

Woodstock VFW News

Woodstock VFW Post 5040 and Auxiliary

National VFW
Publication Winner
2001

Winner of 15
National Publication
Awards

July 2003
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Post Installation of Officers Conducted

By Matt Klos

On Sunday, June 1, 2003, installation of the VFW Post 5040 and the Ladies Auxiliary officers for the new year was performed in a ceremony held at the post. There were about 52 people in attendance as observers and officers at the ceremony that took place in the upper meeting hall of the post.

Jim Gerke, Presiding Officer for the ceremony, opened up the meeting. Nyda Fogerty started the ceremony of the first half of the meeting for the Ladies Auxiliary, and Chris Gerke was the Installing Officer.

For the second half of the meeting, Bill Lyford was the installing officer for Post 5040. The ceremony itself was performed to regulation and each officer to be sworn in wore a boutonniere for the occasion. After the ceremony, attendees gathered in the downstairs meeting hall for a wonderful dinner. A large sheet cake adorned with flags and stars in icing congratulating the Commander and President was cut by Jon Showers and Nyda Fogerty, respectively. A fun time was had by all. Congratulations to the new officers and best of luck in the coming year.



From the Commander

By Jon Showers
Commander 2003-2004

Jack Fish would like to thank all of the Post Members that helped with displaying our flag on the grave sites of our Veterans in Memorial and Oakland Cemetery for Memorial Day.

Thanks to Richard Blietz, Walter Romberg, Charley Mathey, Robert Gaylord, Bob Gibson, Harold Irwin, Bill Nolan, Bill Lyford, Bob Steinwke, Jon Showers, Russ Freeman, Joe Thiede, Hank Enstrom, Hank Nulle, and Pat Sonnenberg.

Please accept my apologies if there was someone not included. A great turnout and very much appreciated. Jon Showers would like to thank Bob Gibson, Bill Lyford and Hank Enstrom for joining him in leading the Dick Tracy Day Parade on June 22nd. To give up a part of your Sunday is very much appreciated. We did look sharp leading the entire parade and we stayed in step



(From Left) Thom Gillespie, Ron Nehls, Henry Nulle, Sid Sherwin, Jon Showers, John Sullivan, Howard Engstrom, Hank Enstrom, Ralph Ritter, and Bruce Shisler are sworn in to their respective officer positions. (Photo by Matt Klos)



(From Left) Rosemary Hellstern, Margaret Webb, Karen Wells, Barb Gerke, Geraldine Salyers, Ruth Gerke, Nyda Fogerty are sworn in to their respective officer positions. (Photo by Matt Klos)

because of the fine job by Bill calling cadence.

Commander's Corner- Now that our National Commander has been officially installed our Post's newly elected Officers will begin their 12 month tour of duty. We want to make this a very positive year and capitalize on our many successes of the previous Post Staff, Board, Auxiliary, employees and the many volunteers.

I would like to thank all those that worked so hard to make this past year very successful. We will be willing to accept any ideas or constructive criticism for "the Good of the Order".

"None of us is as good as all of us"

Respectfully Submitted, Jon Showers

VFW Post 5040 - Post Officers 2003 - 2004

Commander	Jon Showers	(815)-338-4675
Senior Vice Commander	Sid Sherwin	(815)-338-5573
Junior Vice Commander	John (Sully) Sullivan	(815)-653-3298
Quartermaster	Henry Nulle	(815)-337-7529
Chaplain	Howard Engstrom	(815)-338-4453
Assistant Chaplain	TBA	TBA
Service Officer	Ron Nehls	(815)-338-3671
Judge Advocate	Henry (Hank) Enstrom	(815)-337-5856
Post Surgeon	Harold Irwin	(815)-338-1264
Officer-of-the-Day	Bruce Shisler	(815)-338-4735
1 Year Trustee	Alan Belcher	(815)-338-7689
2 Year Trustee	Thom Gillespie	(815)-597-1319
3 Year Trustee	Jim Smith	(815)-653-9238

VFW Post 5040 Ladies Auxiliary Post Officers 2003 - 2004

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	Ruth Gehrke	(815)-338-5093
2 Year Trustee	Margaret Webb	Not Available
3 Year Trustee	Geraldine Salyers	Not Available

Down at the Post

By Ralph Ritter

A big thanks goes to the following individuals:

Brian Ritter	Sid Sherwin
Bob Gibson	Chuck Mathey
Jack Fish	Ralph Ritter

We had major sewer problems that affected the kitchen and upstairs bathrooms. The problem took 3 days to fix and much hard labor was done to break up the floor and have cast iron pipe replaced. It seems that every time we have a problem, someone steps forward to help. Thanks to Brian Ritter, we also have a videotape of our sewer lines now and we know how good they really are.

When you receive a call from us for help, please say yes. Sometimes we are short handed and need any available resources to help us out.

We have installed new double roll toilet paper dispensers in the upper bathrooms, as well as electric and dryers. This should stop the plugging of our sewers. We will also be installing them in the lower bathrooms in the near future. Thanks to Sully and Chuck Mathey for installing the toilet paper dispensers and electric hand dryers.

Ralph and Pat Ritter went to the state convention this month. They had a great time and want our Post to send more members next year. Ralph will be telling everyone the things he learned at the July Post meeting, so come on down.

The Post will be closed on July 4. Our bartender deserves a Holiday too. Celebrated wisely and have a safe holiday.

We will be having the Tool Show again on Sunday, August 10th from 11a.m. until 7 p.m. Every one is invited to come. On August 16th we will be having Semi-pro Wrestling on the second floor. The event will be open to the public, so come on down for some excitement. Times and ticket cost will be announced in the August newsletter.

We are still looking for volunteers to paint the exterior of the Post this fall. Contact any officer if you want to help. If you are "ladder shy", we will need a lot of help moving tarps, mixing paint, and keeping our equipment at hand - no need to leave the ground!

The front yard looks great thanks to Mike David and his wife Judy. They are putting in a lot of time on Saturdays and Sundays to keep it up. With the hot days coming up, is there anyone one who can come down and water the flowers so Mike's wife doesn't have to drive from Ridgfield to water them?

Ralph would like to say THANKS to all the members for your support over the last year. This has truly been the year of post volunteers. Because of the time and talents of our members, we were able to do much needed repairs and renovations without spending a penny in labor costs. Ralph and his wife Pat will continue to support the new officers although they're hoping to not have to work quite as hard in the coming year. Ralph will continue to assist the new Quartermaster as well.



Chaplains Report

By Howard Engstrom

Visits made:

- Bob Wasberg at Fountains Center in Crystal Lake
- Delmar Heidenreich family

Wakes, Family Visits and Cards:

- Floyd Wilcox, Harvard
- Larry Jones, McHenry
- Walter Marston, Crystal Lake

Phone Call Visits:

- Gene Fuller
- Stan Danielson

"God's Blessings and Peace to All Comrades"

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News From the Rifle Squad

By Bill Lyford

Last year our Rifle Squad was called seventy-five times. In the first six months of this year we have only had twenty-five calls. The latest and more unusual were, color guard for the Woodstock high school graduation, color guard for the Woodstock beauty-pageant at the Opera house and color guard at the Woodstock Bible church Remember the Veterans picnic.

A Word of Thanks

By Dwayne Raney

Irene Brown, a member of and the current Conduress of our Woodstock VFW 5040 Auxiliary, wishes to thank one and all for the many get well cards, phone calls, prayers, flowers, and visits while she was a patient at both Memorial Medical Center on Doty Road, as well as at the Extended Care Unit on West South Street, from March 31st until May 6th combined.

Irene was diagnosed with a severe case of Pancreatitis on March 31st which caused the hospitalizations and follow up care.

She is at home recuperating and has a health care nurse and a physical therapist visiting her weekly during this time.

Again, she is grateful and appreciative for people's concern during her recent illness. God bless each and every one.

Thank you, very much from the bottom of her heart.

Helping Our Community

Submitted by Ralph Ritter

We donated the hall for the American Cancer Society meetings and they started this walk from the post. Here is a note that they sent to the post:

"Thank you so much for your contribution to the W.O.W. (Walk of Woodstock). On May 10th, 2003, we were blessed with 52 walkers...friends, family members and pets who graciously gave their time and money for this worthwhile cause.

Through the generosity of the walkers and their pledges we raised over \$6,000.00. This is an ongoing battle and it's never to late to continuously support and contribute to this worthwhile cause. This would never have been possible without all of your time and effort. I would like to thank each of you for your participation."

Ann Wotjas
Diane Herendeen
Mandy Chonos



Ladies Auxiliary FROM THE PRESIDENT

By Nyda Fogarty
President 2003-2004

It was indeed a pleasure to have had State Senator Adeline Geo-Karis as our speaker on Memorial Day. This is a person who has given so much of herself serving her Country as a Naval Officer in WW II, an attorney and former Mayor of Zion, Ill. and so many years in the Senate for the State of Illinois. We were honored to have had her as a part of our program in Woodstock.

Once again we have lost another of our long time members. Phyllis Palmquist passed away after a long illness. Phyllis was a member of the Auxiliary since 1947. Our sympathy to her two sons and a daughter.

The new year has started now and dues are due any time for \$15.00.

The joint installation of Post and Auxiliary was very nice and went off very well. Our cake was very beautiful which came from "Cakes by Dea" in Marengo.

The first meeting of the 5th District for the new year will be in Elgin on September 7th.

People Really Do Appreciate Veterans

By Fred Wallis

I attended the Memorial Day Service with my wife. We were in the park and it was wonderful. We moved to sit behind our van which was parked across from the bank. I was wearing my VFW Cap. All of the parade was great but something happened that I had never seen before.

A Boy Scouts Troop passed and two scouts came over to me and said "Thank You". Later another troop passed and two more scouts came over and said "Thank You". I think this showed a lot of class for the scouts, the leaders, their sponsor, and the community.

This brought tears to my eyes and made my day. I hope the boys, their leaders, their sponsors, and parents will see this. It means a lot to the Veterans when things like this happen and makes us proud that we served our country.

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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
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

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