



# VFW News

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Woodstock VFW Post 5040 and Auxiliary

## Veterans Day at VFW Post 5040

By Matt Klos

VFW Post 5040 conducted its Veterans Day Ceremony outside in the VFW parking lot on Sunday, November 11. Between 150 to 200 people gathered to watch and listen to the speakers and presentation.

Recognized at the beginning of the ceremony were Woodstock Mayor Brian Sager, VFW Post Officers, Ladies Auxiliary President, Past Commanders, and the MIA Table Setting with Denny Burrs standing guard.

Unique this year was an American flag retirement ceremony. Illinois State Bank recently held a flag collection program in which worn and tattered flags were gathered and would be presented to VFW Post 5040 on Veterans Day.

Boy Scouts from Pack 158 presented

the flags. The Scouts had prepared the flags for retirement and will earn a badge for their involvement in the effort.

"This is the first year Illinois State Bank and the Boy Scouts are participating in the VFW's Veterans Day ceremony and we are glad to have them be involved," said Michael David, commander of VFW Post 5040.

Amber Frantz, marketing manager and assistant vice president for Illinois State Bank, said this year's collection netted dozens of worn flags for eventual retirement.

"We are pleased to know that so many people respect the flag and want to appropriately dispose of their damaged flags," she said. "It's great to have the community, VFW Post 5040 and the Boy Scouts take part in this important effort."

The Webelos from Cub Scout Pack 158 who participated in the flag ceremony were: Jacob Anderson, A.J. Boesen, Joshua Cline, David Deemer, Erik Freiman, Patrick Greenwood (father is currently serving in the Navy stationed in Baghdad, Iraq), Aaron Heatherington, Tom Laurie, Nicholas Pilafas, Joey Puccini, Alex Svihlik, Sean Swalve, Nevin Wood. Leaders and Assistants attending: Bruce Deemer, Eric Anderson, Dave Re-kusek, Pat Wood (Marine Reservist), Jean and Fabio Puccini, and Marilee Laurie.

After the flags were turned over to the VFW, several students read essays on "Veterans Day". Kellie Smith, Kellie Phelan, and Martin Chakkalamuri.

Speakers from different veterans organizations and the Mayor followed, also giving a short talk on what Veterans Day meant to them.

From the Marine Corps League, Herb Zabroski; American Legion Post 412, Bill Urch; Viet Now, Tony Bills; Amvets, Don Stage; VFW Post 5040, Ralph Ritter; Woodstock Mayor, Brian Sager.

After the closing prayer by Howard Engstrom, the Rifle Squad fired a salute and Taps was played by bugler Bob Schroeder.

**Veterans Day pictures, Turkey Raffle dinner pictures and more inside!**

*On behalf of The VFW Post 5040 Officers, Ladies Auxiliary, and staff, I want to wish everyone a "Happy Holidays". It's a special time of year for many people in our community to be thankful for what they have, people helping out those in need, and remembering what this season is all about.*

*During this time, I'd like each of you to take a few minutes out of your busy schedules to remember our service members and families, those who are serving overseas and those in our community. If you know of a military family that is finding that this time of year puts a strain on things at home and making ends meet, let them know that there is help through the VFW, anonymously at that. We'd be glad to help out.*

*With that, Happy Holidays to you all and I wish you a wonderful year in 2008!*

*Yours in Comradeship,*

*VFW Post 5040*

*Commander*

*Michael David*

## Attention Snow Birds

If you are one of our members that travel to warmer climates during this chilly time of year, please make sure that you update the editor of the *VFW News*, Matt Klos, with the address of where you will be for the next several months. If you don't, you may have an interruption of the newsletter delivery to wherever you are at.

I have already gotten a few returns from the Post Office of several addresses that are "Temporarily Away" and have since removed them from the mailing list until they contact me with an updated address.



**VFW Post 5040 required to be smoke free**

**January 1, 2008**

Office of the Governor  
Press Release July 23, 2007

Governor Blagojevich signs legislation making Illinois smoke-free; drastically reduces the risk of second-hand smoke for workers and the public. Senate Bill 500 bans smoking in public places statewide and goes into effect January 1, 2008.

People may still smoke in their homes, cars, outdoors, private nursing home rooms, home offices not open to the public, retail tobacco shops, and certain hotel or motel rooms.

Smokers that violate the law by smoking at indoor public places can be fined between \$100 and \$250.

**Establishments that violate the law can be charged an amount between \$100 and \$250 for the first violation and a minimum of \$250 for a second violation within a year. Subsequent violations within a year of the first violation will cost establishments at least \$2,500.**

**VFW Post 5040****Post Officers 2007 - 2008**

Commander	Mike David	(815)-338-5341
Senior Vice Commander	Fred Noble	(815)-338-5655
Junior Vice Commander	Mike Lackey	(815)-337-8255
Quartermaster	Ralph Ritter	(815)-338-5018
Chaplain	Howard Engstrom	(815)-338-4453
Chaplain Asst.	Pete Lockinger	(815)-338-6449
Service Officer	Ted Biever	(815)-338-9292
Judge Advocate	Dick Glawe	(815)-385-3156
Post Surgeon	Harold Irwin	(815)-338-1264
Officer-of-the-Day	Denny Burrs	(815)-338-7014
Adjutant	Alan Belcher	(815)-338-7689
1 Year Trustee	Arnie Doerfert	(815)-385-2923
2 Year Trustee	Larry Dhom	(815)-338-4134
3 Year Trustee	Brian Ritter	(815)-276-4802

**Ladies Auxiliary to****VFW Post 5040****Post Officers 2007 - 2008**

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	Geraldine Salyers	(815)-337-3770
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	Rose Mary Hellstern	(815)-338-0653

**Board of Directors 2007 - 2008**

President	Bud Porter	(815)-338-4781
Vice President	Hank Enstrom	(815)-337-5856
Treasurer	Ralph Ritter	(815)-338-5018
Director	Charley Mathey	(815)-338-5374
Director	Bob Gibson	(815)-338-4142
Director	Russ Freeman	(815)-338-3414
Director	Don Sullivan	(815)-653-3298
Director	Don Sword	(815)-338-0068
Director	Mike David	(815)-338-5341
Club Manager	Becky Gillespie	(815)-338-6826

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**Ladies Auxiliary  
from the President**

By Nyda Fogarty, President 2007-2008

If you have not paid your dues for this current year, please do so by December 31. The list who owe yet is quite long. It is only \$15.00 to renew. Please send payments to Treasurer Barb Gehrke.

Our Christmas party and dinner will be on Thursday, December 6 at 6:00 pm. Chris Gehrke is the Chairman. Bring a dish to pass as meat will be furnished. There will be \$5.00 grab bag gift exchange and bring some wrapped white elephants for game prizes. If you are present and your dues is paid up for this year you will be eligible for a drawing of three free dues to be given for this next year. Only members of the Auxiliary may attend the party.

I want to thank the ladies who brought pies to the Veterans Day dinner.

The Past President's Christmas dinner get-together will be on Thursday, December 13. Meet at the Post at 6:15 pm and we will depart at 7:00 pm for a restaurant. Bring a \$5.00 wrapped gift for exchange. For reservation or information you may call me at 815-338-1759.

Well, another year will soon be over and I wish everyone the best of Health and Happiness in this coming year of 2008.

**Hank Nulle, 80, dies**

By Don Peasley

Behind his community leadership in a host of organizations, Henry Nulle was a man who enjoyed joking and teasing.

"That was his sign of affection," recalled Nancy Fike as she reflected on Henry and Alice Nulle's years of devotion in support of the McHenry County Historical Society.

Community-wide tributes quickly showed up following news of Nulle's death Thanksgiving morning, Thursday, November 22. Woodstock VFW and American Legion, McHenry County Sheriff's Department and Masonic Lodge all paid tribute to the former McHenry County sheriff at the visitation Monday night, November 26.

Woodstock and VFW Auxiliary members provided Honor Guard participants. Many of them are longtime members who recall Nulle's years of service at both the VFW and American Legion.

VFW Chaplain Howard Engstrom led a prayer during the visitation. Honor Guard members at the visitation included Bill Lyford, Commander; Larry Dhom, Bob Gibson, Dave Grote, Dick Glawe, Harold Irwin, Charles Mathey, Ron Nehls, Fred Noble, Jerry Riley, Bruce Shishler and Don Sword. Bugler Bob Schroeder played Taps following Engstrom's prayer.

Following the funeral on Tuesday, November

**† Chaplains report †**

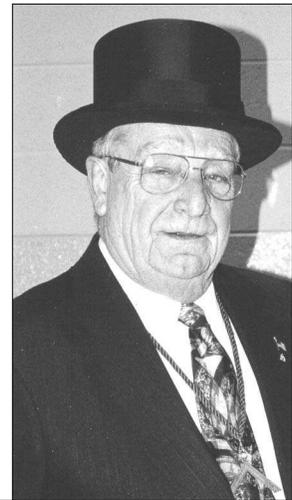
By Howard Engstrom, Chaplain

**Personal visits:**

Gene Kuhn (Crystal Pines)  
Erwin Schultze (Crystal Pines)  
Ken Neubery (Fair Oaks)  
Hank Nulle (Memorial Hospital)

**Cards and Phone calls:**

Arvid Widmayer  
Dick Stolzke (Art Brother)  
Ray Benoy and Ron Benoy  
Ed Lange  
Jack Fish  
Hank Nulle



Hank Nulle in 2004 (Don Peasley photo.)

27, Rifle Squad members fired three volleys followed by Taps. After the flag was folded, Lyford presented it to Alice Nulle, Henry's wife of 51 years.

He served in the U.S. Navy in the Pacific Theater from October 1944 to October 1948. He was aboard an amphibious ship and three other ships in that area during and after World War II.

Nulle served on the Little League Board, 1968-1970, as player agent 1969-1970 and as an umpire for four years. He was a quiet, effective umpire who earned the respect of players and managers with the dignity he approached his responsibilities.

Professionally, he was employed in the McHenry County Sheriff's Department for 33 years. He worked his way through the ranks from radioman and became sheriff in 1980. He was re-elected in 1982 and retired at the conclusion of that four-year term.

He served as VFW Commander during the year of the VFW's 50th anniversary in 1996. He was Senior Vice Commander in 2006, assisting Commander Bill Lyford in improving the service to members. He was Junior Vice Commander of the American Legion last year.

## VFW Post 5040 member denied job position back after taking military leave

By Matt Klos

Captain Anne Brophy is an Army Reservist and also a member of VFW Post 5040. Recently a complaint was filed on Brophy's behalf by Illinois Operation Home Front with the Illinois Attorney General's Office indicating that she was not given her job back after returning from a military leave of absence that occurred in 2006.

Brophy is a member of the Army Reserve. She served a tour in Kuwait and Iraq from March 2003 to August 2003. Since returning, she has served on military humanitarian missions in Panama, El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras. In 2006, CPT Brophy was assigned as the JAG and J4 for the 416th Engineer Command military humanitarian effort in Peru called Task Force Puma, which is part of New Horizons Missions. There the Task Force built schools, a medical clinic, and dug three wells. The Task Force was able to host three medical units to provide treatment to the poor and needy. This was a joint training effort between the Army, Navy Seabees, and Air Force. The mission was considered a hardship tour due to lack of personnel and conditions in Peru. As a result of this mission, CPT Brophy received an Army Commendation Medal, her third award in her eight and 1/2 years in the Army.

Before the trip to South America, Anne was employed by McHenry County State's Attorney's Office and served as a prosecutor for the office. Her many years with the Attorney's Office enabled her to reach the level of felony prosecutor. In the late summer of 2006, she notified the Office that she would be taking an extended military leave of absence.

According to the law in Illinois, "Private and public sector employees in Illinois...who leave work to enter the military service (active duty or training) must be restored to their former positions with the same increases in status, seniority and wages that were earned during the term of military service by employees in like positions, or to a position of like seniority, status and pay, under certain conditions."

After Anne returned from serving in Peru, she was transferred to juvenile court, which is not the same as her previous position of felony prosecutor. According to Anne, she considers juvenile court a start-

ing position. Although her salary remained the same, her job status changed. Due to this change in status, Anne indicated that she quit to practice law with a private firm.

In a column from the Northwest Herald on this matter, Brophy said, "When I returned, I was not offered my old position back. I wasn't given an explanation for the change."

The Northwest Herald contacted the McHenry County State's Attorney Louis Bianchi's office, of which Brophy worked for. Bianchi said Brophy was shifted to juvenile court on a temporary basis to cover for a prosecutor who took medical leave. However, Brophy was never offered her previous position back. The office, knowing Brophy's return date, hired someone into the last open felony position a week before her return.

The Daily Herald contacted Brophy who agreed to share the events which happened to her because she was not the only state's attorney employee who found themselves in the same situation. A similar instance occurred to McHenry County Assistant State's Attorney Phil Reiman who is also a combat vet. He recently asked to attend a school where he would be gone for two to three months and was then transferred to juvenile court. The matter is now pending with the Illinois Attorney General's Veteran's Rights Unit.

## VFW member receives Bronze Stars from WWII

By Don Peasley

Jerry Donahue, a gunner and bombardier on the B25 Mitchell during World War II, participated in 54 missions throughout the Bismarck Archipelago, China, New Guinea and Philippines. The Squadron received an air medal for its number of missions, and crew members earned the Bronze Star.

On a visit to Donahue Furniture Store earlier this year, Jim Keefe learned Dona-

**Reminder: Don't give blood now; give it on January 20, 2008 and come for breakfast!**



Your community blood service since 1943.

As a reminder, VFW Post 5040 will be holding a blood drive at the VFW towards the end of January. VFW Chairman of this event, John Mencotti, is taking over the event from Sid Sherwin this year.

John stated at the November VFW meeting that he is looking for volunteers to help cook up breakfast that day as well as tending bar.

The schedule right now is to hold the drive and breakfast from 8 am - 12 pm. Beginning in January, appointments will be taken. Look for more information in next months newsletter.

hue had earned four Bronze Stars but never received them. With a copy of Donahue's DD 214, he requested the Bronze Stars from the Veterans Administration.

In late October he received those Bronze Stars and in a surprise presentation on the Square he gave Donahue a framed display of his ribbons, his campaign medals and Bronze Stars. Donahue recalled serving as a tail gunner and bombardier in a crew of six on the B25—pilot, co-pilot, navigator, turret gunner, radioman and tail gunner.

Donahue went on active duty January 7, 1943 and served until October 9, 1945. The Donahue family moved to Woodstock in 1950 when Gerald established Donahue Furniture on Calhoun Street.

Donahue quickly became active in the Woodstock community and was president of the board of directors of Easter Seal Therapy Center in the mid-1950s.



Jim Keefe (right) surprises Gerald Donahue, World War II veteran, with a plaque incorporating his four Bronze Stars received while a B25 tail gunner in the Pacific War Theater. Keefe obtained the Bronze Stars from the Veterans Administration. Norman Lehocky (left) joined in the presentation on the Woodstock Square. Donahue's squadron also received the Air Medal. Donahue participated in 54 combat missions. (Don Peasley photo.)

## SSGT Joseph returns to Post to say thanks after 2nd tour in Iraq

By Matt Klos

Matt Joseph came into the Post on Sunday, November 18. Matt is a Staff Sergeant in the Marine Corps and stationed at camp Lejeune, NC. One of the primary reasons for coming to the Post on Sunday was to thank both the Midwest Antique and Classic Motorcycle Club (MACMC) and Woodstock VFW Post 5040 for their support.

"I just want to say, 'Thank you' for everyone's support and generosity through this whole ordeal, especially these two organizations, the VFW and MACMC."

At 28 years old, he has been through a lot in his life so far. Matt has served two tours in Iraq. The first was March 10 to October 14, 2006. The second was March 26 to October 14, 2007. Matt received the Purple Heart Medal in each tour.

Matt has spent nine and 1/2 years in the Marines and this past year he came close to losing his life. While serving with "Team Gator" as part of the Regimental Combat Team 6 in Iraq, Matt was on patrol in an Amphibious Assault vehicle traveling along a blacktopped road. Matt's vehicle had four passengers: Matt and a crew member on the left side of the vehicle in the direction of travel, two others on the right side of the vehicle. They had passed over a drainage culvert, and unknown to them, was packed with explosive to create an improvised explosive device (IED) placed there by insurgents. As their vehicle passed over, the charge was triggered and flipped the vehicle in the air. The IED created a 14'x11'x4' hole through the pavement. The point of impact twisted the armored vehicle and blew off a drive wheel/motor assembly, bulging the interior right side of the vehicle. The explosion ripped into the right side of the vehicle, sparring Matt and the other soldier on the left side, but killing the other two Marines who were sitting on the right side, above the point of impact.

To see some of the actual pictures that Matt had brought in on Sunday, showing his vehicle, the crater, and damage was an eye opener. The aftermath of looking at an expensive piece of military equipment reduced to twisted plated steel, 2" diameter bolt structures severed and knowing that the man standing next to me survived it...was amazing. It was an honor to shake the hand of the man that went through that who was "doing his job", serving in the

United States Marines. Post members and others watching the pictures displayed on the flat screen TV could get a sense of connection with what is going on with the Iraq conflict as Matt narrated through the pictures he displayed.

This past Thanksgiving, Matt had a lot to be thankful for as well as his mother and father, Lauri and Les Joseph. Having recovered from his injuries including a pinky-nail size piece of shrapnel that ripped through his ear and embedded into

his head, Matt is fortunate to be alive and thankful to be spending time with his family who live in Rockford, Illinois. Although he is headed back to active duty after the Thanksgiving holiday, Matt knows that he is welcome at the VFW Post anytime.

Mike David, VFW Commander, presented Matt Joseph with a membership form to be filled out, asking Matt to become a member of our Post even while he is on active duty.



A sign outside VFW Post 5040 welcomes SSGT Matt Joseph in a visit he made on November 18, 2007. From left, VFW Jr. Vice Commander Mike Lackey; Midwest Antique and Classic Motorcycle Club President and Matt's father, Les Joseph; SSGT Matt Joseph, past VFW 5040 Commander Sid Sherwin, and current VFW 5040 Commander Mike David. (Matt Klos photo.)



On Sunday, November 18, paperwork was filled out for two potential new members for membership into the VFW. Left is SSGT Matt Joseph of the US Marine Corps and still on active duty. Right is Daniel Regna, who served 18 years in the US Army and Army Reserve. Dan is Republican candidate for State's Attorney of McHenry County, Illinois in the February 5, 2008 primary. (Matt Klos photo.)

## Jack Fish Dinner - December 17

At the December post meeting we will be honoring Jack "John" Fish for his service to our country and his years of dedication to our VFW Post. We will be having cocktails from **5:30 till 6:30** with a **spaghetti dinner** to be served at **6:30 sharp**. The cost of the meal will be \$4.00. The Post meeting will follow, starting at 7:15 pm instead of 7pm. Please join us in saying thank-you to a man who has, over the years, given us much more than we could ever give back. If you have a "Jack tale", please come and share it with us.



# Results of Turkey Raffle dinner 2007

By Matt Klos

Another wonderful turkey raffle was pulled off again this year with the help from many people, not only by members of the post but also by the community. Chairman of this event, Fred Noble considered this a success at the VFW monthly meeting that occurred on the following Monday, November 19.

"Approximately 8,500 raffle tickets were sold in total for this event", reported Fred.

There was a fairly good return on tickets sent through the mail to all the membership. Post members also helped to sell additional books of tickets and VFW member Ray Benoy came through again this year, selling many books as he has consistently done in previous years.

The events of the night started off with mini-affle series tickets being sold, with prizes of meat packages and turkeys being won. Throughout the night, patrons came for dinner and were entertained by the commentary provided by Bob Gaylord who spun the raffle wheel and called out the winning numbers.

To ensure that no one would go hungry this night, 32 twelve pound turkeys were cooked up prior to the Saturday night dinner. It took several days of cooking and cutting to get it all prepared. Helping out to cut up the turkey's were Bob and Pat Gaylord, Ed Lumpp, Becky Gillespie, Bill Lyford, Chuck Mathey, Larry Dhom, Bob Gibson, and Don Sword.

Serving the warm plates of turkey dinner was the Woodstock Little League (WLL) team members, parents and siblings. John Barger, of the WLL said, "The kids that helped out Saturday were from the 7-8 year olds, 9-10 year old, 11-12 year old, and even two past Little League players who now play in high school. We did a pretty good job of representing all the divisions."

Helping to keep track of things were Pat Ritter and Judy David who collected series ticket money, recorded winning names of the series, and other record keeping. Don Sword helped out with announcements and tracked ticket selling. He also helped out in contacting turkey winners, purchasing of turkey prizes, and ensuring things ran smoothly.

Becky Gillespie was of course in the kitchen and spent many hours during the week cooking, preparing, and coordinating

things to make this event successful behind the scenes. There were members of the Post and WLL parents who helped to sell tickets on the floor for the mini-affles. Still others helped to clean, serve, and ensure that everyone who came had a memorable time. The bar was serving beverages with Kelly Gorham and other bartenders trying to keep pace with the orders for the night.

The night culminated with the drawing of the tickets for the three money prizes and 40 additional turkeys. The winners of the prizes were as follows: \$150, Dorthy Lindberg; \$100, Patti Niesznel; and \$50, Clancy Green. After these prizes were drawn, 40 tickets were picked out of the ticket barrel to receive a turkey each. The last turkey given away this night would be for an attendance drawing. VFW 5040 member Bud Porter's name was drawn for this.

I know there were other helpers whose names were not mentioned here, but the VFW Post 5040 says "Thank you" to you all for helping out and making this event successful. It could not have been done without the hard work of the volunteers, patrons and community that support our Post. Thanks again and we look forward to doing it all again next year.

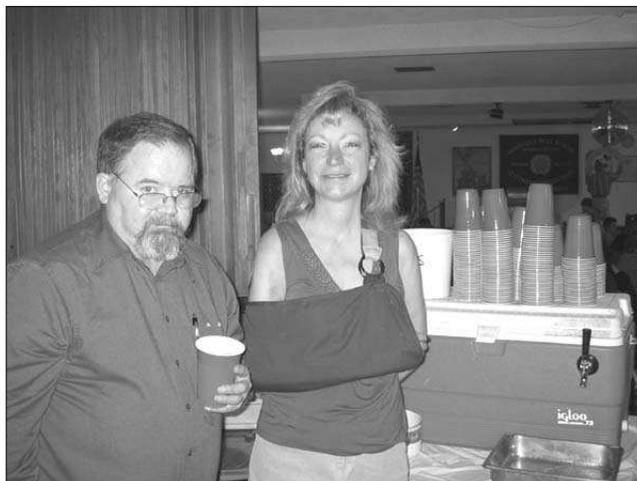
It was a packed house at the Turkey Raffle Dinner. Patrons eat dinner, talk with friends and watch paddle wheel drawings conducted throughout the night. (Matt Klos photo.)



The VFW kitchen was moving quickly to get out turkey plates to patrons in the dining room. 32 turkeys were prepared for the dinner. Foreground is Becky Gillespie, washing silverware. (Matt Klos photo.)



Bob Gaylord stands in front of the paddle wheel used for ticket drawings throughout the night. Barry Mishler reaches into the ticket cage to draw the 1st and 2nd tickets for the large money prizes given away at the Turkey Raffle Dinner. (Matt Klos photo.)



Bud Porter (left) and Anne Wojtas serve up tap beer at a side cooler in the VFW bar area to Turkey Dinner patrons. (Matt Klos photo.)

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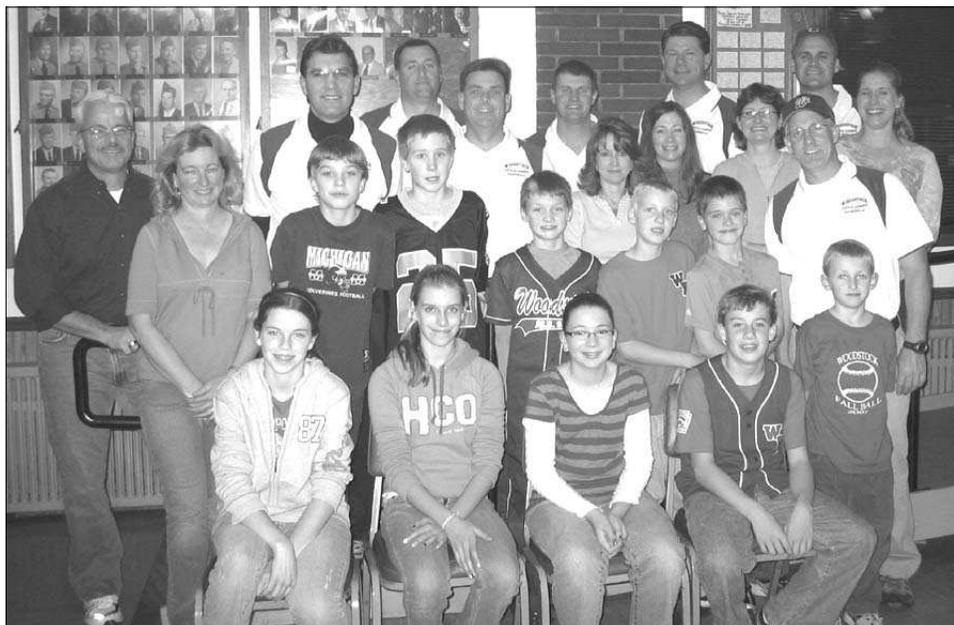
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The Woodstock Little League team members, parents and siblings did a great job of serving, clearing plates, and selling raffle tickets at the Turkey Raffle Dinner on November 17. Ball players from the 7-8 year olds, 9-10 year old, 11-12 year old, and even two past Little League players represented the Team. (Matt Klos photo.)

Front Row (left to right):  
Melanie Link, Dakota Nerland, Morgan Kunzie, Andy Layoff, Ben Chonos

Second row from front:  
John Link, Patty Link, Jamie Huntley, Tim Brandes, Mike Chonos, Troy Barger, Dillon Nerland, John Barger

Third row from front:  
Mark Huntley, Reggie Layoff, Colleen Kunzie, Liz Stroh, Mandy Chonos, Lori Nerland

Back Row:  
Darrin Chonos, Bob Stroh, Scott Kunzie, Jay Nerland

Both new boilers have been installed and are ready to provide heat to the VFW Hall and front rental property. Chuck Mathey (left) and Ralph Ritter have been working on this project since this spring, donating many, many man hours of work to remove the old boiler and install the new, more efficient boilers. We should see a major reduction in our gas bill. We will be heating the lower eating area every Friday night with the new boiler. The boiler will provide a more even heat than the furnace and it will be quieter. So if you have been staying away from Friday fish fry because you were cold, come on back. **THANKS**, guys, for using your skills and helping the Post to save a lot of money on repair and heating bills.



Helping to maintain the Post building, volunteers had to dig up the sewer line again several weeks ago. Replaced was about 45 feet of the cast iron sewer line with plastic pipe. The reason it had to be done was that the bottom of the cast iron pipe was rotted out. When rodding out the sewer to clear the line, the auger bit went into the mud and stopped. The old pipe was dug up until workers stopped seeing rotted out pipe. This was from the building towards the street. The people that worked on the project were Bernie O'Leary machine operator, Ralph Ritter bottom man, Chuck Mathey top man. Bud Porter sent two of his men over from his machine shop to help clean up. Bernie donated his machine and his time. The 5040 Club will be paying for the repairs. (Ralph Ritter photos.)



### 5040 Club donation

The 5040 Club wrote the post a check for over \$800 dollars to pay for the repair of many items. The check paid for the 45 feet of sewer that needed to be replaced due to the cast iron rotting out, the final cost for the boiler replacements, new seven day programmable thermostats with locking covers, and the rebuilding of one of the toilets upstairs. Thank you 5040 club.

### Attention advertisers:

A 2008 renewal letter will be sent out mid-December asking for your generous support in 2008 by taking an ad out in our monthly newsletter. Renewal costs will remain the same as last year. Details of the renewal and change questionnaire will be sent to each advertiser via first class mail. Please be on the lookout for this.



On Veterans Day, November 11, 2007, Boy Scouts from Pack 158 line up with American flags to be retired by the VFW Post 5040. Onlookers gather behind them in the parking lot to listen to the ceremony proceedings. (Matt Klos photo.)



Boy Scouts present American flags to be retired to VFW Post 5040 members standing in front of the flag collection box outside the entrance to the VFW Post. (Matt Klos photo.)



VFW 5040 Chaplain Howard Engstrom collects money for the ham dinner that was served after the 2007 Veterans Day Ceremony on November 11, 2007. (Matt Klos photo.)



Flag bearers stand at attention while the rifle squad fires off a volley of blanks at the closing of the Veterans Day ceremony, November 11, 2007. (Matt Klos photo.)



Seeming to be having too much fun, Larry Dhom, Bob Gibson, Chuck Mathey, and John Hansen stop for a quick photo before continuing to serve food to patrons after the Veterans Day Ceremony at the Post. (Matt Klos photo.)

Woodstock Mayor Brian Sager is served a slice of pie from VFW Ladies Auxiliary President Nyda Fogarty at the Veterans Day Ceremony lunch. (Matt Klos photo.)



# McHenry County Marine Corps League celebrates Marine Corps 232<sup>nd</sup> birthday with a celebration on November 10, 2007 at VFW Post 5040.



Herb Zabroski, Commandant of the McHenry County Marine Corps League (left), presents Congressman Don Manzullo with an American flag during the organization's 232nd birthday celebration of the founding of the Marine Corps. The celebration took place at the Woodstock VFW November 7, 2007. (Don Peasley photo.)



Members of the McHenry County Marine Corps League welcome Congressman Don Manzullo to the 232nd Marine Corps League Birthday celebration at the VFW. From left: Dick Aston, Marine Corps League Birthday celebration chairman; Lt. Col. Vic Szalankiewicz, retired; Congressman Don Manzullo, and Art Patcke, Marine Corps League member. (Don Peasley photo.)



McHenry County Marine Corps League members celebrate the Marine Corps' 232nd birthday with a traditional cake-cutting ceremony. The youngest and the oldest Marine present at the dinner presided over the cake-cutting. From left, front: Thom Gillespie, Jose Salinas, youngest Marine present; Art Patcke, oldest Marine present; and Mike Ruffner, former State Marine Corps League Commandant. Back: Ted Biever, Immediate Past Commandant; and Jerry Havens (behind Salinas and Patcke). The dinner celebration was held at the Woodstock VFW. (Don Peasley photo.)

**Happy Holidays and  
a Happy New Year  
VFW Post 5040!**

## Don Peasley's new book available: *Photos, Reflections, Memories*

Photos showing veterans' activities decades ago and photos of current personalities are among the 280 photographs in Don Peasley's new 56-page book.

*Photos, Reflections, Memories* features the dozens of people Don has photographed and worked with during 60 years as editor, writer and public relations consultant in Woodstock and McHenry County.

One of the features includes photo-

graphs of many individuals honored by a half-dozen civic organizations with special awards of recognition.

In this second book, Don also expands on his responsibilities in public relations with Memorial Hospital, Woodstock Christian Life Services, McHenry County Historical Society and several local businesses. Photos concerning veterans were provided newspapers and featured in the *Woodstock VFW News* which he started in 1955.

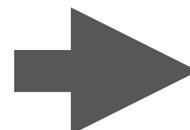
Don's photo collection has been catalogued and donated to the McHenry County Historical Society archives to preserve these historic images of McHenry County's people and activities.

This book with color cover photos is a

limited edition. It is available by contacting Peasley at (815) 338-1533 for \$20, or from the bookstore on the Square, Read Between the Lynes; also at Knuth's, Woodstock Chamber of Commerce, Thoughtfulness Shop and McHenry County Farm Bureau, also for \$20.

Peasley's first book of historic photos, *A Collection of Memories*, was published in 2006.

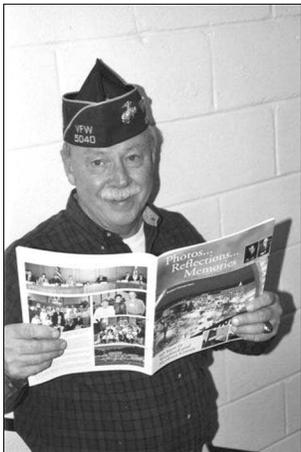
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# December 2007

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

Closed	4:00 pm - 8:00 pm	4:00 pm - 8:00 pm	4:00 pm - 8:00 pm	4:00 pm - 8:00 pm	4:00 pm - 9:00 pm	3:00 pm - 7:00 pm
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> Memorial Day Committee 7 pm Little League 7 pm Girls Softball 7 pm VFW Board Mtg. 6:30 pm	<b>4</b> Jaycees 7 pm  <i>First Day of Hanukkah</i>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> VFW Ladies Auxiliary Meeting 7 pm	<b>7</b> Friday Dinner Special: Salmon Loaf (\$8) 5 - 7:30 pm	<b>1</b>  <b>8</b> Saturday Raffle 4 pm
<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> VFW Officers Mtg. 7 pm  American Legion Post 412 7:30 pm	<b>11</b>  <i>Germany and Italy Declared War on U.S. (1941)</i>	<b>12</b>  <i>Last Day of Hanukkah</i>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> Friday Dinner Special: Prime Rib (\$12) 5 - 7:30 pm	<b>15</b> Saturday Raffle 4 pm  <i>Bill of Rights Day</i>
<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> <b>Jack Fish Dinner</b>  5:30 - 6:30 Cocktails 6:30 Dinner (\$4.00)  VFW Meeting 7:15 pm - Floor mtg. <b>Deadline for January 2008 VFW News items</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> Cub Scouts - 7 pm  Veterans Assistance Commission of McHenry County 7:00 pm	<b>20</b> Marines 7:30 pm  Marines Auxiliary 7:30 pm	<b>21</b> Friday Dinner Special: BBQ Ribs (\$10) 5 - 7:30 pm	<b>22</b>  <i>Winter Begins</i>
<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> <b>Merry Christmas</b> 	<b>26</b>  <i>Kwanzaa</i>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> Friday Dinner Special: Meat Loaf (\$8) 5 - 7:30 pm	<b>29</b> Saturday Raffle 4 pm
<b>30</b> <b>Marine Tailgate Party</b> At the VFW Post 11 am - ????	<b>31</b>  <i>Official End of WWII (1946)</i>	<b>1</b>  <b>Happy New Year 2008</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> VFW Ladies Auxiliary Meeting 7 pm	<b>4</b> Friday Dinner Special: Salmon Loaf (\$8) 5 - 7:30 pm	<b>5</b> Saturday Raffle 4 pm



Mike David looks over Don Peasley's book of "Photos, Reflections, Memories" which was published in mid-November. Several pages are devoted to veterans' activities. (Don Peasley photo.)

To order Peasley's book: *Photos, Reflections, Memories*

To order *Photos, Reflections, Memories*, please send a check for **\$20 for each book, plus \$4** postage and packaging for each book to: Don Peasley, 388 Lincoln Avenue, Woodstock, IL 60098

I would like to order \_\_\_\_\_ copy (copies) of *Photos, Reflections, Memories*.

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**If you would like to order this book as a gift, Don would be pleased to send it to the address you designate.**



# WOODSTOCK VFW NEWS

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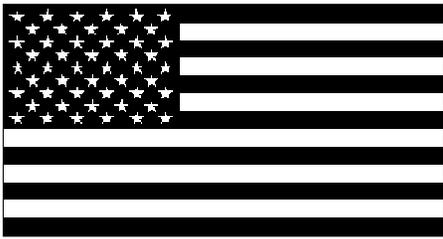
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### Post Website:

[www.vfw5040.org](http://www.vfw5040.org)




**Marine Corps League**  
McHenry County Detachment 1009

Meets every 3rd Thursday of every month, 7:30 PM  
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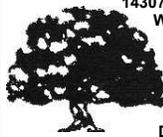
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