
VFW POST 604 NEWS

WWW.VFW-604.ORG

October 2016

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

ATTENTION MEMBERS!

In July our membership drive started. The State of Indiana has 33,886 members, 252 of which belongs to Post 604. Political leverage offered by the Veterans of Foreign Wars is determined by the number of veterans we have in the VFW. The stronger our voices are, the more action we get from our politicians in Washington, D.C. After three months, 58% of our annual members have yet to renew their membership. We need 41 members to renew to get to 100%. Membership is important to keep the welfare of our Veterans up front in the eyes and minds of the American people.

Some of our members may not know that our Men's Auxiliary and Ladies Auxiliary will merge into one group known as the VFW Auxiliary. There is a lot of discussion going on around the Post as to how to do this without causing problems at the Post. Both Auxiliaries are working together for a smooth transition. Per mandate from the VFW Headquarters, all things have to be completed by December 31st.

We are picking up some new members and they are jumping in at the Post as volunteers. Please welcome Jeff Conway and Will Post. They are enthusiastically helping us make the Post a great place for our membership to come.

Come by the Post and see what changes have been made. With the help of our members, we are moving forward. Our membership is the most important part of our Post. **Without our members we are nothing.** ❖

Commander - Joe Hardin

Post 604 Men's Auxiliary

Everybody get ready, be sure and take your blood pressure medication, in a few days we are going to be bombarded with spooks, ghosts, goblins, and a few more scary creatures. **It's Halloween!**

As most (if not all) already know, the Men's and Ladies' Auxiliaries will merge together by year end. This could be the first time in history that guys and gals get along working together (Ha Ha)! The men still have one project to complete, the siding on the post, then after that any and all improvements or purchases will come from "The Auxiliary." This is going to be a major change and we all will have to make adjustments. It might take a day or two but we will become ONE. Actually, we should be able to provide some of these improvements faster by joining forces.

We will all continue to bring you some of the best food in town at the lowest price around, so check out the House Committee section of the newsletter for the Friday night specials this month. The next NASCAR/COLTS tenderloin Sunday is October 23rd - Texas Hold 'em every Thursday evening with play starting at 7:00pm.

Thank you for your support! ❖

Tim Haney, President VFW Men's Auxiliary



VFW Auxiliary

They've finally got started on the stairs and the parking lot. Hopefully they will be finished by the end of October. Last time I brought this up, nothing happened. Maybe I won't jinx it this time.

I will be decorating the post for Halloween on the 1st of October. I will be there at noon if anyone has any ideas or items to put out, please come by and share them or drop decorations off. Florence has brought in a standing decoration to display, so come on out and help or just to check it out.

½ & ½ Winners

August winners – Mary Baxter and Tom Dittmore who donated partial back.

September winners – Beverly Dittmore, Bill Evans, Debbie Deckard, and Jack Higgins who donated partial back. Thank you to all who participated. Thank you to all who donated, and congratulation to the winners!

Don't forget our dinners on Friday evenings. Watch for Leonard's flyers to see what's on the menu! ❖

Dorothy White
President VFW Auxiliary
812-345-9025

Renewing 2017 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. ❖

TAPS

Felix H. Boatwright

Felix was a Life Member of VFW Post 604.

"With each passing day, things will become easier. This is to let you know that there is tremendous support behind you today." Felix will be missed by all the men and women of VFW Post 604.

James C. Arnold, Chaplain
VFW Post 604

GHOST & GOBLINS !!!

Well they used to scare us now it just means the weather is going to get colder!!!

But we will stay warm and cozy right here at Post 604 with our **1st Friday of the Month Dinner Special (Oct 7th)** where we will be having **Lasagna with Garlic Bread and Salad**. Serving starts at 6:00 pm till we run out, if this doesn't tempt you then we will throw in some **Dessert** also and this is all served cheerfully by our **GREAT** Volunteers for just **\$7.00**.

NASCAR SUNDAY—Oct 23rd brought to you by the Men's Auxiliary which means **Gigantic Hand-Dipped Breaded Tenderloins**. Not too many races left so you need to try it—c'mon out!! Can't beat the price—**\$5.00**. Post will open at Noon — Close around 6:00 ish—probably later though!!

Then, just a few reminders for ya—**Texas Hold'em Tournament every Thursday**, starts at **7:00 p.m.** Men's Auxiliary presents their **FISH DINNER!!!** on **Oct 14th—Friday- \$7.00** all you can eat!! It is **GREAT!!** Then we go to our **3rd Friday of the Month STEAK NIGHT (21st)!!** 8 oz. Ribeye with Baked Potato and Salad and Dessert all for just **\$11**. Joe & his crew do a great job on this dinner!!! Then the **4th Friday in the Month** comes along so be sure to read **The Auxiliary** news article for that dinner special!!!! **IT'S GOOD!!!!**

Now we are sure that you have noticed that our dinner prices have gone up by a smidge or so but we are sure that you understand and we would like to say **THANKS** for your continued support at your Post 604!!! ❖














House Committee



Repaving Parking Lot

Laurens B. Strain – VFW Post 604

October 2016

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
2	3 HOT DOG MONDAY Open @ Noon	4	5	6  Starts at 7pm * Vet to Vet – 1800	7  Serving Lasagna 1800 - 2000 Commander's Drawing 1900	8
9	10 Columbus Day HOT DOG MONDAY Open @ Noon	11	12	13  Starts at 7pm * Vet to Vet – 1800	14  Serving Fish Dinner 1800 - 2000 Commander's Drawing 1900	15
16	17 HOT DOG MONDAY Open @ Noon	18 Meetings V.F.W. – 1800 Men's Aux – 1800 Ladies Aux – 1800	19	20  Starts at 7pm * Vet to Vet – 1800	21  Rib Eye Dinner 1800 - 2030 Commander's Drawing 1900	22
23  Open @ Noon	24 HOT DOG MONDAY Open @ Noon	25	26	27  Starts at 7pm * Vet to Vet – 1800	28  Auxiliary Dinner 1800 - 2000 Commander's Drawing 1900	29
30	31  HOT DOG MONDAY Open @ Noon					

(* 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 # 141029

Raffle License # 141031

The Best Speech Never Given

(The never-read eulogy for the Apollo 11 Lunar Landing Module crew, Aldrin and Armstrong.)

As the Apollo Program neared the goal of landing two men on the moon and bringing them safely home to Earth, Frank Borman assigned Nixon speechwriter William Safire a morbid task: "You want to be thinking of some alternative posture for the president in the event of mishaps." Borman was too diplomatic to say, "The astronauts might be stuck on the Moon and die there. You'd better have something ready for the President to say to the nation if that happens." Safire understood. He had a limit of 300 words. Three hundred words to help a president eulogize two heroes, uplift a crestfallen nation, and preserve the United States' journey into space:

To : H. R. Haldeman

From : Bill Safire

July 18, 1969.

IN EVENT OF MOON DISASTER:

Fate has ordained that the men who went to the moon to explore in peace will stay on the moon to rest in peace.

These brave men, Neil Armstrong and Edwin Aldrin, know that there is no hope for their recovery. But they also know that there is hope for mankind in their sacrifice.

These two men are laying down their lives in mankind's most noble goal: the search for truth and understanding. They will be mourned by their families and friends; they will be mourned by their nation; they will be mourned by the people of the world; they will be mourned by a Mother Earth that dared send two of her sons into the unknown. In their exploration, they stirred the people of the world to feel as one; in their sacrifice, they bind more tightly the brotherhood of man. In ancient days, men looked at stars and saw their heroes in the constellations. In modern times, we do much the same, but our heroes are epic men of flesh and blood.

Others will follow, and surely find their way home. Man's search will not be denied. But these men were the first, and they will remain the foremost in our hearts. For every human being who looks up at the moon in the nights to come will know that there is some corner of another world that is forever mankind.

Why should we concern ourselves with a speech that was never given? About a tragedy that did not happen? And that did-not-happening was over forty-seven years ago?

William Safire was an Army veteran writing for a Commander-in-Chief. His understanding of the responsibilities of command, calculated risk, military history and literature show in his words. Safire may have recalled the short message Eisenhower prepared on 5 June 1944 to release should the D-day landings fail. Ike was prepared to accept full responsibility for failure. Safire's last line certainly echoes Rupert Brooke's *The Soldier*. Brooke, a Sub-Lieutenant in the Royal Navy, became ill and died in 1915 on the way to the British landing at Gallipoli. He was buried on the island of Skyros.

"If I should die, think only this of me:
That there's some corner of a foreign
field That is forever England."

– from *The Soldier*, Brooke

Edwin ('Buzz') Aldrin and Neil Armstrong were both veterans of a foreign war, each having flown combat missions over Korea. Armstrong, who passed away in 2012, was a VFW member. I could not confirm that Aldrin is, but he is certainly eligible.

Both Aldrin and Armstrong went on another 'deployment' – this one almost 250,000 miles from CONUS – a mission much more hazardous than we knew at the time.

They both returned from that 'second deployment.' President Nixon did not need to give the Best Speech Never Given.

You made it back, too. Older, wiser, and a VFW member. The final chapter in your story remains to be written, and you – not a President's speech writer – are the author.

Source for the text of the speech (and an image of Safire's typewritten memo):

<http://www.ozy.com/flashback/the-best-speech-never-given-was-a-eulogy-for-the-apollo-11-astronauts/71647>

John Tilford – Service Officer



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