



V. F. W. POST 4495 QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

515 N. WEST AVENUE
TAYLORVILLE, ILLINOIS 62568
(217)824-2115

Spring 2021
March/April/May

Volume No. 24 Issue No. 1



AUXILIARY MAKES BLANKETS & PILLOWS

At the January meeting, Kirby Casner with Quad County Hospice picked up the blankets and pillows that the Auxiliary made for their pinning ceremonies for Veterans. The Auxiliary will be accepting donations again this year to buy material to help with this worthy cause. Pictured left to right: Kari Scott, Jacinda Prose, Kirby Casner, Sharon Prose, Marcy Koches & Diane Jones.




TIM COULTAS
1967 - 2021

Congratulations!



COMMANDER'S FAMILY INCREASES IN SIZE

On February 26, 2021, Commander DJ DeVore welcomed new addition, Austyn to his family. Big sister, Jaylynn & big brother, Gage are ready to help mom, Kaci with little sister.

**SAVE THE DATE:
JULY 10, 2021
VFW RIDERS
ANNUAL PTSD
AWARENESS
BENEFIT RIDE** 



The COMMANDER'S CORNER



Hello everyone. I hope this article finds you in great spirits. I want to first off tell you how happy I was to see everyone at the fish fries. We implemented a drive through this year as well as delivery and it took off. We still had some patrons dinning in as well and that number increased each week. It was such a pleasure seeing everyone get out and enjoy each other's company while eating our great fish/shrimp meals.

As many of you knew, we extended our \$10,000 raffle sales. We had our drawing on good Friday. By the time you read this, the winner will

have been drawn.

We are still wanting veterans to join our growing family. If you know of any veterans wanting to join the VFW, bring them on out. We would love to meet them and get them signed up.

On a closing note, I want to take time to tell everyone that works hard at the VFW, donates their time over and over, and helps whenever it is asked of them; **THANK YOU**. If it was not for the hard work of a few, the VFW might not be open. They come out early on Friday mornings and cut up fish and get the hall ready for the fish fry. They come in on Saturday mornings and help clean up the mess from the night before. They also help fix anything that breaks at the hall. Thank you for all your hard work and dedication. With COVID diminishing away, I hope that everyone can get back to their normal lives. I hope to see everyone at the VFW soon. Thank you

*Hope to see you all very soon,
DJ DeVore, Commander*

QUARTERMASTER REPORT



Welcome to Spring Everyone.

I hope this finds everyone well after the long winter season. Please come join us at the home for many events going on.

Membership

Currently, we have 308 members on our roster. That is down from last year. Currently, there are eight members who are past due on their membership dues.

Financial

As of 1 December 2020, Post 4495 has **\$50,472.42** in checking; **\$4,750.94** in savings and **\$5,765.14** in one certificate of deposit for total Post Funds of **\$60,988.50**

Final Thoughts

Spring is nature's way of saying "Let's Party"

May God continue to bless you!

*Post Quartermaster,
Stacy Hankla*

Chaplain's Corner



Greetings.

As we inch towards longer days and things getting back to life as we knew them, I'm reminded of the history that we've lost as we loose our older generation. As we

move into spring and move ahead in time, we have a chance to get a fresh start. Fresh starts are the minds way of a 'do over'. Reconnecting with distant friends and family, older veterans, and those we know in nursing homes and assisted living facilities. Let us take those few extra moments to reach out to those in those facilities who either have no families left or close. We need to be their families..

As we are reaching out to those veterans and extended family, let us remember our own extended family members that we have recently lost. May they enjoy peace and past family and friends along side the good and forgiving Lord.

May the Lord be with you all along with sunny and fulfilling days. May you stay active and healthy.

*Go with God,
Beverly Walker,
Post 4495 Chaplain
(217)371-4595*

POST 4495 SERVICE OFFICER



Getting back to Normal.....

If you haven't got your shot please get it. The VA in Decatur have been taking good care of the Veterans that are going there. Hardly no long lines. Call them and make appointment.

Pharmacies are giving the shots. Those under 65 with a medical issue, are also eligible. So get it done and let's get back to Normal.

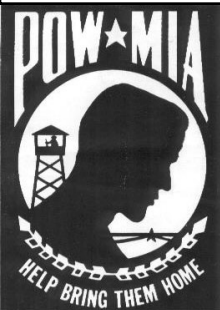
The Honor Guard is in need of uniforms. If you have some or part of one and no longer wanting to serve on the Honor Guard please turn them in to the Post.

Activities at the Post are still down. That tells me some are still staying home and safe. If you know someone you haven't seen, please check up on them. Call them on the phone, go to their door even if you just talk on the porch. Seeing some friends will help both of you. please take your mask too if you feel you still need it.

The VFW Service office in Chicago has opened up with just two employees working in the office and they are ready to help you with claims or questions.....

I wish all of you a happy spring and lets all have a Normal summer and life again.....

*Glen Goodrich,
Post Service Officer
Phone: (217)820-2038*



**With Honor & Gratitude
We Remember**

News from the Auxiliary



Well the Fish Fries are off to a good start and will be done by the time you all receive this newsletter—I hope that you were able to come out for a good helping of the best Fish and some of the Auxiliary great baked items.

This winter we did not have any new members apply for membership in the Auxiliary. We always welcome new members so if you know of anyone that is interested please ask for an application at the bar of the VFW. We achieved 100% membership by December 31 this last year and we

thank all members for their continued support of the VFW Auxiliary.

We held our Christmas party in December with good food and games. We also heard from our Patriots Pen and Voice of Democracy winners. It was nice to gather and visit with everyone !!

At our January meeting, Kirby Casner with Quad County Hospice came to pick up the blankets and pillows that we had made for their pinning ceremonies for Veterans. We will be saving money and accepting donations again this year to buy material to help with this worthy cause.

Our scholarship applications are due March 15th and a decision will be made with the winners being notified by the middle of April. We are fortunate this year in that we have received a donation from the Salvage Dogs to award another \$500 scholarship. We thank them for this donation and hope you keep them in mind if you have scrap metal to donate.

Events over the next couple of months will include another Pancake and Sausage breakfast to be held on Saturday

April 17th. Auxiliary members had suggested since this was such a popular event in the fall that maybe we could hold it twice a year—in the fall and in the spring. So we hope you will come out to support this event at the VFW from 7-11 for the best breakfast in town !!

The Auxiliary will be holding Poppy distribution on Friday and Saturday May 7th and 8th. We hope members will volunteer to work a 2 hour shift on one of those 2 days. Jacinda will be setting up the schedule of work times and we thank you in advance for your help.

The popular “paint parties” will continue to be held as the Auxiliary is planning another one this spring. Watch the Chat or Facebook for more information on this fun event. Mark your calendar for the Memorial Day service at Oak Hill Cemetery on Monday May 31st at 10:00 AM. Last year due to COVID the ceremony was shortened but we are hoping that it will be held this year.

We are also planning a family picnic to be held on Saturday June 5th at the VFW. We had scheduled to have one last year but had to cancel due to COVID. It is for all VFW and Auxiliary families to attend. We plan to cook hamburgers and hot dogs with plenty of outdoor games for adults and kids. Please stay tuned for details to come.

Sadly, at the February meeting we draped the Auxiliary Charter for our friend Tim Coultas who left us on February 15th. Memories of Tim will always remain in our hearts.

We hope to see more folks at these upcoming VFW events and our Auxiliary meetings, especially as more people receive their COVID shots and feel more comfortable coming around again.

Welcome Spring and the Warmer Weather !!

Diane Jones, Auxiliary President
707diane.jones@gmail.com
217-827-1659

TAYLORVILLE VFW RIDERS

Hello everyone, I hope this article finds you all in great spirits. The Riders are in high gear getting ready for this year’s PTSD benefit run. We are going to have two raffle items, one is a golf cart (it is currently being built) and an AR-15 5.56/2.23. As some of you know AR-15 are hard to get anymore. Make sure you come out and get yourself a ticket, which are \$10 apiece before they are sold out.



This year has been a hard and sad one for the Riders and the VFW. Our brother, Tim Coultas, who was battling cancer passed away on February 15, 2021 from a heart attack. He always brought a smile to everyone in the room when he walked in. He will be forever missed.

With spring around the corner, we are all itching to get our bikes out and go for a ride. If COVID taught us anything it is, to do what makes you happy. Spend time with the people that make you feel good, and you make them feel good.

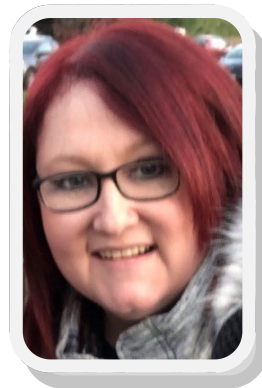
SEMPER FI!!

DJ DeVore, President
Taylorville Post 4495 Riders



BUDDY POPPY DAYS

Friday May 7th
Saturday May 8th



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED to work in 2 hour shifts on Buddy Poppy Days

Call Jacinda Prose at (217)827-1894 to schedule your hours and location to help distribute Buddy Poppies!



Wear it proudly!





EDITOR'S COMMENTS GREETINGS...

By the time you read this, it will already be April! It seems that the older I get, the faster time goes. As Geoffrey Chaucer said, "Time and tide wait for no man."

And they sure aren't waiting for me. The sad part about all this is, I'm losing so much because of the COVID virus dictating what I can and can not do.

Not only have many of us lost out on some good times, but our Post has suffered due to COVID. A lot of our programs have gone astray, especially our fund raisers that keep the doors open at the Veterans Memorial Home.

It all pretty much started in March of 2020 with the Lenten Fish Fries. We no sooner got started when we had to shut down our operation. Over the years, the fish fries have been the main money maker for keeping the doors open at the Memori-

al Home. As most everyone should be aware, Taylorville VFW Post 4495, along with its Auxiliary and Post 4495 Riders are housed at the Veterans Memorial Home. All three are working in conjunction with the Memorial Home members to keep the doors open.

For the past year, we've been limited to what we can do. There were lengthy times when we had no income. This was due to the bar, gaming machines, hall rental and food sales being shut down. However, we still had utility bills, insurance, license fees and other on going maintenance bills that needed paid.

When we were able to open the doors, we were often limited to the number of people who could attend a function. Attendance was also determined by how safe our members felt about coming out and socializing with others out of concern over the virus.

Last year, we were able to celebrate or participate in many of our annual events, such as, Poppy Day, Memorial Day, 4th of July Parade, our Riders' Annual PTSD Benefit Run, Anniversary Party, Pancake & Sausage Breakfast and Veterans Day as

well as others. However, if you attended any of these or participated in them, you know how low the attendance was at these functions.

I'm sure everyone knows of someone who has been effected by the virus, whether family member, friend or acquaintance. We've all been touched in some way by this epidemic. A lot of us have had to change our lifestyle. We've traded our freedom for safety. Everyone has made their own decision on how they have chosen to lead their life during this rough time. Whether you agree or not, it's the individual's choice

When the doors were ordered shut, the bar was closed and the machines were turned off. No parties, no service, no income. It's been a slow process in getting that trade built back up.

Several members have came up with ideas on how to raise money to keep the Home afloat. This issue contains several new and old "Fund Raisers". Please support as many as you can!

**God Bless You and Your Family,
Tony Durbin, Editor**

LENTEN FISH FRIES

By the time you read this, they will be over for another year.

Beginning February 19th and ending April 2nd, the annual fish fries started slow and by the 6th week the number of dinners sold was over 300. In addition to **Dine-in & Carryout**, the Home offered **Drive-thru & Home Delivery**.

A big **THANK YOU** to all who worked, both the morning crew who got things ready, and the night crew who cooked & served.



The drawing was initially scheduled for December 13, 2020. However, with the virus still looming over head, it was hard to sell tickets. The winner will have been drawn at the last fish fry.

\$10,000 Raffle

Sponsored by Taylorville VFW Post 4495

Drawing • **April 2, 2021**

Need not be present to win
We reserve the right to modify payouts if all tickets are not sold.

\$50 Each

\$50 Each

No. 157



The Queen of Hearts

The Queen of Hearts Drawing began on October 7, 2020 with a prize of \$1,000. Since her majesty hasn't made an appearance, the prize has risen to \$4,470. Beginning on the 2nd Tuesday in April, the drawing will be held every Tuesday night. It has been on Wednesday.

Doors open at 6:00 pm. Ticket Sales end at 7:40 pm.
Drawing promptly at 8:00 pm.

50/50 tickets Food available for purchase.

**NO OUTSIDE FOOD OR DRINK ALLOWED
OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

The Father/son combo of Scott and his dad, Chuck Campbell have been faithfully selling tickets at this event.



MEN'S NITE OUT

Held on the 1st Monday of the month from October to June.

Meal consists of: Steak (cooked to order), baked potato and lettuce salad.

Serving from 6pm to 7pm.

50/50 drawing at 7pm

Great opportunity to enjoy a hearty meal with good conversation with old and new friends in a relaxing atmosphere.



AUXILIARY PANCAKE & SAUSAGE BREAKFAST

April 17, 2021

Serving from: 7 am to 11 am

Donation: Adults \$6.00 Children (under 12) \$3.00

50/50 Drawing

Bake Good Sales

Baked Good Raffles

Drive Thru Available



JUNE 5th 2021

FAMILY PICNIC

MEMBERS & FAMILY



Plans were in the making to have held a Family Picnic last June, but COVID put a stop to those plans.

Plans are in the making again this year with plenty of hamburgers and hotdogs along with plenty of outdoor games for adults and kids.



NEWSLETTER
SPONSORS AND SUPPORTERS

The SALVAGE DOGS
 Metal Collection Serving Veterans in
 Christian County—call (217)561-6003

PERONA'S BODY SHOP
 John & Ron Perona, owners

BROVERMAN PC
 Bob & Quinn Broverman, Attorneys

PEABODY HOME INSPECTIONS
 Dean Peabody—(217-824-2097

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 Quality Meats - a Tradition
 Thank you for your service

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FUNERAL HOME
 Michael A. Assalley, owner

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 "Caring is what we do best"

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MASTERTON FUNERAL HOME &
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 Michael & Amy Masterson

CHRISTIAN COUNTY NRA
AFFILIATE

THE COUNTY SEAT
 Jim & Kathy Lindsey, owners



In Loving Memory



RELIO "RED" CAMBRUZZI
 By Family & Friends



HERMAN ALTMAN
 By Family & Friends

FRANK SEXTON
 By the Sexton Family

DONALD GREFFE
 By Family & Friends

JOHN B. PERONA
 By Family and Friends

EDWARD F. VOGETZER
 By Family and Friends

DARRIEL MAMMEN
 By Tracy Carls, daughter

JACK DOYLE
 By Norma Doyle, wife

BOB WHITTAKER
 By Family & Friends

JOHN & MARIE WHITTAKER
 By Bill, Brad & Brent, sons

DESIRE "JACK" BOUVET
 & TERRY BOUVET

By Darlene Bouvet, wife & mother
WILLIAM "BILL" SIMS, USMC
 By Richard Sims, Life Member & Friends

DARRIEL, "SHAKER" & DEON
 By a Friend

GEORGE FROMM & BILL GRANT
 By Monica Grant, wife

LAWRENCE "POP" IMPASTATO
 By Bob Weeden, Life Member

ROY RUSSELL

By Jimmy Crawford, Life Member

JAMES NAGLE, ROBERT OPOLKA
 & EUGENE HOFFMAN

By Rick & Gail Hoffman
WALTER CUMMINGS

By Family & Friends

DAYNE RAY

By Earl & Dayna Acup, daughter
DARRIEL & BEANS MAMMEN

By Sharon Younker, sister

BEN HARRISON
 By Richard Harrison, brother
KEITH & CAROLYN DORRIS

By Ed & Marilyn, Friends

JOE KOVACK

By Kathleen Kovack, wife

JOHN E. LASS

By David Lass, son

BERLIN SPARLING

By Larry & Judy Stringer, daughter

JAMES SHAFER

By wife, Linda Shafer & Friends

HARRY "RED" MCKINNIE &

RENO YATTONI

By Doug & Marcia McKinnie, son/dau.

ROBERT E. JACOBS

By Dennis & Linda Rexroad

By Linda Graham

HOWARD "HACK" WILSON

By Robert Steiner

By Robert Broverman

RICHARD BAUER

By wife, Barbara Bauer

GEORGE WEDDLE

By Enes Weddle

LAWRENCE WHEELER

By Al Showalter, friend

RALPH JAMES FIAONI

By Family & Friends

LC CALDWELL

By Michelle Heninger

TOM & ROD PETTUS

By Patricia Pettus

HENRY STEPHENSON

By Mark & Linda Stephenson

BYRON PETERS

By wife, Nora, Family & Friends

JOSEPH SAVARIS

By the Morning Crew

RICHARD F STOUT

By Family & Friends

JAMES MARKWELL

By Family & Friends

DONALD MOUTREY

By Wife, Family & Friends

HAROLD "SLICK" PARRISH

By Wife, Family & Friends

JAMES STARK

By Family & Friends



"As comrade after comrade departs,
 we march on with the ranks grown thinner.
 Help us to be faithful unto Thee and
 to one another... and with Thy own ten-
 derness, console and comfort those be-
 reaved by the hand of death."

HELP SUPPORT YOUR
NEWSLETTER
BE A SPONSOR OR
REMEMBER A LOVED ONE
ONLY \$10 PER ISSUE

COMPLIMENTS OF
PAST COMMANDERS

- David Collier & wife, Paula
- Dave Brasche & Family
- Roy Sherman & wife, Dorothy
- Jack Beaman & wife, Earlene
- The late Ed Vogettzter & wife, Marilyn
- The late Loren Arkebauer & wife, Norvella
- The late Joe Rodden & wife, Judy
- The late Herman Altman & wife, Norma
- The late Kenneth Backus & wife,
 the late Anna Backus

Glen Goodrich & wife, Jeanie
 Chuck Schneider & wife, Suzy
CONTINUOUS/LIFE MEMBERS

- Ralph Antle & wife, Linda
- Chuck Drake
- "Sonny" Bertucci
- David Combs

FRIENDS OF THE VFW
 The late Monte Siegrist & wife, Lucy

**ROLL CALL OF FALLEN COMRADES
VFW POST 4495**

*“Day is done, gone the sun,
From the lake, from the hills, from the sky,
All is well, safely rest, God is nigh.*



*Thanks and praise, for our days
‘Neath the sun, ‘neath the stars, ‘neath the sky,
As we go, this we know, God is nigh.”*



Marshal Thomas Froelich

Born: 23 November 1942
Died: 23 January 2021
Life Member
Army—Vietnam



REST IN PEACE

James Henry Starks

Born: 28 September 1925
Died: 7 February 2021
Life Member
Navy—World War II



FINAL SALUTE

Harold “Slick” Parrish

Born: 8 May 1927
Died: 12 February 2021
Life Member
Navy—Asiatic Pacific



MEMORIAL DAY SERVICE

**Monday, May 31, 2021
Oak Hill Cemetery
Program at 10 am**

Pictured right: Charles Pinnell & Jack Doyle, our last Pearl Harbor Survivors. Pinnell (d. 8/1/2012) was aboard the USS Maryland. Doyle (d. 5/18/2007) was aboard the USS Tennessee.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS AT THE VETERANS MEMORIAL HOME

(Scheduled Events as of 3/31/2021) (All Events Subject to Change)

APRIL

- 11 Riders Meeting
- 12 VFW Post 4495 Meeting
- 15 Auxiliary Meeting
- 17 Auxiliary Pancake & Sausage Breakfast
- 24 Yeske Party

MAY

- 3 Men’s Nite Out
- 8 8th Grade Prom

- 9 Riders Meeting
- 10 VFW Post 4495 Meeting
- 16 Auxiliary Paint Party
- 20 Auxiliary Meeting
- 24 Cub Scouts
- 27 Law Enforcement Breakfast
- 31 Memorial Day

JUNE

- 5 Auxiliary Family Picnic
- 7 Men’s Nite Out

- 13 Riders Meeting
- 14 VFW Post 4495 Meeting
- 17 Auxiliary Meeting

JULY

- 10 Riders Benefit Run



VFW Post 4495
515 N. West Avenue
Taylorville, Illinois 62568

Return Service Requested



NO ONE
DOES MORE
FOR
VETERANS

U. S. POSTAGE
PAID
Taylorville, Illinois
PERMIT NO. 181
Nonprofit Organization

VFW AUXILIARY PAINT PARTY

Sunday, May 16, 2021 - 2 pm
Veterans Memorial Home
515 West Ave. Taylorville, IL 62568

Kari Scott, Hostess



Go to Event Page—VFW Auxiliary Paint Party
To sign up & select template



Cost:
\$25

