

VFW 2601

POST

*Continuing our mission to serve our combat veterans, military & community.
Our vision is always to advocate on behalf of all veterans.*

1ST QUARTER 2023 • VFWLONGSPEAKPOST2601.COM

COMMANDER'S CORNER



Comrades of VFW 2601:

We had a very busy 4th quarter. We've hung memorabilia and military art in all our rooms. We had a great turnout for our Veteran's Day parade and our Veteran's Day Dinner; thank you

to everyone who made this a great day. December 10th, our Grand Opening was successful with a large crowd. We hired a great Canteen Manager, Mandy Sellers. Come on in and meet her and our new bartenders. Our Canteen hours are Mondays, Thursdays & Fridays 4-10pm and weekends 12-10pm. We have a pool table, football, music, ATM, and a fully-equipped hall. I would like to see more members attending meetings and supporting our Post. Here's to a great 2023!

Yours in Comradeship,
Garry Wilson, *Commander*

AUXILIARY PRESIDENT



Greetings and Happy New Year, everyone! I hope everyone had a blessed and awesome Christmas with friends and family. As many of you know, our Post is now open five days a week. Our hours of operation are:

Mon, Thur, Fri: 4p-10p; Sat & Sun: 12p-10p
These hours will vary according to business needs. We have a full bar, pool table, ATM machine, TVs with sports—and if you need a space to hold a family gathering, we rent out the meeting rooms for those events. We have recruited 3 new members and are really excited to get going. I look forward to seeing you at our next meeting on January 11, at 6 pm. Please come join us, see the new Post, and hear what's going on.

Thank you,
Patricia Rowley-Wilson
Auxiliary President



Our Grand Opening was a success! Thanks to Brain Training Lounge, Colorado Aromatics, and Healing Warriors for their time and warm welcome. Also, special thanks to Charlie Plaginos for being our Santa and to Mandy Sellers and our bartenders for their great work. We are OPEN and ready for great times ahead! A BIG thank you to those who are part of our growing initiatives. —Idania Mentana, *Sr. Vice Commander*



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Sr. Vice

Idania Mentana

Jr. Vice Commander

Ken Chavez

Chaplain

Dennis Funkhouser

Quartermaster/Adj.

Leon Bartholomay

JAG Officer

James Reed

Service Officer

Brandon Haggerty

Surgeon

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Rachelle Bartholomay

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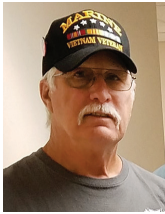
Guard

Denise Michalski

PHOTO UPDATES



QUARTERMASTER'S CORNER



We are currently at 94+% membership, which is really good for being halfway through the 2022-23 Membership Year. My ongoing challenge to all members is to recruit one qualified member to the Post before the end of June 2023. If half of our active members achieves this, we will easily

surpass the 100+1% needed to help our Commander achieve All-State. We are all acquainted with a veteran or two who qualifies for membership for our 90-yr-old Post. Do your Post a favor and bring them on board. Meanwhile, sign up qualified spouses and family members to the Auxiliary. I need to identify and start training a new QM now to take over duties by elections in May so I can give full attention to District 3—if reelected. If not, my attention will go to full Retirement! Rachelle and I wish you all a prosperous 2023. See ya at the New Post Home!

Your comrade in service,
Leon Bartholomay, QM, Adjutant, USMC



Sahsa Matthews & Adam Sutton Veteran's Service Officers

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Boulder, CO 80301
303-440-7306 Office
303-449-3907 Fax

Points of Contact for Questions,
Eligibility, and Enrollment:
Collette Archibald, LCSW
Director
Justin Brandenburg, Veteran USMC
Outreach Specialist

DATES OF REMEMBRANCE

January

- 1 New Year's Day
- 11 Post & Aux Meeting, 6PM**
- 16 Martin Luther King Jr. Day
- 21 Healing Warriors, 9A-1P**
- 22 Chinese New Year

February: Black History Month

- 2 Groundhog Day
- 3 Four Chaplains Day
- 4 USO Birthday
- 8 Post & Aux Meeting, 6PM**
- 14 Valentine's Day
- 17 Healing Warriors, 9A-1P**
- 19 Coast Guard Reserve Birth-day
- 20 President's Day

March: Women's History Month

- 3 Navy Reserves Birthday
- 4 Hug a GI Day
- 8 Post & Aux Meeting, 6PM**
- 12 Daylight Savings Begins
- 17 St. Patrick's Day
- 18 Healing Warriors, 9A-1P**
- 21 Rosie the Riveter Day
- 25 Medal of Honor Day
- 29 National Vietnam War Veterans Day

Fridays: Red Shirt Friday (RED)

HONOR GUARD NEWS

Your Color & Honor Guard are gearing up for a busy 2023. The last of our great WWII and Korean Vets are passing on and many VN Vets are moving on to Valhalla also. We expect to be called soon for a local Korean War Vet at our post on 8 Jan 2023, and increasingly this new year to give burial and service honors to many of these Veterans. This Post's goal is for CG/HG members trained to task. We will have regular monthly drills after the House Committee meetings on the first Wednesday of the month, at 7pm. We have room and uniforms for more Guard members so join us in 2023! Unless someone wants to step up to be our Guard Commander you can call me @ 720-841-2815 or email me at vfwpost2601@gmail.com. I can answer any questions regarding this essential mission.

Leon Bartholomay, USMC

MEDICAL UPDATE

The PACT Act is perhaps the largest health care and benefit expansion in VA history. The **Honoring our Promise to Address Comprehensive Toxins (PACT) Act** will bring these changes:

- Expands and extends eligibility for VA health care for Veterans with toxic exposures and Veterans of the Vietnam, Gulf War, and post-9/11 eras
- Adds more than 20 new presumptive conditions for burn pits and other toxic exposures
- Adds more presumptive-exposure locations for Agent Orange and radiation.
- Requires VA to provide a toxic exposure screening to every Veteran enrolled in VA health care.
- Helps us improve research, staff education, and treatment related to toxic exposures.

If you're a Veteran or survivor, you can file claims now to apply for PACT Act-related benefits.



HEALING WARRIORS



The Healing Warriors Program of Ft Collins is offering their FREE Veterans Clinic at

our Post, 340 Lashley St, in Longmont. Therapies provided to veterans and their family include: *Acupuncture, Cranio Therapy* and *Healing Touch Therapy*. If it is your first time with us, **please bring your DD214**. We know the value of bringing self-care and connection to our members—especially now as we heal in uncertain times. Come out and take advantage! It's on the 3rd Saturday of every month. They have a great staff that are personable and helpful to all your needs. Check us out or follow us on Facebook and Twitter. Our younger veterans are participating and have felt great results. We hope to see you there!

Check out: healingwarriorsprogram.org

WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA



This past December, Post 2601 had the pleasure and honor of participating in the 4th annual event

in Longmont whose sole purpose is to REMEMBER, HONOR, and TEACH about our fallen soldiers. At Mountain View Cemetery, our five Post volunteers marked graves and laid ceremonial as well as personal wreaths on over 1,400 graves. A great number of the Longmont community turned out for this event, as well as several organizations and other social fraternities. Under a cold gray sky, we renewed our dedication and commitment to always remember the fallen heroes in our community. Special thanks to: Dennis Funkhouser, David Vaughn, James Reed, Brandon Haggerty, Leon Bartholomay, Garry Wilson, Russell Smith and Chris. Also thanks to the Mountain View Cemetery team who patiently guided us during the grave marking! We look forward to serving next year. Learn more about this great veteran-led organization at: wreathsasscrossamerica.org.

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