

# VFW POST 604 NEWS

## 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.

[WWW.VFW-604.NET](http://WWW.VFW-604.NET)

May 2014

## Commander's Corner

Where has the time gone? We are starting our 5<sup>th</sup> month of the year already. A lot has happened at the post these first 4 months of the year and a lot more scheduled for the remainder of the year. Before I get into May's coming events, there are some things that happened in April I would like to mention.

First of all Post 604 had the privilege of presenting the Veterans of Foreign Wars Award to Air force ROTC Cadet Ashley Spesard. Cadet Ashley Spesard received this award for her superior performance during the past year. Pictured below is Joe Hardin presenting this award at the AFROTC banquet in April.

Secondly, the open house and deck dedication held in April was a huge success. Many members and guests were on hand to celebrate the open house and also to enjoy an excellent spaghetti dinner. A big thank you goes to the men's auxiliary for preparing a superb dinner enjoyed by all. The Post was also honored by a visit from the CinC Bill Thien and his party on the day of the open house. Bill congratulated the post of the great things we are doing here in Bloomington and also reminded us of purpose of the VFW.

Now, what is coming up in May? First of all we have the NASCAR Sunday, which has become a post tradition, coming up on May 4<sup>th</sup>. The Men's Aux will again be preparing their superior Tenderloin sandwiches.

May is also the month we honor those veterans that have gave all in the cause of freedom. The post will be doing it's part by placing flags of the graves of those veterans. The placing of the flags will be done on Saturday May 24<sup>th</sup>. Those that can help place the flags meet at the Clear Creek cemetery at 10am.

Mark your calendar to attend the memorial service at Val Halla Memorial Gardens at 10 am on Memorial Day Monday the 26<sup>th</sup>. Hope to see you at all these events.

**For God and Country  
Bob Lanning, Commander**

## Commander's Corner cont.



## Post 604 Men's Auxiliary

Well, our April NASCAR Sunday went very well, despite the rain delay of the race. THANKS to OUR GIRLS AGAIN. We had cake, cobbler cookies, brownies, slaw, salads, green beans, cheese cakes, and veggie tray. You pay \$5.00 for a giant Tenderloin and get all these extras for free! NOT A BETTER DEAL ON THIS PLANET @ONLY \$5.00.

We also had 5 new comers – 3 from Linton – 2 from here in Bloomington. All 5 wants to be notified of next Tenderloin Sunday. Here it is: Sunday - May 4<sup>th</sup> - Aaron's 499 @Talladega.

The Texas Holdem is doing right well also. We are growing in number each week. Julie Curtis is providing food each Thursday nite for Ladies Aux. We've had beans w/cornbread, beef stew, bbq pork sandwiches, meat loaf sandwiches & hot dogs – coney's + nacho's. Never know what she'll come in with next, but it's always good and CHEAP! I guess what I'm trying to say us, if you like RACING, FOOTBALL, or POKER w/GOOD FOOD, this is where you need to be.

**Tim Haney, President Men's Auxiliary**

## Post 604 Ladies Auxiliary

My Dear Auxiliary Ladies,

As I set here to spread the news I just would like to see more of you at the meetings and the club. There so many of you I have not yet met and look forward to meeting.

We had elections at our April meeting and will have installations in May. I am still in need of a Secretary and Patriotic Instructor. I also need volunteers for committees.

I am still having lunch but only when I have leftovers from Thursday night from Texas Holdem. We will be having Friday night dinner on May the 23<sup>rd</sup>. The Auxiliary will have Meatloaf, Mashed Potatoes, Gravy, Green Beans and another vegetable for \$6.00 Auxiliary Ladies are asked to bring a dessert please.

**Julia Curtis, President  
VFW Ladies Auxiliary  
Phone (812) 822-0028**

## Senior Vice Commander

Fellow Comrades

Another month has passed, and it looks and feels like spring is finally upon us. It also means that "Mushroom Season" will be here soon.

If anyone has any extra they want to give to someone this year I would be more than happy to take them. Actually, just about anyone else would as well as me. It's just a thought, but too good to be true.

We are having our "Open House" celebration this Saturday, April 26th for the new deck we have. If you haven't seen it yet, come on down. There will be food served; also the National Commander of the V.F.W. will be there. I believe someone has told him about how good the food is we have there. I want to thank all the people that do make it possible to have it.

Also, on Sunday, May 18<sup>th</sup>, we will be hosting our 7<sup>th</sup> District Meeting. It will start at 10:30 A.M. and food will be served after the meetings. If you have never been to one, they aren't as boring as you might think they would be. In all probability there will also be someone there you may have met from the other Posts already. Just wanted to let you know it was going to happen next month.

Have a good month, and don't forget about your extra mushrooms. They can be turned in to me at the Post. Just a bit of humor, I know it ain't gonna happen

**William (Bill) Evans, Sr. Vice Commander  
Membership Chairman**

## WARM AND BUSY MONTH of MAY!!!

A lot of stuff has been going on here at the Post and this month will be no exception so lets hope the weather cooperates. Ok, so lets get to it!!!

**1<sup>st</sup> Friday Night Dinner Special** this month will be on **May 2<sup>nd</sup>** and we are going to be serving **HONEY BAKED HAM DINNER** for **\$5.00!!** You get Spiral Sliced Ham with Mashed Potatoes and Corn-served piping hot and only **\$5.00** <<<Note the small price!!! Serving will start at 6:00 p.m. and go until we run out.

**NASCAR Sunday** this month will be **May 4<sup>th</sup>** so check out the Mens news article for the particulars for this event. We do know that those **Gigantic Hand-Dipped Breaded Tenderloin Sandwiches** will be on the ready!! We know we keep harping about these sandwiches but they really are good and in fact we now have a list of members from other Posts that want us to call them and let them know when the next **NASCAR Sunday** is going to be so they can make plans to be here for the Sandwiches—**TRUTH!**











So, we have the deck open now plus we have installed a **ATM** located in the bar area. Rather use your plastic??—we can accommodate—**Texas Holdem** every **Thursday** night is going strong—starts at **7:00 p.m.**—Like Poker??—give it a try—food available!!!

Now we come to **May 26<sup>th</sup> (Memorial Day-Monday)**, after attending the ceremonies at Valhalla come on out to the Post for our traditional **Free Ham & Beans with Cornbread**. We will open at **10:00 a.m.** and will serve all day until around 6:00 p.m. Make plans to stop by and see your Post—renew your membership---eat good food—have good time!!!

**HOUSE COMMITTEE**

# Laurens B. Strain – VFW Post 604

May 2014

Closed Sunday	Open 1200 - 2200 Monday	Open 1600 - 2200 Tuesday	Open 1600 - 2200 Wednesday	Open 1600 - 2200 Thursday	Open 1600 - 2200 Friday	Open 1000 - 2200 Saturday
				<b>Loyalty Day</b>  Starts at 7pm * Vet to Vet – 1900	<b>Friday Night Special</b> <b>Ham Steak &amp; Mashed Potatoes</b> <b>\$5.00</b> Lunch - Post open at noon Commander's Drawing 1900	
<b>4</b> <b>NASCAR Sunday</b>  <b>Post opens at Noon</b>	<b>5</b> HOT DOG MONDAY Open @ Noon	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>  Starts at 7pm * Vet to Vet – 1900	<b>9</b> Serving Dinner 1800 – 2100 Lunch - Post open at noon Commander's Drawing 1900	<b>10</b>
<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> HOT DOG MONDAY Open @ Noon	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>  Starts at 7pm * Vet to Vet – 1900	<b>16</b> Serving Dinner 1800 - 2100 Lunch - Post open at noon Commander's Drawing 1900	<b>17</b> Entertainment starting at 7pm – Monroe Co. Ramblers Band
<b>18</b> <b>District Meeting –</b> <b>10:30am @ Post</b> <b>604 Lunch to follow</b> <b>meeting</b>	<b>19</b> HOT DOG MONDAY Open @ Noon	<b>20</b> <b>Meetings</b> <b>V.F.W. – 1800</b> <b>Election of Officers</b> <b>Men's Aux – 1800</b> <b>Ladies Aux – 1800</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>  Starts at 7pm * Vet to Vet – 1900	<b>23</b> <b>Friday Night Special</b> <b>Ladies Aux.</b> Lunch - Post open at noon Commander's Drawing 1900	<b>24</b> <b>Flag Placement –</b> <b>Clear Creek</b> <b>Cemetery 10am</b>
<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> <b>Memorial Day</b> <b>Ham Beans &amp; corn Bread</b> <b>at Post after Memorial</b> <b>Service</b> HOT DOG MONDAY Open @ Noon	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>  Starts at 7pm Vet to Vet - 1900	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>

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

Telephone Number (812) 339-2375

Charity Game Night License # 133056

Raffle License # 127960

## VA Dental Insurance?

As most of us have known for decades, the VA does have oral surgeons and dentists on contract or will pay for dental work on a fee basis. Example: too few veterans took advantage of the one-time dental work paid for by the VA after we separated from active duty. We had 180 days after separation to apply. Second example: some veterans have a dental/oral damage service connected disability. Like any other service connected disability, the VA will either treat or in some cases pay for treatment. There is no time limit or number of treatments limit for any service connected disability. (The best illustration of this situation I know is friend who took an AK-47 round through his jaw.) Third example: a veteran actively enrolled in a VA vocational rehabilitation program gets darned near anything fixed that might otherwise interfere with his or her training, be it glasses, an adaptive van, or teeth fixed. Fourth and last "traditional" example: veteran Jones is a patient under VA physician Smith's care in the Indianapolis VA Medical Center. Jones has an ulcer, or lost part of his stomach to cancer, or has some digestive condition, or whatever. He needs to be able to chew his food well. Doctor Smith prescribes dental care and veteran Jones gets it.

Well, amazingly enough there's a new Department of Veterans Affairs dental benefit announced late last year: dental insurance. "Insurance" meaning "pay premiums". Before you dismiss the idea of dental insurance please consider that Polly and I have been covered by Delta Dental for at least ten years and it's paid off for us. We were eligible when I was actively participating in the Army Reserves and we continue to be eligible because I'm a military retiree. Our premiums are a little over \$50 per month. May sound expensive, but consider: Preventative examinations and basic cleanings every six months are covered in full. At the other extreme of the dental work scale, crowns are covered 50%. ('Which ain't bad if you get an \$800 crown.) But, I'm getting into specifics which may not be true about the particular plan you might choose. Heck, I might change to the VADIP! Several of the plans are cheaper than mine.

Here's the VA announcement:

VA is implementing a comprehensive national VA Dental Insurance Program (VADIP) to give enrolled Veterans and [CHAMPVA](#) beneficiaries the opportunity to purchase dental insurance through [Delta Dental](#) and [MetLife](#) at a reduced cost. Participation is voluntary. Purchasing a dental plan does not affect Veterans' eligibility for VA dental services and treatment. VADIP opens November 15 for the purchasing of plans, with coverage beginning January 1, 2014.

Covered services include diagnostic, preventative, surgical, emergency and endodontic/restorative treatment. [Delta Dental](#) and [MetLife](#) are offering multiple plans. Each participant pays the fixed monthly premiums for coverage and any copayments required, depending on the type of plan selected.

Dependents of Veterans, except those eligible under [CHAMPVA](#), are not authorized to participate in VADIP. Those individuals may be eligible for separate dental insurance coverage offered by these carriers.

Beginning November 15, 2013, individuals interested in participating in VADIP may complete

an application online, over the phone or by mail. A direct link to each provider's VADIP webpage is available from [www.va.gov/healthbenefits/VADIP](http://www.va.gov/healthbenefits/VADIP). The following table shows contact information for each provider.

PROVIDER	TOLL-FREE NUMBER	WEBSITE	MAILING ADDRESS
Delta Dental	1-855-370-3303	<a href="http://www.deltadentalvadip.org">www.deltadentalvadip.org</a>	Correspondence  Delta Dental of California  Federal Government Programs  PO Box 537013  Sacramento, CA 95853-7013
MetLife	1-888-310-1681	<a href="http://www.metlife.com/VADIP">www.metlife.com/VADIP</a>	MetLife Dental Claims  PO Box 981282  El Paso, TX 79998-1282

Coverage under VADIP begins January 1, 2014, and will be provided throughout the United States and its territories. The initial participation period will be at least 12 calendar months. Afterward, VADIP beneficiaries can renew their participation for another 12-month period or be covered month-to-month, as long as the participant remains eligible for coverage and VA continues VADIP.

Multiple plan options will allow participants to select a plan that provides benefits and premiums that meet their dental needs and budget. The offered plans vary and may include diagnostic, preventative, surgical, emergency and endodontic/restorative treatment. Each participant will pay a fixed monthly premium for coverage, in addition to any copayments required by his or her plan.

**John Tilford – Service Officer**

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