Visit us online at www.vfw5040.org

Woodstock VFW Post 5040 and Auxiliary

From the commander

By Thom Gillespie VFW Commander 2005-2006

People used to join organizations like the VFW, Loyal Order of the Moose, Lions, Elks, Viet Now, Vietnam Veterans Association, and others because they wanted to help the organizations perform whatever those organizations did. Now people join because the organizations give them special benefits that they would not otherwise receive. The VFW is a volunteer driven organization. If the membership expects to receive benefits that cost us more than we receive for the dues paid then we will cease to exist. We need more people from the general membership to do something to help the VFW. The current board of officers does not need the added burden of doing all the little things that must be done to keep this Post running.

We are currently looking for people to help with the 60th Anniversary and Poppy Days planning. We need a chairman for a committee to coordinate collection of items to send to Iraq and Afghanistan. We need someone to take over the Pulltab machine (this only takes about an hour each week).

Our biggest priority, in my opinion, is raising enough money to purchase land and a new building as the city of Woodstock has made it plain that they want to tear down this Post to make room for more parking on the Square. I know there was an attempt in the past to get the other military organizations to combine resources but fell apart for reasons I am not privy to. I would like to attempt the same sort of committee.

Did you know....

That next year, on March 4, 2006, our Post will be turning 60 years old? We had thought of running another Sweetheart Raffle, but until it was brought up that next year is the Post 60th Anniversary, plans have changed.

The Post is looking for some ambitious people to start planning an event to mark this occasion. If you'd like to help, contact the post at 815-338-5040.

New Quartermaster and assistant appointed By Matt Klos

Please congratulate our newly appointed Quartermaster, Jim Reece. To help Jim out, an assistant to Jim will be Anne Brophy who will serve as Quartermaster Assistant.

Army Reserves, currently

assigned to the 822 Military Police Company.

Jim is a Staff Sergeant and has been in the reserves for 12 years. He was in Iraq for 14 months, serving from December 2002 to February 2004. Jim is a resident of Woodstock.

Anne Brophy, 35, works for the McHenry County States Attorney and is an Assistant State Attorney. Anne is currently serving in the Army Reserves and has been serving for 6 years. She is assigned to the 416 ENCOM and is a Captain in the JAG Corps. Anne also served in Iraq in 2003 for 6 months.

The Quartermaster job is an important post position and one of the hardest spots to fill during post elections. Jim and Anne volunteered to take on the Quartermaster duties after hearing at the June meeting that Dwayne Raney resigned from the position. Dwayne has served in this position in the past and regretfully resigned only for the fact that he himself determined that he would not be able to perform the duties required for the demanding position for the coming year. Thank you Dwayne for temporarily stepping up to fill the position during the elections and your past service.

With all the Post positions filled, we have several "newer" members taking leadership positions for the 2005-2006 year. With this in mind, last year's Com-



Jim Reece, 33, is a Mili- Newly appointed Quartermaster Jim Reece (L) and Quartertary Police Officer in the master Assistant Anne Brophy (Matt Klos photo).

mander Sid Sherwin commented at the July meeting, "Thank you to the new officers for stepping up to take these positions. I ask that each of the members that have served in the leadership positions in the past to willingly help out and give guidance to the new officers when needed. Pass on the information you have learned to these new officers so they can do the best job they can, learning from you who have been faced with the challenges that come with each elected and appointed position."

Good luck to all the officers this coming year!

Do you have extra vegetables from your garden this year?

By Ralph Ritter

I know its been a tough growing season, but some of you out there have cultivated your gardens and watered consistently to produce a good harvest of crops. Perhaps you planted too much of something and have no idea what to do with the extra. Why not bring them to the post? We'll use them at the Fish Fry, hors d'overs at the bar, or just give them away. Don't let them go to waste. They'll be put to good use at the post if you want to donate them. Just bring them down to the post when you have time.

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 Reece	(815)-206-0331	
Assistant Quartermaster	Anne Brophy	Unavailable	
Chaplain	Howard Engstrom	(815)-338-4453	
Assistant Chaplain	Charles (Chuck) Mathey	(815)-338-5374	
Service Office	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	e Larry Dhom	(815)-338-4134	
2 Year Trustee	e Allen Belcher	(815)-338-7689	
3 Year Trustee	e 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	

Woodstock VFW News is published monthly by Woodstock VFW Post 5040, 240 N. Throop Street, Woodstock, IL 60098. (815)-338-5040

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Woodstock VFW Post 5040, c/o VFW News Editor, 240 N. Throop Street, Woodstock, IL 60098.

Ladies Auxiliary, from the President

By Nyda Fogarty Auxiliary President 2005-2006

Our Auxiliary new year has started and dues of \$15.00 are now due. The following list of members that did not pay for the past year are:

- Judith Bennetts
- · Patricia Nelson
- Mary Carpenter
- Florence Nolan
- Charlotte Davis
- · Beaulah Polnow
- Elwanda Ebel
- · Sally Shoemaker
- Evelyn Hoey
- Jeanette Walters
- Bernice Kolberg

If anyone knows anything about any of these members that may be deceased or in a home please let me know.

Our No. 1 Trustee, Geraldine Salvers, lost her husband Robert on July 11th. He was in a home in Elgin. He was a Vietnam veteran and had his 59th birthday July 7th. The funeral was July 15 with a burial at the National Veterans cemetery in Joliet. Our sympathy to Geraldine and her children.

VFW to have booth at the McHenry County Fair

By Matt Klos

The VFW will once again have a booth at the McHenry County Fair to promote the VFW and attract new members. If you are at the fair, stop on buy to visit the volunteers manning the booth.

The VFW will be selling Turkey Raffle tickets and raffle tickets to an "Escape Weekend", a one night stay and dinner at a nearby resort, possibly in Lake Geneva. Plans were still being finalized as of this story.

The Turkey Raffle, which is held yearly, will be held on November 19 this year, the weekend before Thanksgiving. More details will be presented in future newsletters on this event, however we are starting a little early selling tickets.

The "Escape Weekend" raffle tickets will only be sold at the fair. This raffle will help generate funds and will also be an incentive for people to stop by the booth at the fair. Ticket prices for each of these raffles will be \$1.00 per ticket per raffle or 6 for \$5.00.

The fair will be held August 3 - 11, 2005. The fair is located at RT 47 & Country Club Rd (1 mile N of Business Rt. 14) in Woodstock, IL 60098.

A thank you goes out to Don Sword who has been chairing this event and to Hank Enstrom who suggested the "Escape Weekend" raffle idea.

廿 Chaplains Report 廿

By Howard Engstrom

Phone Calls and Cards Sent:

- Alvin Jones
- Jack Meyers
- Joe Thiede
- Glenn Fringer and wife Joyce
- **Gaylord Stebbins**

Personal Visits:

- Alvin Jones
- **Howard Simpson (Nursing**
- Lorraine and Earl Holm at hospital

Draped Charter:

- Walter Larkin
- Glenn Gibson
- Robert Salvers

Dear Comrades,

Because of my son's terminal cancer and the death of my brother, we have had busy and difficult days. I missed last months meeting and this month's. I will miss the regular meeting again because of travel to Boston for my brother's memorial service. Thanks for your expressions of concern, your prayers, and indulgence. I will appreciate your continued prayers. Lord willing, I will be with you again soon. Thanks for the opportunity to serve 5040.

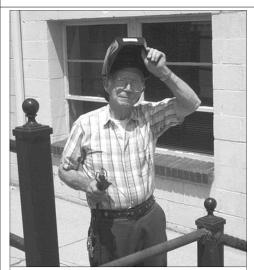
Informal post picnic planned



will be holding a picnic at his house. It will be on Sunday September 18, noon to 7 pm. Beer and pop will be supplied. Please bring a dish to pass, as the club will supply hamburgers. There will be swimming, golf contest, baseball games, volley-ball, and horseshoes. All members of the VFW and Auxiliary welcome. Bring your grand kids too! It was a great time last year and we had a lot of fun. His address is 2718 Deepcut Rd., Woodstock.

Please RSVP to John at (815)-338-7890. Pray for a nice day and no rain!

VFW 106th National Convention takes place in Salt Lake City August 20 -25 www.vfw.org for more details!



Seems like there is always something to be done at the Post, be it painting, repairing, or welding. Here Chuck Mathey is repairing a railing at the VFW outside the back entrance to the Post (Ralph Ritter photo).

VFW front office has been rented

By Matt Klos

We have a new tenant for the VFW front office. Please welcome Dr. John J. Schultz, DDS. Dr. Schultz has opened up a dentistry practice and is our new tenant.

In preparing the front office for rent, new siding was put up on the outside of the office. Funds from the Soup to Nuts Sale were used to pay for this project. Russ Freeman was the chairman heading up this work. Helping paint the siding was Sid Sherwin, Charlie Mathey, Jack Fish, Ralph Ritter, Bob Gibson, and Russ Freeman. Thank you to these post members for doing this work to enhance the appearance of the post and giving the front office a fresh look for Dr. Schultz.

Need dental work? See Dr. Schultz. He is open for business starting July 19, 2005.

Post Services Available

The VFW Post 5040 Honor Guard is available for funerals and special community events.

Contact Bill Lyford at 815-337-0025 if you have a need for this service.

Also available is the VFW Post 5040 Color Guard, which is available for parades and special community events.

Contact Hank Enstrom at 815-337-5856 if you have a need for this service.

Volunteers are welcome and needed to help with the Honor Guard and Color Guard. If you can help out, please contact one of the above members or leave your name at the post.

Bingo help needed

Submitted by Ralph Ritter

Like some other organizations in Woodstock, we are always in need of help for certain functions. The Woodstock Moose Governor Wally Hitzeman mentioned in the July 2005 Moose Call newsletter that they are in need of help for **BINGO**. If they can't find helpers, they will have to discontinue this activity. Sounds like what happened at the VFW. If you can help, call the Woodstock Moose Family Center at 815-338-9875. You can visit their website at:

www.woodstockmoose.org

Thank You!

By Don Peasley
Woodstock VFW News Editor 1955-2002

I want to express my deep appreciation to the many people who helped make the Woodstock VFW News an outstanding publication through the many years I was editor. This started with Earl Holm and quickly included Dwayne Raney and Maynard Wilkerson. It included Joe Thiede, manager for many years, who was an anchor in helping me obtain vital information; and Howard Wolf who was manager for many years.

I want to remember also the many Auxiliary presidents as well as many Post Commanders who participated particularly with personalized columns.

I extend my special thanks and appreciation to Matt Klos for his inspired job of digging up nuggets of information and highlights of issues through the years. I appreciate the extensive research and work required to dig through more than 50 years of our Post's own publication.

I like the way Matt chose several *Woodstock VFW News* covers and photos to illustrate his tribute on the 50th anniversary of *Woodstock VFW News*.

The Post owes special thanks to the many people who helped handle addressing and mailing the *Woodstock VFW News* through 50 years. This is especially true of today's team handling this responsibility, Harold Irwin, Fred Wallis and Ron Nehls.

I notice from the July 2005 anniversary issue Harold has pressed his wife Jeanette into helping. She is one of many unsung wives and non-members who make Post 5040 an outstanding community organization.

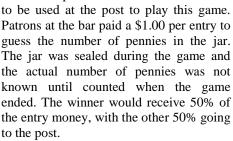
Thank you, Matt. You uphold the spirit and the timeliness to help members know what's going on with and at Post 5040.

Penny jar guessing game results

By Matt Klos

There has been several inquiries about the Penny Jar Guessing game that has been at the VFW for several months. The results were posted at the bar, but not formally announced.

Joe Theide donated a large bottle of pennies



Donna Freeman, wife of Russ Freeman, helped to determine the winner of the game. Bob Gibson was the winner of the game, with his guess being about 16,000 pennies. The actual number of pennies in the jar was counted by a coin counter at a local bank, which was approximately 15,800 pennies (+/- a few pennies - several people that I talked with couldn't remember the exact amount). However, Bob had the closest of all the entries and won 50% of the entry money which turned out to be about \$50.00. The jar and money from the jar were returned to Joe Theide.

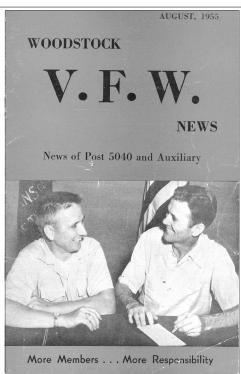
Thanks to all that participated in this fun game and to Joe who donated the bottle and pennies. Also thank you to Russ and Donna Freeman that headed this game up.

If you can knit, you might be able to help the troops

Submitted by Harold Irwin

In the Illinois VFW News June issue, there was an article stating that the military issue wool cap liners are not that warm. Wool caps can be easily knitted and sent to the troops where they will be put to good use. Patterns, pictures, and knitting instructions can be obtained by writing to Helmetliner, P.O. Box 13171, Springfield, IL 62704. On the web, visit:

www.geocities.com/helmetliner



The front cover of the August 1955 *VFW News* issue. As quoted in this issue, "The signing of the 500th member is an auspicious occasion for Woodstock VFW. A check of the records shows that Del Heidenreich, past commander of the post, had the honor. No. 500 is John M. Koehler, right in photo. He's a veteran of the European theater, serving with the oldest air force bomber group where he had 19 missions (Photo by Don Peasley)."

VFW Post 5040 July 18 Meeting Notes

By Matt Klos, Adjutant

As Adjutant for the 2005 - 2006 VFW year, I am responsible for taking notes at the general Post meeting. This works out to my advantage because I can report to our membership some of the highlights of the meeting through the *VFW News*. You may not realize it, but many of the stories that appear in each issue of the *VFW News* are actually comments from the Post meetings put into a more readable context. However, some of the proceedings of the meeting don't ever get mentioned and I will do my best to include additional meeting notes provided I have the space.

The July 18 meeting was not that long and there wasn't that much information discussed. We had 25 members present at the meeting. Visitor Ralph Deedrick, Jr. Vice of the American Legion, presented the Post with a wooden plaque which was an outline of the state of Illinois and had our Post numbers on it. Ralph makes these and donated one especially for our Post.

Woodstock Business and Professional

50 years ago this month

By Matt Klos

With the 50th anniversary of the *VFW News* honored in the July 2005 issue, I thought it would be fun to create a summary of what was going on with each month, 50 years ago this month. With each issue this year until July 2006, I will include a snapshot of the cover of the *VFW News* and a some of the highlights in that issue. To start this off, here are some of the highlights from the August 1955 issue of the *VFW News*:

- Earl Holm is commander.
- 500th member signed up at VFW is John M. Koehler. Del Heidenreich, past commander of the post, had the honor of signing Koehler up.
- Post picnic was Sunday, August 14, 1955. Features are coffee, pop, beer, ice cream, 3 baseball games planned, horse shoes, tug-of-war, volleyball, pony rides for the youngsters, and of course bingo.
- Lou Gehrke remindes the membership that you have to register first to be elegible for the post-sponsored fishing contest. Registration is \$1.00
- Pagent of Drums scheduled for September 11 and expected to draw 1,000 people. Tickets are \$1.00. Program includes Don Scott's 10-piece band on Saturday September 10 for the Dedication Dance, Sunday September 11 is the parade starting at Olson Park, smorgasbord dinner at the post, and at

Center sent in a check for \$100 in appreciation of the Moving Wall (Vietnam War Memorial) that came to Woodstock.

Commander Thom Gillespie explained that we didn't bring the wall and that the McHenry County Marine Corp League did this. However, the money would be used to cover the cost of construction materials that the Post paid for.

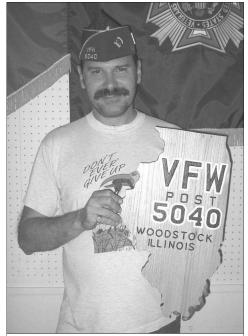
Hank Enstrom reported that Color Guard participated at a Northrup Grumman annual event "American Days", performing a presentation of the colors to open the event. Northrup Grumman will donate \$500.00 to the post. Money will be donated to the Rifle Squad and Color Guard, \$250.00 each.

Commander Thom Gillespie asked that about \$60.00 be spent for the office to obtain VFW manuals to replace the outdated ones that we are currently using and also to purchase additional office supplies.

No donations of money were made this meeting.

The meeting was closed at 8:18 pm.

- 7:00 pm the 3-hour Pageant of Drums at the WCHS athletic field.
- Roy Stackhouse says that 100 men donated 1,200 hours during the Fourth of July Festival. Net profit was \$2,229.82
- VFW bowling league is scheduled to start in September, room for 60 bowlers, at the new alleys on Route 47.
- 2 people sent in entries for the "name this publication contest". The committee decides to stick with the present name "Woodstock V.F.W. News"
- Auxiliary President Leonie Kennedy reminds the membership that the Auxiliary will serve its monthly dinner for members prior to their regular meeting.
- Advertisers included in this issue: Jack Fish (Painting, Decorating), Wendt's Shell Service, Shurtleff's Building Materials, Sanitary Plumbing and Heating Co., C&E Trucking Service, Conway Dairy, R.W. Shultz (Food Plan), Schneider - Leucht Funeral Home, Clyde and Bud's Mobil Service, Amico (Radio & TV Sales), Donahue Furniture, Dacy's (Electrical Store), Buckley's Cleaners and Launderers, Brettl's Bowling Alley, Thomas B. Merwin (Undertaking), Home Oil Company, Ray Wolf Jewlers, Bob Conway's Shell Service, Stewart's Locker Service (Butcher)
- 12 page issue mailed with a 2 cent stamp!



Commander Thom Gillespie holds the wooden plaque donated by Ralph Deedrick at the July 20, 2005 Post meeting (Photo by Matt Klos).

August 2005

Post Normal Operating Hours (unless noted otherwise - closing times vary depending on patronage) 水水水水水水

	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		
31	1	Dirtt Group 7 pm	3	VFW Ladies Auxiliary 7:00 pm	5 Fish Fry / Salad Bar 5 - 8 pm	6		
7	American Legion 7:30 pm	VFW Board Mtg. 7 pm Dirtt Group 7 pm	10 Cub Scouts - ?? Pm	11	12 Fish Fry / Salad Bar 5 - 8 pm	13		
14	VFW Meeting 7:30 pm VFW Pre-Meeting Dinner (VFW Members Only) 6:30 pm Deadline for September 2005 VFW News items	16 Dirtt Group 7 pm	Veterans Assistance Commission of McHenry County 7:30 pm	Marines 7 pm Marines Auxiliary 7 pm	19 Fish Fry / Salad Bar 5 - 8 pm	20		
21	22 Girls Softball ?? pm	Dirtt Group 7 pm Jaycees 7 pm	24	25	26 Fish Fry / Salad Bar 5 - 8 pm	27		
VFW 10	06th National Conver	ntion takes place in S	Salt Lake City Augus	st 20 -25				
28	29	Dirtt Group 7 pm	31	VFW Ladies Auxiliary 7:00 pm	Fish Fry / Salad Bar 5 - 8 pm	3		



From the editor's desk By Matt Klos, Woodstock VFW News Editor

From what I heard at the last post meeting after talking with several VFW members, it sounds like the membership enjoyed the July issue of the VFW News. I was glad to hear that. Harold Irwin asked me, "What will you do for and encore?" I guess it will be kind of hard to top that issue for a while. I was lucky be-

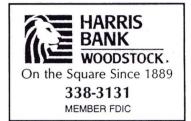
cause my job situation allowed me to spend more time than usual on it. As a consultant for a large information technology firm, I was between projects so I could spend more time than I would normally do on the newsletter. The timing was purely coincidental. However, to answer the question that Harold asked, I think the next big issue will be for the 60th anniversary of the Post. Our Post was chartered on March 4, 1946. So this coming March will mark 60 years. We need ideas from the membership to celebrate this. What would you like to see the post do to celebrate this milestone? We don't have a committee yet, and we need one soon. Any of you out there willing to take this on? This will be a very important committee, but it can be a lot of fun if you think about it. We need ideas as well. If you have an idea, send it to me (address on page 6) or send it to the Post.

As Commander Gillespie mentioned, we need people to help with the Board. This group of people are concerned with the Post home (the canteen, kitchen, physical plant, etc.). I learned at the last board meeting that the some of the VFW officers are automatically board members, actually doing double duty. It just boils down to the fact that we need people to help out. Simple as that. Can you help?









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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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