

# VFW POST 604 NEWS

September 2011

## V.F.W. Mission Statement

The purpose of this corporation (VFW) shall be fraternal, patriotic, historical, charitable, and educational; to preserve and strengthen comradeship among its members; to assist worthy comrades; to perpetuate the memory and history of our dead, and to assist their widows and orphans; to maintain true allegiance to the Government of the United States of America, and fidelity to its institutions of American freedom, and to preserve and defend the United States from all her enemies, whomsoever.

## Commander's Corner

Hi All. It's time again for me to let everyone know how and what we are doing at Post 604. I am proud to say that for the past month and a half we are in the black for the first time in a long while. Thanks to all who have been giving their time and energy to make that happen. We are now serving lunch Monday thru Friday from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm. Thanks to Bob Lanning for keeping the grill hot and the deep fryer boiling. I have tried all of the sandwiches and appetizers and they are top of the line. So take the time to stop by and give it a try. By the way, we could use some help in the kitchen. If you have an hour or two to help we would love to hear from you.

We just had our yearly audit and it was given by our District Commander and Jr. Vice Commander. The results as stated by 7th District Commander Jerome Givens was we passed with flying colors. He also stated that we were

*See Commander*

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## Post 604 Ladies Auxiliary

Hello everyone, it's so wonderful to be able to tell people we're open, when asked. Many volunteers worked very hard to make this possible. The ladies, want to extend or thanks and appreciation to all the volunteers for making our grand reopening a success.

This past month the ladies auxiliary's charity was "Teachers Warehouse", the donation will help to furnish the teachers, classrooms, and students with needed supplies. Ladies don't forget that if you have worked volunteer hours, they need to be turned into the Ladies Auxiliary.

Leave No Veteran Behind; we can do this through supporting the legislative program.

The goals of our jегislative program are:

- To make communities aware of the needs of our veterans and national security.
- To make legislators more responsive to the needs of our veterans.
- To encourage legislators to keep the promises of continued care for our veterans.
- To assist in the passage of laws that maintains veterans' entitlements.
- To promote public awareness of the importance of veterans' entitlements and national security.
- To educate our members on the legislative process.
- To educate our members and communities on pending legislation benefiting our veterans and National security.
- To encourage all veterans to register with the VA so they can get the entitlements due them.

Once we know the process, we can begin to have an impact.

Please help us support local charities by coming to

*See Ladies*

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close to the top of the Posts that have been audited.

We are starting to have some entertainment at the Post, so stop by and check it out. We are checking out what we have to do to start having our weekly drawings. As soon as we know what we have to do to be legal, we will get it started. Come on in and check things out.

**Commander - Joe Hardin**

## Space A eligibility for 100% service connected disabled veterans - update

Congressman Todd Young has, after full and careful consideration, decided not to introduce legislation to provide Space Available travel eligibility for 100% service connected disabled veterans.

Tim Welter, Congressman Young's legislative director, called to explain. The Department of Defense has historically been opposed to expanding Space A eligibility for a variety of reasons. The DoD published an opposing position paper on this topic in 2007. Tim sent me a copy as an email attachment.

While both Tim and I agreed that some of the DoD objections were bogus and others were certainly stretched, the most telling objection was that DoD was predicting that the number of available Space A seats would progressively decline during the next few years and they did not want to expand eligibility. This is not an "anti-100% service connected disabled veteran" argument, this is just their view of the future and their attempt to protect Space A usage for those already eligible.

After reading the DoD paper, and after Polly and I returned from traveling to and from California on KC-135 (in-flight refueling tanker) aircraft last week and observing the safety hazards for any "mobility challenged" passengers, I was pretty down on the Space A for 100% vets idea myself.

Then came an e-mail from Joe Davis, the Director of Public Affairs, VFW Washington Office. (Joe was responding to an e-mail I had sent a few weeks ago to the VFW national office on this same topic.) Joe had read the same DoD objections that Congressman Young, Tim Welter, and I had and was still decidedly "up" on the idea of Space A for 100% service connected disabled veterans. Instead of me buttering up Joe to get his support, he ended up restoring my enthusiasm! While one door has closed, the national VFW office just might, with their clout, be opening another.

### "Aid and Attendance" scam update

Some of you may have noticed the ad in the Herald-Times last week for a veterans' seminar regarding Aid and Attendance at a local retirement living facility. Lest I get myself in too much legal trouble, let me just suggest that

you go to your own personal computer and do your own search for "Aid and Attendance fraud". You will discover many articles on this topic, including a special warning from the AARP. There are many unscrupulous people making money by preying on the trust of wartime veterans and the only people at risk are the veterans themselves. One ploy is to offer to do the A&A application forms for free (which, of course, your VFW service officer, any other military organization service officer, the Monroe County Veterans Service Officer – you get the idea, many trustworthy people – would also do for free) and then advise the veteran to restructure his financial assets to get his net worth within the VA "needs-based" pension limits. Funny thing – the financial products the nice people advise the veteran to move his money into all pay big commissions to the nice people. This is not illegal, it's just totally unethical. There are other hazards, including having to pay back any benefits the VA discovers were awarded through a fraudulent claim. Be very careful.

**John Tilford - Post Service Officer**

## Chaplain's Corner

Comrades,

It has been a slow month for the chaplain. A couple of members were hospitalized but fortunately their stays were so short that I did not get to visit them. I also have not received any information on members in long term care facilities.

In a related note buddy poppy sales will be 04 & 05 November at area banks and grocery stores. I will be coordinating our efforts with our Ladies Auxiliary and the other veteran's organizations here in the county. If you would like to volunteer please call me (812-797-4654) or call the post and leave a message for me.

REMEMBER, buddy poppy sales is the way that we get money for the Relief Fund.

**Chaplain Roy M. Smith**



# Laurens B. Strain – VFW Post 604

September 2011

Closed	Open 1000 - 2200	Open 1000 - 2200	Open 1000 - 2200	Open 1000 - 2200	Open 1000 - 2200	Open 1000 - 2200
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2  Brad Harris -1930	3 Canteen Beer \$1.25 all day  Bingo (Eagles) - 1430
4	5 Canteen  Beer \$1.25 <b>LABORDAYUSA</b> * Vet to Vet – 1900	6	7	8  Bingo (Eagles) - 1730	9  Brad Harris -1930	10 Canteen Beer \$1.25 all day  Bingo (Eagles) - 1430
11  <b>Canteen (Members Only)</b> <b>Open 1200 - 1800</b>	12 * Vet to Vet – 1900	13	14	15  Bingo (Eagles) - 1730	16 <b>POW/MIA</b> <b>Recognition Day</b>  Brad Harris -1930	17 Canteen Beer \$1.25 all day  Bingo (Eagles) - 1430
18  District VFW Meeting at Post-1127, Brazil, IN Starts at 1000	19 * Vet to Vet – 1900	20  Meetings  V.F.W. – 1800 Men's Aux – 1800 Ladies Aux - 1900	21	22  Bingo (Eagles) - 1730	23 Free Hotdogs 1800 - 2100  Brad Harris -1930	24 Canteen Beer \$1.25 all day  Free Hotdogs 1000 - 2100  Bingo (Eagles) - 1430
25	26 * Vet to Vet – 1900	27	28	29  Bingo (Eagles) - 1730	30  Brad Harris -1930	

(\* For Vet-to-Vet Held at IVY Tech, 200 Daniels Way room A118 – Check website <http://www.vetovetbloomington.com/> to confirm location)

Telephone Numbers

Post 604 – Canteen (812) 339-2375

**PPT License # 124405**

**Raffle License # 124404**

**Bingo License # 125265**

## Post Officers

VFW Post 604			Men's Auxiliary to VFW Post 604			Ladies Auxiliary to VFW Post 604		
Commander	Joe Hardin	(812) 334-8479	President	Mike Pipher	(812) 334-0748	President	E. Janet Williams	(812) 876-3676
Senior Vice Commander	Bill Halliday	(812) 360-4862	Senior Vice President	Joe Crawford	(812) 330-1343	Senior Vice President	Millie Briles	(812) 336-8409
Junior Vice Commander	Ty Briles	(812) 360-6518	Junior Vice President	Mark Sink	(812) 336-4566	Junior Vice President	Mary Figg	(812) 876-4971
Quartermaster	Mark Dammer	(812) 824-3367	Treasurer	Mike Griffith	(812) 349-2563	Treasurer	Patty Pate	(812) 339-6045
Adjutant	Bob Lanning	(812) 327-7953	Secretary	Mike Griffith	(812) 349-2563	Secretary	Kathy Hardin	(812) 334-8479
Chaplain	Roy Smith	(812) 797-4654	Chaplin	Eric Sink	(812) 336-4566	Chaplin	Joyce Grubb	(812) 336-6447
Service Officer	John Tilford	(812) 336-5574				Patriotic Instructor	Wilma Hays	(812) 332-5329
1 Year House Committee	Cathi Johnson	(812) 876-5745						
2 Year House Committee	Leonard L Heldman	(812) 361-9129						
3 Year House Committee	John Martin	(812) 339-1113						

## 604 Canteen - Lunch Menu

Serving Monday through Friday 1100 - 1400

### Appetizers & Sides

Cottage Cheese .....	\$1.50
French Fries.....	\$1.75
Seasoned Waffle Fries.....	\$2.00
Potato Salad .....	\$1.75
Cole Slaw .....	\$1.75
Chicken Strips/Fries.....	\$4.50

### Sandwiches

Hamburger .....	\$3.25
Cheeseburger .....	\$3.50
Philly Cheese Steak .....	\$4.75
Grilled Cheese .....	\$2.75
Fish Sandwich.....	\$3.75
Breaded Pork Tenderloin .....	\$4.75
Grilled Pork Tenderloin .....	\$4.25
Breaded Chicken Sandwich.....	\$4.25
Patty Melt.....	\$4.00
Chili Dog .....	\$2.25
Steak Sandwich .....	\$4.50

All Sandwiches served with Pickle and Chips  
Add Cheese/Deluxe for \$.25 each

Call ahead for carry-out  
(812) 339-2375



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### Renewing Membership

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Your continued membership is important to us. The V.F.W. and its Auxiliaries are the life-blood of our post. If you know of someone desiring to join our ranks please do not hesitate to contact one of our officers.

Annual membership renewal forms are mailed to each V.F.W. and Auxiliary member. Dues shall be forwarded per the directions contained in the notice received by the member with the renewal form. If you do not receive a renewal notice, please contact the Post 604 Quartermaster or one of your club officers for assistance. ❖

## CANTEEN = FREE DOGS!!

**No-No-No**---Not the four legged kind, the kind you put on a bun and eat. Hey! It's September already and the **KITCHEN IS OPEN-(Yay-Lunch Time!!)**, we assure you the food is **GOOD-PRICES ARE RIGHT!**---so come check it out. Back to the dogs, on Sept 23<sup>rd</sup> (Friday) we are going to be serving **FREE** Hot Dogs starting at 6:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. and then on Saturday the 24<sup>th</sup> we will again have **FREE** Hot Dogs from 10:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.

So that takes care of the end of the month but we need something for the first of the month correct?? **Labor Day**, September 5<sup>th</sup> (Monday)—Allrighttttiiiiee then let's just have a **BEER SPECIAL--\$1.25** alll dayyy longgg. Then the following **SUNDAY, Sept 11<sup>th</sup>**, we will be **OPEN** from NOON to 6:00 p.m. From what we hear there will probably be some Teriyaki Chicken Wings available. Did you read that right?? Yep! It read **SUNDAY!** but it is for **Members Only**.

There now, we have covered the 1<sup>st</sup> of the month and the last of the month, but it still doesn't seem like its enough does it?? You know what? We agree with you, so --- wait for it---here it comes --- each Saturday in September we are going to have **\$1.25 Beer**. Yep! that is just a mere five (5) Quarters for Cold Beer alllll dayyy longgg every Saturday in September.

Still seems to be something missing, what is it? Oh! Oh! we know - Live Music. Every Friday night in September we are going to have Brad Harris! He is just one fella with a guitar. Pretty simple huh? But he sounds real good and he doesn't blow your eardrums out. He starts at 7:30 p.m. until ?? Come out and give him a listen.

Do you need ice for your fishing trip, party or picnic?— drop by the Post and pick up a 10 lb Bag for only \$2.00!! We don't think you will find it anywhere cheaper! While we are on this note, do you need a place to have a party, family get-together, retirement bash or other events?? Since our kitchen is open, upstairs is open, and downstairs should be open before long then give us a shout and we will do our best to accommodate your event.

Well now let's see, it appears to us that we are doing our part by the Specials we are offering and the kitchen is open, but the main thing that we need is for you to **PATICIPATE**. Look at it this way, you're getting the best end of the deal. So come on out and support your VFW Post. Have a suggestion? Let us know about it, we will listen-promise!! Other ways to help?? — **Volunteer!!** (Bartenders-Lunch Cooks-What-Knot). What is a What-Knot anyway?

We have the Wii system in now- along with three Computers on the floor for your use and entertainment— bring the kids they can play also.

**House Committee**

P.S. Inside Info: Try the Steak Sandwich with grilled onions on top with Country Bob's Sauce—hmmm good! ❖



## BUDDY POPPY

The VFW conducted its first poppy distribution before Memorial Day in 1922, becoming the first veterans' organization to organize a nationwide distribution. The poppy soon was adopted as the official memorial flower of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States.

It was during the 1923 encampment that the VFW decided that VFW Buddy Poppies be assembled by disabled and needy veterans who would be paid for their work to provide them with some form of financial assistance. The plan was formally adopted during the VFW's 1923 encampment. The next year, disabled veterans at the Buddy Poppy factory in Pittsburgh assembled VFW Buddy Poppies. The designation "Buddy Poppy" was adopted at that time.

In February 1924, the VFW registered the name "Buddy Poppy" with the U.S. Patent Office. A certificate was issued on May 20, 1924, granting the VFW all trademark rights in the name of Buddy under the classification of artificial flowers. The VFW has made that trademark a guarantee that all poppies bearing that name and the VFW label are genuine products of the work of disabled and needy veterans. No other organization, firm or individual can legally use the name "Buddy" Poppy.

Today, VFW Buddy Poppies are still assembled by disabled and needy veterans in VA Hospitals.

The minimal assessment (cost of Buddy Poppies) to VFW units provides compensation to the veterans who assemble the poppies, provides financial assistance in maintaining state and national veterans' rehabilitation and service programs and partially supports the VFW National Home for orphans and widows of our nation's veterans.

### Electronic Newsletter Delivery

If you would rather receive the VFW Post 604 Newsletter in email verses a paper copy, send an email to [VFW-604@comcast.net](mailto:VFW-604@comcast.net) with your name, email address, and a short message as to what the email is for. We will add you to the emailing list and send you this newsletter as your first emailing to confirm your request. Aside from saving a tree and reducing production costs to the Post, you will likely receive it days earlier as it will be emailed to you when it is sent to the printers.

*Ladies*

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Bingo. List below are the days and times. We look forward to seeing you; don't forget that good food and desserts can be purchased during Bingo.

Where: Eagles (37 South Walnut)

When: Thursday at 5:30 and Saturday at 2:30

It's that time of the year; don't forget to pay your dues for the upcoming year.

**Janet Williams, President VFW Ladies Auxiliary**

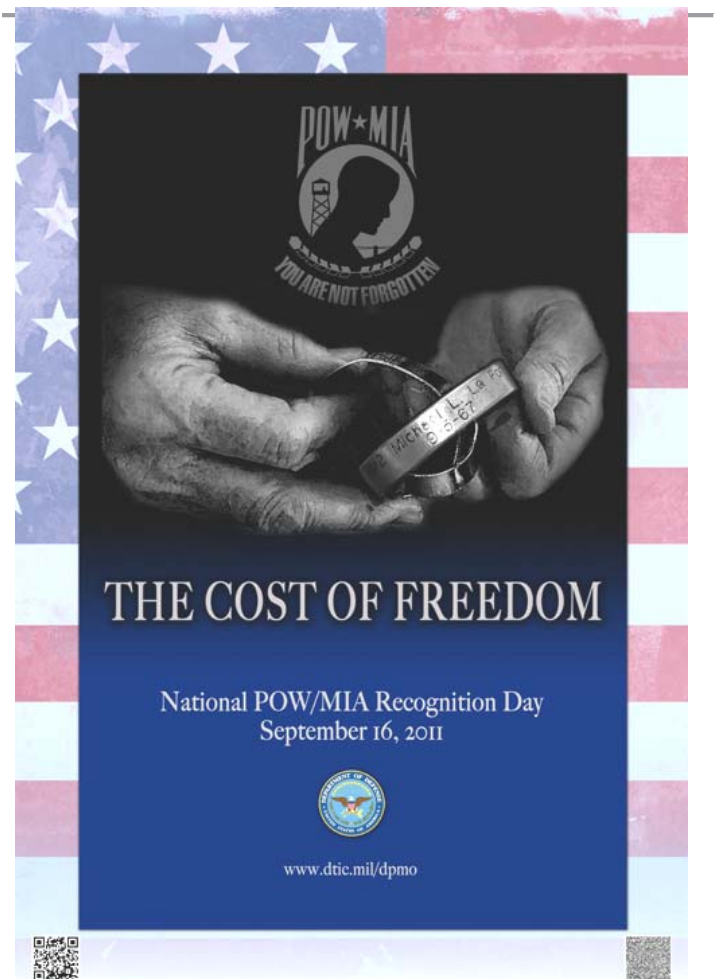
## From the Trustees

Thanks to all that have been patient with us in working out all the bugs that we have encountered these past few months since reopening. We are in the process of getting the downstairs ready for Auxiliaries to use.

We hope to have a bid or two for putting in a drop ceiling and lighting. Then the only thing left is to have the emergency exit door put in.

We need some help in moving excess items into our storage barn in the coming days. Call the post and leave a message for the trustees if you can volunteer to help.

**Jim May - Trustee**



Laurens B. Strain V.F.W. Post 604  
2404 W Industrial Park Drive  
Bloomington, IN 47404-2690

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### *PATRIOT DAY, SEPTEMBER 11*

*Per Presidential Proclamation, September 11th is designated as “Patriot Day.”*

*The President requests the flag of the United States to be flown at half-staff (sunrise to sunset) and a moment of silence observed in honor of the individuals who lost their lives on that day due to terrorist attacks on the United States.*

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