presented a \$1,000 check to the Adult & Child Rehabilitation Center during the center's annual telethon March 7. A \$500 contribution was given to the 1st Marine Division Association.


These are the food pantries each receiving \$500: Grafton Township Food Pantry, Huntley; Harvard Food Pantry, Harvard; Hebron Community Food Pantry, Hebron; Marengo Area Outreach, Marengo; FISH Food Pantry, McHenry; Richmond Community Pantry, Richmond; Woodstock Food Pantry, Woodstock; Big Foot Area Food Pantry, Walworth; North Boone Food Pantry, Capron; Grace Family Church Food Pantry, Belvidere; Faith Food Pantry, Zion; Paddock Lake Baptist Church Food Pantry, Paddock Lake, Wisconsin; Cary-Grove Food Pantry, Cary; Algonquin/Lake-in-the-Hills Interfaith Food Pantry, Lake-in-the-Hills; and Crystal Lake Food Pantry, Crystal Lake.

VFW Post Officer Nominations for 2003-04

At the March meeting, official nominations were made for the post officer positions for the 2003/04 election year. According to our bylaws, nominations take place in March and the election will take place in April. Installation of officers will take place in May and the new officers will take their respective positions in June. There is still time to be nominated if you feel inclined to be an "active leader" in the post for the coming year. The following is the list of nominees from the March meeting:

Commander:	Jon Showers
Senior Vice:	Sid Sherwin
Junior Vice:	???
Quartermaster:	Butch Borchardt
Chaplain:	Howard Engstrom
Post Surgeon:	Betty Smith
Judge Advocate:	Dwayne Raney Butch Borchardt Hank Enstrom
3 yr trustee:	Jim Smith

Be sure to come out to the April meeting to cast your vote for the nominees.



Come Dancing...

Vito Buffalo's Ballroom Dance Band

This is a 10 piece band that does all of the ballroom dance tunes.

Where: VFW Post 5040 Upstairs

When: April 13, May 11

Time: 4:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m.

Cost: \$12.00 or VFW member \$10.00

Post members only pay \$10 per person with the general public paying \$12. We will have refreshments and sandwiches available for you to purchase. The bar will also be open. If you are interested in dance lessons or have questions, contact Warren Spencer at 815-459-2578. Singles are welcome and we do mixers. Dress casual or semi formal – please no sneakers or jeans thank you. Public is welcome so tell your friends.

Can you help?

All post members play an important role at the VFW, and it takes all kinds of people to make things happen. Maybe you can provide your skills to help out the post.

Thank you!

Check the items below that interest you, clip the slip, and drop it off at the post mailbox on the outside of the front door or mail it to: Woodstock VFW Post 5040, 240 Throop Street, Woodstock, IL 60098.

- ☐ Wednesday Dinners
 ☐ Friday Dinners
 ☐ Friday Bingo
 ☐ Post Maintenance
 ☐ Committees
☐ Other _____

Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

Website Is Up and Available!

Visit Us on the Web: www.vfw5040.org

Comrades, our post web site is now officially up and running as of March 12, 2003. Some of you may have already had the opportunity to take a look at it as I sent the address out to several post members to view it to provide feedback on the site. I hope you all have the opportunity at some point to go out and take a look at the site.

While this website may not be the most hi-tech thing you may have seen on the web, it does offer some informative insights for visitors and currently has 14 pictures of our Post Home for those of you who have not seen it in a while.

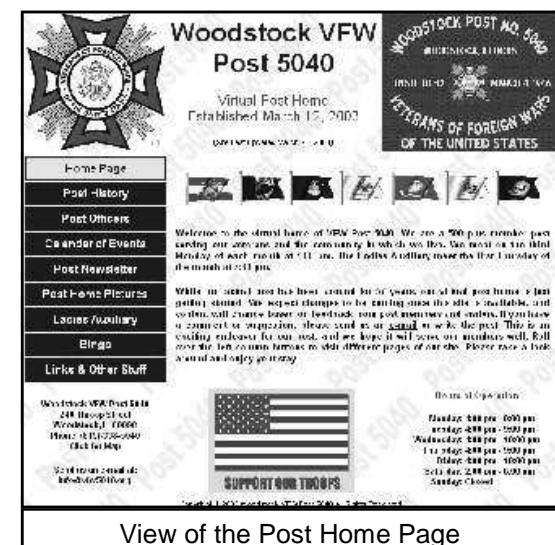
What will this web site provide our post? Several things come to mind:

- 1) Local veterans can find out information about our post.
- 2) This is a means of attracting more members to our post.
- 3) We have more exposure to people outside and in our community.
- 4) Information can quickly be updated on the website if something comes up that we need to let members know about.
- 5) The most recent copy of the Woodstock VFW News can be downloaded, viewed and printed on your own computer as well as the last 12 issues of the Newsletter.
- 6) Color pictures of recent events can be posted to the site in a timely manner.
- 7) Information is available 7 days a week, 24 hours a day.
- 8) We have the opportunity to save on postage and printing costs.

The address has been submitted to the National VFW site, so it

should be providing a link to our home page very soon. The site has also been provided to several search engines on the web so people looking for VFW Post 5040 will be able to find the home page and view our information.

Those of you that would prefer to download the newsletter and view it on



View of the Post Home Page

your computer instead of having it mailed to your home can let us know and we will take your name off the mailing list. This is strictly voluntary. If you prefer having the newsletter mailed to you, you

Ladies Auxiliary FROM THE PRESIDENT

By NYDA FOGARTY, President 2002-2003

At our March 6th meeting of the Auxiliary, we voted to participate in Poppy Days with the Post. We will need as many ladies as possible to help sell poppy's on May 16th or 17th. If you could donate just one hour of your time it would certainly be appreciated. Money for this annual event is used for help to Veteran's and their families when in need.

Don't forget to clean out things you do not want and donate to the Post's "Soup to Nuts" sale on the first weekend in May. After our May meeting we will have a "White Elephant" sale as a little money maker for the Auxiliary.

A list of names of those who still owe for their current dues was printed in the last VFW News. The year is getting short so please get your dues in as soon as possible. They may also be mailed to the Auxiliary in Care of the Post.

need not do anything as you will continue to receive the newsletter in the mail. If you do want to save the post some money by viewing the newsletter this way, then email me at: matt.klos@vfw5040.org and let me know to take your name off the mailing list. This is not an option for everyone and downloading a newsletter can take up to 20 minutes depending on the size of the newsletter and your connection speed.

Don't forget, this is your web site too. I am just posting information to the site for others to view and enjoy. If you would like to see something added, want some information included about a specific committee, feel that something is missing, or just about anything relating to our VFW Post or Ladies Auxiliary, then let me know. We have a lot of options and a lot of space available. We are currently using about 30% of our available space, so we have plenty of room left.

Please, if you have a computer or access to a computer (at home, library, friend, or relative), visit our home page and let me know what you think. I would enjoy hearing from you.

Also, as the site becomes known and we start getting more visitors, I will let you know some of the statistics that are collected such as number of people visiting, pages that are most frequently visited, etc.

Happy surfing: <http://www.vfw5040.org>

Web Master: matt.klos@vfw5040.org



Tell us how we're doing...or what we can improve. Your feedback is important, and if you cannot attend meetings or get down to the post to comment on something, send in the slip (address on back of slip) or drop it off. We'd love to hear from you.

April 2003

☆☆☆☆☆☆ 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	2:00 pm - 6:00 pm
--------	-------------------	-------------------	--------------------	-------------------	--------------------	-------------------

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30	31	1 Consolidated Election 6 am - 7 pm Katherine Schultz (815)-334-4242	2 Little League 6 pm Chicken and Ribs and Special 5 - 8 pm	3 Ladies Auxiliary 7:30 pm	4 Fish Fry 5 - 8 pm Bingo 6 pm	5
6	7 Little League 6 pm Memorial Day Committee 7 pm	8 VFW Board Mtg. 7 pm Little League 7 pm Dirt Group 7 pm	9 Chicken and Ribs and Special 5 - 8 pm	10	11 Fish Fry 5 - 8 pm Bingo 6 pm	12
13 Ball Room Dance 4 - 7 pm	14 American Legion 7 pm Little League 7 pm	15 Girls Softball 7 pm Dirt Group 7 pm	16 Chicken and Ribs and Special 5 - 8 pm Veterans Assistance Commission 7:30 pm	17 Marines 7 pm Marines Auxiliary 7 pm	18 Fish Fry 5 - 8 pm Bingo 6 pm	19
20	21 VFW Meeting 7 pm VFW Pre-Meeting Dinner (VFW Members Only) 6:30 pm	22 Jaycees 7 pm Dirt Group 7 pm	23 Chicken and Ribs and Special 5 - 8 pm	24	25 Fish Fry 5 - 8 pm Bingo 6 pm	26
27	28	29 Dirt Group 7 pm	30 Chicken and Ribs and Special 5 - 8 pm	1 Ladies Auxiliary 7:30 pm	2 Fish Fry 5 - 8 pm Bingo 6 pm	3

Upcoming Dates to Remember

• May 3 and 4 - **SOUP TO NUTS SALE**

Some reminders on this event. We do not accept clothing. Items must be clean and in good working order. Suggestions are: books, dishes, curtains, bedspreads, appliances, tools, furniture, tools, etc. Start saving your stuff for the sale. Since storage space is limited, we ask that you bring items in a week or two before the sale. Bob and Pat Gaylord are going to chair the event this year.

If you would like to help Bob and Pat please contact them at 815-338-3015.

• May 16, 17, 18 - **POPPY DAYS**

Sid Sherwin is the chairman and need lots of volunteers. Be thinking of times you may be able to sell poppies.

• May 26 - **MEMORIAL DAY**

Allen Belcher is the chairman. Warm lunch will be served. Veterans are \$6.00 and non-veterans are \$7.00. We need help in the kitchen as well as servers. If you can help, contact Allen.

815-338-0492 **ACE Hardware**



Rt. 47 - Woodstock

Community Plumbing & Heating

326 E. Judd Street
Woodstock, IL
338-1039

RAY WOLF JEWELERS

Guaranteed
Watch & Jewelry Repair
216 Main St. • Woodstock
338-1232



**HARRIS
BANK**
WOODSTOCK.

On the Square Since 1889

338-3131

MEMBER FDIC

Schmidt Printing
Quality Offset Printing
130 Washington Street
Woodstock
815 338-0222

Donahue's FURNITURE COMPANY

1345 South Eastwood Drive
Woodstock, IL 60098
(815) 338-1086

Crystal Lake PONTIAC-GMC

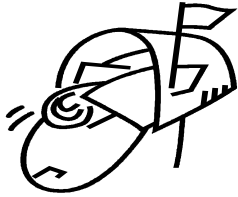
6305 Northwest Highway
Crystal Lake, IL 60014
(815) 477-8600
www.crystallakepontiac.com



Schneider - Leucht - Merwin & Cooney
Travel Home

Serving Your Community For Over 49 Years.

Michael H. Cooney - Daniel P. Cooney
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
259 Dartmoor Dr.
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

WOODSTOCK VFW NEWS

240 Throop Street
 Woodstock, IL 60098

Return Service Requested

Non-Profit Organization

U.S. Postage

PAID

Permit No. 338
 Woodstock, IL 60098

815-338-6464

BTM INDUSTRIES, INC.

604 Washington Street
 Woodstock, IL 60098



WOODSTOCK AMERICAN LEGION

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



Serving McHenry County
WINDRIDGE funeral home, Ltd.

Joseph J. Ewald, Funeral Director
 104 High Road • Cary, IL 60013
800-870-9648

Affiliated with McHenry County
 Memorial Park

SHERWIN DECORATING

*Interior
 Professional*

**Painting • Wallpapering
 Fancy Finishes • Wood Finishing**

Sid Sherwin 13700 W. South St.
 (815) 338-5573 Woodstock, IL 60098

Woodstock VFW NEWS is published monthly by VFW Post 5040, 240 Throop St., Woodstock, IL 60098 (phone 815/338-5040). Matthew Klos, Editor. Founded in July 1955 by Don Peasley (Editor 1955-2002). Fourteen-time winner of the National VFW Awards for Best Post Publication. No. 1 in 1956, 1963, 1971, and 1985. Second in 1968, 1970, 1990, 1997 and 1999. Third in 1983, 1984, 1986, 1991, 2000, 2001. Voted Illinois VFW's best 28 times, including 1999-2001. Circulation: ~800.



OAKLAND CEMETERY

14307 Kishwaukee Valley Rd.
 Woodstock, IL 60098



DWIGHT AUSTIN, Pres.
 Est. 1859 (815) 338-4309

EMTECH

Machining & Grinding, Inc.

818 Trakk Lane P.O. Box 1810
 Woodstock, IL 60098 PH. 815-338-1580
 FAX 815-338-9339

ESTABLISHED FOR MORE THAN 114 YEARS

Zoia Monument Co., Inc.

222 WASHINGTON STREET
 WOODSTOCK, IL 60098

JAMES A. ZOIA PRESIDENT

PHONE 815/338-0358
 FAX 815/338-0375

zoiamonumentco@prodigy.net

Woodstock Car Wash

(Formerly Wendt's Wonder Wash)

**Automated Touchless Car Wash
 Heated Bays**

218 Fair Street
 (Back of McDonald's)
 Woodstock
815/338-0115

BENOY MOTOR SALES, INC.

Serving McHenry County Since 1948

Raymond Benoy
 President

CHRYSLER FIVE STAR AWARD DEALER

1790 S. EASTWOOD DRIVE
 WOODSTOCK, IL 60098 (815) 338-5100

*Quality Water is Not a Matter of
 Chance. It is a Matter of Choice,*

QUALITY WATER CONDITIONING



711 Amsterdam St. - Woodstock, IL 60098

815-338-3344

Rent with option to purchase

AMCORE BANK

Focused on You.

225 W. Jackson St. • 815-338-6200

www.AMCORE.com

Member FDIC

FRISCH & BARRETT Insurance Agency

226 W. Main Street
 Cary, IL 60013

PHONE: (847) 639-2134 • (815) 385-0300

FAX: (847) 639-2163
frischbarretts@ameritech.net