
VFW POST 604 NEWS

November 2010

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

Hello. I want to remind everyone that Veterans Day is November 11th. There will be a program at the Monroe County Courthouse that begins at 10:00am. Members from the VFW, American Legion and AMVETS will be participating in the ceremony. After the ceremony, there will be a Flag Retirement ceremony at American Legion Post 18 in Bloomington at 1:00pm on November 11, followed by a buffet lunch. There will also be the Bloomington Community Band playing in the dining room at this time. This event is open to the public. If you haven't seen the Flag Retirement Ceremony, you really should come and see how it is done.

One of our members, Jamie McFarland, was in an accident while helping a friend. He spent several days in the VA Hospital, but has since been released. He will be in a wheelchair for about 2 months. He is one of the young vets that has been helping us with construction at the Post. Please keep Jamie and his family in your prayers and we hope for a speedy recovery.

We are moving forward with our Opening and will let everyone know when, that will be so you can be part of the re-dedication.

Commander - Joe Hardin



Post 604 Ladies Auxiliary

We are still trying to get the Post home open so Veterans coming home will have a place to gather.

Volunteers, through the Department of Veterans Affairs Voluntary Service (VAVS) Program, balance the needs of the hospitalized patients by providing that extra encouragement, love, and spirit that cannot be administered by medical staff. A volunteer is often the patient's only contact with the world beyond the walls of the facility, and his or her presence can mean the difference between a patient will to respond to treatment or to sink into despair. The Ladies Auxiliary V.F.W. volunteers supplement the services provided by staff professionals and perform many duties, which contribute substantially to the welfare of the patients. Through our Hospital Program volunteers serve in VA, military, community, children's hospitals, nursing and convalescent homes, therapy centers, outpatient clinics, and satellite facilities where veterans and/or their dependents are patients or residents. In this age of budget constraints and considering the aging of the veteran population, the need for volunteers has accelerated. Because auxiliary volunteers are also aging, recruiting becomes an increasingly vital part of the VAVS / Hospital Program. If the Ladies Auxiliary VFW vision of continued excellence in the future is to be a reality, recruitment efforts must be doubled.

Our (Bingo) is still in operation. We would like for everyone to come and support the veterans. Thursday at 5:30P.M. & Saturday at 2:30P.M.

Don't forget to pay your dues and be sure and let us know if you have moved or changed anything.

Let us know if anyone is sick or in the hospital.

For EVERYONE, don't give up getting the Post open.

Janet Williams, President VFW Ladies Auxiliary

Reserve and National Guard benefits

The Department of Veterans Affairs had a negative view of Reserve and National Guard service for decades. These days, most reserve and National Guard members have been mobilized to federal active duty at least once, and many several times. Mobilization is bona fide active duty, and the “de-mobed” Reservist or National Guard service member can waive a DD Form 214 under the VA's nose to prove it.

Let's look at: 1) “ADT confusion”, and 2) a summary of Reserve/National Guard VA benefits.

1) I first drafted these words in 2006 in a motel lobby in Alexandria, Virginia, having been called to active duty to help stand up the Defense Joint Intelligence Operations Center in Washington, D.C. That duty was NOT training. However, my Army Reserve orders read “active duty for training” (ADT). My 2½ years of earlier mobilizations were also paid via ADT orders. The Army Reserve pay system did not reflect reality. Now, nine years plus after 9/11, the Reserve and National Guard system for ordering soldiers, airmen, and Marines to active duty STILL is an artifact left over from the Cold War – a time of generating [“cutting”] orders for basic training, specialty schools, two weeks of annual training each year, and that's about it.

I know a widow of a reservist killed while mobilized. She was initially denied his federal grave marker by the Department of Veterans Affairs because he had been, in the eyes of the VA, on “active duty for training” and not real active duty. She later provided his DD Form 214 and was granted the marker. (The separation date from active duty on his DD-214 was the day he was killed, in case you were wondering how that works.) She should not have had to suffer that indignity and hassle because of the Department of Defense and Department of Veterans Affairs inability to understand each other – a problem exacerbated by the archaic Reserve and National Guard active duty orders system.

In the pre-9/11 era, an “ADT” designator on orders was a tip-off to the VA that the period of military service was purely for Reserve or National Guard basic or skills training. These students could not be assigned without warning – as could their full-time active duty counterparts – to jump into combat, fight grass fires in California, or to any other non-training duty. They did not fully belong to the active duty chain of command. Accordingly, the VA did not consider ADT service, however long, as qualifying for the majority of benefit programs. A nine-month ADT school tour did not qualify a Reservist for a VA home loan in the 1970s for example. The home loan qualification requirement at that time was a minimum of 180 days of active duty: that's AD and not ADT.

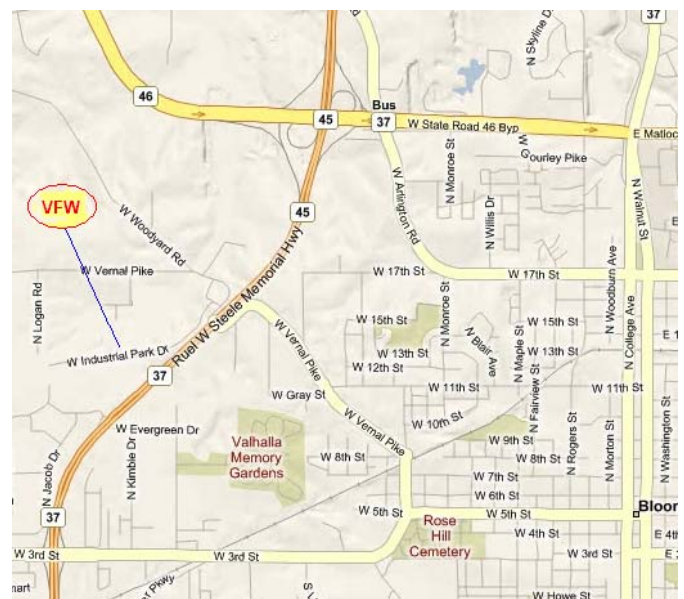
2) Reservists and National Guard members who were NEVER mobilized ARE eligible for the following benefits:

Home loans if served at least six years (less, if separated due to a service connected disability); Montgomery G.I. Bill educational benefits under section 1606; and military funeral honors and memorial flag if died before end of obligated service or if completed at least one term of service. The never-mobed Reservist would also be eligible for burial in a national cemetery if eligible for reserve retirement at age 60, died while on duty, or died as a result of a service connected disability.

The never-mobed Reservist would be eligible for service connected disability compensation, medical care, possibly vocational rehabilitation, Indiana property tax deduction, and children's tuition and fees remission at state supported schools if disabled while on reserve duty or in transit to or from reserve duty. He or she could also get CHAMPVA health care and Chapter 35 educational payments for spouse and dependent children if 100% service connected disabled - and dependency and indemnity compensation if he or she died a service connected death.



There have been several serious proposals over the years to streamline and deconflict the administrative system used to generate orders for Reservists and National Guard members. Somehow, there are always “more important” things for the DoD and VA to worry about and this continuing problem, that hurts their most important resource – people – always gets put on the back burner. Don't hold your breath.

John Tilford - Post Service Officer



Laurens B. Strain - VFW Post 604

November 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 * Vet to Vet - 1900 @ IVY TECH Room A118 200 Daniels Way	2	3	4 Bingo (Eagles) - 1730	5	6 Bingo (Eagles) - 1430
7	8 * Vet to Vet - 1900 @ IVY TECH Room A118 200 Daniels Way	9	10	11 Veterans Day Bingo (Eagles) - 1730	12	13 Bingo (Eagles) - 1430
14	15 * Vet to Vet - 1900 @ IVY TECH Room A118 200 Daniels Way	16 Men's Aux Mtg - 1800 (American Legion) Ladies Aux Mtg - 1900 (Eagles) V.F.W. Mtg - 1900 (American Legion)	17	18 Bingo (Eagles) - 1730	19	20 Bingo (Eagles) - 1430
21	22 * Vet to Vet - 1900 @ IVY TECH Room A118 200 Daniels Way	23	24	25 Thanksgiving CLOSED	26	27 Bingo (Eagles) - 1430
28	29 * Vet to Vet - 1900 @ IVY TECH Room A118 200 Daniels Way	30				

(* For Vet-to-Vet - Check website <http://www.vetovetbloomington.com/> to confirm location)

Telephone Numbers
Post 604 - Canteen (812) 339-2375

PPT License # 122238
Raffle License # 122237

Bingo License # 121844

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	Tony Halliday	(812) 369-0866	Senior Vice President	Joe Crawford	(812) 330-1343	Senior Vice President	Millie Briles	(812) 336-8409
Junior Vice Commander	Bill Halliday	(812) 360-4862	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
Chaplin	Roy Smith	(317) 626-9829	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	John Martin	(812) 339-1113						
2 Year House Committee	Tom Vernon	(812) 332-1250						
3 Year House Committee	Leonard L Heldman	(812) 361-9129						

Renewing Membership

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. ❖



Created by Steve Ingram of the Air Force News Agency

Members in the Spotlight * Past and Present *



JAMES A. GLASGOW - born in Monroe County in 1925. He attended school at the Bloomington High School and after graduation enlisted in the U. S. Navy.

Comrade Glasgow served with the Navy Armed Guards from 1942 in the South Pacific. He received his discharge at Great Lakes Naval Depot in 1946. He met his sweetheart and married in 1944. They have three sons: Steve, Bruce and Clint Glasgow.

Mr. Glasgow worked as a blacksmith, in the local stone mills and was a railroader. He owned his own welding shop in town from 1972 to 1984. Currently retired and residing in Ellettsville, IN.

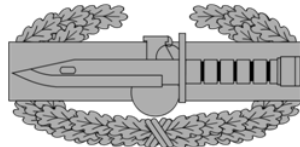
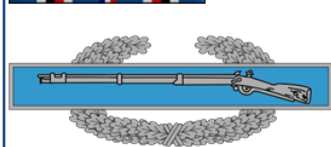
He has been an active Member of VFW Post #604 since 1946.

In the above photograph, taken December 1945 in downtown Oakland, California, Jim Glasgow is flanked by John Buffaloe on the left, and Bob Miles on the right.

If you or someone you know has one of the below awards, they may be eligible for VFW Membership.

(See page 5 for titles of qualifying awards)

VFW ** Badges, Medals, and Ribbons of Eligibility ** VFW



Why a House Committee?

Below is an excerpt from the VFW Indiana Department rules and regulations:

11. A House Committee shall be elected by the Post membership to act as a board of management for the business affairs of the Club. This House Committee shall consist of three (3) members, one of which shall be elected each year for a three (3) year period. No members of the House Committee shall succeed to membership on such committee automatically by virtue of election to any Post Office. Post Trustees shall not be elected to the House Committee. The House Committee shall elect a Chairman yearly. All members of the House Committee shall be elected and not appointed. A House Committee member, who resigns or is removed from office, will be replaced by the election of a new member to fill the vacant position. The other two (2) members will remain in their present year of offices.
12. The House Committee may suspend Club privileges of any Post member, Ladies Aux., Men's Aux., or guest who is guilty of any misconduct on the Club premises, for whatever period of time they shall determine proper, by presenting him/her with written notice. Final decision shall be made by a majority vote of the members present at the next regular or special meeting, after suspended member has received such notice.
13. The Post membership may overrule or abrogate any action of the House Committee by a majority vote at regular or duly called special meeting. Any House Committee member may be removed from office in the event he/she has committed an offense specified in Article IX, Section 902 procedural guide for disciplinary action of the National Constitution and By-Laws. Determination that the House Committee member has committed such offense, in Article IX Section 902, shall be by a majority vote of membership present at a regular or duly called meeting to remove a House Committee Member. This action may only be taken after the accused has been given seven (7) days written notice.
17. ... members of the House Committee shall be held responsible by the Post Commander and the Post Floor to know and strictly enforce at all times the By-Laws of the Club, Indiana Department rules and regulations, the Indiana Alcoholic Beverage Act and Amendments thereto, and the Indiana Charitable Gaming Commission regulations.



Our New Post – Nearly Ready to Open

Post 604 Men's Auxiliary

In case you missed it, U.S. armed forces have been withdrawn from Iraq.

Er...um...at least that's how it gets reported in the press.

No matter how the current administration in Washington wants to spin it, the fact of the matter is that we still have troops on the ground in Iraq. I know this because I've received a note from a friend of mine whose husband is a combat medic whose unit has just been deployed to a base near Baghdad. He contacted her recently and asked her to help him try to rally some support for the men and women of his unit who are in need right now.

It seems the Army sends units like theirs into combat scenarios with just basic supplies. What they really need is a healthy dose of personal hygiene items, magazines, books, phone cards, stationery, games, socks, boots, ballistic eye protection (not goggles) and some other assorted military gear. Wouldn't it be terrific if we could motivate some folks here in town to help collect a truckload of items and get it all sent overseas to these men and women? Isn't that one of the reasons our organization exists for? I've got all of the contact information if anyone is interested. Give me a shout!

Mike Pipher – President VFW Men's Auxiliary

Awards for Ribbons & Devices Listed on Page 4

(Listed in alphabetical order)

Air Force Combat Action Medal, Air Force Expeditionary Service Ribbon with GOLD BORDER, American Defense Service, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, Army of Occupation (Navy Occupation Service Medal), Combat Action Ribbon, Combat Infantryman Badge, Combat Medical Badge, European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign, Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, Korea Defense Service Medal, Korean Service Medal, Kosovo Campaign Medal, Navy & Marine Corps Expeditionary Medal, Southwest Asia Service Medal, SSBN Deterrent Patrol Insignia, Vietnam Service Medal

Laurens B. Strain V.F.W. Post 604
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Bloomington, IN 47404-2690

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PERMIT No. 205

"Oldest Post in the State"

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED



Phone: (812)-339-2375

Electronic Newsletter Delivery

If you would rather receive the VFW Post 604 Newsletter in email verses a paper copy, please send an email to 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. If you do not get the electronic newsletter, or have trouble viewing it, please feel free to call me after 7:00PM at the number provided in the Officer's listing under the calendar on page 3.

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.

Mark Dammer - Quartermaster

Please Support Bingo



Conducted by V.F.W. Ladies Auxiliary

Thursday – Sales open 5:30PM – Play starts 6:30PM
Saturday – Sales open 2:30PM – Play starts 3:30PM

Location

(Fraternal Order of Eagles)

**3100 S Walnut St
Bloomington, IN**

Bingo License # 121844