



# October Newsletter

UNWAVERING SUPPORT



FOR UNCOMMON HEROES

Comrades,

And just like that, September is gone. We had a great cookout prior to the meeting to celebrate the start of fall. A huge thanks to Phil Farris, Dave Ruse, Vic Phillips, Calvin Campbell and everyone else who chipped in to help setup, cook, serve and clean up the meal. I love having this time prior to the meeting to visit with you all. We've already had two recruiting events that were fruitful, and another at the end of the month for the Gun Show. Contact John Hoffman, phone listed below, if you're interested in helping with this event. We'll also have a presence at the Fort Leavenworth Retiree Appreciation Day on the 27th of October. If you're interested in helping with that one, contact me. Please, feel free to come check either event out! A huge thank you to Henry Cartagena for volunteering at the last meeting to be our Events Chairman! He's already leading the charge with the event in Leavenworth. If you have any suggestions on what you think we should be doing or involved in, please let us know!



October will fly by, and we'll ramp up for Veterans Day in November. There are MANY events going on, and most all of our members are tasked out for various school programs, dinners, and events. Please consider coming to our October 25th meeting to find out all the details on the various events to participate in. A free dinner will be served at 6, and the meeting will start at 7 p.m. Recently, I was contacted by a young man who lives in the Parkville area who travels up to the Cameron Veterans Home with a friend with a case of beer and visits with the veterans. He wanted to know if any of our members are interested in going with them this year. He will be attending our Commander's Call this month on October 11th—so please stop by to visit with him. His name is Nathan. We'll be distributing Buddy Poppies again, as well. Our new Jr. Vice Commander has already contacted the stores and is getting us set up for success with that. Please look at your schedules now, and block out at least one shift. Make it a family affair! Remember, funds donated go toward veterans in need.

A note on the Commander's Call: it's intent and purpose is for members to be able to come talk to me about any issues or suggestions or anything they'd like. It's a way for members to come, enjoy a beverage and chat with other members. We've come up with some pretty great ideas at the Commander's Calls, and we'd love it if you'd stop by! It's not meant to be a meeting, but a place where we can come, no pressure, and spend time with other members. If you haven't been, come! Bring your family! There's no agenda, it's an open house and we'd love to see you! This month, we're showing "Into the Light" on the TV in the main hall. Comrade Dan Karp will start this around 6 p.m. A feature documentary about a Marine returning from Afghanistan with the invisible injuries of war who meets a therapist who is confronting her own family history of mental illness.

Have a great month, I'll hope to see you all at the next Commander's Call on October 11th!

Tara Arteaga

Post Commander

## 2018-2019 Post Officers

Commander	Tara Arteaga	816-726-7777	Judge Advocate	Larry Maher	816-587-2213
Sr. Vice Commander	Joe Wolfgeher Jr.	417-619-0731	Chaplain	John Bugg	816-741-8359
Jr. Vice Commander	Wallace James	785-477-8668	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

## Around Our Auxiliary

South Platte Memorial Post 7356 Auxiliary held our first Family Freedom Festival on Saturday, September 15<sup>th</sup> at the Post from 11 am to 3 pm. This event was open to the public as an outreach to our community that focused on family safety with first responders, face painting, food and terrific door prizes. All Auxiliary National Committees were represented with table displays showcasing how each committee works to help our veterans. Nine Young American Awards were presented during the Festival to children ages 5 thru 12 who could say the Pledge of Allegiance. First responders included the South Platte Fire District with two 2 engines and the Platte County Mobile Command Center. Young attendees were excited with the race car on display. Our very own Civil Air Patrol helped in a huge way and had a table of information as well. Two other tables of representation were the US Army recruiting and our South Platte Memorial Post 7356. We certainly appreciate the many volunteers that signed up to assist with festival. Please see our second page for photos.

**CAN TABS:** Don't forget – keep collecting those can tabs for Ronald McDonald House! Pull tabs that are on canned foods also count. Save your tabs and bring to the post each time you are there.

**REMINDER:** 2018 – 2019 Membership Dues are now due. Notices for Annual Members have been mailed out! Annual members can go into MALTA to pay for their 2018 – 2019 dues. Please DO NOT wait until December 31<sup>st</sup> – we need your dues paid now! Don't forget - we will put the names of all annual members who paid dues by October 31<sup>st</sup> 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. Any questions, please contact Mary Helbock, Membership Chair, at 816.729.0289.



(Pictured to left), Comrade Harrell Green, life member of VFW 7356, presents a new US Flag to the Fisher Cemetery in Preston, Missouri on behalf of the South Platte Memorial VFW 7356 Auxiliary. Harrell notified the Auxiliary that the cemetery needed a new flag as there are many veterans buried there. Auxiliary 7356 was happy to donate the flag!

Be sure to Fly those Flags! We will recognize members and neighbors that fly the US or POW-MIA flags with certificates to award for flying their 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 or Anita Crowell at 816.550.1049.

**POW MIA DAY:** The Auxiliary laid a wreath of poppies on September 21<sup>st</sup> – at the Clay County Veteran's Memorial, in Anita Gorman Park at North Oak and Vivion.

**DISTRICT MEETING:** The next Auxiliary District #3 meeting will be held on Sunday, October 14<sup>th</sup> at 1 pm at the VFW, Kearney MO.

**ANNUAL VETERAN'S DAY SPAGHETTI DINNER:** will be held at VFW Post 7356 on Saturday, November 10<sup>th</sup> from 5 to 7 pm. This dinner is free to all veterans, first responders and their families. Please see the flyer included in this newsletter.

**ANNUAL CAMERON CHRISTMAS PARTY:** The tentative date is Sunday, December 9<sup>th</sup>. Time to be announced.

Hope to see everyone at the October meeting – October 25<sup>th</sup> – Next Meeting at 7 pm; Free dinner of Sloppy Joe's at 6 pm before meeting at 6 pm.

*Anita*

Anita Crowell, President  
816.550.1049 – [anita.crowell@yahoo.com](mailto:anita.crowell@yahoo.com)

### 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

# Family Freedom Festival



South Platte Memorial Post 7356 Auxiliary President, Anita Crowell, presents check for \$1,275 to Battle Buddy Service Dogs, 2018-2019 Auxiliary Project. Money was raised from all proceeds from the Auxiliary's silent auction at the VFW Post 7356 Annual Golf Tournament.

Here are just a few of the many pictures from our first Family Freedom Festival.



Thank you to South Platte Fire Department!

Members of the Civil Air Patrol.



Face painting!



Free haircuts provided by SportsClips volunteers!



Plenty of fun, games and prizes.



Race car from Lakeside Speedway.



## From the Hill

**VA Secretary Wilkie Testifies before Senate Committee:** Secretary of Veterans Affairs Robert Wilkie testified before the Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs to discuss the progress he has made in his first 60 days. He spoke at length about a variety of topics including implementation of the VFW-supported VA MISSION Act of 2018, Blue Water Navy, accountability of wrongdoers, and the department's efforts to modernize its electronic health record. Secretary Wilkie said at the hearing, "the state of VA is better" when describing the department's recent progress. Committee members and Chairman Isakson discussed the need to pass the VFW-supported H.R. 299, Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act of 2018

**Health Net Federal Services to Cease Participation in Veterans Choice Program:** VA and Health Net Federal Services (HNFS) have elected to end their Patient-Centered Community Care (PC3) and Veterans Choice Program (VCP) contracts effective Sept. 30, 2018. In anticipation of this change, VA medical facilities have already ceased sending new community care authorizations to HNFS.

**Legislative Wrap-up:** Congress passed several important bills this week, including H.R. 6157, which will provide full year funding for the Department of Defense, and the Department of Health and Human Services and includes VFW-supported provisions to ensure DPAA has the resources it needs to fully identify American remains that were recently recovered from North Korea and authority to pay death gratuities during a government shutdown.

## POW/MIA Update:

MIA Update: The Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency has announced nine new identifications. Returning home with full military honors are :



- Army Cpl. Edward M. Jones was a member of Company D, 1st Battalion, 38th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Infantry Division, supporting Republic of Korea Army
- Army Pfc. John W. Martin was a member of Medical Company, 32nd Infantry Regiment, 7th Infantry Division supporting Korean War.
- Naval Reserve Seaman 2nd Class Deward W. Duncan, Jr. was assigned to Aviation, Construction, Ordnance, Repair, Navy Fourteen, Standard Landing Craft Unit 4 supporting WWII
- Navy Seaman 1st Class Millard Burk was assigned to the USS Oklahoma, which was moored at Ford Island, Pearl Harbor.
- Navy Seaman 2nd Class David B. Edmonston was assigned to the USS Oklahoma, which was moored at Ford Island, Pearl Harbor
- Navy Electrician's Mate 3rd Class Merle A. Smith was assigned to the USS Oklahoma, which was moored at Ford Island, Pearl Harbor
- Navy Fireman 1st Class Claude O. Gowey was assigned to the USS Oklahoma, which was moored at Ford Island.
- Navy Storekeeper 2nd Class Gerald L. Clayton was assigned to the USS Oklahoma, which was moored at Ford Island, Pearl Harbor
- Navy Musician 2nd Class Francis E. Dick was assigned to the USS Oklahoma, which was moored at Ford Island, Pearl Harbor

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>



VFW Post 7356  
10125 Tom Watson Parkway  
Parkville, MO 64152

**Weddings  
Anniversaries  
Graduations  
Birthdays  
Seminars  
Meetings  
Banquets**

**Call for pricing & availability:  
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**

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## Calendar

<p>October 2018</p> <p>11 Commanders Call 6PM 13 U.S. Navy Birthday 25 VFW/Auxiliary Business Meeting 6PM Free Dinner 7PM Post Meetings</p>	<p><b>Every Monday Night</b> Civil Air Patrol 6- 9 p.m.</p> <p><b>Every Saturday Morning</b> Breakfast 8-10 a.m.</p>	<p>November 2018</p> <p>8 Commanders Call 6PM 10 U.S. Marine Corps Birthday 11 Veterans Day 29 VFW/Auxiliary Business Meeting 6PM Free Dinner 7PM Post Meetings</p> <p>NOTE: Meeting has been changed to account for the Thanksgiving Holiday</p>
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# Annual Veterans Day Dinner

**Saturday, November 10, 2018 – 5 to 7 pm**

South Platte VFW Post 7356  
10125 Tom Watson Parkway – Parkville MO 64152

***Free Dinner for Veterans, First Responders  
and Their Families***

Spaghetti  
Salad  
Garlic Bread  
Assorted Desserts  
Non Alcoholic Beverages



**Sponsored by the South Platte Memorial  
VFW Post 7356 Auxiliary**

