



Commanders Corner

Spring is coming and so are our annual elections. March marks the first nominations. I would like to invite all our members to attend the meetings during the nomination and election process. If anyone is interested in serving as a Post officer, you should attend to accept your nomination.

First Bank First and the City of Waupaca contacted me during the past month to discuss the future of a memorial on the corner of Jefferson and Fulton. This is the property we were looking at previously but with changes in city leadership and the bank's involvement we are again starting over.

Member Contact Data

To help reduce the cost of mailing, the Post would appreciate an email address for all our members who have access to email. Using email will also help us keep in contact with you while you are on vacation or migration to warmer climates.

If you are willing to provide your email address you will receive the newsletter in a timely fashion. The newsletter will be mailed using the blind copy feature that will hide your email address from everyone else.

If you would like to communicate with other post members, please contact the post at VFWP1037@outlook.com. We will contact the individual through email and if he or she agree we will forward your address to them and their address to you. **We will keep your email address as strictly confidential.**

Happening at the Highground

Through February 17, 2020 The Highground will be hosting a Holiday Lights exhibit. The next published event will occur May 24th.

Community Involvement

Scholarships: The scholarships for 2020 have been received. The committee will be selecting the individual awardees from Waupaca and Iola-Scandinavia High School in March.

Membership: Post membership information

<u>This year</u>	<u>Prior year</u>	<u>Percent</u>
124	128	96.88%

The Department of Wisconsin has requested that members carry a membership application with them to offer to veterans that they encounter in their day to day activities. The post will pay for a new member's first year for an annual application or pay \$50.00 toward a lifetime membership.

Thank you for your Participation

Lambeau Field Concessions: Thank you to all who participated in the Lambeau Field Concession stand for the 2019 football season. In February we held a recognition party at the Post home for them. A big thank you to MaryKay Hills of the Auxiliary for all the hard work of organizing, tracking, preparing, accounting, and clean-up of the stand.

Wisconsin Veterans Application Website

Would you like to have **Veteran** on your state driver's license? The state of Wisconsin will put veteran on your driver's license if you wish. You just need to see your County Veterans Service Office for assistance in applying. You may also register with the Wisconsin Dept of Veterans Affairs at <https://applications.dva.wisconsin.gov>. The website can also be used to apply for other **state** veterans' benefits.



Pictures of Members

We like to publish pictures of our members when they are supporting local events such as the salvation bell ringing or participating in post activities like our small post meeting Christmas party.

If you have pictures of yourself or other members helping or supporting a veteran event, such as an honor flight, please send them to us at vfwpost1037@outlook.com. We would love to include the picture in our newsletter and share your experience with our members.

Celebration of Lives

TAPS: The Honor Team conducted funeral honors for the following veterans in December and January.

Frederick C. Bartz	Army AF	WWII
Robert F. Bochenek	Army	Vietnam
James Denison	Army	Vietnam
* Irving F. Hajeck	Army	Korea
Gary G. Henning	Army	Vietnam
Lowell D. Prellwitz	Army	P.T.
Bruce W. Stevens	Army	Korea
* Martin V. Van Gompel	Army	Vietnam

* Member of Post 1037

Any member wishing to participate in the Honor Guard may contact the Honor Guard Commander, Dick Morey.

From the Service Officer

Blue Water Navy Benefits

Blue water Navy (BWN) benefits are now being adjudicated by the VA. If you suffer from a presumptive disability related to exposure to herbicide issue but were denied by the VA previously due to not having documentation you had stepped on the ground of Vietnam, you may now apply for benefits. The presumptive disabilities are:

- ✓ Acute and Subacute Peripheral Neuropathy: Must be at least 10% disabling within 1 year of exposure to Agent Orange and resolve within 2 years after the date it began.
- ✓ AL Amyloidosis
- ✓ Chloracne (or similar Acneiform Disease): Must be at least 10% disabling within 1 year of exposure to Agent Orange.
- ✓ Chronic B-cell Leukemias
- ✓ Diabetes Mellitus (Type 2)
- ✓ Hodgkin’s Disease
- ✓ Ischemic Heart Disease
- ✓ Multiple Myeloma
- ✓ Non-Hodgkin’s Lymphoma
- ✓ Parkinson’s Disease
- ✓ Porphyria Cutanea Tarda
- ✓ Prostate Cancer
- ✓ Respiratory Cancers
- ✓ Soft Tissue Sarcoma (other than Osteosarcoma, Chondrosarcoma, Kaposi’s Sarcoma or Mesothelioma)

To be eligible for BWN benefits you must have been on a ship that was within 12 nautical miles of the Vietnam shore. There is an interactive map available at <https://www.hillandpontoon.com/blue-water-navy-vietnam-map/> that will help you determine if you were within the 12 nautical miles. Select your ship (on the right of the webpage, and a box will come up for you to select a date the ship was within the 12 nautical mile limit. If your ship was not within 12 nautical miles you can request deck logs from the national archives to see if your ship’s logs show you going to shore. <https://www.archives.gov/research/military/logbooks/navy-online>

Connect to Courage 2020

Connect to courage 2020 is a one stop personal support for navigating the VA at federal and state levels along with referring veterans to community partners. There is planned event in DePere Friday April 24th and Saturday April 25 at the Marq just off Highway 41 at French Road.



Commissary Access

The Defense Department has expanded Commissary, Military Service Exchange and Morale, Welfare, and Recreation access Jan. 1, 2020 and established a standard for physical access to military installations.

All veterans with **service-connected disabilities**, veterans who are **Purple Heart recipients**, veterans who are **former prisoners of war**, and individuals **approved** and designated as the **primary family caregivers** of eligible veterans under the Department of Veterans Affairs Program of Comprehensive Assistance for Family Caregivers.

Veterans who are eligible and want to take advantage of in-person benefits must have a **Veterans Health Identification Card**, or VHIC. **Primary Family Caregivers must have an eligibility letter from VA's Office of Community Care.**

Veterans use VHICs for identification and check-in at VA appointments, but will also use them for base access under the new program.

Veterans eligible solely under this act who are eligible to obtain a Veteran Health Identification Card must use this credential for in-person installation and privilege access. The card must display the Veteran's eligibility status (i.e., Purple Heart, Former POW or Service Connected Disability).

Veterans who do not possess a Veteran Health Identification Card will not have access to DoD and Coast Guard installations for in-person commissary, exchange, and MWR retail privileges, but will have full access to online exchanges and American Forces Travel.

Medal of Honor recipients and Veterans with 100% service-connected disability ratings are eligible for DoD credentials under DoD policy.

Healthcare Enrollment

All service-connected veterans are eligible to apply for Veterans Healthcare Enrollment. The easiest way to apply is to schedule an appointment with your local County Veterans Service Officer. Nonservice connected veterans may also be eligible for healthcare based on their income.

With the expansion of Community Care in 2019, you may not be required to use a VA doctor if you are outside of a 30-minute commute to the VA clinic for primary care, or a 60-minute commute for specialty care.

State Property Tax Credit

From time to time veterans may move to Wisconsin who are **100% service-connected disabled**. If their DD Form 214 reflects their Home of Record was Wisconsin when they entered service, they will be eligible for the Wisconsin Property Tax Credit. If their DD Form 214 shows some other state, they need to prove residency in Wisconsin for five years before they become eligible. If you know of such a veteran, please direct them to see their local County Veterans Service Office.

Free National Park Pass

A free, lifetime pass - available to U.S. citizens or permanent residents of the United States that have been medically determined to have a permanent disability (does not have to be a 100% disability) - that provides admittance to more than 2,000 recreation sites managed by five Federal agencies. You can get more information or order your pass at <https://store.usgs.gov/access-pass>

At many sites the Access Pass provides the pass owner a discount on Expanded Amenity Fees (such as camping, swimming, boat launching, and guided tours).



Auxiliary President’s Corner

With the State convention coming up fast we are preparing for our annual election of officers. I invite anyone interested in running for office to come to our March and April meetings. We truly need your support to keep our auxiliary chapter active.

I also want to extend an invitation to anyone interested in becoming a member to come to one of our meetings. We serve dinner and would welcome the opportunity to show perspective members the community services we provide.

Meetings

Our meetings are held on the first Monday of every month. The VFW Post opens at 5:00 p.m. for an hour social, dinner at 6:00 p.m., with the meeting beginning at 7:00 p.m. The Post home is located at 244 Industrial Drive in Waupaca’s industrial park.

All members and perspective members are invited to attend the social and dinner. Please bring a dish to pass; we will supply the fried chicken. If you have a special beverage, please bring that too. Guests are invited to attend the meeting also.

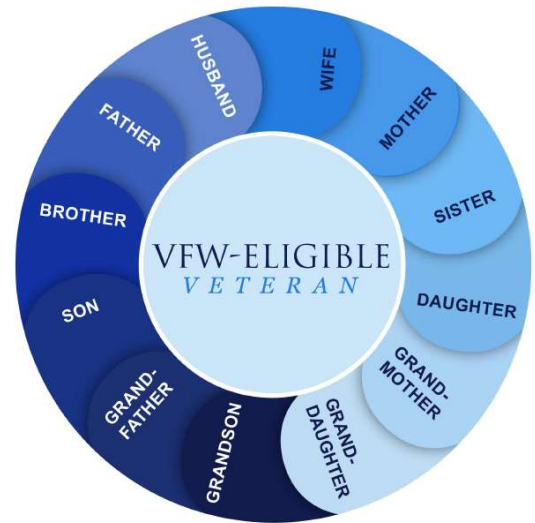


U.S. Census

The 2020 Census is coming soon. If you are interested in helping as a census taker, please go to the U.S. Census webpage to apply. <https://2020census.gov/en/jobs.html>. Income levels depend on the area you work hour and the hours are flexible.

Membership

Do you know someone who is related to a VFW member or an eligible veteran who would be interested in becoming a member of the Auxiliary? The veteran need not be a member of the VFW for family members to become members of the auxiliary, the veteran must meet the eligibility criteria for membership to the VFW though.



**Step- and adopted parents, children, siblings (and half-siblings), grandparents and grandchildren are considered the same as biological parents, children, siblings, grandparents and grandchildren and may join the VFW Auxiliary under their VFW-eligible veteran.*

Frank Brown Scholarship

The Frank Brown scholarship is **due April 30, 2020**. This scholarship is for any VFW dependent who aspires to become a teacher. It is based on two simple principles; 1) rising above poverty and realizing one’s dreams and 2) it is not enough to just believe; one must devote one’s time and energy in support of that belief

This scholarship is for only Wisconsin Department VFW and VFW Auxiliary dependents. Check out the Departments website for more information vfwwi.org.



Currently Serving

Please feel free to write these service members. If you know of anyone serving in the military, please let us know. We will add them to our newsletter distribution.

SGT Robert Benkert MWSS 372 Det A Unit 89065 Box 11 FPO AP 96610-6500	LCPL Sarah Benkert HMLA 267 Unit 89025 Box 26 FPO AP 96610-6500
--	--

CPL Kaleb Glodowski
6071 Beranek Circle
Tarawa Terrace, NC
28547

These addresses are several months old so they may no longer be valid.

National Home

This year marks the **95th anniversary of the National Home**. In March 1925 the first family moved into their Eaton Rapids, Michigan home after their veteran husband/father died leaving the family destitute. In 1925, there were no benefits for surviving family members. The VA was yet to be established (July 21, 1930) by President Herbert Hoover.

Wisconsin VFW has a home at Eaton Rapids that is supported 100 percent by the VFW posts and VFW Auxiliary chapters. Annually the Wisconsin VFW and VFW Auxiliary travel to Eaton Rapids for Wisconsin Days.

In the 1970s, the program began to change, becoming licensed as a residential program, meaning staff members as well as house mothers were living in the homes, taking care of the children. The hospital was renamed the Health & Education building and became home to a dental office, nurse's office, coupon center, sewing center, library, barbershop, model train club room, and other program-related activities.



Eaton Rapids National Home aerial view in 1933.

Young American Creative Patriotic Art Contest

Students in grades 9 through 12 are eligible to participate in the arts contest. They must be American citizens and can be students in public, private or home-school. **The deadline for applying is March 31, 2020.**

Entry types are two-dimensional and three-dimensional. Photography, digital art and jewelry are not accepted forms of art for the contest. This is a national contest with scholarship awards of up to \$15,000 for first place. If you want more information, you can check out the VFW Auxiliary's website, vfwauxiliary.org. If you wish you may also contact the Auxiliary or the Post. You can also email vfwpost1037@outlook.com.



Did you know...

The late, great Doris Day was once a representative for the National Home's Buddy Poppy program.



WAUPACA VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS POST 1037



Vol. LXXV No. 2

Everything we do, We do for Veterans

March/April 2020

March 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 Post Mtg Social: 1700 Dinner: 1800 Mtg: 1900 Bismarck battle 1943	3 Star Spangled Banner 1931	4	5	6	7
8 Daylight Savings Begins	9	10	11	12	13	14
15 ARC	16	17 St. Patrick's	18	19 Iraq War begins 2003	20 Spring Begins	21
22	23	24 Kosovo Operation begins 1999	25	26	27 Veterans business outreach at Stevens Point	28 Post Prom Party at the Post Home
29 Last American Forces leave Vietnam 1975	30	31 Somalia Operation ends 1995				Note: First nomination for officers this month

April 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Invasion of Okinawa begins 1945	2	3 Coast Guard established 1790	4 Honor Flight Archery Event Blackhawk Archers, Custer
5 Palm Sunday	6 Post Mtg Social: 1700 Dinner: 1800 Mtg: 1900	7 Wisconsin Spring Election	8	9 Fall of Bataan Start of Bataan Death March 1942	10	11 Persian Gulf cease fire 1991
12 Easter	13	14	15	16	17 BJ Rental of Post Home	18 BJ Rental of Post Home
19 District 7 Meeting Post 2653 Antigo, WI	20 US Declares war on Spain 1898	21	22	23 County Government Day	24 Connect to Care 2020 DePere 1:00pm – 4:00 pm	25 Loyalty Day Parade Wauwatosa Connect to Care – am.
26	27	28	29 Sew & Sew Setup	30 Fall of Saigon End of Vietnam War 1975 Sew & Sew Setup Post Audit Due		Note: 2 nd nomination for officers & voting

“No One Does More for Veterans”



WAUPACA VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS POST 1037



Vol. LXXV No. 2

Everything we do, We do for Veterans

March/April 2020

May 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 Loyalty Day Sew & Sew at the Post Home	2 Sew & Sew at the Post Home
3	4 Post Mtg Social: 1700 Dinner: 1800 Mtg: 1900	5	6	7 National Day of Prayer Germany Surrenders 1945	8 V-E Day 1945 Brewers Military Appreciation Game 7:10 pm	9
10 MOTHER'S DAY Military Spouse Appreciation Day	11	12	13 Children of Fallen Patriots Day	14	15 Woman's Army Corp founded in 1945 Peace Officer Memorial Day	16 Armed Forces Day
17 King Veterans Home Open House	18	19	20	21	22 Maritime Day	23
24	25 Memorial Day Riverview Park ceremony 9:00	26	27	28	29	30
31 Timber Rattlers Military Appreciation						

June 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Post Mtg Social: 1700 Dinner: 1800 Mtg: 1900	2	3	4	5	6 D-Day Observance 1944
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Department Conference – Rothschild, WI						
14 Army Founded 1775 U.S. Flag Day	15	16	17	18	19	20 Strawberry Fest
21 FATHERS DAY Summer Begins	22	23 Coast Guard Auxiliary Birthday	24	25 Korean War Began 1950	26	27 PTSD Awareness Day
28	29	30				

“No One Does More for Veterans”

POST 1037 WAUPACA, WI
VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS
VFW
**EVERYTHING WE DO,
WE DO FOR VETERANS.**



VFW Post 1037
PO Box 63
Waupaca, WI 54982-0063