

Robert E. Glidden
POST #758 & AUXILIARIES

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE U.S.

NEWSLETTER #2

MARCH/APRIL 2008

PO BOX 802, ST ALBANS
VERMONT 05478-0802

COMING EVENTS

Comrades, a Post tradition continues on March 16th, starting at 6pm, combeef and cabbage with trimmings, hall is open at five p.m., serving at six p.m. Cost is \$7.00, as to get an idea of how much to prepare, call ahead and remember if you call, please come or cancel.



On Friday the 11th of April, the Post will hold a Charity Texas Hold-em. Sign-in is from 5-6 p.m. - with action starting at 6 p.m., sign in is \$60.00.



On the 3rd of May, is a Prime Rib Dinner/Dance, hall open at 5:00 p.m., serving at 6:00 p.m. Dancing to follow with the Snowy River Band. All for \$9.00, reservations requested, and if you reserve, please come or cancel.

Remember, these events are for you the Member and your legal guests to enjoy, it's your post, so please support what your comrades are working hard to put on for your benefit.

Again, thank you, Curt Brown, for the House Committee, and Kitchen "crew".



OFFICERS NOTES

Comrades, as we enter the month of march, and the signs of spring start to appear, the "Winter Blahs" start to disappear. I ask this question how many of you read your VFW magazine or the other Veterans Organizations magazines, you know the important role the Veterans Organizations play in, making sure that ALL Veterans receive all the benefits, promised, earned, awarded or newly legislated, are forthcoming and in a timely manner. These organizations can only do this by having a strong membership, regardless of how many the Veteran may belong to. Their voice is heard as each one "lobbies" on Veterans issues. What this boils down to is that the more membership these organizations show to Congress, the more action is taken. So, if you haven't paid your dues, please do so. If you know someone who is eligible, try to get them to join, if you are not sure of who is eligible, contact the post. The information will be sent to you. As we still have many troops in harms way, their welfare must be made secure and we can and will do our part.

Thank you, Burt Cross, Commander.



SENIOR VICE COMMANDER

Comrades, and our auxiliaries, as a member of the Vermont Army National Guard, with two deployments, an office of Post 758, I know first hand, from both sides of the coin that Commander Burt is right on target. A strong Veterans organization with its Auxiliaries does so much on the local, state and National levels. Not only for the Veteran, but also the community at large and it's youth, it's elderly, its infirm and so on. This is the VFW at work. Joining hands with other Veterans and fraternal organizations within our membership boundaries, to see that not only the Veteran, but the Military and the common citizen "enjoy the rights and privileges that go with being a citizen of a great country like ours. A large and active membership in all organizations and their auxiliaries etc, are the key to accomplishing this, knowing I can count on all of you, "nuff" said. Maureen Houston, Sr. Vice Commander

JUNIOR VICE COMMANDER

Comrades, since our last newsletter, the Americanism committee is in the planning stages, getting ready for the arrival of the Moving Wall" on May 14th, to show all the Vietnam Veterans visiting our city. That patriotism is alive in St. Albans. Chairman Corrado will have more on our plans in this section. Briefly on membership, if not yet aboard, come aboard, and remember the "gangplank" is down, and ready to bring new members aboard. As "ways and means" co-chair for our Color Guard. I ask (A) to donate items for our "silent auction" call the Post after 13:00 hrs, and leave a message, (B) to assist in soliciting merchandise, same procedure, we will contact you. From where I sit we have a "top-notch" Post, the only thing to make it better, is your participation.

"Reg" Johnson, Jr. Vice Commander

VFW LADIES AUXILIARY

Greetings Sisters. As I write this we have ended our second month of 2008 and are well on our way to spring.

The contests that were listed in the last newsletter, Patriotic Art, Outstanding Young Volunteer, Outstanding Community Service Volunteer and Outstanding Hospital Volunteer have entrants and they will be forwarded to Department level in advance of their deadline. Thanks to the contestants and the chairman who worked so hard. Here are a few projects that we as an auxiliary have executed. For Americanism we marched in Parades, participated at many Veterans Day Events and have given out flags and educational material. For Buddy Poppy we used many poppies for decorations, corsages, and we will be getting ready for our annual sale in May.

Hospital we sent hand knitted slippers to the VA Hospital for National Hospitalized Veterans Week February 10-16. We gave money for bed side tables to the Veterans (Soldiers) Home in Bennington for Christmas. We sent postage stamps to the VA Hospital for Veterans for Christmas.

Veterans and Family Support we gave \$1,000 for Operation Uplink which gives phone cards to deployed soldiers to call home. We helped a family have a Christmas with gifts.

Community Service we host a Senior Meal once a month as well as cooking for funeral luncheons and our Penny Bingos. For Legislative/PAC we raised money to send to Washington, DC.

Youth Activities we sponsored the Voice of Democracy and Patriot's Pen Contest. We distribute Youth Incentive Grant applications and Continuing Education Scholarship applications to the appropriate schools.

Cancer Aid and Research we sold lapel pins from the Department President to raise funds. We also collect coins at each meeting in a jar we call "Coins for Cancer".

VFW National Home we collect and clip Campbell Soup Labels to be sent in. We donated \$1,000 to National Home Special Project which is Pre-School and Kindergarten at the Home.

Membership we have a drawing at each meeting for a life membership. (Must be in attendance to win). Another great reason to attend our meeting. We still need to reach 100% in membership and we are at 88%. If you have not paid your 2008 dues please call Josephine Rocheleau CONFIDENTIAL and we will make arrangements to pick them up or help with them.

Our next Department Meeting will be March 29, 2008 in Montpelier, our next District meeting will be the Convention on April 13, 2008 in Essex Jct., and of course our Auxiliary meeting is every 2nd Monday of the month at 6:30 p.m.



(At our April meeting we will be holding election of officers. Please think about declaring your desire to run for office at our March meeting.)

Respectfully,
Sheila Spaulding
VFW Ladies Auxiliary President

MEN'S AUXILIARIES

First I want to thank everyone for a great New Year's Eve party. A great time was had by all. Want to thank Steve Lareau and his crew for a great job well done. This couldn't have been accomplished without the full support of the Ladies and Men's Auxilliaries and the Post. Thank you.

Secondly, March 1st, 2008 marks our Men's Auxilliary Annual Dinner Dance. Remember only 2008 paid, Men's Auxilliary

members are free. All others are \$10.00 tickets (Tickets are available at the bar, get them early, when they are gone, they're gone!) Come and have a great time, with music by the Adams band. Meal will be promptly served at 6 p.m. Meal will consist of Roast Pork and all the fixings. Music will follow from 7 p.m. - 11 p.m.

Just a freindly reminder that the 2008 dues are now being accepted. Let's do our best to be at 100%. Also, Spring is fast approaching, so if anyone has any ideas of a raffle or any other business, our meetings are the 1st Monday of every month.

Your ideas and concerns are needed, so please try to attend.

Also elections are coming up in April, so please keep that in mind as well. If you care to hold an office please come to the next meeting and voice yourself. Well, until next time.

For God & Country, Sr. Vice, Jay West

SERVICE OFFICER

Comrades, although the month of March is with us, in Vermont we still have plenty of winter weather left, and with the high cost this year to heat ones home, if you or you know of a Veteran who is having a hard time to afford the fuel, please contact the Post: ATTN: Service Officer, Curt Brown and we will try to be of some assistance. Also if any of you or a member of your family would like to correspond with any of our military personnel, on active duty, contact Sr. Vice Maureen Houston. c/o the Post, she will see you get an address of someone in the Military. If you find that paying your dues may be a hardship at this particular time, please let me know, and it will be handled strictly confidential. As I state in every newsletter, the Post is here to assist you the Veteran, all you need to do is contact us, remember if you need help on any matter concerning the VA, I can assist you, or put you in contact with someone who can.

"One for all and all for one". Curt Brown, Service Officer

DID YOU KNOW?

- That the Post Home was once the St. Albans Town School House.
- That our Entertainment Chairman, Fred McMahon, plays the guitar and carries a mean tune.
- That the 155 howitzer, in front of the Post, was in action with the 5th Army in Italy in WWII and as far as we know is the only one on display outside a Military or Government installation.
- That the average age of the Post Color Guard is 65.

MEMBERSHIP

Membership dues for this year are coming fairly good for now. We are at 93% only 27 more members to pay and we will be at the 100%. Please, we need the last few. I would like to report in the next newsletter that we are at 100%, so your help is needed to accomplish this feat.

Francis R. Potter, Membership Chair

As a brand new Certified National Recruiter, I will be working extremely hard with membership. My mission is to increase

membership with not only the Post but the State as well, we will be trying new ideas to see if they work and I ask everyone to solicit any that they may have.

Maureen Houston, Certified National Recruiter.

SAFETY

Well folks, we aren't out of the woods yet as far as "old man winter" is concerned, so until after the "Maple Festival Parade" those winter safety tips still apply. Around the home and in the vehicle. Also, all of you "ice fisherman" be extra cautious out there. And at all times, remember that "an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure".

John Baraby, Safety Chairman

YOUTH ACTIVITIES

Now that the Voice of Democracy and Patriots Pen contests are over for this year, keep in mind, as soon as school starts, so do we, getting schools and students signed up. For now there are many projects that we as Veterans can become involved in as volunteers. For example, youth sports ie: baseball, soccer, tennis, fishing, hiking, and coming up, football, and once more, hockey. Also if a member of your family may be interested in Scouting, please contact me at the post address and I will see all information is forthcoming. And remember, our youth are our future.

Allan Brown, Youth Activities.

ADJUTANT / AMERICANISM

Comrades, this time I am coupling the two together, seeing that most VFW projects are all related to Americanism, just being a Member of a Veterans organization show patriotism, and in the community thanks to in our organization, Publicity Officer, Sr. Vice Maureen Houston, and Ladies Auxiliary President; Sheila Spaulding, the community as a whole are understanding what Veterans organizations really do within the community, and with events like the Vietnam "Moving Wall", visiting our community in May, hopefully the youth of our area might come to understand the true meaning of "supreme sacrifice" and why patriotism is so important. It will then be up to the Veterans of the Community to be highly visible, showing the pride we have in our service to our Country. Post 758 and the VVA are starting a project to help show that the True American Spirit is alive in St. Albans and the country. (A.) Procure Permission, and then obtain a matching in size, a POW/MIA flag to fly from the pole in Taylor Park.

(B.) Procure permission to install "mounting brackets" on the fronts of business establishments along Main Street, and supply the flag kits, so that the American flag will also be highly visible, hopefully year round. (C.) A banner from Pepsi to say "To all Vietnam Veterans, Thank you, from the Veterans and citizens of the area". (D.) Give out small U.S. flags during the parade. Comrades to accomplish these and other "projects" we need your help and support, especially from the Veterans who are business owners, City Hall, Elected or Appointed personnel. We know the area Veterans and Fraternal organizations will join in. Anyone willing to give a hand or have suggestions, our meetings our the third Monday of each month, or write, fax, email us, ATTN Americanism, together we can move mountains.

In comradeship,
MF Corrado, Adj. Americanism Officer

TAPS

John Austin St. Albans, VT

Earl Caswell St. Albans, VT

John R. Finn St. Albans, VT

Norman F. Giroux Tucson, AZ

Maynard J. Gosselin St. Albans, VT

Peter C. Martin St. Albans, VT

Henry L. Mayo St. Albans, VT

Robert F. Plattner Northfield, MA

Earnest E. Rocheleau St. Albans, VT

Michael E. Trombley St. Albans, VT

James L. Fortuna Sr.

Robert A. Frohock

DID YOU KNOW?

The Post has hospital beds, wheel chairs, walkers, canes etc, to lend out. Call or visit the Post to inquire about what you might need. That our own Curt Brown, after the Battle of the Bulge was wounded during an enemy artillery barrage, and received not only the Purple Heart, but also the Bronze Star for advancing forward causing his unit to follow, and overtake their objective.

CANTEEN REPORT

Well Comrades, NASCAR, is with us once more, you may watch in the lounge, or in the newly completed "pool room", while shooting eight ball, so give your Post a try for these events, snacks usually provided. Also, don't forget that on Friday and Saturday nights, a warm Crock-pot dish is available. And on Thursday nights at sometime after 6p.m., our weekly draw is held. If you are there, you get it all! If you signed up, and not there, you receive 1/2.

Remember all games of chance assist greatly in our ability to donate the large amount we do each month, a total of

\$700.00 for last month, so we're hoping we see you around our Family Friendly Post. The House Committee, and Canteen Staff.

As Adjutant, seeing there is no QM Report, the result of the hard time consuming work put in by Mitch, and the Masters of the works committee, needs no final first phase report. Stop down and see for yourself the results of their efforts. Also as a retired Navy CPO, Mitch runs a tight financial ship for the Post. A big thank you Mitch, Curt and Henry.

M. Corrado, Adjutant



The newsletter is edited and published by Post Adjutant, M. F. Corrado, under the authority of the Post Commander and Auxiliary Presidents.

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