

VFW Post 4676
January-February 2026
Newsletter

The Turning of the Log

***The old year fades, its watch is done,
A silent chapter, 'neath setting sun.
Of paths we walked, and battles fought,
And lessons learned, so dearly bought.
The log is signed, the final line is read,
We honor moments past, the living and the dead.
The ghosts of yesterday may linger near,
But hope arrives with the turning of the year.
The new watch calls, a fresh-laid chart,
A silent promise within each heart.
For peace we strive, in the world we keep,
While silent stars above their vigil keep.
To futures bright, we turn our face,
And move ahead with enduring grace.***

Cherished Navy Tradition.

First entry into the Official Deck Log occurs January 1st. A practice that dates back to 1929 annually.

Website: <https://vfwpost4676.com/>

Calendar: <https://calendar.google.com/calendar/u/0/embed?src=cmdr4676@gmail.com&ctz=America/Chicago>

Facebook (private): <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1513705682228151>

Public Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1019221236898085>

Commander: Each New Year is a renewed beginning for many of us who wish to become better in various aspects of our lives – appearance, finances, relationships, health or more. Yet, what is most important is our self-respect, attitude and how we perceive others in relations to ourselves. The manner in which we engage with others serves as an indicator of our own character. Demonstrating kindness, respect, and consideration toward others reflects those same qualities within ourselves. Conversely, looking down on others with disdain, hatred, or a sense of superiority is the complete opposite of love and respect, and demonstrates clear contempt and absence of professionalism. The adage states, "You made your bed, now lie in it." reflects the principle that individuals are responsible for the outcomes of their decisions. Actions and words, regardless of their intent, can have enduring effects that are not easily forgotten or forgiven, whether they stem from positive or negative motives. In many ways, our upbringing, education, experiences, and what we've learned have formed who we are at our core - heart, soul, and mind. Most of our members truly embody respect, regardless of whether they've been mistreated or spoken ill of by someone else. Our commitment to fostering a welcoming, friendly, and caring environment is sincere. It is generally apparent when behavior is fake, insincere, manipulative, or lacking authenticity. Our post operates on a membership-driven basis, and as United States military Veterans of Foreign Wars, we are committed to upholding the values of protection, honor, and respect for all. We encourage everyone to participate with kindness, a clear mind, and sincere concern for others. As always, Ask Me. *Melvin "Mel" Yamamoto*

****I live by this rule: don't complain about a situation unless you're ready to take action. If you see a problem but bring no solution, complaining serves no purpose. Arnold Schwarzenegger***

House Chairman: To think it's been 26 years since all of the Y2K scares and the life altering events that were to come with it. Thankfully, none of that came to fruition and the world kept turning. Instead, just the opposite happened. Technology continued to advance along with many other things in our daily lives. How does that relate to this newsletter, you might ask? On a much smaller scale, I think about that with our Canteen operations and the events we hold. We try to provide new and exciting offerings and events to keep things fresh.

We plan to continue with that philosophy in 2026. In order to do that, it takes a little help from many people. We need creative ideas, a plan to go with them, and most of all, a willingness to help out. It also requires an open mind. One person's way isn't always the best or only way. When we all work together with nothing but the best interest of our post and members in mind, great things happen. That could be a great New Year's resolution.

By the time you receive this we may already have one new item in place. It's an updated advertising system to replace the marquee we've been using for years. We're planning for the first part of January for it to go live. Please come check it out.

As I always say, we have such a great post. Let's continue to build on the success of those that came before us and make 2026 another amazing year. Thanks for all you do! *Paul Yingst*

Midwinter Conference: January 15-18, 2026. Corpus Christi, TX. Omni Hotel. For more information, reservations, conference agenda, go to texasvfw.org.

2026-2027 Officer Nominations & Elections: All nominations for 2026-2027 officers will be conducted at the March and April general membership meeting. With voting at the April meeting, after nominations. Newly elected officers and appointees will be taking their positions in June. We invite all comrades in "Good Standing" to consider volunteering for an elected or appointed post position.

Adjutant: VFW Post and Auxiliary, let's welcome 2026! I hope to share a story, smile and drink in 2026. Visit your VFW Post for comradeship, and enjoy exciting events planned for every month of 2026! Happy New Year and best of health to all. *Joe Berg*



Hebrews 12:1–2 “Let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us...” Christians can run the race of life well only by laying aside any impediment that hinders one from putting forth our best effort. As the calendar turns and we greet another year, some of us will make New Year's resolutions that seldom last for any length of time. I would encourage you to consider making revelations instead of resolutions. Make the revelation that we cannot see, nor predict, what the year ahead might bring. Make the revelation that Veteran families carry a legacy of sacrifice and service. Make the revelation that the new year is an opportunity to pass on not only stories of military courage but also testimonies of God's faithfulness. Make the revelation that the phrase “under God” has been part of our nation from its very founding. We as a nation are accountable to Him and responsible to live according to His instructions. **“Blessed is the nation whose God is the LORD, the people He has chosen as His own inheritance.”—Psalm 33:12.** Make the revelation that the VFW and its Auxiliary were founded to provide vital assistance and support to our service members, our veterans, and their families. This task requires commitment, focus, discipline, compassion, and work with a spirit of harmony. We are privileged to be members called and chosen by God to carry out the programs of this organization. Unlike resolutions that are subject to failure; these revelations will guide us throughout the new year. They will remind us to remain dedicated to our organization and committed to the programs we endorse; choose to see the possibilities instead of the problems. The race of life requires endurance, persistence, and sustained effort - not a short sprint. It continues to be a joy to serve as your chaplain. Know that my prayers are with each of you. Join me as I pray for all who are ill and their caregivers; for those who are grieving; for our nation; for veterans who gave so much to our country; and for those who serve to protect us and preserve our freedoms. I ask that you lift up military families in your daily thoughts and prayers. May the new year bring you a refreshed spirit, inspiration and renewed energy to serve our VFW Post, veterans, and their families. Remember Benjamin Franklin's advice: “be always at war with your vices, at peace with your neighbors, and let each New Year find you a better person”. Wishing you a Happy New year filled with beautiful moments, treasured memories, and all the blessings a heart can know! *Chrystal Coble*

Committees in Progress: Interested in volunteering to help our mission, post, veterans, family members and the community? Contact cmdr4676@gmail.com.

1. Scholarship. 2. Membership. 3. Post Activities and Events. 4. Community Service. 5. Public Relations (Website, Facebook, etc.). 6. POW/MIA. 7. Donations. 8. Fundraising. 9. Buddy Poppy. 10. House. 11. Historian. 12. VPR

Reminder: Post Gift Cards: VFW Post 4676 now offers gift cards available for purchase, which may be used exclusively for canteen transactions. Contact canteen for more information.

Membership Recruiting Report: Aaron W. 1. Alberto M. 1. Carlos F. 1. Garland C. 1. Glenn R. 1. Jonathon T. 1. Paul Y. 3. Michael M. 4. Robert S. 9. Timothy B. 11. Thank you for actively recruiting for VFW. Our post needs 11 new members to reach our goal.

Legacy Life Member: As written in our 2024-2025 VFW Post 4676 Standing Rules: 7. Legacy Life Member Incentives: a. Elected and appointed officers will receive 50% off the cost for Bronze, Silver and Gold of their choice during each year of service. b. Members in good standing will receive 25% off the cost of Bronze, Silver and Gold of their choice. *Legacy Life Member incentive is based on availability of funds.

****Our/Your Auxiliary plays an imperative role in the VFW mission.** They support veterans, service members, their families, and communities by assisting the VFW, promoting patriotism, advocating for veterans' rights through legislation and providing charitable aid, all under their motto, “Honor the dead by helping the living”.

***We welcome all members, family members and guests to participate in post activities, volunteer for community service projects and post events in the context of “Still Serving”.** Remember, our mission is to serve veterans and their families...and we start at home *First*.

JANUARY 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																				
				1 New Year's Day 7p Dart league	2 RED Shirt Fri. Even-Steven! (MOCA) 5p Happy Hour *Both Hall Rentals	3 8a Aux Breakfast																																																																																				
4 2p Never Say Never Painting Group	5 5p Bingo	6 5p Pinochle Group 6p UC Bass Club	7 11a-1p Blessing Box	8 6p House Comm. Mtg. 6:30p SA Rodders Car	9 RED Shirt Fri. Even-Steven! (MOCA) 5p Happy Hour 6p DJ Music/Karaoke	10 9a Roadside/Facility Clean-up Dist. 20 Mtg.Post 9186 11a Hall Rental																																																																																				
11 3p Ruff Ryders MCG	12 5p Bingo	13 5p Pinochle Group 6p SAPD Bass Club	14 6p Officer Huddle 7p Submarine Vets 11a-1p Blessing Box	15 Mid-Winter Conference 7p Dart league	16 RED Shirt Fri. Mid-Winter Conference Even-Steven! (MOCA) 5p Happy Hour 6p DJ Music/Karaoke	17 Mid-Winter Conference 8a Taco Breakfast Scout Troop 343																																																																																				
18 Mid-Winter Conference 3p TOROS MCG	19 ML King Day 5p Bingo	20 11:30a Hangar Doors 5p Pinochle Group 6p Metro Bass Club	21 6p Gen Mbr Mtg 11a-1p Blessing Box	22 7p Dart league	23 RED Shirt Fri. Even-Steven! (MOCA) 5p Happy Hour 6p DJ Music/Karaoke	24 11a Scout Troop 338 Pinewood Derby 4p Cmdrs Fundraiser																																																																																				
25	26 5p Bingo 6p VPR-Vietnam Peace Accord	27 5p Pinochle Group	28 7p Auxiliary Mtg 11a-1p Blessing Box	29 7p Dart league	30 RED Shirt Fri. Even-Steven! (MOCA) 5p Happy Hour 6p DJ Music/Karaoke	31 8a MOC Breakfast 12:30 MOC Scratch																																																																																				
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FEBRUARY 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 Groundhog Day 5p Bingo	3 5p Pinochle Group 6p UC Bass Club	4 11a-1p Blessing Box	5 7p Dart league	6 RED Shirt Friday Even-Steven! (MOC) 5p Happy Hour 6p DJ Music/Karaoke	7 8a Aux Breakfast
8 3p Ruff Ryders MCG	9 5p Bingo	10 5p Pinochle Group 6p SAPD Bass Club	11 6p Officer Huddle 7p Submarine Vets 11a-1p Blessing Box	12 6p House Comm. Mtg. 6:30p SA Rodders Car 7p Dart league	13 RED Shirt Friday Even-Steven! (MOC) 5p Happy Hour 6p DJ Music/Karaoke	14 Valentine's Day TBD-Valentine Event
15 3p TOROS MCG	16 Presidents' Day 5p Bingo 6p VPR-Sinking of USS Maine	17 Mardi Gras 11:30a Hangar Doors 5p Pinochle Group 6p Metro Bass Club	18 Ash Wednesday 6p Gen Mbr Mtg 11a-1p Blessing Box	19 7p Dart league	20 RED Shirt Friday Even-Steven! (MOC) 5p Happy Hour 6p DJ Music/Karaoke	21 12p-MASH Bash
22	23 5p Bingo	24 5p Pinochle Group	25 7p Auxiliary Mtg 11a-1p Blessing Box	26 7p Dart league	27 RED Shirt Friday Even-Steven! (MOC) 5p Happy Hour 6p DJ Music/Karaoke	28 5p VPR-Operation Desert Storm 8a MOC Breakfast 12:30 MOC Scratch