



OREN DAVIS VFW POST 99 APRIL 2022 NEWSLETTER

Visit us at: WWW.VFW99.ORG

3920 N MLK Jr Dr. Decatur IL 62526 217-428-6811



COMMANDERS CORNER

Greetings to all,

April is upon us and my how time flies. We have had another busy month with some exciting things taking place. We elected two new members to our house committee in March, and are holding our elections for members officers on April 4th. You should consider attending the meeting if you would like to be a part of selecting our officers.

It looks as if the Kitchen is going to finally get completed as the contractors begin March 28th to complete remaining work. All our equipment has been purchased and we are excited to see the day we open drawing close. Of course, we cannot give an actual date but estimate within 2 months we should be good to go.

We held a seminar on suicide Prevention in March and it was a great success, through the media we were able to make the public aware of the serious problem veterans have. We thank our brother and life member Kevin Lockhart for leading this event and his desire to get the word out to everyone possible on this matter.

As always if you know of any veteran or family member in need of assistance, please contact us so we can reach out to them.

Be sure to check out our activity calendar for events and upcoming meetings that you may be interested in. I encourage all members to attend membership meetings which are held the 1st Monday of each month at 18:00 hours.

Joe May

VFW Post 99 Commander



Auxiliary Happenings

March is almost in the books. Since my last writing, the Auxiliary donated a large variety of items and money to Operation Enduring Support for their Easter Packages. This program is based out of Grace United Methodist Church. They have been supporting our Troops for years.

We have contributed a variety of items to our nursing homes. One of our Auxiliary members, Melody G. has adopted one local nursing home and volunteers on a regular basis. God Bless Her!

We are planning a Craft Fair for May 21st!! For more information, please reach out at to me.

The Auxiliary is planning several events. Stay tuned! Have a Blessed Easter.

If you know of any member not receiving their newsletter, please have them reach out to: lisamay1961@gmail.com or 217-855-1733.

Lisa May

VFW Post 99 Auxiliary President



Quartermasters Thoughts

As we slowly slide into Spring, we must reflect on what is happening worldwide. With all of the death and destruction in Ukraine, it is hard to think about being happy with our everyday activities. We must pray for all of the innocent lives lost for no good reason. We must have hope that this atterrible conflict will soon end rather than expand to other countries.

Many beautiful buildings have been destroyed for no good reason. So far US troops have had some duty in the background and hope that this continues. If anything makes this escalate into something that no one really wants. So Pray for all of the US and UK troops in harm's way. On a different note, if you have an annual membership to our post #99, please call us and we will assist you to get your membership up to date. God Bless all our veterans and troops. Call 217-428-6811 for help.

Fred Whobrey

Quartermaster



For information on Cooties speak with

Bill Peveler Past Commander 92-93



COOTIES CORNER WE ARE ALWAYS
LOOKING FOR NEW MEMBERS TO
JOIN. PLEASE CONSIDER
ATTENDING THE NEXT MEETING
ON APRIL 9TH AT 1:30 P

YOU CAN FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK AT

<https://www.facebook.com/vfwpost99>



POST BUSINESS

Kevin Lockhart and Aaron Edgecombe were elected to serve on the House Committee. We want to Thank both of them for their willingness to serve for the next 2 years.

Post Officers will be elected at the April 4th meeting. Be sure to attend so you can help select our 2022-2023 officers.

Kitchen Contractors will begin completion of work on March 29th



DID YOU KNOW THE HISTORY?

The VFW traces its roots back to 1899 when veterans of the Spanish-American War (1898) and the Philippine Insurrection (1899-1902) founded local organizations to secure rights and benefits for their service: Many arrived home wounded or sick. There was no medical care or veterans' pension for them, and they were left to care for themselves!

In their misery, some of these veterans banded together and formed organizations with what would become known as the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States. After chapters were formed in Ohio, Colorado and Pennsylvania, the movement quickly gained momentum. By 1915, membership grew to 5,000; by 1936, membership was almost 200,000.

Since then, the VFW's voice had been instrumental in establishing the Veterans Administration, creating a GI bill for the 20th century, the development of the national cemetery

system and the fight for compensation for Vietnam vets exposed to Agent Orange and for veterans diagnosed with Gulf War Syndrome. In 2008, VFW won a long-fought victory with the passing of a GI Bill for the 21st Century, giving expanded educational benefits to America's active-duty service members, and members of the Guard and Reserves, fighting in Iraq and Afghanistan.

The VFW also has fought for improving VA medical centers services for women veterans.

Besides helping fund the creation of the Vietnam, Korean War, World War II and Women in Military Service memorials, the VFW in 2005 became the first veterans' organization to contribute to building the new Disabled Veterans for Life Memorial, which opened in November 2010.

Annually, the nearly 2 million members of the VFW and its Auxiliaries contribute more than 8.6 million hours of volunteerism in the community, including participation in Make A Difference Day and National Volunteer Week.

From providing over \$3 million in college scholarships and savings bonds to students every year, to encouraging elevation of the Department of Veterans Affairs to the president's cabinet, the VFW is there.



DISABLED VETERANS HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION

To request Summary of Benefits letter
In Macon county.

1. CALL THE VA 1-800-827-1000

Listen to recording – once allowed say “Request Letter.

1. REQUEST SUMMARY OF BENEFITS LETTER

Tell them you would like letter mailed to you.

2. VA WILL MAIL THE SUMMARY TO YOUR ADDRESS

You can also ask them to fax it to Macon County Veterans Assistance office at Fax (217-718-4760). Then you can pick it up at t here office once you call to confirm it has arrived by Fax. Call 217-424-1376.

DECATUR BIG BAND RETURNS TO POST 99 APRIL 2ND @ 3 PM



VFW MISSION

Whenever you are asked about what the VFW does share the following, Our Core Values are

- Always put the interests of our members first
- Treat donors as partners in our cause
- Promote patriotism
- Honor military service
- Ensure the care of veterans and their families
- Serve our communities
- Promote a positive image of the VFW
- Respect the diversity of veteran opinions

The purpose of the VFW is to speed rehabilitation of the nation's disabled and needy veterans, assist veterans' widows and orphans and the dependents of needy or disabled veterans, and promote Americanism by means of education in patriotism and by constructive service to local community.

REMEMBER

MEMBERSHIP DRIVE IS EVERYDAY!

THANK YOU TO OUR MACON COUNTRY HONOR GUARD FOR THEIR NEVER-ENDING SERVICES TO OUR FELLOW VETERANS AND FAMILIES.



VIETNAM VETERAN'S RECOGNITION DAY



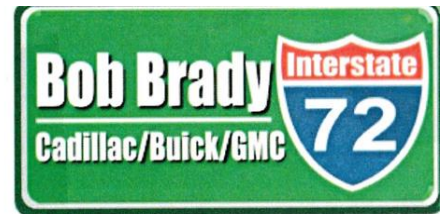
Veterans and their families gathered at the Decatur Civic Center Saturday for a Vietnam Veterans Recognition Day on March 26th with special guest speaker, Iraq War veteran and retired Staff Sgt. Shilo Harris.

We want to thank all our members who are always ready to help when needed.



IT MAYBE

TIME TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP. PLEASE CHECK WITH US AT THE OFFICE OR CALL US ANYTIME.



April 2022						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 KARAOKE 8 PM - 11 PM APRIL FOOLS DAY	2 99 PROOF 7:30 - 10:30 PM BIG BAND 3 - 5
3	4 MEMBERS MEETING 6 PM	5	6 QUEEN OF HEARTS 5:30 PM KARAOKE 7 PM	7	8 KARAOKE 8 PM - 11 PM	9 WEST END BOOGIE 7:30 - 10:30 PM COOTIES MTNG 1:30 PM AT POST 99
10 GREG BICKERS BAND 3 - 6 PM	11	12	13 QUEEN OF HEARTS 5:30 PM KARAOKE 7 PM	14	15 KARAOKE 8 PM - 11 PM	16 ANTICS 7:30 - 10:30 PM HOUSE COMMITTEE MTNG AT 11:00 AM
17 EASTER	18	19	20 QUEEN OF HEARTS 5:30 PM KARAOKE 7 PM	21	22 KARAOKE 8 PM - 11 PM	23 PIZZAZZ 7:30 - 10:30 PM AUXILIARY MTNG 1:00 PM
24	25	26	27 QUEEN OF HEARTS 5:30 PM KARAOKE 7 PM	28	29 KARAOKE 8 PM - 11 PM	30 LADY LUCK 7:30 - 10:30 PM

Your Monthly events Calendar Brought to you by

BOB BRADY AUTO GROUP

- Members Meeting – April 4th @ 6 pm at Post 99
- Cooties Meeting – April 9th @ 1:30 pm at Post 99
- House Committee Mtng – April 16th @ 11 am Post 99
- Auxiliary Meeting – April 23rd @ 1:00 pm Post 99



VA Claim Sharks: Have you been charged unnecessary fees to file a VA disability claim? If so, we want to hear from you. The VFW reported in the June/July 2021 issue of the [VFW magazine](#) that predatory companies, referred to as “claim sharks,” coach veterans in filing VA disability claims with promises of increased ratings while charging them fees and taking a portion of their compensation. Veterans service organizations like the VFW have [accredited service officers](#) who provide claims assistance to veterans free of charge, as is the law. If you or someone you know has been charged unnecessary fees for VA claims assistance, please contact the VFW at vfwac@vfw.org.

House Hearing on Pending Health Legislation: The House Veterans’ Affairs Subcommittee on Health held a hearing to discuss pending health care legislation. VA representatives responded to questions on its policies and procedures regarding non-VA emergency care reimbursement, long-term care alternatives, lactation stations, and an increase in the structural alterations amount for disabled veterans. In a statement submitted for the record, VFW National Legislative Deputy Director Tammy Barlet commented on [H.R. 5754](#), the *Patient Advocate Tracker Act*, which stemmed from a proposal by 2021 VFW-SVA Legislative Fellow Cameron Zbikowski. [Watch the hearing](#) or [read the testimony](#).

House Hearing on Pending Economic Opportunity Legislation: The House Veterans’ Affairs Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity held a hearing to review legislation regarding education, employment, transition, and housing. Proposals included creating permanent policies to protect VA education benefits in cases of national emergency, expanding eligibility of the self-employment track within Veteran Readiness and Employment (VR&E), and making it easier for veterans facing housing insecurity to receive rental assistance. In a statement submitted for the record, VFW National Legislative Associate Director Emily DeVito commented, “The COVID-19 pandemic’s massive impact on higher education and training, including unforeseen closures and rapid changes to modalities, brought to the forefront the urgent need for permanent legislation that would direct VA in these times of crisis.” [Watch the hearing](#) or [read the testimony](#).

House Hearing on Health Care Workforce: The House Committee on Veterans' Affairs conducted a hearing to address VA health care workforce recruitment and retention challenges. VA highlighted steps it is taking to attract and retain employees, such as maximizing bonuses, increasing opportunities to advance, and investing in programs like VHA Reduce Employee Burnout and Optimize Organizational Thriving (REBOOT) to ensure employee well-being. [Watch the hearing.](#)

MIA Update: The Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency announced two burial updates for service members who have been missing and unaccounted-for from World War II. Returning home for burial with full military honors are:

-- Army Staff Sgt. Grady H. Canup, 30, of Greenwood, South Carolina, was assigned to Company C, 12th Infantry Regiment, 4th Infantry Division. He was reported killed in action on Nov. 14, 1944, when enemy artillery fire hit near his foxhole during the Hürtgen Forest offensive in Germany. Following the battle, his remains could not be recovered. Canup will be buried in Anderson, South Carolina, on April 10, 2022. [Read about Canup.](#)

-- Army Air Forces Staff Sgt. Richard G. Salsbury, 19, of Canaan, Maine, was assigned to 345th Bombardment Squadron, 98th Bombardment Group, 9th Air Force. On Aug. 1, 1943, the B-24 Liberator aircraft on which Salsbury was a gunner crashed as a result of enemy anti-aircraft fire. Following the war, his remains could not be identified. Salsbury will be buried in his hometown. The date has yet to be determined. [Read about Salsbury.](#)



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