



NEWSLETTER Feb-Mar2017

HEART OF THE LAKES VFW POST 1008

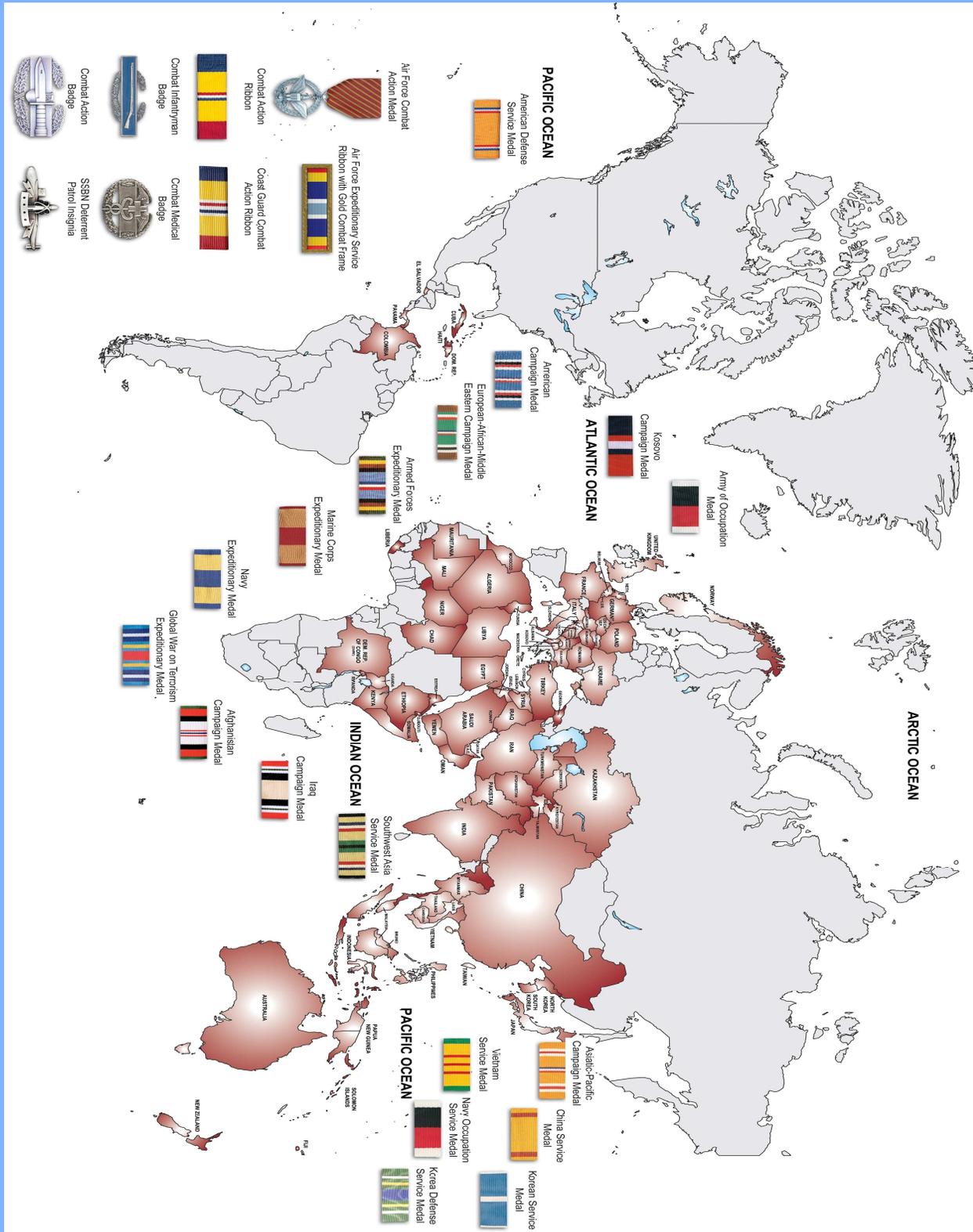
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Web site: www.vfw1008.org

E-mail: post1008vfw@gmail.com



VFW World Map of Eligibility

Post 1008 Commanders Column

To our Members,

WOW, how time flies by!! Spending Thanksgiving with family & friends, carving turkey and snapping a wish bone or two. Then it's Christmas shopping, parties and hours wrapping presents that will be shredded in seconds Christmas morning (Adults??). Last, the countdown bringing in the New Year with a toast of the bubbly! Whew, nap time. We are moving forward but we do miss not seeing many of you.

“What has happened recently”?

- 11/25 – 11/27: By request, open Thanksgiving weekend. Many members & guests came in over the weekend. Comradery was high, football games were good and our bar did quite well. We made a good decision to stay open.
- 12/04: District 5 meeting: Dave Tester, our District Commander, commended our post for a very good District Audit (preparation, documentation & Officers present).
- 12/04: The Claus Cause hosted by Tom & Karla LaForge at Century Lanes did quite well again!!
- 12/09: The Starduster's Band was a big hit again! We had 50+ patrons and our bar did very well.
- 12/14: R. Coe & J. Coe took volunteers to Ann Arbor VA Hospital. We provided the patients with a little holiday cheer (\$5 gift coupon, mini tree and some good conversation). A gratifying trip.
- 12/17: Wreaths Across America: Our post was well represented at Great Lakes National Cemetery with 10+ volunteers placing our donated wreaths (20) on gravesites.
- 12/17: Bob Mutter led the volunteers for the distribution of food baskets and toy bags to 60+ families. MEM Co. /(Kent Thomas) donated (10) \$300 food certificates and Walmart, Sam's and Meijer's made significant contributions.
- 12/22: The House Committee hosted a free Christmas dinner (ham & fixins') for all members, Auxiliary & Staff. The turnout was fantastic. Feedback is, a great dinner and high comradery!
- 01/01: New Years Day!! A lively crew of members & guests showed up. We kicked the day off with a “Bloody Mary Bar” managed by D. Burmeister, then snacked on munchies while yelling during the football games. All had a great time and our bar did quite well.
- 01/01: Rental home renovation complete (\$5,000.00 loan from building fund). Thank you B. Rambo, B. Whitten & B. Mutter. Rented @ \$750 per mo., with \$100 per mo. going back to fund.
- 01/03: To improve Post profitability, Bartender's will start at 3:00pm, Mon – Fri.**
- 01/07: New ATM machine installed in Clubroom.

“WATCH YOUR EVENTS CALENDARS”

Board & Membership meetings	Chili Cook-Off & Hot Dog Bar	Super Bowl Party / Fundraiser
Texas Hold-em	Starduster's Valentine's Day Party	Comedy Night

We are doing our best to continue our tradition of being one of the best posts in Michigan. As you know, fund raising activities and personal donations are primary sources of income used to pay Post operating expenses. Participation has been very low therefore our General Fund is also very low. Your support as a member, volunteer, patron and especially donor are critical at this point. **Please help our Post!!**

Respectfully,

Jerry Beseau



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Quartermaster's Report

PLEASE READ IMPORTANT POST NEWS

VFW FACT SHEET



As the nation's oldest major veterans' organization, the VFW has an impeccable and longstanding record of service and stewardship. More than 4 million patriotic Americans, both members and non-members, entrust the VFW with financial contributions and dedicate millions of volunteer hours.



YOUR DONATION OF \$20 ENSURES THE VFW CAN

- ★ Educate a separating service member about his or her well-earned VA benefits through a private benefits counseling session with a VFW Service Officer
- ★ Provide training to 4 VFW Service Officers on signs of emotional suffering so they can better direct veterans to programs and services
- ★ Help cover rent, utilities or groceries for a military family struggling with the hardships of war
- ★ Serve 5 morale-boosting "welcome home" meals for service members recently back from combat

1,850
Number of VFW-accredited representatives across America and abroad, helping veterans fight for the VA benefits they have earned.

\$4.5 billion
The amount in VA benefits the VFW network helped more than 255,000 veterans recover in the last three years.

27
Number of times the VFW has testified before Congress in the last 12 months alone. The VFW has been instrumental in virtually every major legislative victory for veterans in the 20th and 21st centuries.

\$6.1 million
Value of financial assistance awarded to military families since 2004 to help cover basic needs in times of crisis. 47% of the funds covered basic housing needs.

7.6 million+
Number of connections between deployed service members and loved ones made possible by the VFW's "Free Call Days."

2,094,880
Number of service members and their family members hosted at VFW Military Assistance Program (MAP) events since 2005.

\$3.3 million
Amount of scholarships, monetary awards and other incentives the VFW distributes annually to middle and high school students through two major patriotic essay competitions.

\$3 million+
Amount of scholarships awarded to more than 714 veterans and service members through VFW's "Sport Clips Help A Hero Scholarship" since January 2014.

Learn more about the VFW's programs and services at www.vfw.org.

Updated December 2014

NO ONE DOES MORE FOR VETERANS.



"The willingness with which our young people are likely to serve in any war, no matter how justified, shall be directly proportional to how they perceive the Veterans of earlier wars were treated and appreciated by their nation."

George Washington

MORE FACTS ABOUT THE VFW



IMPROVING LIFE IN AMERICA

8.6 million

Number of volunteer hours contributed by VFW members annually.

\$49.8 million

Amount donated annually to local community service projects by VFW members.

HONORING THE FALLEN

9.5 million+

Number of VFW "Buddy"™ Poppies distributed by the VFW last year.

\$12.3 million+

Amount raised through the VFW "Buddy"™ Poppy program for needy veterans.

THE VFW BY THE NUMBERS

Nearly 1.7 million

Number of VFW and VFW Auxiliary members.

6,561

Number of VFW Posts worldwide.



HELPING VETERANS GET JUSTICE

66,913

Number of favorable VA claims filed by the VFW's nationwide force of VA-accredited service officers in 2015.

13,279

Number of VA claims filed by VFW Benefits Delivery at Discharge (BDD) offices in 2015.

20

Number of Benefits Delivery at Discharge offices across the nation, including the military district of Washington, D.C., area.



HELPING STRUGGLING MILITARY FAMILIES

4,050

Number of grants provided to military families facing financial hardship through *VFW Grant Needs* since 2004.

\$2,905,298

Amount of grants provided through *VFW Grant Needs* covering housing for struggling military families since 2004.

2,136

Number of military families who received assistance with housing needs since 2004.



INSPIRING PATRIOTISM IN YOUNG PEOPLE

36,435

Number of high school students who competed in the 2015-16 Voice of Democracy competition.

132,162

Number of students who competed in the 2015-16 Patriot's Pen competition.

The VFW has fought for veterans, service members and their families since 1899.

Learn more about the VFW's programs and services at www.vfw.org.

© 2016 VFW

UNWAVERING SUPPORT



FOR UNCOMMON HEROES™

Post 1008 Auxiliary Column

I would like to thank everyone for their help and support. In December we mailed 14 boxes to our troops overseas, thank you for your donations and help with getting the boxes packed and shipped. We also went with members of the Post to Ann Arbor VA Medical Center to deliver Gift Cards and Christmas trees decorated with poppies.

Karla has made a wonderful Poppy Centerpiece for the Mid Winter Conference, thank you for sharing your great talent.

Events in February:

- 5th** Super Bowl Party---Auxiliary will have a dessert table to raise money; your donations would be great. Come out and have a great time, more information on the event is included in the newsletter.

- 12th** We are hosting the 5th District Meeting, if you would like to help please contact Donna at the Post.

- 18th** The Auxiliary is having a Comedy Shoe at 7PM, tickets on sale now, cost starting at \$30.00 for a table of six. Tickets are available in the Clubroom from 3 to 9PM.

Clause Cause Dec2016



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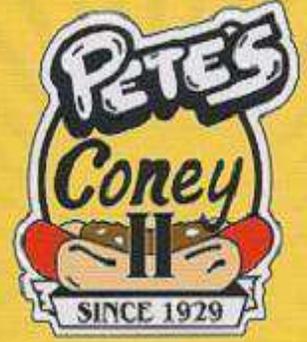


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February 2017

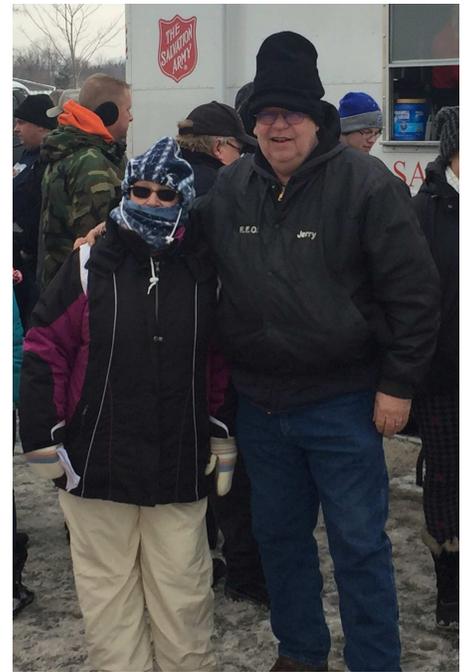
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Warthogs	2 House Meet- ing 930- 1030am Dinner, Gou- lash @ 500pm	3	4 Work Bee 9 -12
5 Super Bowl Party Open to Pub- lic 3-Close	6 S	7 Euchre @ Post 700pm	8 Board Meet- ing 700pm	9 MCL	10 Valentine's Stardusters Holiday Swing Door@7pm \$10 cover	11
12 District 5 Meeting Waterford 1008 10am	13 OCC Royal Oak 730pm S	14 Euchre @ Post 700pm Valentine's Day	15 POST & AUX Meeting 700pm	16 Am Legion	17	18 AUX Comedy Show Door@6pm
19 Rental	20 S	21 Euchre @ Post 700pm Rental	22	23 Dinner Ham- burger/ Hot- dogs @500pm	24	25 Texas Hold'em 1-11pm
26	27 S	28 Euchre @ Post 700pm Fat Tuesday Agent Orange				

March 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Warthogs	2 House Meeting 930-1030am	3	4 Work Bee 9-12
			Ash Wednesday	Dinner, Goulash @ 500pm		
5	6	7 Euchre @ Post 700pm	8 Board Meeting 700pm Box packing party for overseas servicemen	9 MCL	10	11
	S					
12	13 OCC Oxbow 4156 730pm	14 Euchre @ Post 700pm	15 POST & AUX Meeting 700pm	16	17 St Patty's Day Dinner 5-7pm	18
DST Begins	S			Am Legion		
19	20	21 Euchre @ Post 700pm	22	23 Dinner Hamburger/ Hot-dogs @500pm	24	25 Tentative Texas Hold'em 1-11pm
	S	Rental				
26	27 SOA Warren 730pm	28 Euchre @ Post 700pm	29	30	31	
	S	Agent Orange				



New Years Day bloody mary bar fundraiser . Bar and football were spectacular , hope to see you all next year.



Our Commanders hard at work
At Wreaths Across America



Food drive organizing. Almost 70 Baskets to Vet or Vet families in Waterford.



Holiday Dinner provided by the House
Committee to our members



Dinner crowd at the free House Dinner



Wreath Across America



Army Navy Game, Army won for the 1st time in 15 years



Food drive boxes packed



Wreath Across America



Our Beloved Stormy. It is his work that Paved the way for this newsletter.



Stardusters Dance

All photos taken in the months of Dec & Jan. There is usually something going on or help needed. Stop in, be surprised, we miss you.



The Marine Corps League 570

Meetings held second Thursday monthly @ 7:30 PM.

Our 2017 is starting off with swearing in a new member. That's a good incentive for us to replicate or exceed in our fund raising activities.

The current freezing climate, hopefully, will result in an "Ice Golf" event at the White Lake Inn" on Ormond Road, North of M-59, this season. The patrons taking part are a really fun crowd. Snowmobiles are the prime transportation.

VFW Post 1008 takes Saturday of that weekend, to be announced later, we take the line Sunday. This event needs Marines manning the front door, back door, and two selling raffle tickets. I'm hoping Al is available to collect cash and along with a young volunteer, hold the drawing (s).

Now is the time to gather items that generally add spice to door prizes. Let's make the smiles even broader this year.

As always, I encourage recruiting new members. The future of Detachment 570 requires our best efforts. As for the year 2016; Well done, Marines. That is all.



Service Officer

A Happy New Year to our fellow members and veterans everywhere, Don Roach.

Welcome to new members, you'll find good resources for information in our group. We all share in military experience and the aftermath of it. This country is what it is as a result of your efforts; we all can appreciate the sacrifices of every member. Our Post stays strong by inviting possible new members; please keep that in mind when meeting friends and families in the civilian world.

The U.S. Congress may be considering a reduction of benefits for certain diagnosed abnormalities. These include: hypertension (high blood pressure), tinnitus (ringing in your hearing), and basically, as I read it, nearly anything else excluding GSW's and PTSD. Let's tell our Senators and Reps we expect them to veto such changes as they come up. The cost of caring for veterans, demanded by our Constitution, is minor compared to the waste existing in many other facets of the U.S. budget.

Service Officer of the State of Michigan, 2016, Bill Coleman, is currently suffering from a bad back. Something I would not wish upon anyone. Been there, done that. Many of us have. Bill is still an asset to Post 1008, as a Service partner, he is kept up to date on changes in the VA regs and system.

In March, there will be another VFW training session for new and active Service Officers. There will be, so far, two of us in 1008 attending. Aging is the goal for all of us, it includes needing transportation with a driver on hand for the return trip to qualify for certain medical procedures, i.e.: cataract surgery, foot surgery, etc. I hope to be available but sometimes my schedule may conflict with dates. The same can happen with any of us. Therefore, it would be beneficial to have backup on hand. If any other member wants to fill in, please contact myself or the Post Office.

Thanks for the opportunity to be of service. Be strong of heart and continue to be there for one another.

Don Roach

Service Officer



Meetings held
third Thursday
monthly @ 7:30 PM.

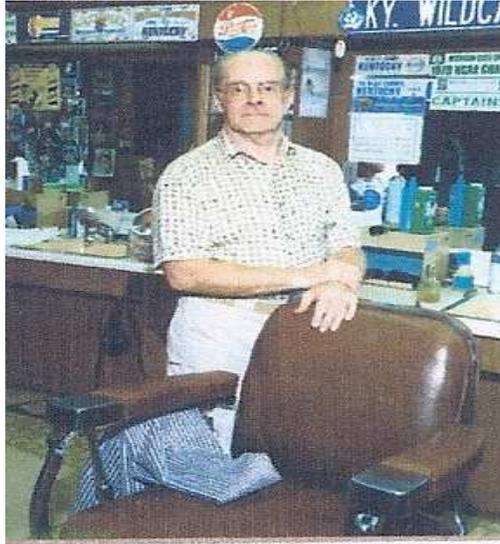


Meetings held
fourth Tuesday
monthly @ 7:30 PM.



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SUPER BOWL PARTY / FUNDRAISER!!!!!!!



WHAT: SUPER BOWL GAME (NFC vs AFC)

WHERE: VFW POST 1008, Waterford, MI

WHO: Members, Guests & Community

WHEN: SUPER BOWL SUNDAY, February 5, 2017 (5:00 p.m. – 11:00 p.m.)

EVENTS / ACTIVITIES

* **BAR OPEN:** (3:00 p.m. – 11:00 p.m.)

DRINK SPECIALS!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

1. BOTTLED BEER\$2.00
2. PITCHER of BEER\$5.00
3. All other DRINKS.....\$0.50 off



* **DINNER:** GAME DAY SPECIAL (5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.)
\$7.00 dinner buffet donation: Pizza, subs, sides & more
+ Munchies & Side Dishes to share are welcome!!!!

* **RAFFLES:** TWO (50 / 50) raffles: 1st half & 2nd half
A. RAFFLE TICKETS: 10 / \$5 or 25 / \$10

* **RAFFLES:** PRIZES!!!!!!!!!!!!
A. BIG PRIZES: (\$5) raffles: \$5.00 / ticket or 3 / \$10 or 7 / \$20
B. MANY other prizes: RAFFLE TICKETS: 3 / \$5 or 7 / \$10
1. Bucket in front of each prize for tickets

* **PRIZE DONATIONS are appreciated!!!! (bottles of liquor, gifts, restaurant certs, scratch-offs, pull-tab tickets, cash, etc.).**

WE NEED YOUR HELP TO BE SUCCESSFUL

* **Team Contact:** Jerry Beseau {248-534-3012}

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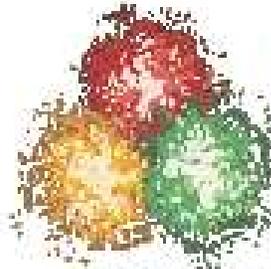
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