

VFW POST 604 NEWS

WWW.VFW-604.ORG

December 2022

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

Ho, Ho, Ho Merry Christmas. Hard to believe it's that time of the year again. Another year has rolled around. The Children's Christmas Party is on Saturday 3 December. Binky and Santa will be arriving to entertain the kids. Don't forget we will have our Christmas Dinner on Friday 9 December. We're asking that everyone to bring a covered dish so we can put on a full meal. There is a sign-up sheet in the bar. We will provide the ham and turkey. Oh yes, I'm looking for someone to cook the other ham and turkey. Anyone volunteer?

Just a reminder. The only dinner we will be having after Thanksgiving is our Christmas Dinner. We will resume our dinners the first Friday in January 2023.

Another important thing is that we **will close at 4 pm on Christmas Eve**. That way everyone can spend time with their families. Members sometimes bring in snack that day and that is still welcomed.

We will be open New Year's Eve from 12 noon through midnight. This is tradition. A pitch in of finger food is something we have always done, and this year will be no exception. Come and join us, we'll all celebrate together.

The Auxiliary Children's Halloween Party went over very well. Since it was the first time for such an event, we had a good response. Kids and adults alike had a good time. We have several pictures posted.

We had a very good Veterans Day turn out. We opened Post 604 right after the Celebration at the American Legion. We did something a little different this year. Instead of having our usual Ham and Beans, we served Chicken and Noodles with toasted French Bread and a Salad. It was Free to all who came, not just Members or Veterans. It replaced our Friday Fish Fry and was accepted very well. A Special Thanks to Frank Ozug who prepared everything. To all of you that pitched in to help, and even brought additional dishes, Thank You very much. They are too numerous to list, but it was Greatly Appreciated.

Our 102nd Birthday is coming up next Month. We will have
See Commander *Continued on Page 2*

VFW Auxiliary

Very pleased to announce the winners of the Patriot Pen essay contest are: 1st place Mila Havill-Weems from Jackson Creek Middle School (whose teacher is Justin Garner) and 2nd place Mya Winh from Lakeview School (whose teacher is Michelle Oliver). The winner of the Voice of Democracy essay is William Foley, a junior at Bloomington North and he will now advance to the District contest. We'll be honoring these students at our annual Birthday celebration. Thanks to those who helped judge as well as co-chairs George Kristoff and Karen Cain.

I can never say enough good things about our volunteers. Just look around at how well the post has been decorated this fall and how much fun we've had at this year's children's parties! Far too many names to list 'em all here, but I do want to single out Kathy Stout and thank her for donating the hand-made quilts that were raffled off to benefit Dorothy's Kids Christmas Party. Kathy also raffled off one quilt on Veterans day and raised \$206 for the Children's Christmas Party.

Dues for 2023 need to be paid before New Year's Day. We've sent notices to those whose memberships have lapsed. We need just 28 more members to reach this year's goal.

Our Auxiliary wholeheartedly supports Wreaths Across America. We still need to find donors for about 20 wreaths. They cost \$15 each. The ceremony at Rose Hill Cemetery will be held at 11am on Saturday, December 17.

Wishing you very blessed and happy holidays! ❖

Mike Pipher - Auxiliary President (Acting)



Columbarium Niches Available to All Members

We still have Niches available to all Post member free of charge. The Columbarium is located at the Veterans Memorial in Valhalla. The only charge is for the opening and closing of the niche and for the plaque for the spouse, if applicable. It is at a greatly reduced price until December 31st. This is a great savings to all veterans. As we know the price of burials and cremations is pretty substantial. Anyone interested, please contact Commander Kristoff or call the Post and leave a message. We will provide you with all the details.

Christmas Dinner Friday 09 December 6 to 8 pm

The Post will provide Turkey and Ham. We are asking members to bring a covered dish. So, we don't end up with several duplicates, please sign-up at the bar.

New Years Eve

We will be open on New Year's Eve from 12 pm through midnight. As usual our members will bring in finger food to snack on all evening. Might have some Euchre games starting up and maybe even Ship, Captain, and Crew. Come and join the fun. Good Times to be had by all !



Commander's Drawing Results

| Date | Member Drawn | \$Pot\$ | Result |
|-------|------------------|---------|--------------------|
| 10/28 | Joe Hardin | \$793 | Not Signed |
| 11/04 | Steve White | \$432 | Signed/Not Present |
| 11/11 | Gary Black | \$249 | Signed/Not Present |
| 11/18 | Michael Pershing | \$315 | Not Signed |

\$1 to play – Sign – Who wins, who knows? Be here Friday @ 8:00 PM – if your # is drawn – get it all!

Commander

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our Dinner on Saturday 7 January from 6 to 8 pm, which is the exact date of our Charter. This will be a catered event for all of our members. We will also be hosting the Voice of Democracy and Patriots Pen finalists and present their awards. We haven't been able to do this for the past 3 years. Between Covid and the flood we've were totally out of commission.

We are raffling off a 5th of Jack Daniels Whiskey. This is not an ordinary 5th; it is a Collector's item. It's 1954 Gold Medal Whiskey. It is estimated to be worth \$500 to \$600. We're selling tickets for a mere \$10. See the bartender for the details. Some lucky winner will walk away with it. See the post and picture in the newsletter.

In closing I would like to thank all our members who have supported us this past year. We have had a good year. The past three have been a real challenge, to say the least.

I would also like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas. Stay warm ! ❖

Commander – George Kristoff
(812) 327-6540 (Cell)

Collector's Item Tip Board Raffle

Jack Daniels 1954 Gold Medal Whiskey
Estimated Worth of \$500 - \$600



\$10 per Ticket



Laurens B. Strain – VFW Post 604



DECEMBER 2022

| CLOSED | 1200 - 2100 | CLOSED | CLOSED | CLOSED | 1600 - 2200 | 1200 - 1800 | |
|--|---|---|-----------|--|--|---|--|
| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday | |
|  | ALL GAVE SOME    SOME GAVE ALL | | |  | 1 *Vet to Vet – 1800 | 2 Open 1600 - 2200 | 3  Open 1000 - 1800 |
| 4 | 5 Open 1200 - 2100 | 6 | 7 | 8 *Vet to Vet – 1800 | 9 <i>Post 604</i> <i>Christmas</i> DINNER | 10 Open 1200 - 1800 | |
| 11 | 12 Open 1200 - 2100 | 13 | 14 | 15 *Vet to Vet – 1800 | 16 Open 1600 - 2200 | 17 Open 1200 - 1800 | |
| 18 | 19 Open 1200 - 2100 | 20 Meetings V.F.W. – 1800 V.F.W. Aux. – 1800 | 21 | 22 | 23 Open 1600 - 2200 | 24 Christmas Eve Early Close Open 1200 – 4:00 P.M. | |
| 25  | 26 Open 1200 - 2100 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 Open 1600 - 2200 | 31  Open 1200 - 2400 | |

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

Telephone Number (812) 339-2375

Gaming Annual Activity License # 00274

Halloween 2022



Laurens B. Strain V.F.W. Post 604
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