



July Newsletter

UNWAVERING SUPPORT



FOR UNCOMMON HEROES

Commander's Corner

Comrades,

A very happy 242nd birthday to the United States of America! With fireworks and celebration we welcome the 2018-2019 VFW membership year! We have had a great year under 2017-2018 Post Commander Jeff Fox's leadership. With him, we won the National Community Service Award from VFW Headquarters, achieved Missouri All-State designation and All-American. These accolades not only demonstrate the leadership of Mr. Fox, but exemplify the dedication and great character of each of our members. Jeff reached out to each of us and encouraged us to use our strengths for the greater good of the Post and the result was; increased attendance at Post meetings, the re-introduction of the monthly Commander's Call and a dinner prior to each Post meeting where we all can socialize and get to know each other better. His efforts to reach out to Desert Storm/Shield, Post 9/11 veterans increased our membership totals to over 111% over all and we had over 9% new or reinstated members. We also achieved over 91% retention, which shows that our members wanted to stay members of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and be a part of our mission at VFW Post 7356. Moving forward, we're going to hit the ground running! We, once again, participated in the annual Parkville 4th of July parade. A huge thanks to Phil Farris for leading us in this annual event on the VFW side and Jodi for chairing on the Auxiliary side of the house. Thanks goes out to everyone who helped to decorate the float, as well as to the Buggs for donating their space and hosting the decorating party.



Membership is always a goal for our Post and I would like to keep going the achievements that Jeff has made. Keep in mind we have the VFW National Convention coming up in Kansas City. This is a great opportunity for local veterans to really see what the VFW is all about on a National level. If you've never been, please consider going. NOTE: If you are going to attend, contact Bob Eckerle at **VFWPost7356@kc.rr.com** so that he can register you as a delegate. Another great thing for recruiting and retention is the Trace Adkins concert on Sunday July 22nd. VFW Members can call 833-VFW-VETS for some great FREE tickets to this event in Kansas City. If you know someone who is a member, and hasn't come to the Post in awhile, reach out to them! Invite them to come. If that veteran is you, then we would love to see you! You are welcome to attend any function/meeting we have! Remember we have the District 3 School of Instruction on Sunday July 8th at the Albany, Missouri VFW Post 5329 starting at 1300. Please attend, if you're able.

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———— 2018-2019 Post Officers ————

Commander	<i>Tara Arteaga</i>	816-726-7777	Judge Advocate	Larry Maher	816-587-2213
Sr. Vice Commander	Barney Hill	334-475-5077	Chaplain	John Bugg	816-741-8359
Jr. Vice Commander	Joe Wolfgeher Jr.	417-619-0731	Surgeon	Mike Vogt	816-522-5944
Quartermaster	Robert Eckerle	816-741-8766	3-year Trustee	Jeff Fox	816-584-2688
Adjutant	Kevin Hutchison	816-507-4909	2-year Trustee	Rick Butler	816-739-0693
Post SO	Philip Duncan	816-587-1117	1-year Trustee	Jerry Felker	816-587-8026



July Newsletter

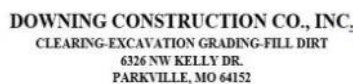


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I am a currently serving Army soldier in the National Guard as Public Affairs with the 35th Infantry Division in Leavenworth. I graduated from the University of Kansas in May of 2010 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Speech Pathology/Audiology and deployed to the Middle East in September of that same year as a motor transport operator driving HET vehicles. I have been a member of the Post since 2012 and I am honored to be elected as the 2018-2019 Post Commander. I look forward to seeing what we can do together, as veterans serving our community. I look forward to serving the Post to the best of my ability, and I promise and pledge to conduct the business of the Post in a responsible manner. I hope we all have a prosperous July, and I hope to see each of you soon!

Tara Fajardo Arteaga
Post Commander

This years current Sponsors for Golf Tournament



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 President Comments

We hope that everyone had a wonderful Fourth of July, celebrating our nation's independence and our freedom. Post and Auxiliary members enjoyed participating in the Annual Parkville Parade. This year's theme was "Broad Strips and Bright Stars" and 7356 displayed them proudly. Thank you to all the volunteers that worked on this years' beautiful floats.

Do you receive emails from the VFW Action Corps Weekly? Our Legislation Chair urges you to sign up for this weekly email publication that informs us of issues that affect our veterans and their families. To sign up, send an email to vfwac@vfw.org.

The VFW still needs your help to assist with the Saturday Morning Breakfast Crew. Please look at the staffing thru Sign-up Genius to see if you can help fill in the blanks. Also, be sure to mark the dates you are not available. To view the link and sign up, go to:

<http://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0b4da8af2ba13-breakfast>.

The Annual VFW Golf Tournament will be held on Monday, August 20th at the National - Deuce. This year the Auxiliary will coordinate the Silent Auction, with all proceeds going to the Auxiliary. This is a tremendous opportunity for us for increase our treasury to enable us to do more for veterans and their families. If you know of a business that would be willing to donate to our auction, please call Anita Crowell at 816.550.1049. All donations need to be to Anita by July 31st.

Plans are going well for our Family Freedom Festival on Saturday, September 15th at the Post from 11 am to 3 pm. This event will be open to the public as an outreach to our community, focusing on family safety with first responders, clowns, face painting, food and terrific door prizes. Volunteers are needed! If you are interested contact Cheryl Hainkel at 816.806.2796.

With proceeds from our May Buddy Poppy days, the Auxiliary made donations to the Community Veterans Project (Tiny Houses), Cameron Veterans Home, VFW Home for Children and Uniting to Combat Hunger (Harvesters). Our Auxiliary recently received two Certificates of Recognition at the 2017-2018 Department Convention held in Springfield. Anita attended the convention and proudly brought home to 7356 the VFW Auxiliary Certificate for having a Healthy VFW Auxiliary (we met all our requirements), and a Certificate of Recognition, Group 2 – Second Place Americanism for our participation in POW – MIA Recognition.

7356 Auxiliary Officers recently attended the Department School of Instruction held at Lee's Summit Auxiliary 5789. Seated (L to R): Rosemary Karp 3 Year Trustee, Judith Green Treasurer. Standing (L to R): Lorie Green Secretary, Anita Crowell President, Mary Lou Wilkinson Conductor.



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——— 2018-2019 Auxiliary Officers ———

President	Anita Crowell	816-550-1049	Guard	Mary Lou Wilkinson	816-769-1157
Sr. Vice President	Mary Helbock	816-741-9676	Chaplain	Rosemary Karp	816-587-5313
Jr. Vice President	Jodi Kersten	913-638-7734	3-year Trustee	Rosemary Karp	816-587-5313
Secretary	Lori Green	816-663-2194	2-year Trustee	Cheryl Hainkel	816-806-2796
Treasurer	Judith Green	816-741-9489	1-year Trustee	Linda Eckerle	816-741-8766
Conductor	Randy Green	816-663-2236	Patriotic Instructor	Cheryl Hainkel	816-806-2796
			Historian	Tonya Crowell	816-651-6012

Auxiliary President Comments

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A new project this year is to collect pop can tabs for the Ronald McDonald Houses. Their organization keeps families close to their sick children while they get the care and supportive services they need. On any given night the Houses here in Kansas City serves up to 87 families, providing comfort and care to families and friends of in-patients at Children's Mercy Hospital. Our pop tops they are weighed by the pound, with the aluminum sold and the money used to support the needs of the Houses. The Ronald McDonald Foundation is also very active in supporting research to find cures for many diseases that affect children. Save your pop tabs and bring to the post each time you are there. Collection containers will be behind the bar at the Post and downstairs in the CAP meeting area. Remember – when you pop a top, please pull the tab for Ronald! ALSO, the pull tabs that are on canned foods also count.

2018 – 2019 Membership Dues – Annual members can go onto [MALTA](#) after July 9th to pay for their 2018 – 2019 dues. Annual dues are dues by October 31st. Effective this year and going forward, we will put the names of all annual members that paid their dues by October 31st in the drawing for an Auxiliary Life Membership. We encourage you to log onto [MALTA](#), set up your account and experience the Auxiliary's Membership Website. If you wish to mail your dues, please contact Mary Helbock, Membership Chair, at 816.729.0289.

Fly your Flags! We want to recognize members and neighbors that fly their US and POW-MIA flags as we have certificates to award for flying our flags. If you fly your flag or know of a friend, neighbor or business that flies or displays their flag, inform Mary Helbock, Americanism Chair, at 816.729.0289.

Auxiliary 7356 has a new Historian, Tonya Crowell. One of our newest members, Tonya stepped up to the task. Camera or iPhone in hand – she loves taking pictures! We extend our thanks and gratitude to Crystal Deshazer for the excellent work she did as our outgoing Historian. Thank you, Crystal!

Reminder – our next meeting is Thursday, July 26th at 7 pm. I sincerely hope to see you then!

Anita Crowell, President

816.550.1049 – anita.crowell@yahoo.com

———— Upcoming Important Dates ————

July 15th – District #3 Meeting and School of Instruction at Post 7356 (refreshments will be served)

July 26th – Auxiliary Meeting, 7 pm; dinner at 6 pm – Auxiliary is preparing a Taco Bar

July 20th – 23rd – National Auxiliary Convention, Bartle Hall, Kansas City MO (volunteers are needed)

August 20th – Annual Swing for Veterans Golf Tournament – National/Duce

September 15th – Family Freedom Festival, VFW Post 7356, 11 am to 3 pm

THIS MONTH AT THE POST



Picture on the left: Comrade Fox receiving a plaque for the posts appreciation of being the 2017-2018 post commander. Picture on the right: Comrade Fox being presented the All State Post Commander white garrison cover by Comrade Hoffman. Picture below Comrade Bugg and Float Chair Jodie Kersten and bottom right Comrades Hoffman and Farris are putting the finishing touches on the float.



The picture below shows the great turnout for our 4th of July post float. There are tons of pictures on the post Facebook page so please follow the page and give the pictures and video a like.

<https://facebook.com/ParkvilleVFW7356>



Upcoming Events

Commander's Call: Thursday, July 12, at the post starting at 6:00 p.m.
Hangout, drink a beverage and get to know your fellow post members. Families are welcome!



Lifetime network has a new show, Military Makeover who is helping veterans and their loved ones, This show was started by US Marine Corps SSgt R. Lee Erney and after his passing, they decided to continue his passion of helping veterans. Volunteers are needed for July 16-20th. Post members can sign up on [here](#). Please check the post webpage for more information.

VFW 118th NATIONAL CONVENTION JULY 21ST TO JULY 25TH, 2018

If you are going to the convention in July, consider giving a helping hand for a few hours? Volunteers are needed. If you could take part for 4 hours or 4-days. The following is need:

- **Medical Services: Chairperson Kathy Lee (816-204-4015)**
- **Transportation: Chairperson Richard Dukovich (816-286-6061)**
- **Meeting & Signs: Co-Chairperson John Hoffman (816-728-6760)**
- **First Timer Booth: Assoc. Director of National Membership, Tara Arteaga (816-968-2788)**



VFW & L'Ecole Dinner Fundraiser benefiting Children's Mercy Hospital on Friday, July 13th at 7PM. Tickets: \$40 per person for a four course meal. More information can be found [here](#) or call Wallace at 785-477-8668



Trace Adkins will be performing at the VFW National Convention. Tickets are free to all VFW and Auxiliary members.

VFW Golf Tournament



The VFW **7th Annual Golf Tournament** is scheduled for **Monday, August 20th, 2018** at the "Deuce" at the National Golf Club of Kansas City. It will be a "Four Person Scramble" format. A box lunch will be provided with awards following with a silent auction. We encourage golfers of all skill levels to join us. We are looking forward to a great day of fun in the sun, to honor the service of our Nation's Veterans! Sign up forms for players and sponsors are in the newsletter.



From the Hill

Blue Water Navy Veterans Closer to Receiving Benefits. With a unanimous 382-0 vote in the House on Monday, H.R. 299, the Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act of 2017, is closer than ever before to becoming law and finally providing Blue Water Navy veterans the benefits they have been denied for too long by VA's arbitrary and capricious regulations. The bill would also expand benefits to veterans exposed to Agent Orange while serving along the Korean DMZ and children born with spina bifida due to a parent's exposure during service in Thailand. It will also require VA to report on research being conducted on Gulf War Illness. The VFW calls on the Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs to swiftly consider and pass this important legislation. Read the bill text

House Veterans' Affairs Subcommittee on Health held a hearing to review the large number of staffing shortages within VA. Currently there are approximately 38,000 vacancies, most of which are related to direct care for veterans.

House Armed Services Subcommittee on Military Personnel held a hearing to discuss recent changes in the Military Health System (MHS) to address the opioid epidemic. DHA Director Vice Adm. Raquel Bono informed the committee that the MHS has reduced opioid prescriptions by 15 percent and plans to expand non-pharmacologic therapies at military treatment facilities to reduce the reliance on high dose pain medication.

Awards

Army 1st Lt. Garlin Conner posthumously received the Medal of Honor in a White House ceremony, June 26, 2018 for his heroic actions during World War II. Conner is pictured below receiving a commendation after he risked his life against insurmountable odds on the morning of Jan 24, 1945.



POW/MIA Update:

The Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency has announced identification and burial updates for three American service members who had been missing in action from WWII. Returning home for burial with full military honors are:

Army Sgt. James K. Park was a member of Company I, 26th Infantry Regiment, 1st Infantry Division. On Nov. 23, 1944, Park was declared missing in action after being wounded while his unit was engaged in fierce fighting within the Hürtgen Forest in Germany

Navy Fireman 1st Class Walter F. Schleiter was stationed aboard the USS Oklahoma, which was moored at Ford Island, Pearl Harbor, when the ship was attacked by Japanese aircraft on Dec. 7, 1941.

Navy Seaman 1st Class Daniel L. Guisinger was stationed aboard the USS Oklahoma, which was moored at Ford Island, Pearl Harbor, when the ship was attacked by Japanese aircraft on Dec. 7, 1941.

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>



Weddings
Anniversaries
Graduations
Birthdays
Seminars
Meetings
Banquets

Call for pricing and availability:

VFW Post 7356
10125 Tom Watson Parkway
Parkville, MO 64152

816-612-1728



South Platte Memorial Post 7356
P.O. Box 12121
Parkville, MO 64152

816-746-8010

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

CONNECT WITH US ON SOCIAL MEDIA:



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



Instagram

Follow VFWPOST7356

Calendar

July 2018

2 - US Army Air Corps Est. 1926
4 - Independence Day
12 - Commanders Call at 6PM
23 - VFW/Auxiliary Business Meeting
7PM with
Free Dinner Starting at 6PM
27 - Korean War ended
28 - World War I began 1914

Every Monday Night

Civil Air Patrol
6- 9 p.m.

Every Saturday Morning
Breakfast 8-10 a.m.

August 2018

1 - Air Force Day
4 - U.S. Coast Guard Established
7 - Vietnam War Began 1964
9 - Commanders Call at 6PM
14 - Japan Surrendered Ending WWII
16 - National Airborne Day
19 - National Aviation Day
23 - VFW/Auxiliary Business Meeting
7PM Post Meeting with
Free dinner starting at 6PM



**South Platte Memorial Post 7356
Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U.S.**

SIGN-UP AND PAY ON LINE VISIT <http://myvfw.org/mo/post7356>



"Swing for Veterans" Annual Golf Tournament

The Deuce at "The Nationals"

National Golf Club of Kansas City, 10316 Tom Watson Parkway, Parkville MO 64152

Golfers will Tee it Up for A Great Cause! On **Monday August 20th, 2018**

Sponsorship Opportunities (select items)

☐ ***Presenting Sponsor - \$5,000***

Two 4-player teams, logo on all Carts, recognition in program brochure, 18 hole sponsorships

☐ ***Commanders Challenge - \$3,000***

One 4-player team, recognition in program brochure, 9 hole sponsorships

☐ ***Quartermaster Challenge - \$2,000***

One 4-player team, recognition in program brochure, 6 hole sponsorships

☐ ***Stars & Stripes - \$1,000***

One 4-player team, recognition in program brochure, 2 hole sponsorships

☐ ***Cart Sponsor - \$500***

Name on Every Cart, recognition in program brochure

☐ ***Hole Sponsor - \$100***

Sign on One Hole, recognition in program brochure

☐ ***In Kind Donation***

Product or Gift Certificate for Silent Auction, recognition in program brochure

Name of Company/Person: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ e-mail _____

Send Donations to:

VFW Post 7356

P.O. Box 12121

Parkville, MO 64152

For more information or request donation be picked up, please contact:
Robert Eckerle, Quartermaster at 816-863-3164 or vfwpost7356@kc.rr.com



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"Swing for Veterans" Annual Golf Tournament

The Deuce at ***"The Nationals"***

National Golf Club of Kansas City, 10316 Tom Watson Parkway, Parkville MO 64152

Tee It Up For A Great Cause!

Four-Person Scramble **Monday, August 20th, 2018**

8:00 am – Registration *** 9:00 am Shotgun Start

Individual Player \$125 *** Team of Four \$400

Entry includes:

Green Fees, Cart, Lunch, Beverages, Access to Practice Range

****Note Shirt Deadline is August 10th, 2018**

Awards to 2 flights based on 36 teams.

Bubba Watson Hole, Closest to Pin, Longest Drive, Longest Putt

"Swing for Veterans" Registration Form

Send Entry Form and check to VFW Post 7356, P O Box 12121, Parkville MO 64152

Player #1 Name _____ Email _____

Address _____ City, State, Zip _____

Phone (include area code) _____ Shirt Size: S M L XL 2XL 3XL (Indicate men's or women's)

Player #2 Name _____ Email _____

Address _____ City, State, Zip _____

Phone (include area code) _____ Shirt Size: S M L XL 2XL 3XL (Indicate men's or women's)

Player #3 Name _____ Email _____

Address _____ City, State, Zip _____

Phone (include area code) _____ Shirt Size: S M L XL 2XL 3XL (Indicate men's or women's)

Player #4 Name _____ Email _____

Address _____ City, State, Zip _____

Phone (include area code) _____ Shirt Size: S M L XL 2XL 3XL (Indicate men's or women's)