

Commander Notes

Comrades,

I would like to start off by thanking our members for having faith in me by voting me into office many months ago. We have faced many challenges with the COVID-19 threat and we will continue to be challenged operating under and abiding by all the laws and rules imposed on how to safeguard against the virus. However, we will continue to have faith that we can operate under any limiting directives that "the powers to be" throw at us. Having said that, our post members health and safety will continue to be priority #1.

We have made some major renovations since COVID arrived at our door. Both bathrooms have been remodeled, to include adding a huge maintenance room which Daniel Poole calls "His Office." A new Table of Knowledge has been added to our canteen area, as well as 14 new bar stools. Our game room was reorganized to add more V-Sweeps machines and a Hero's Wall containing flag cases and shadow boxes. In addition, we have replaced many table tops with wooden ones to match the bar, drunk table, and new cabinets.

You may ask yourself, "How did we manage all of this without breaking the bank?" It's simple ... We have a great Canteen Manager, bartenders, custodian and some very generous members who dedicated countless hours working in the kitchen and around the post! I give a big ole shout out to Dave and Mary Crookham, Bob Stone, Brad Shampine and Chloe Robinson, Tim and Melissa Strother, Rob and Kat Henkel,

Daniel and Laura Nevins, Todd "Hoss" Brown, Jeff Jamison, Uriel Hernandez, Don Loomis, Bill Peck, Mel and Tammy Yamamoto and Brandon Reams for their contributions during these difficult times.

We must now look to the future and chart a course that keeps us operating efficiently while still assisting other posts, veterans and their families, as well as the local community. Things I would like to see on the docket; VFW Tends Bar, Buddy Poppies, Roadside Cleanup, Cheese steak Fundraiser, and any other ideas that could lead to increasing our funds. The House Committee would like to see the rest of our furniture match all the new items recently added. This will come at a cost, but I'm sure with a few fundraisers we can make it happen.

Finally, please help me welcome the not so new crew ...

Sr. Vice Commander	James Johns
Jr. Vice Commander	Rob Henkel
Quartermaster	Bob Stone
Chaplain	Lloyd Owens
1 yr. Trustee	Jeff Jamison
2 yr. Trustee	T.W. Lundsford
3 yr. Trustee	Mike Garza
Adjutant	Dave Crookham
Service Officer	James Johns
Judge Advocate	Daniel Nevins
Surgeon	Tim Strother

I look forward to working for you!
Alan K. Reams (AI)
Commander, VFW Post 4676

Auxiliary President

As the new Auxiliary President my goals are to increase membership and serve our veterans.

It is time for membership renewal. We would like to have them in by November 1st so we can process by December 1st. There will be a free Membership Appreciation dinner for those who have renewed and Life Members in the Spring. Please let us know if any of your information has changed; address, email address, or phone number. We have started collecting for our Thanksgiving baskets. Please come and put your name on the signup sheet. We are not sure when the Auxiliary breakfast will start back, but we will keep you informed.

We are reviewing the Standing Rules. Let me know if you need a copy. Please call me at (210)997-4857.

I want thank Deana Hunt for donating breast cancer pens for a fund raiser.

Debbie Potter
Auxiliary President

Post Quartermaster

Just a reminder to all of our annual members. Please pay attention to your dues renewal notice from National. They come up in every month except July for the 2020/2021 membership year. If you pay early, your renewal date will show the date on your card plus 1 (one) year.

Robert Stone, QM
stonebob@msn.com

Chaplain's Corner

I am back on station, and hope ya'll are keeping well and safe. I would like to thank Mike Galvan and Larry Eisenlohr for stepping up to cover my duties while I was away, god bless you both. If any member has a death in their family or experiencing a

hardship I would appreciate you contacting me VIA: email-sockmau@att.net/Text-210-218-6616, or call the post and have them contact me.

May the lord keep and look over you. Stay safe.

Lloyd Owens
Chaplain

Auxiliary Chaplain

There are so many things to celebrate this time of year; Veteran's Day, Thanksgiving, and Christmas. Fall reminds us how small we are in the big picture of life and yet how important we are to God. It is a season that brings comfort and highlights the power of a thankful heart. 1 Thessalonians 5: 16-18, *"Always be joyful, Never stop praying. Be thankful in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you who belong to Christ Jesus."*

While the corona virus may impact our health, our economy, and our very way of life, we can be assured that we serve a God who is bigger and stronger than any sickness, fear, or darkness. "Trust in the Lord with all you heart; do not depend on your own understanding." (Proverbs 3:5)

It is an uncertain time for all of us.

However, this is the season to give thanks for our many blessings and opportunities that mold us into who we are and that which is important to us. This Thanksgiving, I am extremely grateful to represent such a caring and dedicated group of people. Our organization's greatness is a reflection of your continued commitment to our objectives and assisting veterans whenever possible. This holiday season, honor the veterans in your life and make it a celebration of generosity, health, and love.

Show others the true meaning of Christmas by giving the gift of God's love and by loving others as God first loved you.

As this year draws to a close, fill your heart with cherished memories of the past and hope for a bright future. Please pray for those who are ill and their caregivers; pray for those who are grieving; pray for our nation; pray for those veterans who gave so much for our country; and pray for those who serve to protect us and preserve our freedoms.

May you have a thankful heart and the Merriest Christmas!
Chrystal Coble
VFW Auxiliary Chaplain



Cootie Corner

Listen Up

This being my first newsletter input since assuming my honorable position as Seam Squirrel it will sound like I don't know what the hell I'm doing and you would be correct. We look as though our Scratch is a go on the 25th, also, we will attempt a MOC breakfast on that day. Please make an effort to assist in the breakfast we will need servers, bus boys etc. I would like to introduce the new MOC officers:

SKY PILOT: Joe Ramon
PROVEST MARSHALL: Garland Noble

JIMMY LEGS: James Johns
KEEPER OF THE LOUSY RECORDS;
Rolando Chaless
SHYSTER: George Smoot
PILPUSHER: Larry Eisenlohr
HUNGRY COOTIE: Rolando Charles
HOSPITAL CHAIR: John (Jay) Stevens

That's all from the seamless squirrel for now
stay lousy cooties
Lloyd Owens
Seamless Squirrel

Canteen News

Hello to all fellow members of Post 4676!
So, Where do I begin? In March we were shut down due to the Corona Virus, so we took advantage of being shut down and cleaned the entire building from top to bottom, with some improvements to the Post. We invite you stop by and check out the changes. There is another big change around here due to this pandemic. Drum roll please.....We are now operating as a Restaurant 7 days a week from 11:00 - 9:00. This was the only way we could survive during these hardships that we have all been dealing with since March. It was definitely a learning curve for our entire staff. I would like to thank each one of them for their volunteer time, support, and patience with me during these stressful times!

We would like to welcome our new bartenders Jennifer Hamilton and Ryan Ferguson. They are a welcomed addition to our wonderful staff!

Upcoming events:

Oct. 30 4-7 pm - Spooktacular dinner to include smoked chicken split breast, leg, smashed potatoes, mixed veggies and a roll for \$10.00. Karaoke to follow till closing. If you wear a costume, your first beverage

of choice under \$5.00 is on us! Not Literally!!

Nov. 8 1:30 pm - Flag retirement ceremony with Randolph Cub Scout Pack 338. We will be having a burger and hot dog burn following the ceremony.

Nov. 11 12:00 pm - Honor Veterans. Fly the Flag on Veteran's Day! We will have a VPR outside by our Flag pole to be followed by Taps, National Anthem, God Bless America, and additional music performed by a local high school home based Orchestra. Hamburger and Hot dog burn directly following ceremony.

Nov. 19 - The cutoff day for bringing in donations for our Thanksgiving baskets. There are still items that need to be donated, sign-up sheet is at the Post. If you are unable to get out and shop for the items we are also taking monetary donations and will pick up all the items that were not donated.

Nov. 20 11am-1pm - Thanksgiving day baskets will be picked up by the families that are chosen. Volunteers are needed to pass out baskets.

Nov. 26 3-9pm - Thanksgiving. We will be open later than usual, so that we can spend time with family and friends. The kitchen will be open the same hours. I'm pretty sure I will come up with something tasty for this holiday. I am personally thankful for my VFW Family!!

Dec. 5, 5-9pm - Post Christmas Party. Details to follow depending on the mandates given to us by our Government.

Dec. 12, 5-7pm - Boysville Party preparation. Due to Covid 19, we will still throw a Christmas Party for all the children at Boysville, instead of just the teenagers that traveled here in the past. We will deliver their cookies, stockings with treats, and the donations from General membership and auxiliary. The party will be catered by a fun friendly restaurant for teens, like Chipotle or Chick fil A. Please call me with any suggestions for food or entertainment.

Volunteers are needed for Saturday, when everything will be delivered and set up.

Dec. 17 - The cutoff for bringing in donations for our Christmas baskets. The sign-up sheet will be posted Nov 22. If you are unable to get out and shop for the items, we are also taking monetary donations and will pick up all the items that were not donated.

Dec. 21 11am-1pm - Christmas baskets will be picked up by the families that are chosen.

Volunteers needed to pass out baskets.

Dec. 25 - Closed Christmas Day

Dec.31 - New Years Eve Party.....I hope!

Details to follow depending on the mandates given to us by our Government.

My fingers are tired from all that typing. The Commander, house committee, and myself are working diligently to get through the Holiday season successfully with the restrictions set before us. We are forced to make changes to the way we used to do things. I ask that when you visit the post and attend the events listed above that you follow the rules that are in place at that time. I'm quite aware that the rules have changed several times since we have become a restaurant however we are within our guide lines. I don't make announcements about the changes because, as you know, the mandates change almost weekly. I research every day to come up with a way that we remain open to our members for camaraderie, food, and beverages. I thank you in advance for abiding by the following rules while visiting the Post:

- Wear a mask when entering the Post.
- Wear a mask while standing.
- Do not remove your mask until fully seated.
- No socializing at the bar without a seat.
- Order at the service area only.
- Practice 6ft. social distancing at all times.
- Tables not to exceed 10 people.

- No entering the kitchen unless you are an employee or you have permission.
If we all follow these rules, then we will be allowed to operate as a restaurant until we get back to some type of normalcy. We have been visited by our Health department and TABC without citations and I personally would like to keep it that way. If we all work together we can make this happen.
God Bless and see you soon!!

Rhonda Reams
Canteen Manager