PALMER LAKE VFW POST #3915 | Issue 2020-02



PALMER LAKE VFW POST #3915 PALMER LAKE PALMER LAKE PALMER LAKE WWW.palmerlakevfw.org

IN THIS ISSUE

Keep Moving Forward

By Commander Jarrod McReynolds



Comrades and Brothers and Sisters of the Auxiliary, as I sit here writing this, it is almost 50 degrees out. News from Pennsylvania is

Puxatawny Phil did not see his shadow, and winter will come to an early end this year. Let's all keep our fingers crossed.

This month our Post will be on display as we host the District 7 Golden Dinner. We are still looking for members of the Post and Auxiliary to volunteer to help make this a successful event. There is a sign up sheet in the bar. Remember events like this not only show case our Post, but it also showcases our members and dedication to the VFW organization.

Elections are right around the corner, we are always in need to members that want to get more involved in leadership positions, if you have a desire to become an officer, or run a chair please let me know. This is OUR organization, and I want

to help any and everyone that wants to get more (involved.

National has released a new Website Solution program, our Post along with District 7 and Department will be leading the way by being the firsts in Minnesota to convert to this new solution. Don't fear, our current site and address will remain in place while we make this transition, and more information will come out in the next newsletter about this process.

A big thank you goes out to Andrea, Brett and Rich for cleaning and refreshing the back hall and kitchen, it looks great, and you all have my appreciation for taking this on.

Don't forget Valentine is right around the comer, make sure to plan that something special for your special one in your life, and if anyone has any good ideas please pass them on I need one!!!

Commander

Jarrod McReynolds

Auxiliary News

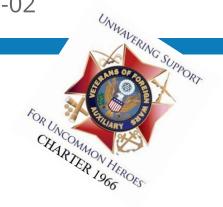
The latest from our Auxiliary President	Page 2
Prayer Corner	Page 3
Community Service	Page 3
Membership	Page 4
Youth Activities	Page 4
Honor Guard	Page 4
Safety	Page 5
Other Stuff	Page 5
The Cootie Corner	Page 5
Veterans Issues	Page 6
Legislation	Page 8
Veterans and Post Activities	Page 9
Americanism and Citizenship	Page 11
Up-coming Holidays	
Dates to Note	
Help Wanted & Contact Us	

Up-coming Holidays	
Dates to Note	
Help Wanted & Contact Us	
A new take on volunteering	Page 12
The Canteen	
Calendar	Page 13
Fishing Contest Info	Page 14
Sign-up form	Page 16

Auxiliary News

By President Tracy McReynolds





** 3/7 is the Casino trip to Turtle Lake sign ups are posted in the club

Our next meeting will be February 11that 600 pm

Happy February Auxiliary members,

We received 1stPlace for the Poppy Display that was brought to MidWinter, Thank you all who took part in making that display. We know have a journey to bring that display onto National in July for judging at the Convention. CONGRATULATIONS!

We have a few events I want everyone to be aware of they are as follows

**2/15 There are tickets available for the Golden Dinner which is being hosted at Palmer Lake.We are also in search for volunteers for the evening, there will be a sign up at the post.Email the Commander if you are interested in either.

Palmerlake.vfw3915@gmail.com

**2/22 Is the Vets Camp 2ndAnnual Ice Fishing Contest

**2/28 Fish Fry STARTS

**3/6 Our National President Peggy Haake from Hawaii should be visiting us for our Fish Fry, weather and flights permitting.

Thank you for your support,

Tracy McReynolds

Auxiliary Email: <u>Auxiliary.vfw3915@gmail.com</u>

Regardless of how you choose to volunteer your time, always remember to log your community services hours in our community service log on our website.

Click Here

Prayer Corner

By Chaplin Nate Gehl



Palmer Lake VFW is not only a Veteran's organization, but also a family. We grow, work, laugh and morn together.

Please keep Bob Whitcraft, Andrea Fierst, and Lynn Olkives and their families in your thoughts and prayers as they continue to battle cancer.

Please Keep James Noble in your thoughts as he is going back to Idaho for a month to undergo surgery, we wish him a quick recovery.

Please keep Pam Johnson in your prayers and she continues to recover from her illness.

Lord,

Thank you, Lord for your protection over my family. I come against any plot, ploy or scheme that the enemy has planned for us and I render it useless in Jesus' name. We are the head and not the tail, above only and not beneath. NO weapon formed against us will prosper and every tongue that rises against us will be condemned. We have the minds of Christ and victory is ours today in Him, We are children of the most High and we rest in His goodness and faithfulness today.

In Jesus' name, Amen

Community Service

Senior Vice Jonell Wilson



Greetings from your Community Service Chair.

Palmer Lake Supports the "Rlue Star Mothers – Chapter 7 – North Metro"

HOW CAN I HELP?

There are many different way to help make a difference. Regardless of how you choose to volunteer your time, always remember to log your community services hours in our community service log on our website.

Click Here

If you have questions or have an idea on a Community Service activity, feel free to send an email to the Commander (see link on the contact page).

Thank you everyone for your continued community service contributions.

Share the Veterans Crisis Line Number to Save a Life

Crisis Line. This confidential, toll-free, 24-hour-a-day hot line serves Veterans and their loved ones year-round. Reach qualified, caring responders:

by phone at 800-273-8255, via on-line chat on their website, or by text message at 838255.

Membership

unior Vice Janet Schaak



If you bring in a lead that turns into a new member, you will get competes for national awards totaling \$55,000, with each your name in the drawing for a \$100 Post Gift card. We currently need 4 New members or reinstates to reach 100%. We also sit in 8th place for membership in division. Remember we need to be in the top 50 to qualify for All-American Post honors. Let's do it this year!!!

Youth Activities

Program Chair Janet Schaak

The 2019-20 theme is: What Makes America Great



Each year more than 132,000 students in grades 6-8 enter the VFW's Patriot's Pen youth essay contest. The national first-place winner wins \$5,000 and an all-expense-paid trip to Washington, D.C. The first-place winner from each state

first-place state winner receiving a minimum of \$500 at the national level.



Established in 1947, our Voice of **Democracy** audio-essay program provides high school students with the unique opportunity to express themselves in democratic regards patriotic-themed recorded essay. Each year, nearly 40,000 9-12 grade students from across the country enter to win their share of \$2.1 million in educational

scholarships and incentives awarded through the program.

Honor Guard

Honor Guard Commander Robert Hystad



Other stuff

Jeff Jarosz



We had three correct answers for our little contest:

The first was from out of state, Mr, Don Nelson, and since I have editorial discretion I am awarding him a pitcher of beer the next time he is in town.

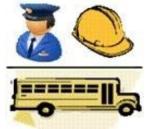
The second correct person wins the pizza and is our very own Kim Doeren.

And TADA not the last nor the least, our third place winner is Steve Peterson.

Safety

Program Chair Don Herman

Have you entered into the Community service report your safety Volunteer work?



If you have participated, or assisted in any work that deals with Pedestrian Safety, Drug Awareness, Recreational Safety, Highway Safety, Home and Fire Safety or other Safety projects please submit this on the **Community Service and Volunteer form**.

Don't forget to also include Time spent donating blood anything that you do for the betterment of others has a place on the Community service and Volunteer form.

The Cooties Corner

By CCDB Terry Wagner



Greetings All,



It looks like we made it through January without too much extreme weather. February not only brings longer daylight but will be a busy time for the Cooties.

We start off with a Council of Administration in Bloomington on the 12th of



February, then a Supreme Hospital



Visitation at the Minneapolis Veterans hospital on the 16that noon. Then on the 18thwe have our own hospital visitation at the care center.

At the Supreme visitation we will be meeting in the cafeteria at noon, visit several of the wards then play bingo later. For our own visitation we meet at the post by 6:45 and drive down to the care center for bingo and snacks.

I would like to invite anyone to join us for the visitations and get a little insight as just who we are and what we do..

To contact me:

E-mail at <u>wagnerterry@comcast.net</u>

Or phone at 612-581-2719

Terry E. Wagner

CCDB PT (Sticktites) #66

Veterans' Issues

By Post Service Officer Jeff Jarosz

If any member has questions about their earned VA benefits, Minnesota Veteran's benefits or questions about filing a VA claim, I can be reached at jajarosz@q.com or 763-434-9708

leff

Starting Jan. 1, 2020, the Department of Defense is expanding access to a number of base commissary stores, exchange services, and Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR) retail facilities for veterans and caregivers.

In addition, newly eligible patrons will be able to access facilities such as golf courses, bowling centers, recreational lodging, RV campgrounds and movie theaters. Access will expand to include all veterans with service-connected disabilities, veterans who are Purple Heart recipients and veterans who are former prisoners of war.

Reserve members who meet any of these criteria are also eligible, and all honorably discharged veterans will be eligible for online military exchange shopping. During the first phase of roll-out, eligibility will also extend to primary family caregivers, but only those approved under the Department of Veterans Affairs Program of Comprehensive Assistance for Family Caregivers.

According to DOD guidance, "when the VA formalizes approval and designation of general caregivers under the Program of General Caregiver Support Services, the Department of Defense will consider

expansion of caregiver privileges to this group". "These policy changes have been important priorities to our members for some time said National Commander Butch Whitehead. "We're grateful to see this finally coming to fruition for veterans, though we are disappointed that so many family caregivers may be left out because they are not yet able to enroll in the VA caregiver program due to the ongoing delay Veterans who are eligible to obtain a Veteran Health Identification Card must use this credential for base access and to use these privileges.

The card must display the veteran's eligibility status, whether that be service connected disabled, former POW or Purple Heart recipient. Upon the first visit to an installation, veterans must stop at the visitor control center. Eligible veterans must pass a basic on-the-spot background check prior to enrolling and an automated check each time they enter the installation.

Veterans with felony convictions or arrest warrants will not be permitted entry. As of now, veterans who are not enrolled in or are not eligible to enroll in VA health care, or who are enrolled in VA health care but not possess а Veteran Identification Card, will not have access to DOD and Coast Guard installations for in-person commissary, exchange and MWR retail privileges, but will still be able to utilize online exchanges and American Forces Travel. The defense commissary system is congressionally mandated to charge all current and new patrons a 570

Veterans' Issues

By Post Service Officer Jeff Jarosz



surcharge on all purchases to pay for commissary construction, equipment and maintenance. The Department of Veterans Affairs Veterans Canteen Service, or VCS, offers retail and food services to enrolled veterans. Like the exchange, all purchases are tax-free.

FREE LEGAL ADVICE FOR VETERANS

Up coming dates for legal clinics in Anoka for 2019-2020 are:

Thursday, Mar 5, 2020 - 9 A.M. - 3 P.M. Thursday, June 4, 2020 - 9 A.M. - 3 P.M. Thursday, Sept 3, 2020 - 9 A.M. - 3 P.M,

Anoka County Government Center Room 237 2100 3rd Avenue Anoka, MN 5530

Anoka County Veterans Advocate

Attached is the Anoka County Veterans Advocate link that has some very interesting information for all veterans. <u>Click Here</u>

If any member has questions about their earned VA benefits, Minnesota Veteran's benefits or questions about filing a VA claim, I can be reached at jajarosz@q.com or 763-434-9708

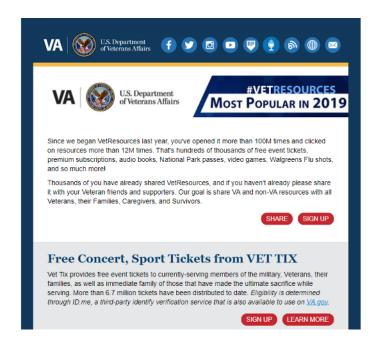
Jeff

How TRICARE For Life Eligibility, Enrollment Works

Jan. 28, 2020

Are you wondering what the TRICARE For Life (TFL) program is and whether you're eligible? TFL is Medicare-wraparound coverage for TRICARE beneficiaries who have Medicare Part A and Part B. This is regardless of your age or where you live. It provides comprehensive health care coverage. With TFL, you also get prescription coverage under the TRICARE Pharmacy Program.

To learn more, <u>read the full article</u>.



MORE INFORMATION

Legislation

By Program Chair Larry Fonder

Greetings Palmer Lake Comrades, Friends, & Family,

Happy February everyone! As we plow through the depths of winter in Minnesota, I just wanted to plant a legislative seed for Spring!

Disabled American Veterans (DAV) of Minnesota just announced Veterans Day on Hill 2020 will take place on April 20, 2020 this year. The event is later in the year with the idea being to focus Veteran advocacy at the point in the legislative process where priorities tend to be mashed into a larger omnibus bill and disappear.

By interceding at this point, we can help keep the priorities alive and we'll have a more realistic understanding of which priorities have a solid chance of becoming law.

No agenda has been set for the event, but the DAV does intend to sponsor lunch and offset costs of bus transportation. My intent is to repeat last years joint venture with the Osseo Maple Grove American Legion to facilitate bus transportation and maximize the DAV offset. I'll keep you informed as details unfold.

For your awareness, please see the link below for the VFW's 2020 legislative priorities as well as the Department webpage with links to Veteran Legislation in Minnesota.

https://www.vfw.org/advocacy/ national-legislative-service

https://www.mnvfw.org/legislative-1



The VFW Action Corps Weekly, an easy-to-read electronic newsletter that highlights the VFW's advocacy efforts on Capitol Hill. Immediate access to a nationwide database of contact information for all elected officials, a congressional directory.

Regular VFW "Action Alerts" on how to get involved when our nation's veterans, service members and their families need their voices heard on Capitol Hill.

To view this week's edition: Click here

Veteran and Post Activities

By Program Chair Blair SorvariC

POST ACTIVITIES (Open to all Post, Auxiliary Members and their Guests)

Wednesday and Friday - Bingo (6:30) and Bargo (7:30) respectively

Tuesday (5:00) and Saturday a (3:30) – Meat Raffles

Friday - \$3 burger nights

Saturday - Cribbage starts first Sat in October - Noon sharp. Sign-up **first come**, **first served**

starts at 11 AM,





2nd ANNUAL PALMER LAKE VFW FISHING EXTRAVAGANZA!

SATURDAY FEBRUARY 22nd 2020 Noon till 4PM!

Vet's Camp on Big Marine Lake

















\$30/Team registration advance \$40 if after 14 February 2020

See page 14 for more details and page 16 for sign up form.

Veteran and Post Activities

By Program Chair Blair Sorvari

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT



Twenty-one years into the making, the dedication of the Dwight D. Eisenhower National Memorial is planned for 2 p.m. May 8 in Washington D.C. on the 75th anniversary of VE Day.

The memorial was commissioned in 1999 to honor Dwight D. Eisenhower as the Supreme Commander of the Allied Forces in Europe during World War II and 34th President of the United States.

"It's an honor. It just swells the heart," said granddaughter Mary Jean Eisenhower. "It's just an incredible honor for our family."

General Eisenhower will be portrayed as Supreme Commander Allied Expeditionary Force meeting with his troops before D-Day. Directly across from the statue of the general will be a statue of Eisenhower the president and a handful of advisors with him.

"There are some other items that surround the memorial as a whole. It takes a complex city blocks but those two groupings will make up the core," Paul said. "When people walk in, there will be the presidential group and there will be the group where he is general."

Framing the entire memorial within its complex urban context, an innovative, transparent stainless-steel woven tapestry portrays an abstract

artistic depiction of the cliffs of the Normandy coastline in peacetime to represent the peace

Eisenhower won as Supreme Commander and preserved as Commander in Chief. Made of woven stainless steel cable, the tapestry will change dramatically throughout the day and night, as natural and artificial lighting play upon the metal image.

This memorial will be the first national presidential memorial to incorporate an electronic companion E-Memorial, which will serve as a fully integrated, interactive tool to bring Eisenhower's dynamic and diverse legacy to visitors. The E-Memorial will use wireless technology and personal mobile devices to provide interactive enhancement throughout the site and expanded interpretation of the Eisenhower's accomplishments.

The E-Memorial will feature a mobile-device experience and companion website, which will provide a technologically advanced way to engage visitors of all ages in the Eisenhower story, demonstrating why his memory and legacy require memorialization.

In addition, there will be a small structure on the perimeter of Eisenhower Square that will house a National Park Service Ranger Contact Station, a bookstore, and public restrooms. The memorial site will be accessible to disabled visitors.

Americanism and Citizenship

Program Chair George Hunt

Upcoming Holidays Dates

- Feb 1 National Freedom Day
- Feb 2 Groundhog Day
- Feb 8 Boy Scouts of America Founded (1910)
- Feb 12 Lincoln's Birthday
- Feb 14 St. Valentine's Day
- Feb 17 George Washington's Birthday Observed (Presidents Day)
- Feb 22 Washington's Birthday
- Feb 25 Shrove Tuesday
- Feb 26 Ash Wednesday

Dates to Note

Next Aux meeting February 11th at 1800

Next Post meeting February 12th at 1900

Next Hospital Visit February 18th at 1900 meet at the post at 1830

Blue Star Mom's meet the 3rd Thursday of every month.

Blood Drive Monday, March 16th 2020

Monday, May 11th 2020

Monday, July 6th 2020

Monday August 31st 2020

2nd Annual Ice Fishing Contest - February 21, 2020

Help Wanted

Content Contributor/Video Editor – Looking for an individual that is tech savvy that can assist in uploading and managing YouTube content, along with editing video content. Maybe also an opportunity to record content. There is no pay associated with this job, it is strictly volunteer.

Email - palmerlake.vfw3915@gmail.com

Newsletter Journalist – This newsletter should be more than just the commander or the President giving out information. If you have something you want to share, this is your chance. Send an email to the newsletter editor at editor.palmerlakepost3915@gmail.com with an article or a picture you want added to the newsletter, it will be looked at, and someone will be in touch with you.

VOLUNTEER NEEDED

Are you the type of person who is great with organizing records and who is looking for a unique volunteer opportunity at the Post? This volunteer opportunity would be right up your alley.

As published in October's General Orders the Department Quartermaster has advised all Posts to verify they have each members application for membership on file. This is to satisfy the IRS requirement for our exempt status.

Our Post does maintain the original application for membership from each of our members. However, over the years the drawer containing this information has become disorganized and, well, kind of a mess. It needs some tender loving care. The project would require the use of the current membership list and then locating the application and properly filing the application. Unneeded applications can be archived.

The advantage of this project is it can be done at your convenience and no time deadline is required. It just needs to keep moving forward. The project ends when 100% of our current members have an application on file. Our post has between 500 and 600 members at any given time.

If you are the right person for this task please contact the Quartermaster at 3915Quartermaster@gmail.com

Tom Heinrich, Quartermaster

Contact us

Commander palmerlake.vfw3915@gmail.com

Auxiliary President <u>Auxiliary.vfw3915@gmail.com</u>

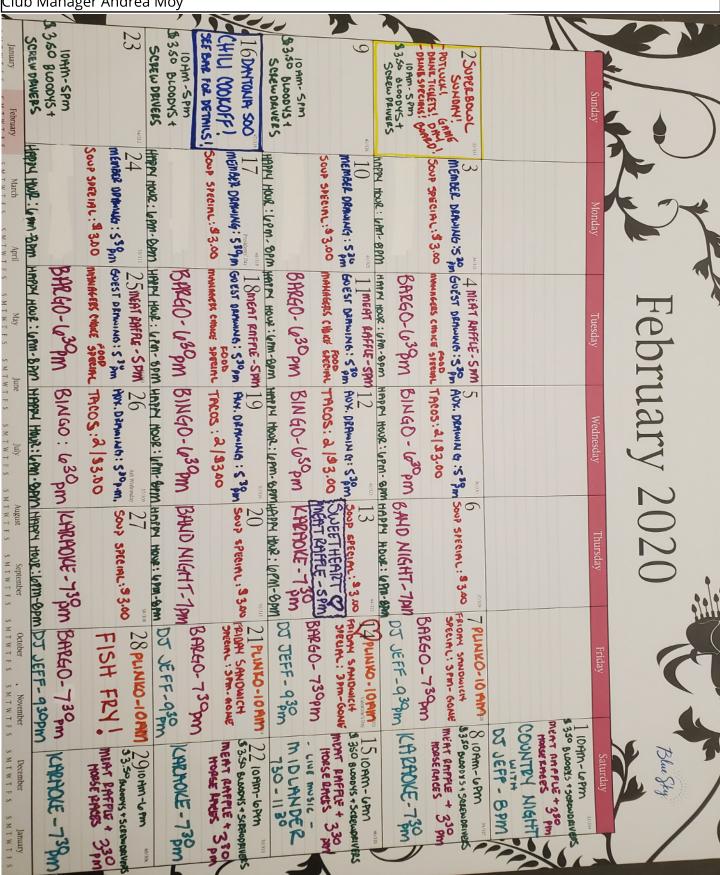
Newsletter information editor.palmerlakepost3915@gmail.com

Club Manager <u>clubmanager.vfw3915@gmail.com</u>

Lawn Care Team <u>davthomp07@gmail.com</u>

Canteen Calendar

Club Manager Andrea Moy



2nd Annual Vet's Fishing Event on Big Marine Lake

23 February 2019 12 PM-4 PM ₂

Vets Camp Fishing Event

Palmer Lake VFW will be holding a fishing event on Saturday February 22nd at the Veterans Campground on Big Marine Lake. Please see our flyer in this newsletter. We are currently finalizing all the details and will post them in the February Newsletter. We expect the event to start at 12PM and go until 4PM. Prizes and door prizes will be awarded during the free potluck dinner immediately after the contest ends.

About the Event

We will have 2 person teams. 1st place prizes for Walleye, Northern Pike, Crappies, and Sunnies. The cost will be \$30.00 per team with kids 12 years and under free. Pre-registration is required and will begin in January. Payment is due upon registration and is non-refundable. Some of the proceeds will go to the Vet's camp for plowing etc. Weigh-in is at 4:00PM. No fish can be turned in after that time. Houses may be prepositioned. NO PRE-FISHING ALLOWED ON DAY OF EVENT! All participants MUST enter through designated check in area no earlier than 11:30 AM. You will be disqualified if you don't check in!

Pot Luck

After the weigh-ins there will be a pot luck in the canteen. This will start +/- at 5:00 PM.

About the Canteen

The pot luck and after hours "go to" place is the canteen. This is a set-up bar with sodas and beer available for sale. You will need to bring your own liquor. All liquor MUST be in a nondescript plastic bottle. NO COMMERCIAL BOTTLES ALLOWED i.e NO Jack Daniels bottle.

About the Cabins

We have booked one 1 bedroom cabin and nine 2 bedroom cabins. They are all spoken for at this time. There is a short waiting list in case something becomes available. Some beds may be or become available. You must bring your own bedding, towels and food. The cabins are equipped with a full size refrigerator, microwave, stove, coffee maker, showers, TV, WiFi, pots, pans, dishes silverware etc. Check-in is Noon Friday and check out is Noon Sunday. If we can catch fish on Friday afternoon we will cook them up for supper on Friday.

About the Vet's Campground on Big Marine Lake

11300 180th Street N. (Manning Trail NE of Hugo and SE of Forest Lake.

WWW.vetscampmn.org

Points of Contact:

Palmer Lake VFW: Dave Thompson or Blair Sorvari

Registration Form

Name	Email	Phone (Optional)

Deadline for registration is 14 February 2019!

\$30 non-refundable entry fee must accompany this form.

\$40 after February 14th!

Make checks payable to Dave Thompson.

Print clearly and return to Palmer Lake.

1st Place prizes awarded for:

- 1) 7 best Sunnies per team (total weight)
- 2) 7 Best Crappies per team (total weight)
- 3) Largest Walleye (inches)
- 4) Largest Northern Pike (inches)

You MUST be in line with your fish by 4 PM!

No entries will be allowed after 4 PM, you will be disqualified.

You must abide by Minnesota fishing regulations.

Have Fun!

Must be present to win.