



WHEATON

Post News

A BI-MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FOR MEMBERS &
FRIENDS OF DU PAGE MEMORIAL POST 2164

March-April 2013



A Message from the Commander

By Commander John Milton

We are shaking off the winter blues and looking forward to Spring! March and April are jam-packed at the Post with events and activities of all kinds so let's get the business ones mentioned first.

Nominations for 2013-2014 Post officers will be held at the March 12 meeting and **officer elections** will be held on the April 9 meeting. I encourage any Post member who is interested in a leadership position to stand for an office. See the article at right for details on the offices and duties.

Hall Rental Program

We've been actively promoting our Post as a rental facility and requests for fee and services information has increased. See the article in this issue and talk to Bill Nates, our new Canteen Manager for further info.

Plans for a Golf Outing

We're in the planning stages of this event and are looking for your input on it. Check out the details in the golf outing article and participate by helping us with the outing or by putting together a foursome!

Events Calendar

Our popular St. Patrick's Day Dinner and a couple of Post Breakfasts are coming up. We need dealers for Vegas Night and may schedule a dealer training session so let me know if you're interested in attending it.

Nominations for Elected Officers

March 12 Post Meeting

The strength of our Post lies in the dedication and tireless efforts of our members. Each of us are bonded by the shared experience of serving our nation on foreign battlefields. And, each of us contributes to our Post in the best way we can. For some, that includes volunteering for leadership positions.



Nominations for 2013-2014 elected and appointed officers of the Post will be held at the March 12 meeting. Elections will be held at the April 9 meeting. The elected officers of a VFW Post are Commander, Senior Vice Commander, Junior Vice Commander, Quartermaster, Chaplain, Judge Advocate, Surgeon, and three (3) Trustees. The appointed officers can include Adjutant, Officer of the Day, Service Officer, and Guard.

Duties & Obligations of Post Officers

Want to find out what the responsibilities of an officer are before tossing your hat in the ring? View or download comprehensive descriptions by clicking [here](#) or request a copy via email at vfwpost2164@yahoo.com. And, talk to Commander Milton about officer roles at our Post and how you might be right for one.



2012-2013 Officers



POST

*Commander: John Milton
Sr. Vice Commander: Tom "Tex" Tracy
Jr. Vice Commander: Sam Maggio
Quartermaster: Tim McNally
Chaplain: Jim Lopez
Judge Advocate: Scott Olsen
Surgeon: Bill Nates
1-Year Trustee: John Meschi
2-Year Trustee: Jerry Douglas
3-Year Trustee: Jim Myrick
Service Officer: John Milton*



LADIES AUXILIARY

*President: Pam Turner
Sr. Vice President: Tawn Williams
Jr. Vice President: Linda Sane
Treasurer: Heather Klemm
Secretary: Mary Richter
Chaplain: Shirley Vega
Conductress: Char Wiedel
Guard: Amanda Naickilath
1-Year Trustee: Cheryl Chandler
2-Year Trustee: Karen Augustyn
3-Year Trustee: Linda Sane*



MEN'S AUXILIARY

*President: Art Gutierrez
Sr. Vice President: Albert Baker
Jr. Vice President: Owen O'Reilly
Treasurer: Herb Johnson Jr
Secretary: Garry Klemm
Chaplain: John Dawson
1-Year Trustee: Ted Schab
2-Year Trustee: Richard Augustyn
3-Year Trustee: Stanley Garrett
Sergeant at Arms: Edward Zygiel*

*Post News is published in Jan-Feb, March-April, May-June, July-August, Sept-Oct, and Nov-Dec.
Please send your news articles to Editor John Dawson by the 10th of February, April, June, August,
October, and December. Email John at dawson437@comcast.net.*



OUR MISSION: To foster camaraderie among United States veterans of overseas conflicts. To serve our veterans, the military, and our communities. To advocate on behalf of all veterans.

OUR VISION: Ensure that veterans are respected for their service, always receive their earned entitlements, and are recognized for the sacrifices they and their loved ones have made on behalf of this great country.

VFW Free Call Days

National VFW Program



As the largest organization of combat veterans, VFW knows the importance of keeping military families in touch. That's why in 1996 VFW launched the **VFW Operation Uplink™** program—the premiere calling program for deployed service members that provides free phone time to active-duty military personnel and hospitalized veterans.

The program is the only one of its kind, providing two or more designated days each month when deployed service members making phone calls from their Morale, Welfare & Recreation (MWR) center to the US and other home base location land lines, are greeted by a recording which states the call will be **free**, courtesy of **Operation Uplink**.

Upcoming Free Call Days and their sponsors are:

- March 3 / Sport Clips
- March 17 / Sport Clips
- March 25 / Dept. of MD Ladies Auxiliary
- March 31 / Sport Clips
- April 7 / Sport Clips
- April 14 / Sport Clips
- April 28 / Sport Clips

Men's Auxiliary Welcome Basket

By John Dawson

Our Men's Auxiliary is very active in community projects that directly benefit local veterans. One of our next ventures is a "Welcome Home Gift Basket" for soldiers returning home from active duty. Inside the basket will be gift certificates from area businesses such as restaurants, auto repair shops, dry cleaners, movie theaters, etc. We will also contribute cash to the basket.

The project is in the planning stages so if you own a business or know a business that would like to be part of the Welcome Home program, contact John Dawson at (630) 462-1986 or email us at vfwpost2164@yahoo.com.



If you know any soldiers who have recently come home or are scheduled to come home, let us know how we can contact them.

We welcome your ideas and suggestions so don't hesitate to offer them!

Chaplains' Corner

Jim Lopez, Post Chaplain/Shirley Vega, Ladies Auxiliary Chaplain/John Dawson, Men's Auxiliary Chaplain

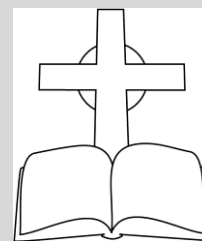
TAPS

It is our sad duty to report the passing of these members and friends:

- Eugene Swiech, Post member (World War II)

SICK CALL

- Terry Hildreth, longtime bar manager of our Post
- Tom Bergman, friend of our Post, member of Warrenville VFW and Combat Vets motorcycle club, who is at CDH recovering from surgery



We shall keep them and their families in our prayers.

Please contact the Post (630/668-8756) if you are aware of a member who is ill or needs assistance.

Golf Outing Being Planned



Art courtesy of [Lise Lacaille](#)

With Spring just around the corner, the golfers among us are looking forward to getting back on the links. So it was no surprise when, at a recent Post planning meeting, a golf outing this year was suggested!

As a start, we are contacting four golf courses in our immediate area for cost and availability proposals. We've also considered that an outing to directly benefit a veteran's organization, in addition to our Post, would draw in people from our local communities and make sponsorships more attractive. With that in mind, we've determined that a portion of the outing's proceeds will benefit Wheaton's Midwest Shelter for Homeless Veterans. After golf, we'll all head to the Post for hamburgers and hot dogs.

There are many different approaches for an outing with the twin goals of fundraising and having a great time with friends. To properly plan this event, we need to have a reading on your interest. Some of the things we would like to know from you are the following:

1. Can you participate in the outing by either golfing or volunteering to help with the event?
2. What day of the week and time of day is best for the outing?
3. What month would be best for the outing?

4. Are you able to suggest sponsors for the event or contact sponsors?
5. What prizes should be awarded?
6. Any other suggestions or ideas?

Share Your Ideas With Us

There are lots of ways to contact us about the proposed golf outing.

- Sign up on sheet posted in the Canteen.
- Email us at vfwpost2164@yahoo.com.
- Comment on our Facebook page at facebook.com/vfwpost2164.
- Call Larry Hoffman at (630) 858-2288 or email Larry at larlo999@gmail.com.

*Let's make this the best
Post golf outing ever!
All are welcome . . .
Comrades, Ladies
Auxiliary and Men's
Auxiliary members,
spouses, friends, family
members, other Post and
Legion members!*

Hall Rental Promotion

We are fortunate among VFW organizations because we own our Post building and the land that surrounds it. While this gives us plenty of expenses, it also affords us the opportunity to earn some money through hosting events like car shows and renting our hall to businesses and individuals.

We're stepping up our hall rental program to take better advantage of our local communities' need for party venues, meeting locations, banquet facilities, and the like. In January, we listed Post 2164 on six online search engines that focus on banquet hall rentals. We also developed a flyer that describes our rental program. Last month we noticed an increase in calls and emails from folks interested in renting our hall! We hope that every month brings in new requests!

You can help us with our promotion by reminding friends and family to consider the Post when they're planning an event. Download our [rental program flyer](#) or request a copy via email at vfwpost2164@yahoo.com.



Below are some quick facts about our rental program. Contact Bill Nates at (630) 668-8756 for details on planning your specific event.

- ❖ Our hall will accommodate 100-120 people, depending on table configuration and whether floor space is required for dancing.
- ❖ Decorating services may be contracted to transform the hall into the perfect setting for your event.
- ❖ Spacious wooden gazebo in shady backyard is ideal for picnics or barbecue events. Gazebo and yard may also be decorated in theme with your event.
- ❖ Large, well-lighted, paved parking lot can easily accommodate trucks and trailers.
- ❖ Rental cost is \$300. Military-affiliated events are discounted to \$150.
- ❖ Food is privately catered by vendor of your choosing. Music or entertainment is privately contracted by you.
- ❖ Cash bar or beverage packages are available. All liquor must be purchased through Post 2164, in accordance with the mandates of our liquor license.
- ❖ Bar costs include the following:
 - Bartender \$75 (tip not included)
 - Mixed drinks \$3 - \$6
 - Domestic beer \$2
 - Imported beer \$3
 - Wine \$2
 - Soft drinks Case purchased
 - Champagne. \$ TBD



Anniversaries / Award Ceremonies
Barbecues / Baby Showers
Business Meetings or Seminars
Company Parties / Craft Shows
Funeral Luncheons / Graduation
Rehearsal Dinners / Retirement

*Whether an event
is large or small,
formal or fun—
it's sure to be
successful at our
Wheaton VFW Hall!*

Bachelor Parties / Banquets
Birthday Parties / Bridal Showers
Class Reunions / Club Meetings
Family Reunions / Fundraisers
Parties / Holiday Celebrations
Parties / Wedding Receptions



March 2013

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 Fish Fry	2
3  Post Breakfast	4	5 Carpenters Meeting	6 Bingo	7 Ladies Aux Civil War	8 Fish Fry	9 St. Patrick's Day Dinner 
10 Daylight Saving Time Begins	11 Hines Hosp 7 pm	12 NOMINATIONS Board & Post Meetings Men's Aux	13 Bingo	14 Civil War	15 Fish Fry	16
17  St. Patrick's Day	18 Blind Night	19	20 Bingo Spring Begins	21	22 Fish Fry	23 District Poppy Ball
24 Easter Egg Hunt 31 Easter  Post Closed	25  Passover	26 Marine Corps Meeting	27 Bingo	28	29 Fish Fry Good Friday	30 Vegas Night

April 2013

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 April Fool's Day	2 Carpenters Meeting	3 Bingo	4 Ladies Aux Civil War	5 Fish Fry	6
7  Post Breakfast	8 Hines Hosp 7 pm Volunteers Needed	9 ELECTION Board, Post & Men's Aux Mtgs National Former Prisoner of War Recognition Day	10 Bingo	11 Civil War	12 Fish Fry	13
14 	15 Blind Night	16	17 Bingo	18	19 Fish Fry	20
21	22 Earth Day	23 Marine Corps Meeting	24 Bingo	25	26 Fish Fry	27 50s/60s Dance
28 	29	30				



VFW Free Call Days

Shading indicates days that the Post is open to the public from noon to closing.

Upcoming Events

During March and April there are several events that we'll need your help with. If you can lend a hand, it will be appreciated very much. You can also help by simply coming to the events and extending an invite to folks you know. Most of our events are suitable for families, and as always, friends are welcome, too.

March 3

POST

BREAKFAST

8:00 am–12:00 pm

Omelets or two eggs (fried or scrambled),
ham or sausage, hash browns, toast,
biscuits and gravy, juice and coffee

\$5.00 (adults)

\$3.00 (kids)

March 9

POST

ST. PATRICK'S DAY DINNER

6:00 pm Cocktails

7:00 pm Dinner / 8:00 pm Music

Corned beef and cabbage, shepherd's pie,
carrots, potatoes, coffee and dessert

\$15 per person

March 24

LADIES AUXILIARY

EASTER EGG HUNT

Noon–2:00 pm

Loads of family fun on the Post lawn as kids
hunt for hidden treasures!

Kids 12 and under

*(Any candy and treasures you'd like to
donate will be cheerfully accepted!)*

March 30

POST

VEGAS NIGHT!

5:00 pm–Midnight

Money Wheel, poker, blackjack, Texas Hold'em
chuck-a-luck, bang table, pull tabs

\$5 Cover Charge

*(Let us know if you'd like to sign up for our
Dealer's Training Session!)*

April 7

POST

BREAKFAST

8:00 am–12:00 pm

Omelets or two eggs (fried or scrambled),
ham or sausage, hash browns, toast,
biscuits and gravy, juice and coffee

\$5.00 (adults)

\$3.00 (kids)

April 27

LADIES AUXILIARY

50s/60s DANCE

6:00 pm Cocktails

7:00 pm Dinner / 8:00 pm Music

\$15 per person

*Proceeds to benefit troop support programs
of the Ladies Auxiliary*

C'mon Online With Us!

JOIN THE EMAIL LIST!

The Post's email address is vfwpost2164@yahoo.com. Just send us an email and include your first and last name. You'll be added to the database and begin receiving online announcements from the Post.



VISIT OUR FACEBOOK PAGE!

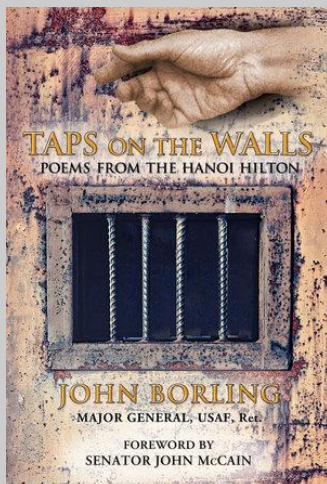
Check out the Post's Facebook page for photos, events, and past newsletters. Click on the link below or go to www.facebook.com/vfwpost2164. You don't need a Facebook account to view it.

Like us on Facebook 



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2011-2012 ALL-AMERICAN POST
Incorporated June 1931



On February 12, 1973, more than 140 American prisoners of war were set free from the notorious Hanoi Hilton. Among them was Air Force fighter pilot John Borling, who had been imprisoned there for over six years. No communication between the POWs was permitted so they devised a “Tap Code” to pass along information—and poems. Borling’s book, *Taps on the Walls* commemorates the 40th anniversary of their release and is a tribute to “the power of the *unwritten word*.”

St. Patrick's Day Dinner

March 9, 2013

6:00 pm—Midnight

\$15 per person

Music by Cesar Poppy Garcia



Capture your favorite leprechaun and whisk over to the Post on March 9 for a real Irish dinner—corned beef and cabbage, of course, plus shepherd's pie, carrots, potatoes, coffee and dessert. And, lots of great music!

To help us with an accurate head count, we ask that you purchase dinner tickets in advance or phone in your reservation to (630) 668-8756. You may also RSVP via email at

vfwpost2164@yahoo.com.