

January Newsletter



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Commander's Corner

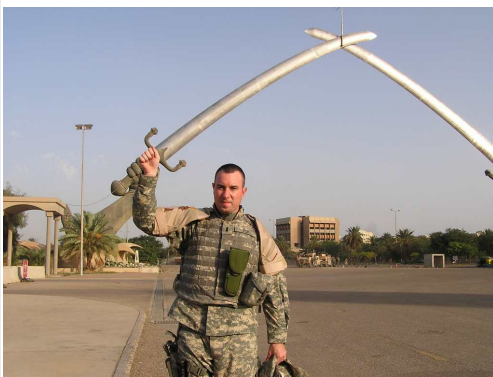
Comrades, Happy New Year!

As we say hello to 2018, let us all pause to remember those that we lost in 2017.

2018 is set to be another great year in the VFW, and more specifically with Post 7356. The National Convention will be in Kansas City this coming July. Our annual golf tournament in August (meeting coming up soon to those interested in participating), Bus trip to Michigan, including the National Home in **May 7 to 11th as well as mark your Calendars for Saturday April 7th for our Annual Youth Scholarship Dinner. We will be honoring the Voice of Democracy, Patriot's Pen Students and the Teacher of the Year.**

Breakfast crew reminder - if you would like to play an integral role in the success of our post, please volunteer to serve on the breakfast crew. We hope to start serving breakfast again on March 24th but will need a new crew of 6 to help take this on. If interested, please let Tara, Bob or myself know.

Beginning on **Thursday, January 11th**, we are bringing back an old tradition – **Commander's Call**. The post will be open from 6-9 pm for us all get together in a non-meeting setting. Come hang out, catch up with old friends, play games, bring a friend, and have a beer. The hope is to continue this on the second Thursday of each month throughout the year.



Let's make 2018 the best year yet!

Jeff Fox
Commander

———— 2017-2018 Post Officers ————

Commander	Jeff Fox	816-584-2688	Judge Advocate	Larry Maher	816-587-2213
Sr. Vice Commander	Tara Arteaga	816-726-7777	Chaplain	John Bugg	816-741-8359
Jr. Vice Commander	Barney Hill	334-475-5077	Surgeon	Mike Vogt	816-522-5944
Quartermaster	Robert Eckerle	816-741-8766	3-year Trustee	Rick Butler	816-739-0693
Adjutant	Tara K. Arteaga	816-726-7777	2-year Trustee	Jerry Felker	816-587-8026
Post PSO	Philip Duncan	816-587-1117	1-year Trustee	John Hoffman	816-728-6760



If you would like weekly updates on what the VFW Legislative Department is doing to make headway in Washington, sign up for the VFW Action Corps here:

<http://capwiz.com/vfw/mlm/signup.htm>

Lowe's Military Discounts Update Program Expansion & Changes

National home improvement retailer Lowe's has expanded its everyday military discount program to include all honorably discharged veterans, as of May 2018. The chain also has expanded the 10 percent discount to Lowe's online shopping, which will include free parcel shipping. It will provide for faster checkout and add the ability to use the discount at self-checkout in stores, said Lowe's spokeswoman Karen Cobb. But the procedure for getting the discount has changed: Active-duty service members, retirees and veterans must sign up online at <https://www.lowes.com/mylowes/login?context=military> for the Lowe's personal shopping card to qualify for the discount. This is not a credit card. If you do not want a card you have the option of using your phone number.

Spouses and dependent children up to age 18 can also get the discount, although the online signup process doesn't include an option for spouses or children. "The discount is linked to a MyLowe's account, which can be shared by a household," said Megan Lewis, a Lowe's spokeswoman. "Once the service member signs up for the discount program, it will be linked to a MyLowe's card that can also be used by their spouse."

Lowe's has offered discounts to military members and veterans for more than a decade. Previously, the 10 percent discount at Lowe's was available every day to active-duty service members, retired military and other veterans receiving VA benefits who showed their identification. For other honorably discharged veterans, the discount was limited to three days – Memorial Day, July 4 and Veterans Day. "The verification process is designed to be a simplified one-time signup," Lewis said. "Military and veteran customers can simply present their MyLowe's card at checkout rather than show military credentials each time."

Lowe's is phasing out the practice of presenting the ID at checkout, Cobb said. The website notes that Lowe's used a third party to verify eligibility for online enrollment, and may require additional documentation. In announcing the change, Robert A. Niblock, the chain's chairman, president and CEO, pointed to the business's founder, Army veteran Carl Buchan. "Enhancing our discount program honors his memory and the commitment servicemen and women and their families make to our country," Niblock said.

[Source: MoneyTalksNews | Stacy Johnson | December 12, 2017 ++]

Non-VA Services: According to the VA website, if you have an emergency that would not allow you to make it to the VA Emergency Room and you or the ambulance takes you to a community hospital you have 72 hours to contact your local VA Hospital to obtain payment for the Non-VA services.

In Kansas City you need to contact the Non-VA Care Dept. Their phone number is 816-922-3399 option 1

VA



**U.S. Department
of Veterans Affairs**

**Need help with VA
Claims?**

Veteran Service Information Officer Philip Duncan is available to assist veterans with information on VA claims.

Auxiliary Information

South Platte Memorial Post 7356 Auxiliary

It is hard to believe that we are into 2018! I hope that everyone had a wonderful Christmas and made it thru the recent bitter cold weather without any major problems.

Auxiliary life member, Billy Clark, passed away on December 3rd. A celebration of life was held for Billy on December 23rd for her family only. Our Auxiliary made a \$50 donation in Billy's name to the VFW National Home for Children. Billy worked very diligently for 7356 Auxiliary, especially on the Annual St. Patrick's Day Dinner. After discussion at our December meeting, a motion was made and passed, that we honor Billy by changing the name of our St. Patrick's Day Dinner to the Billy Clark Annual St. Patrick's Day Dinner.

At our December 2017 meeting the drawing for the conversion to life membership was held. The winner of the drawing is Tina Dawson. Congratulations Tina – you are the latest life member of the South Platte Memorial Post 7356 Auxiliary! And, we are very pleased that our membership ended the year at 100% with 68 members! We are always looking for new members. Please let Mary Helbock or myself know if you know of someone that would like to join our Auxiliary.

The Annual Christmas Party at the Cameron Veterans Home was held Sunday, December 10th from 1 to 3 pm. VFW 7356 Post and Auxiliary members visited with residents, and the Boy Scout troop entertained with various songs and Christmas carols. A full report will be included in the February newsletter as Linda Eckerle, chairperson, was not at our December meeting.

The next projects for our Auxiliary will be the Billie Clark Annual St. Patrick's Day Dinner on Saturday, March 17th from 5 to 7 pm, and the Family Freedom Festival. Please let me know if you would be interested in helping with either event.

The VFW Post hosted delicious meals at 6 pm prior to their monthly meeting in November and December, with Auxiliary members invited. We have been treated to chili and lasagna the past couple of months. A huge thank you to Post Senior Vice Commander, Tara Arteaga, for the wonderful dinners.

Our next Auxiliary meeting is Thursday, January 25th at 7 pm. This is our regular meeting date I hope to see you at our next meeting. We would love to have you attend.

Continued on Page 5

Auxiliary Officers 2017-2018

President:	Anita Crowell	816-550-1049	or	Anita.crowell@yahoo.com
Senior-vice:	Mary Helbock	816-741-9676	or	maryhelbock@gmail.com
Junior Vice:	Jodi Kersten	913-638-7734	or	kerstenjodi@att.net
Secretary:	Lorie Green	816-663-2194	or	lgreen_59@yahoo.com
Treasurer:	Judith Green	741-9489	or	hwkeye@kc.rr.com
Conductor	Randy Green	816-663-2236		randygreen0628@yahoo.com
Chaplain:	Rosemary Karp	587-5313	or	rosemrykarp@gmail.com
Guard:	Mary Lou Wilkinson	769-1157	or	mwilk6378@yahoo.com
3 Year Trustee:	Cheryl Hainkel	816-806-2796	or	otterhalf@msn.com
2 Year Trustee:	Linda Eckerle	816-741-8766	or	lindae8110@aol.com
1 Year Trustee:	Ricki Butler	816-256-0728	or	rickibutler17@gmail.com
Patriotic Instructor	Stephanie Skinner	660-464-0648		sscjmajr@yahoo.com
Historian	Crystal Deshazer	520-3858		crysdesh@yahoo.com



That's right, **"Get on the Bus!"** with your fellow VFW Post 7356 members and our Auxiliary. This is a special trip to visit the **VFW National Home for Children** with a side trip to the **"Holland Michigan Tulip Festival"**.

5 DAYS - 4 NIGHTS

May 7 - 11, 2018

\$ 529 per person (double occupancy) cash or check
\$545 per person (double occupancy) using credit card
\$778 per person, single occupancy, cash or check \$801 by credit card

We must have 40 paying to qualify. We can accommodate 50.

PACKAGE INCLUDES:

- 4 nights lodging, including overnights
- 2 Dinner, including "Church Supper"
- Veldheer's Tulip Gardens
- Reserved seats for the Volksparede
- VFW National Home for Children
- Luggage handling in Michigan
- 2 Breakfasts
- Dutch Village
- DeKlomp Wooden Shoe & Delft Factory
- Evening Revue Show
- Souvenir gift
- Taxes and meal gratuities

Day 1 - We will depart from Post 7356 early morning of the 7th of May, traveling to our first overnight lodging (Dinner is on our own).

Day 2 - After breakfast we depart for Holland, MI arriving early afternoon, lunch on our own and visit the Dutch Village, where we will see Dutch folk dancing, wooden shoe carving, Windmill Gardens & DeZwaan Windmill and Amsterdam street organs. Dinner at a local church for a "church supper".

Day 3 - Visit the Veldheer Tulip Gardens and DeKlomp Wooden Shoe & Delft Factory, after lunch on our own reserved seats await for the Volksparede. After parade enjoy dinner and then a spectacular show.

Day 4 - After breakfast checkout and head for **Eaton Rapid, MI and the VFW National Home for Children**. We will have a guided tour and then depart for our final overnight accommodation with dinner on our own. **Day 5** - Following breakfast check out and depart for home.

Reservations can be made at <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0b4da8af2ba13-get> a link is on this page to pay by credit card. For more information or questions call Jodi Kersten at (913) 638-7734 or email at kerstenjodi@att.net

Deadline for reservations and full payment March 16th, 2018.

Cancellation insurance can be obtain by calling 1-800-388-1470 with location #386097 or online at <https://nta.aontravelprotect.com>



Pay It Forward.....

Come out and join us on January 8th at 6:00 p.m. with our monthly social with the veterans in residence at "The Gardens Barry Road".

Several are members of our Post.

They enjoy meeting us and socializing.

Help Wanted:

The Post Quartermaster has advised that he plans to retire no later than the 2019-2020 fiscal year.

An Assistant Quartermaster is needed now to learn the position. Knowledge of computers and Microsoft Office products is essential. A general knowledge of accounting and bookkeeping is needed as the Post uses QuickBooks and a Veterans Software program to keep the books. The Quartermaster is also responsible for utilizing the VFW web site to maintain the membership records. If interested contact Commander Fox or Quartermaster Robert Eckerle.

Auxiliary Presidents Comments Continued from Page 3

Upcoming Important Dates:

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| January 14th | District #3 Meeting, 117 West Main, Plattsburg MO. Joint VFW/Auxiliary meeting at 11 am, meal to follow; cost \$10 - \$ 12. We will be honored with the attendance of Missouri Department President, Nelda Clifton, at this meeting. |
| January 25th | Auxiliary Meeting at 7 pm |
| February 2nd – 4th | Council of Administration, Jefferson City MO |
| March 17th | Billy Clark Annual St. Patrick's Day Dinner, 5 to 7 pm, Post 7356, Parkville MO |
| April 7th | Voice of Democracy/Patriot's Pen Scholarship Awards Dinner, 6:30 pm, Post 7356, Parkville MO |
| May 2018 | Family Freedom Festival, date, time and location to be announced |

Please reach out to me or any other auxiliary member to let us know what we can do for you. Please feel free to contact me with any concerns or questions at 816.550.1049 or anita.crowell@yahoo.com.

I wish all of our members and their families a very Happy, Healthy and Prosperous 2018!

Anita Crowell, President

816.550.1049

anita.crowell@yahoo.com

**South Platte Memorial Post 7356**

P.O. Box 12121
Parkville, MO 64152

816-746-8010

<http://myvfw.org/mo/post7356/>



<https://www.facebook.com/ParkvilleVFW7356>

Instagram



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Calendar



January 2018



- 1— New Year
- 6— Epiphany
- 8— Social at Gardens
- 11— Commander Call 6 p.m.
- 15— Martin Luther King Jr Day
- 17— Persian Gulf War (1991)
- 25— **VFW/Auxiliary Business Meeting 7 p.m.**
- 27— Signing of Vietnam Peace Accord (1973)
- 31— Panama Campaign End (1990)

Every Monday Night

Civil Air Patrol
6- 9 p.m.

Every Saturday Morning

breakfast 8-10 a.m.

NOTE:
Breakfast will be closed starting November 11 to March 24, 2018

February 2018

- 1 - National Freedom Day
- 2 - Department CofA Jefferson City
- 2 - Ground Hog Day
- 8 - Boy Scouts Founded (1910)
- 8 - Commander Call 6 p.m.
- 12 - Lincoln's Birthday
- 12 - Social at Gardens
- 13 - Shrove Tuesday
- 14 - St. Valentine's Day
- 19 - President's Day
- 22 - Washington's Birthday
- 22 - **VFW/Auxiliary Business Meeting 7 p.m.**