



VFW News

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Woodstock VFW Post 5040 and Auxiliary

Weather cooperates for Memorial Day

By Matt Klos

Memorial Day on Woodstock Square was celebrated in traditional fashion. Although the day was warm, a large number of people turned out for the ceremony that took place at 10 am and the parade at 11 am.

With participants from the Woodstock American Legion, Woodstock VFW and Auxiliary, and Marine Corp League, the military groups put together another fine program.

Reciting the Gettysburg Address and American Creed this year were Clay Street School 5th Graders, Sammy McLaughlin and Rachel Hammer respectively.

This year three Gold Star mothers (American mothers who lost a son or daughter during a war) were present at the ceremony. They were Betty Westphal, Angel Collins, and Sandra Barkus.

The guest speaker was Sgt. Major David Larkin of the U.S. Marine Corps. Parade Marshal was Ray Benoy.

After the ceremony, the parade took place followed by the traditional lunch at the post. Approximately 130 dinners were served at the post.

Wrapping up the Memorial Day festivities at the post was the VFW raffle of which only 500 tickets were sold. First place was a Sears Craftsman riding mower (valued at \$2,200), second place a Sears Craftsman push mower (valued at \$139), and third place two Cubs tickets behind home plate. First place winner was Hicks Gas, Inc., second place winner Gavers Excavating, and third place winner was Pete McCormack. Congratulations to the winners!

For a listing of all the ceremony events, please visit the VFW website. Additionally, there are 34 pictures of the ceremony, 90 pictures of the parade, and 8 pictures of the VFW 5040 lunch that took place after the parade. If you missed any of the events, the pictures will give you glimpse of what took place on May 29, 2006.



Dwayne Raney, American Legion and VFW 5040 member, opens up the Memorial Day ceremony on Woodstock Square. (Matt Klos photo).



Marv Monson (L), VFW Member, escorts Nyda Fogarty (R), VFW Ladies Auxiliary President, in the laying of the wreath on the memorial in the Square. (Matt Klos photo).

Dinners still available at the post

By Becky Gillespie

Did you know that we still have Wednesday and Friday night dinners available at the post? The menu has changed a bit and we have different specials each night. Based on ordering volume, requests, and cost, some changes to the menus were needed.

Some of the changes in effect are that we won't be serving the specials as "buffet style". All meals are being plate served. The specials will not have a reduced "kids" price. We are also now serving off of the menu for Wednesday nights as well as the specials with the exception that we will not have baked cod available on Wednesday night. We will no longer be rotating/varying the 5th Wednesday & Friday special options (if there are 5 weeks in a month, the Week 5 special is in effect.)

If you happen to forget what the main menu items are or what the specials of each week are, you can view the menu on the VFW 5040 website. Also, check the calendar in each month of the *VFW News* for specials each Wednesday and Friday night.

Below is are the specials being served each night. Give it a try some night for a change.

(Clip out the below reminder and put on the fridge)

VFW 5040 dinner specials

Wednesday Night Specials

WEEK 1:	Italian Beef w/french fries	\$6.00
	Mostacolli w/garlic bread	\$6.00
WEEK 2:	Prime Rib (10 oz cut)	\$10.00
WEEK 3:	Swiss Steak	\$8.00
	Pork Chop	\$8.00
WEEK 4:	Teriyaki Chicken	\$8.00
	Ham	\$8.00
WEEK 5:	Beef Stroganoff	\$8.00

Friday Night Specials

WEEK 1:	Salmon Loaf	\$8.00
WEEK 2:	Chicken Bake	\$8.00
WEEK 3:	Meat Loaf	\$8.00
WEEK 4:	Lasagna w/garlic bread	\$8.00
WEEK 5:	Beef Stroganoff	\$8.00

In addition to the specials, soup and salad bar are available. Main menu items are also available.

VFW Post 5040 - Post Officers 2006 - 2007

Commander	William Lyford	(815)-337-0025
Senior Vice Commander	Henry Nulle	(815)-337-7529
Junior Vice Commander	Fred Noble	(815)-338-5655
Quartermaster	Thom Gillespie	(815)-338-6826
Chaplain	Howard Engstrom	(815)-338-4453
Assistant Chaplain	Charles (Chuck) Mathey	(815)-338-5374
Service Officer	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	n/a	n/a
1 Year Trustee	Allen Belcher	(815)-338-7689
2 Year Trustee	Arnie Doerfert	(815)-385-2923
3 Year Trustee	Larry Dhom	(815)-338-4134

Ladies Auxiliary to VFW Post 5040 Post Officers 2006 - 2007

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	Lois Freund	(815)-338-5261
2 Year Trustee	Margaret Webb	(815)-338-4213
3 Year Trustee	Marie Salyers	Unavailable

Ladies Auxiliary - from the president

By Nyda Fogarty, President 2006-2007

Well another year has come to a close. The National Convention will be held this year in Reno, Nevada the last week of August.

The Auxiliary held their own installation of officers at their meeting on June 1st. The officers are the same with the exception of the new trustee's for the coming year. They are: One year: Lois Freund; two year: Margaret Webb and three year: Marie Salyers.

Dues for this coming year of \$15.00 are now being accepted by the Treasurer Barb Gehrke.

Please send them in the mail either to her or to me. Do not mail them to the Post. These dues are for 2006-2007. If you have not paid dues for the previous year you will be dropped from membership.

Don Sword stands beside the mowers that were raffled off on Memorial Day, May 29. Only 500 tickets were sold for this raffle. First place prize was a Sears Craftsman riding mower (valued at \$2,200), second place prize was a Sears Craftsman push mower (valued at \$139), and third place prize were two Cubs tickets behind home plate. The mowers were donated to the Post through a friend of Sword's that is a Sear's executive. (Matt Klos photo.)

✠ Chaplains report ✠

By Howard Engstrom

Phone / Cards:

- John Hauri family
- Carl Greenleaf family
- Jerald Kehe family
- Robert McConkey family
- Mel Ritter family

Personal Visits:

- Ray Benoy - hospital
- Roger Behm - home & hospital
- Clarence Peters - home
- Mel Ritter - wake

Draped Charter:

- John Hauri
- Carl Greenleaf
- Jerald Kehe
- Robert McConkey



My First VFW State Convention

By Thom Gillespie, VFW 5040 Commander 2005-2006

It is Monday evening as I write this having just returned from my first VFW State Convention. As many of you know, I was an officer of the Loyal Order of Moose 1329 for six years. The first two I just sat back and watched and learned. The last four I tried to bring them back in line with their own rules, but there were too many people making money off the Moose Lodge to want to change. I became the Junior Vice Commander when we lost the entire upper command structure at one meeting so I did not have the opportunity to sit back and learn. I just did my best knowing that there was no other willing.

I went into the VFW convention thinking it would be very similar to the Moose conventions I had been to. I was very pleasantly surprised. There were only three things I didn't like about the meetings.

(1) There was a political candidate who I felt only gave a standard mud slinging political speech that had nothing to do with the VFW.

(2) After losing the vote on raising dues the outgoing Senior Vice berated the delegates for not caring about veterans services. I understand where he's coming from and I am guilty of the same offense.

(3) The voting system doesn't seem fair; one delegate gets to vote the entire post strength instead of one delegate = one vote.

One notable item as a take away from the convention was that the new Department of Illinois Commander Matt Claussen wants every post to hold a fundraiser that would replace the \$6 per capita fee that was voted down at the convention. For us that would be approximately \$3,000 for this year.

Overall though, it was a good experience. The hospitality rooms were better organized and friendlier; at Moose conventions they all just turn into drunk fests. I liked the way 70% of the convention was dedicated to recognizing the people and posts that went above and beyond in their efforts to promote the values of the VFW and to help our veterans in need.

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Remembering VFW member Carl Greenleaf

By Don Peasley

Carl Greenleaf, a World War II veteran who had the uneasy distinction of serving in both the European and Pacific Theaters of war, is remembered by many as an outstanding school official.

Greenleaf, member of the Woodstock VFW, was 80 when he died May 28 at Memorial Medical Center. He worked at the former Hillcrest Elementary School in Hoffman Estates for 18 years during a 30-year teaching career.

His son, Mark, described his Dad's impact on students: "He took advantage of his responsibility as principal to provide a positive influence on individual children. He did this by choosing the right staff and the best curriculum materials. He enjoyed influencing teaching and learning at the elementary level."

Bob Hanlon, principal at Hillcrest where Greenleaf taught, said Greenleaf's positive attitude affected others around him.

"They emulated Carl's patient listening skills," Hanlon said.

Mark shared a comment from a former student at Hillcrest School, James Edstrom. Edstrom was a student from 1967 to 1974 and told Mark, "Your father was the kindest, most decent gentleman and he always seemed to be smiling. I remember him from my first day at kindergarten because I was supposed to walk home by myself and could not remember the way.

"When your father saw that I was upset he called my mother and made sure I got home safely. I remember him inviting me to his office a few times to play because he knew I was having trouble being accepted by other children. After all these years he's still a role model of everything an educator should be."

Jim Edstrom is an associate professor at Harper College today.

After graduating from Waukegan Township High School, Carl enlisted in the U.S. Army in 1943. As a section sergeant he was in charge of two heavy mortar squads. His infantry division was involved in major combat operations, fighting their way across Germany during the liberation of Europe.

Fighting their way eastward Carl's unit reached Cologne, crossed the Rhine at Bonn and moved to the southern Ruhr Valley, industrial heart of Germany. Carl's division, the 86th, was ordered to split the German forces in the Ruhr Valley. It met strong resistance.

The 86th division fought eastward, crossing the Danube River and reached St. Georgen in Austria.

While in St. Georgen, V-J Day was announced. The division was given a 30-day leave in Mannheim and returned to France. The men traveled through Paris but were not allowed to disembark to look at the city.

Assignment to the Pacific Theater followed. At an area near Manila, Carl's division became the largest military force on the Philippine Islands, placed in charge of prisoner of war camps. His unit was deployed in the Philippines to subdue remnants of the Japanese army. He was discharged in 1946 and was recipient of the Bronze Star.

Mark said while his father had not been a longtime member of the Woodstock VFW, he did take interest in the services of the Post and told Mark a few weeks before his death he hoped he'd be able to attend the 60th Anniversary on April 29. Failing health ruined that ambition, and he died a month after that anniversary. Immediate cause of his death was a blow to his head after a fall.

Survivors include a son, Mark (June) Greenleaf; five grandchildren, David Greenleaf, Andrew Greenleaf, April (George) Anderson, Adam Milbratz and Kristin Schramer; two stepsisters, Mary Gordon and Marcia (Jerry) Lloyd; and nephews, nieces and cousins. He also is survived by many friends.



2006-2007 VFW Commander Bill Lyford (L) and Charlie Mathey (R) fold the American Flag, retiring the Colors as they are replaced by a new American flag presented to Woodstock Mayor Dr. Brian Sager from Moose Lodge Governor Jerry Slack. (Matt Klos photo).



The VFW Post 5040 rifle squad fires a volley of three shots in saluting the fallen soldiers on Memorial Day. (Matt Klos photo.)

TLS to raffle car and cash prizes

Transitional Living Service (TLS) of Hebron is hosting a raffle. Alan Belcher, past Commander of the VFW and President of TLS, is selling the raffle tickets. TLS is an organization which helps educate, train, and provides shelter for homeless Veterans so they can get back on their feet as productive members of society. The drawing for this raffle is Saturday, October 21, 2006 and will take place at the Woodstock Moose Family Center. Only **3,000** tickets will be sold; **\$25.00 each ticket**. Prizes are as follows:

Grand Prize: 2007 Dodge Caliber SXT, valued at \$17,500.

Provided by Benoy Motors, Woodstock, IL

Ten (10) Prizes: \$200 each Ten (10) Prizes: \$100 each

Grand Prize Ticket Seller: \$100

Early Bird Drawing (August 4, 2006): \$1,000

See Allen Belcher for tickets. VFW Post 5040 is also selling tickets.

My last letter as commander

By Thom Gillespie, VFW 5040 Commander 2005-2006

This is my last letter to the newsletter as Commander. Everyone has their own reasons for joining the VFW. Everyone has their own ideas of what is important in their lives. Everyone has 24 hours every day to spend as they wish.

I have to sell 40 – 50 hours each week to pay my mortgage and feed my family. Like Sid before me it seems every time I come to the VFW someone thinks I am working; the VFW is important to me but it is not my life. I need to be able to relax; if I cannot do it here I will do it elsewhere.

We all have the need for food and shelter. We all spend our 24 hours to pay for food and shelter for our families. Most of us have to sell our time to someone else who determines how much that time is

worth.

Some of us, having done that for 30 or 40 years, are in poor health with few prospects for increasing the amount of benefits received. Some because of injury or illness have no recourse at all. The VFW is a volunteer driven organization. Without members volunteering to help however, this organization will die.

During my time as commander I have heard from many different people that someone would like to help if they were asked. I have asked at most of the meetings for someone to step up and do something. Usually I get no takers. When I do get someone to take on whatever job I need done, it is one of the very involved older members taking on even more responsibility. There are a lot of members out there who would like to help but very few who want to lead.

I was a Sergeant in the Marine Corps and after 10 years I returned to civilian life because I didn't like what I saw our illus-

trious leaders doing and had no desire to become a Staff Sergeant. I feel like I took on too much responsibility when I became Commander of Post 5040. I made my share of bad decisions. I have walked out of meetings angry with myself and the general attitude I saw around me.

Think about why you joined the VFW...is that reason still valid? Is the VFW still important to you? What can you do to help steer this post in the right direction? This is the largest post in the 5th District. Why are we not more involved in District functions? I am not Solomon the Wise; I cannot know what the right thing to do is all the time. All I can do is what feels right to me.

I am going to be getting more involved with 5th District and with the Marine Corps League. I still think a combined veterans building owned by a combined corporation is the best way to move on but it is up to the almost 500 members in good standing to decide.

For our post leadership

By Matt Klos, VFW News Editor

With the jump into July, we usher in the new leadership at VFW Post 5040. On page 2 of the VFW News, you can see who our new leaders are for both the VFW and Auxiliary.

Before the last years officers are forgotten, on behalf of the Post membership I would like to thank all the officers who were part of our leadership for the last year. You did as best of job you could have given the current status of our Post, the issues with membership, the lack of help in situations, etc. You dedicated valuable time in thankless situations. You hung in there for the duration. You are to be commended for this dedication to our Post.

With the new leadership officially taking office July 1, some of you are very familiar with the positions you have been elected to. Some of you have served in one or more of these leadership positions in the past. Here you are again.

With the coming year, existing problems have been passed to you to deal with and hopefully resolve. The Post members have entrusted that you will lead the Post in the right direction and will make the right decisions to promote patriotism, service to our community, youth and families, and of course service to veterans.

But you alone are not the only ones that are expected to fulfill these goals. There are nearly 500 members that should be supporting you in the coming year. All of us should, one way or another, be supporting our Post. It's a new year, a new beginning. If we weren't able to do anything to help out last year, maybe we can make the commitment this year to help out our Post this year. This can be very tough to do, especially for some people. However, each member has to evaluate themselves what they can do to help. Do you want to sit on the sidelines and watch the game, wishing things would go this way or that, or do you want to get in the game and actually make things happen? It's your choice and your Post.

Trustee's Report of Audit of				
The books & records of the Quartermaster & Adjutant of 5th Dist. POST 5040				
Department of ILLINOIS for the Quarter ending June 31, 2006				
FISCAL Quarter >>>	May			
POST 5040	Start of Qtr	QTR In	QTR Out	End of Qtr
1. Nat & Dept Dues	1,214.50			1,214.50
2. Admin or App Fees	-889.00		150.00	-1,039.00
3. POST Gen Fund	6,573.25	730.00	7,501.24	-197.99
4. POST Relief Fund	3,138.40	2,134.66	219.38	5,053.68
5. Post Dues Reserve Fund	2,447.26	10.00		2,457.26
6. Post HOME Fund	-7,082.96	3,196.40	3,500.65	-7,387.21
7. New Building Fund	15,599.03	185.00		15,784.03
8. Fly Flag Book Fund	2,041.46	67.00	477.65	1,630.81
9. Memorial Day Fund	2,256.25	955.50	924.16	2,287.59
10. Other in Post Account	-696.12	2,828.25	589.59	1,542.54
11. Color Guard	500.00			500.00
12. Rifle Squad (Honor Guard)	2,163.64	78.00		2,241.64
13. Post Bar / CANTEEN Acct.	477.25	9,026.98	8,902.73	601.50
14. Pull Tab Account IL. LISC. P-0839	515.59	300.00		815.59
15. Savings Account Interest	104.46			104.46
16. Raffel Account	1,526.90	2,555.00		4,081.90
Totals:	29,889.91	22,066.79	22,265.40	29,691.30
Post AND Savings Total	27,265.71	10,184.81	13,362.67	24,087.85
Operations		Reconciliation of Fund & Account Balances		
Have required payroll deductions been made?	Yes	Savings Acct	23104.50	23,104.50
Tax Payments been made to ST. & Fed?	Yes	Canteen Bar	3821.95	1,318.42
Sales Taxes collected & PAID?	Yes	Post Acct	3686.75	1,010.89
Club employees bonded?	some	Pull Tab Acct	1115.59	815.59
Amount of outstanding bills?	\$ -	Raffel Acct	3441.90	3,441.90
Value of Real Estate?	\$ 657,000.00	Uncleared checks	5,479.39	0.00
Amount of Liability Insurance?	\$ 2,000,000.00	\$ 0.00	Quicken Total	29,691.30
Owed on Mortgages & Loans?	\$ -		Bank Total	29,691.30
Trustee's & Commander's Certificate of Audit				

July 2006

☆☆☆☆☆☆ 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
2	3 Memorial Day Committee 7 pm Little League 7 pm Girls Softball ?? pm	4  Independence Day	5 Wednesday Dinner Specials - Mostacholi w/Garlic Bread (\$6) or Italian Beef w/French Fries (\$6) 5 - 8 pm	6 VFW Ladies Auxiliary Meeting 7 pm	7 Friday Dinner Special: Salmon Loaf (\$8) 5 - 8 pm	8
9	10 VFW Officers Mtg. 7 pm American Legion 7:30 pm	11 VFW Board Mtg. 7pm Dirtt Group 7 pm	12 Wednesday Dinner Specials - Prime Rib - 10 oz cut (\$10) 5 - 8 pm Cub Scouts - ?? pm	13	14 Friday Dinner Special: Chicken Bake (\$8) 5 - 8 pm	15
16	17 VFW Meeting 6:30 pm - Dinner (VFW Members Only) 7:30 pm - Floor meeting. Deadline for August 2006 VFW News items	18 Dirtt Group 7 pm	19 Wednesday Dinner Specials - Swiss Steak (\$8) or Pork Chops (\$8) 5 - 8 pm Veterans Assistance Commission of McHenry County 7:30 pm	20 Marines 7 pm Marines Auxiliary 7 pm	21 Friday Dinner Special: Meat Loaf (\$8) 5 - 8 pm	22
23	24 Little League 7 pm	25 VFW Board Mtg. 7:00 pm Jaycees 7 pm Dirtt Group 7 pm	26 Wednesday Dinner Specials - Ham (\$8) or Teriyaki Chicken (\$8) 5 - 8 pm	27	28 Friday Dinner Special: Lasagna (\$8) 5 - 8 pm	29
30	30	1 Dirtt Group 7 pm	2 Wednesday Dinner Specials - Mostacholi w/Garlic Bread (\$6) or Italian Beef w/French Fries (\$6) 5 - 8 pm	3 VFW Ladies Auxiliary Meeting 7 pm	4 Friday Dinner Special: Salmon Loaf (\$8) 5 - 8 pm	5



From the editors desk - final thoughts. By Matt Klos, VFW News Editor

Hello to everyone. I know this issue is late getting to everyone and I apologize for this. It's been a busy summer so far. Some quick notes that didn't have enough room: (1) we have a booth at the McHenry County Fair. Sign up at the Post to fill a spot to man the booth. Fair dates are Aug 2-6. (2) August 18-20 - Veteran's Appreciation Week in Harvard (www.harvard150.com) Traveling Vietnam Wall, WWII reenactment, more. (3) Brat Fest coming in August at our Post on Aug 20. (4) Want a simple way to display you are a vet on your car? See: (www.vetsignia.org) ☺☺☺☺☺☺☺☺☺☺

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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)-382-4593

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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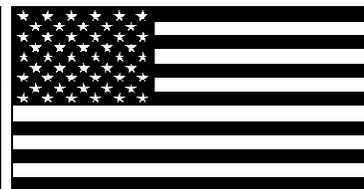
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