

in our post home >>>

VVnW Commander, Phil Davis

814-282-9737

1st Vice-Commander, Del Preston

814-853-2915

2nd Vice-Commander, Pete Duarte

Email: vetspost52@gmail.com

NEW EMAIL ADDRESS FOR THE POST!

POST TELEPHONE: 814-807-1661

Newsletter Email: post52snews@gmail.com

Website: www.post52.com

facebook: www.facebook.com/pages/Post-52

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 771, Meadville PA 16335

Street Address: 13240 Dunham Road, Meadville

2023

JUNE



POST 52'S NEWS

A Publication of World Jack Greer Memorial Post 52



Our Troops >>>

**Project
Support
our
Troops**

UPCOMING

PACKING Date:

May 30th at 6:00pm

Visit us at:

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Project-Support-Our-Troops/>

Please Contact:

Kim Lengling at
(814) 724-9099

OR

Laurie Davis at
(814) 853-8145

**PLEASE SUBMIT NEW
NAMES &
ADDRESSES!**

Commander's Comments

As I write this, today is Memorial Day, the unofficial start of Summer. Our Color Guard was asked to lead the parade this year. Unfortunately, we only had three Color Guard members who were able to march. The theme of the parade was Vietnam Vets Welcome Home – POW/MIA – We Will Never Forget.

We were honored to carry an American Flag That Flew over Camp Holloway in Pleiku Vietnam in 1969 that was brought home by our good friend Tom Kafferlin who served with the same unit I served with a year ahead of me. It also flew at half-staff when President Eisenhower passed away. *THANK YOU, TOM.*

This year's crowd was very small compared to past years, but I had some good vibes from people I talked to about the day.

Post dinners are doing well. Hopefully it will soon get back to where we were before the Pandemic.

We continue to send boxes overseas to those who are keeping us safe. Please keep them in your prayers.

We did very well with our election-day roast beef dinner. Thank you to everyone who helped. Thank you all for your continued support.

Yours In Brotherhood,

Phil

814-282-9737



**Check out our
redesigned website!**

www.post52.com

Please keep Vice Commander Del Preston in your prayers as he undergoes hip replacement surgery on Wednesday, May 31st.

PLEASE NOTE: Now that the warm weather is here we are often short staffed in the kitchen/dining room for Saturday dinners. If you can help out please give us a call to help fill in the gaps. Call Laurie at 814-853-8145

Saturday Dinner Schedule

MENU / PRICE LIST

Weekly Selections for JUNE 2023

CARRY OUT AVAILABLE - CALL 814-807-1661

Fish & Spaghetti available every week.

(See below for additional features)

Beer Battered Fried Fish

15

Deep fried haddock served with choice of fresh cut french fries or baked potato; choice of applesauce or coleslaw. Veggie and dessert included.

Lemon Pepper Baked Haddock

15

Haddock seasoned with lemon pepper seasoning, freshly baked served with choice of fresh cut french fries or baked potato; choice of applesauce or coleslaw. Veggie and dessert included.

Spaghetti

10

Post 52 homemade spaghetti meat sauce. Served with choice of applesauce or coleslaw. Dessert included.

Feature dinner for June 3, 2023

Shrimp Basket

15

8 pieces of golden fried butterfly shrimp. Served with choice of fresh cut french fries or baked potato; choice of applesauce or coleslaw. Dessert included.

Feature dinner for June 10, 2023

Chicken Parmesan

12

Hand breaded chicken filet smothered in a bed of homemade spaghetti. Choice of applesauce or coleslaw and dessert.

Feature dinner for June 17, 2023

Chicken Wings

1+

Wings are \$1 each. Flavor choices are BBQ, Dry Ranch, Hot, Butter & Garlic or Hot BBQ. Add the meal deal for additional \$5 which includes choice of applesauce or coleslaw and dessert.

Feature dinner for June 24, 2023

Hot Roast Beef Sandwiches

12

Served with mashed potatoes. Includes veggie, choice of applesauce or coleslaw and dessert.

In Memory



The Post 52 family is very saddened to hear of the passing of Ken Novosel's mom, Dolly...and a doll she was. She was a very sweet, kind, and generous lady who has touched our hearts forever. We are extremely grateful to her for the beautiful family she has and grateful beyond words for the support they give to the Post on a regular basis. Mass of Christian Burial was held Wednesday, May 31, 2023. Please keep Ken, his siblings, and their families in your prayers. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to Veterans of the Vietnam War, Jack Greer Memorial, Post 52, 13216 Dunham Road, Meadville, PA 16335. Please make checks payable to Post 52.



Memorial Day 2023



Color Guard members marching

Monday, May 29, 2023 in

Meadville's annual parade:

Phil Davis, Del Preston, and Norm McSadoques

Vietnam vets on the trailer:

Tom Kaffertin, Jerry Hickernell,

Pete Duarte, Ben Grant, and

Rich Littlefield.



Thanks to Phil and Laurie Davis for photos of the parade, edited to portray memories.

Quilts of Valor

May 6, 2023 Post 52's Color Guard served at 3 services at New Beginnings Church of God, Meadville, PA. Several members of Post 52, along with many other area veterans, received quilts. The PA Stitchers of Valor presented their 500th quilt during the 2nd service of the day. Photos provided by Norm M'Sadoques, Rita Preston, and others. If you have more, please feel free to send and we will publish them in the July edition.



Because You Asked.....

Because there are several who have commented that you are not getting a newsletter, here's what you need to know:

- If you provided an email address, then a newsletter is emailed to you monthly.
- If you did not provide an email address, then you will receive a newsletter in the post office mail quarterly. The months the newsletter is sent by USPS mail are March, June, September, and December.
- If you forget which months are for paper/mailed copies, the months are listed in each issue of the newsletter. (This month, the schedule is listed on Page 9.)

Also, you can open the most current issue of the newsletter on the post website – www.post52.com

UPCOMING MEETINGS at Post 52

- Ride for Freedom meeting Wednesday, June 14th – 6 pm
- June Post Meeting – 6/19/2023 – 7 pm
- Next troops packing Tuesday, June 27th 6 pm
- Scholarship Committee meeting Wednesday, June 28th 6 pm
- Annual Veterans Resource Fair at the Downtown Mall. Monday July 31st. Noon – 5 pm. Need volunteers -- call Phil if you'd like to volunteer to help (814-853-8145)
- Mark your calendars – dates for the Crawford County Fair are August 20th – August 26th. ***Mark your calendars now so you are available to help with the booth***
- State Senator Michelle Brooks' Senior Expo in Greenville, PA 10:30am – 1:00pm Friday, September 15th
- POW/MIA Vigil and candlelighting ceremony Friday, September 15th. Ride for Freedom Saturday September 16th
- State Senator Michelle Brooks' Senior Expo in Meadville, PA Thursday, September 21st 10:30am – 1:00pm
- Post 52 annual Christmas party Saturday, December 16th. Social hour 6 pm. Dinner at 7 pm. Entertainment Rankin & Schell.

All Post monthly meetings are scheduled for the 3rd Monday of the month at 7:00 PM.

Lions Club Dinner

Lions Dinner on the 2nd Thursday of each month.

YOUR help is needed approximately 3pm – 7pm.

PLEASE

Call Phil to schedule your time at 814.282.9737.

Thank you!

Thanks for all you do every day of every month!

Commander: Phil Davis

1st Vice: Del Preston

2nd Vice: Pete Duarte

Master Sgt-at-Arms: Jack Sheets

Trustee: Ken Novosel

Quarter Master: Laurie Davis

Secretary: Marsha Manning

WHOLE HEALTH -- REIKI

Maybe you've heard of Reiki but don't quite know what it is. Maybe you're considering Reiki but aren't sure whether it's right for you. Or maybe your doctor has suggested reiki as a form of therapy complementary to your existing medical treatments.

Reiki is a safe, gentle, non-invasive form of natural hands-on, energy-based healing.

What is reiki?

Reiki is an energy healing technique that promotes relaxation, and reduces stress and anxiety through gentle touch. Reiki practitioners use their hands to deliver energy to your body, improving the flow and balance of your energy to support healing.

Reiki treatment should not be used as a substitute for the consultation of a physician or a psychotherapist.

Reiki is currently being used by over 1,000 hospitals including the Erie Veterans Medical facility. Phil is currently in the process of taking steps to be approved as a Reiki master within the VA locally.

In the meantime, please give Phil a call with questions about the Reiki technique!



From The Department of Veterans Affairs

What the end of the Public Health Emergency means for VA

How the end of the Public Health Emergency impacts VA care and services
By Hans Petersen, Senior Writer-Editor, VHA Digital Communications

May 10, 2023

When the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency (PHE) expires on May 11, 2023, some of VA's pandemic-related authorities will expire as well. VA has been preparing for this moment for months, working to make this transition as seamless as possible for Veterans, their families, caregivers and survivors. VA is also working with our partners in the Administration and in Congress to extend or reinstate many of these authorities when possible.

As our nation enters this new moment, VA remains committed to delivering world-class care and benefits to all those we serve. If you are concerned about the expiration of any of these authorities, we encourage you to reach

out to your local VA medical center, call 800-698-2411, or go to [VA's Contact Us webpage](#). We will make sure that you get the care and support that you have earned.

Here is an overview of how the end of the Public Health Emergency will impact VA care and services:

- Return to in-person visits for Veteran Family Caregivers. During the pandemic, VA relaxed requirements for in-person visits associated with VA's Program of Comprehensive Assistance for Family Caregivers (PCAFC) and instead conducted most of those visits virtually. These visits included initial home-care assessments, home care reassessments and wellness contacts. This flexibility will end on May 11, 2023. In-person visits have already resumed for most Veterans and family caregivers applying for or participating in PCAFC who require in-home visits. VA is actively communicating with all participating Veterans and caregivers to help them through this transition.
- Expanded use of VA Video Connect for telehealth. Following expiration of the PHE, the Department of Health and Human Services will resume enforcement of HIPAA Rules regarding telehealth. VA will resume use of VA Video Connect as the primary video platform authorized for scheduled video telehealth visits. Webex will be authorized as an alternative platform for scheduled video telehealth visits under specified circumstances, such as when VA Video Connect is unavailable.
- During the public health emergency, VA clinicians have been able to prescribe controlled medicines to Veterans following a telehealth examination without first having an in-person examination. DEA and SAMHSA have announced a [temporary rule](#) that will extend the current PHE related flexibilities for prescribing controlled medications, so VA's prescribing flexibility will not expire when the public health emergency ends. Additionally, DEA, in concert with HHS and in coordination with VA, has [proposed rules](#) for telemedicine flexibilities beyond the declared public health emergency.
- Impact on Veterans experiencing homelessness. During the PHE, Veterans experiencing homelessness and those participating in [HUD-VASH](#) could receive additional direct support from VA—including assistance needed for the safety and survival of the Veteran (such as food, shelter, clothing, blankets and hygiene items), transportation needed to support the stability and health of the Veteran (such as for appointments with service providers, conducting housing searches, and obtaining food and supplies), communications equipment and services needed to support the stability and health of the Veteran (such as tablets, smartphones, disposable phones and related service plans), and more. After May 11, 2023, Veterans will no longer be able to receive this type of direct support under this authority. Congress has proposed legislation that would authorize VA to continue providing the assistance described above after the end of the PHE, but for now, we are taking all possible steps to make this transition as smooth as possible for Veterans experiencing homelessness—including offering support through our Supportive Services for Veterans Families program, local Centers for Development and Civic Engagement (formerly Voluntary Service), and community partners. For more information, email HomelessVets@va.gov or visit [VA's webpage for homeless Veterans](#). Veterans can also still seek health care travel reimbursement if they're traveling for care at a VA health facility or for VA-approved care at a non-VA health facility and are eligible for travel pay. To apply for those benefits, [visit the travel pay website](#).
- Reinstatement of pre-pandemic deadlines for VA travel reimbursement. Under the PHE, VA extended the deadline for Veterans and caregivers to apply for travel reimbursement for mileage and other travel expenses to and from approved health care appointments, meaning that Veterans could apply for these benefits beyond the normal 30-day window. This flexibility will end on June 9, 2023. After that date, Veterans submitting a claim for travel reimbursement will have to submit it within 30 days of their VA medical appointment. Veterans will also be required to submit beneficiary travel appeals within 365 days. To learn more about travel reimbursement and eligibility, visit the [Beneficiary Travel Self-Service website](#).
- Removal of VA's legal authority to provide COVID-19 vaccinations to spouses, caregivers and Veterans not enrolled in VA health care. During the PHE, VA was authorized to provide COVID-19 vaccinations to spouses, caregivers and Veterans who are not enrolled in the VA health care system. Following the expiration of the PHE on May 11, 2023, VA will no longer have this legal authority. Spouses, caregivers and Veterans not eligible for VA health care are encouraged to remain up to date with recommended vaccines and access COVID-19 vaccination in the community: [Vaccines.gov – Find COVID19 vaccine locations near you](#).

Researchers support Veterans exposed to toxic substances

PACT Act empowers new research to improve Veteran health

May 30, 2023

By Rachel Warden, Communications specialist, VA Rocky Mountain Mental Illness Research Education and Clinical Center

More than 175 researchers and health care providers from VA, Universities, private organizations and hospitals gathered alongside Veterans in May 2023 at the Rocky Mountain Regional VA in Colorado to identify new research topics to improve treatments and diagnosis of toxic exposure illnesses.

Presentations from 22 speakers covered three key areas: respiratory health, data and programs, and mental health.

- **Respiratory Health:** Researchers discussed current research studies and techniques to identify biomarkers of exposure, treatment after exposure and long-term respiratory health.
- **Existing VA Data and Programs:** Presentations on projected logistical needs estimated that VA might need to grow by 15,000 personnel to support the PACT Act.
- **Mental Health:** Speakers discussed the importance of studying the psychological and emotional effects of toxic military exposure alongside the physical health effects.

“The speakers and participants were all focused on how to assist our Veterans with military exposures as outlined in the PACT Act. We also had a number of Veterans attending who provided extremely valuable questions and feedback,” said symposium co-chair, Dr. Andrew Hoisington, an Air Force Veteran and researcher at the [VA Rocky Mountain Mental Illness, Research, Education and Clinical Center \(MIRECC\)](#).

At the presentation, one Vietnam combat Veteran asked about the value of looking back at cumulative environmental exposures and stressors.

“We still have a lot to learn about the potential connections between military airborne exposures and mental health. Everyone here is committed to tackling the problem for the best health outcomes in our Veterans through a whole-body, life-course approach,” said Mental Health Keynote Speaker, Dr. Lisa Brenner, VA Rocky Mountain MIRECC director.

Supporting the long-term goals of the PACT Act

The PACT Act is the biggest expansion of Veteran health care and benefits in generations. Veterans and their survivors have filed more than 500,000 claims for toxic exposure-related benefits under the PACT Act since President Biden signed it into law in August 2022. To date, VA has awarded more than \$1 billion in earned benefits to Veterans and survivors who filed PACT Act-related claims. More than 3 million Veterans have already received VA’s new [toxic exposure screenings](#) with 1.32 million of them (approximately 42%) reporting a concern of exposure.

Research is critical to VA readiness to provide exposure-focused care, increase the likelihood of early diagnoses and treatments, and ensuring the best health care outcomes. The [PACT Act Research Symposium](#) was just the start and it has laid the groundwork for meeting the long-term goals of the PACT Act to provide Veterans with the care and support they have earned and deserve.

“We left the symposium with new colleagues, new collaborations formed, action items and the knowledge that more is needed from the research community in the field of military exposures,” Hoisington added.

Veterans, their families, caregivers and survivors are encouraged to visit [The PACT Act and your VA benefits website](#) or call 1-800-698-2411 to learn more.

It's OKAY to Ask for Help!

Please utilize this link to sign up and receive updates from the Veterans Administration via email and/or text messages:

<https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/USVA/subscriber/new/>

CRISIS LINE – Crawford County 800-315-5721

and Erie County 800-300-9558

Suicide Hotline 800-273-8255 IF IMMEDIATE DANGER, CALL 911

National Resource Directory- www.nrd.gov – online directory to services and resources for wounded troops, veterans and their families.

AGENT ORANGE REGISTRY INFORMATION – 412-822-1707 OR

<https://www.publichealth.va.gov/exposures/agentorange/benefits/registry-exam.asp>

Herbicide Storage Location Link (OUTSIDE of Vietnam):

<https://www.publichealth.va.gov/exposures/agentorange/locations/index.asp>

CRAWFORD COUNTY VETERANS SERVICES OFFICE

814-333-7314 (phone) OR website information:

<https://www.crawfordcountypa.net/VeteransServices/Pages/home.aspx>

There is help available 24 hours a day, seven days a week:

- The Veterans Crisis Line — Call (800) 273-8255, then press 1. You can also text and chat online at 838255.
- **Dial 988 then Press 1 for crisis support 24/7!**
- Also available is the Women Veterans Call Center, which provides U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs services and resources to women veterans, their families and caregivers. You can also chat online anonymously with a call center representative. Call (855) VA-Women (855-829-6636) 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. on weekdays and 8 to 6:30 Saturdays. Use the same number to text.



The paper edition of Post 52's News is a quarterly publication.

The email (e-Edition) is issued monthly.

If you wish to receive a monthly copy, please send your email address to: post52snews@gmail.com

Paper Edition/Copy Schedule (subject to changes / extra editions): March, June, September, December.

Email Edition Schedule: January, February, March, April, May, June, July, August, September, October, November, December.

Submission Deadline for the Post 52 Newsletter is the 28th of each month. Items received after the 28th will be held for future issues, printed as time and space permit, and as appropriate.

A.B.A.T.E. of PA, Crawford County Chapter is open to new members, is Not a club, is a political organization, meets at Post 52 on the 2nd Sunday of the month, & is listed on Post 52's calendar as a courtesy only to those who may be interested in joining the Alliance of Bikers Aimed Toward Education in Pennsylvania.

Lion's Club dinners are listed on our calendar so that members are aware of when we need additional kitchen help; our Post caters the dinners for the Lion's Club. Stop in, lend a hand, and thank the Lion's Club members for their community work!

What's Happening at Post 52 and around the Globe

June 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3 SATURDAY NIGHT DINNER 4-7PM
4	5	6	7	8 Lions Club Dinner, help needed	9	10 SATURDAY NIGHT DINNER 4-7PM
11 A.B.A.T.E. meeting 11:30am at Post 52	12	13	14 Flag Day Ride for Freedom meeting 6pm	15	16	17 SATURDAY NIGHT DINNER 4-7PM
18 Father's Day	19 Juneteenth Post 52 Meeting 7pm	20	21 Summer Solstice (Summer Begins)	22	23	24 SATURDAY NIGHT DINNER 4-7PM
25	26	27 TROOPS Packing 6pm	28 Scholarship Committee meeting 6pm	29	30	

July 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4 Indep. Day	5	6	7	8 SATURDAY NIGHT DINNER 4-7PM
9 A.B.A.T.E. meeting 11:30am at Post 52	10	11	12	13 Lions Club Dinner, help needed	14	15 SATURDAY NIGHT DINNER 4-7PM
16	17 Post 52 Meeting 7pm	18	19	20	21	22 SATURDAY NIGHT DINNER 4-7PM
23	24	25	26	27	28	29 SATURDAY NIGHT DINNER 4-7PM
30	31 Veterans Fair at Downtown Mall Noon- 5pm					

August 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5 SATURDAY NIGHT DINNER 4-7PM
6	7	8	9	10 Lions Club Dinner, help needed	11	12 SATURDAY NIGHT DINNER 4-7PM
13 A.B.A.T.E. meeting 11:30am at Post 52	14	15	16	17	18	19 SATURDAY NIGHT DINNER 4-7PM
20	21 NO Post meeting	22	23	24	25	26 SATURDAY NIGHT DINNER 4-7PM
CRAWFORD COUNTY FAIR, August 20-26						
27	28	29	30	31		

