



Newsletter

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS  
OF THE UNITED STATES  
ROSEMOUNT, MN. POST 9433

2625 120<sup>TH</sup> St. W., P.O. Box 104  
Rosemount, MN. 55068  
Phone: 651-423-9938



April 2010

Post Officers

Commander: Mark Monson  
Senior Vice: Greg Rollinger  
Junior Vice: Greg Stenger  
Q'master: Kevin Carlson



Auxiliary Officers

President: Sherrie Groff  
Senior Vice: Becky Anderson  
Junior Vice: Brenda Howard  
Treasurer: Carol Miller

Support Our Troops - Until and After They All Come Home

Commanders Corner

Comrades,

The Post is in the middle of holding its annual election of officers; if you are interested in becoming an officer or have any concerns regarding the post, please come down to the monthly meeting and make your voice heard. In addition, we are currently looking for a member who has knowledge and/or experience with Quick Books or Peach Tree Accounting software that would be willing to help set up a new accounting system for the post. If you are interested, please contact me at either 651-592-0499 or [monso020@usfamily.net](mailto:monso020@usfamily.net). The post could really use your expertise in this matter.

The post is organizing a volunteer honor guard that would help out with funerals, parades and presentation of the colors at Minnesota Twins games. As an honor guard member, you would practice basic ceremony drills and learn how to carry and/or present the flag during parades or to family members of our fallen heroes. If you are interested, please contact me at either 651-592-0499 or [monso020@usfamily.net](mailto:monso020@usfamily.net).

A big thank you goes out to the Ladies Auxiliary for donating the new furniture for the outdoor patio. This new patio furniture is receiving great reviews and appreciation from our patrons. Thank you very much!

Keep your calendars open for upcoming events including the Memorial Day ceremony at Central Park in Rosemount, the post bonfire, our annual tractor pull and participation in the Leprechaun Days Parade.

God bless all veterans and their families and the men and women that are in our armed services.

Sincerely,

Mark Monson, Commander VFW Post 9433

To get your Newsletter via E-mail contact Mark Monson at: [monso020@usfamily.net](mailto:monso020@usfamily.net)

Donate Blood for OUR Wounded Soldiers  
VA Blood Donor Center: 612-725-2275.

**Reminder:** If a loved one who is a Post or Auxiliary Member passes away please contact me at so that I can get the information needed to post their passing in the TAPS section of the newsletter. John Lowe - 952-953-3594.

Disclaimer: Articles & opinions in this newsletter do not necessarily represent the opinions of Post 9433 or it's Officers.  
Newsletter contact: 952-953-3594.

President's Place

Hi everyone,

I hope everyone had a great Easter.

Don't forget our up-coming election of officers.  
YOUR VOTE IS YOUR VOICE.

VFW Post 9433  
Ladies Auxiliary



Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser  
ALL YOU CAN EAT - \$8.00  
Sunday April, 18<sup>th</sup> 4:00 pm. to 7:00 pm.

Sherrie Groff, President of Ladies Auxiliary

Next Meeting  
Tuesday, April 13, 2010  
House Committee - 6:00 P.M.  
Post & Auxiliary Meeting - 7:30 P.M.



**Be There !**

Armed Forces Day  
WWII Living History Weekend  
May 15-16 10:00 AM. - 4:00 P.M.  
Dakota City (Dakota Co. Fairgrounds)

The European Theater of WWII will be highlighted during this living history weekend. Hosted by the 12th SS Panzer Division MN., a tank division of the Historical Reenactment Society, this event features period equipment, costumed participants, and activities.

Village buildings will be staffed by costumed interpreters with food available in the Dakota City Drugstore.

Admission \$3 adult/\$10 carload.

## VA Expands Agent Orange Illness List

The Department of Veterans Affairs established a service-connection for Vietnam veterans suffering from **Parkinson's disease, ischemic heart disease (IHD) and B-cell leukemias such as hairy-cell leukemia**. These illnesses are now considered "presumed" illnesses. This "presumption" simplifies and speeds up the application process for VA benefits. It is important to note that this new policy will not go into effect until sometime in 2010. At which point affected veterans will be urged to submit new disability claims.

## VA to fast track Agent Orange Claims

A Department of Veterans Affairs  
Office of Public Affairs  
Media Relations  
Washington, DC 20420  
(202) 461-7600

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE - March 9, 2010

Secretary Seeks Fast Track to Process Claims - Focus on 200,000 Veterans Expected to File Claims under New Agent Orange Presumptives over Next Two Years

WASHINGTON - The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) announced today an aggressive new initiative to solicit private-sector input on a proposed "fast track" Veterans' claims process for service-connected presumptive illnesses due to Agent Orange exposure during the Vietnam War.

"This will be a new way of doing business and a major step forward in how we process the presumptive claims we expect to receive over the next two years," Secretary of Veterans Affairs Eric K. Shinseki said. "With the latest, fastest, and most reliable technology, VA hopes to migrate the manual processing of these claims to an automated process that meets the needs of today's Veterans in a more timely manner."

Over the next two years, about 200,000 Veterans are expected to file disability compensation claims under an historic expansion of three new presumptive illnesses announced last year by Secretary Shinseki. They affect Veterans who have Parkinson's disease, ischemic heart disease and B-cell leukemias.

In practical terms, Veterans who served in Vietnam during the war and who have one of the illnesses covered by the "presumption of service connection" don't have to prove an association between their medical problems and military service. This "presumption" makes it easier for Vietnam Veterans to access disability compensation benefits. Vietnam Veterans are encouraged to submit their claims as soon as possible to begin the important process of compensation.

Along with the publication of proposed regulations for the three new presumptives this spring, VA intends to publish a formal request in Federal Business Opportunities for private-sector corporations to propose automated solutions for the parts of the claims process that take the longest amount of time. VA believes these can be collected in a more streamlined and accurate way.

Development involves determining what additional information is needed to adjudicate the claim, such as military and private medical records and the scheduling of medical examinations.

With this new approach, VA expects to shorten the time it takes to gather evidence, which now takes on average over 90 days. Once the claim is fully developed and all pertinent information is gathered, VA will be able to more quickly decide the claim and process the award, if granted. The contract is expected to be awarded in April with proposed solutions offered to VA within 90 days. Implementation of the solution is expected within 150 days.

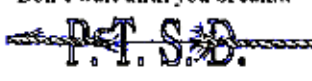
"Veterans whose health was harmed during their military service are entitled to the best this nation has to offer," added Secretary Shinseki. "We are undertaking an unprecedented modernization of our claims process to ensure timely and accurate delivery of that commitment."

Last year, VA received more than one million claims for disability compensation and pension. VA provides compensation and pension benefits to over 3.8 million Veterans and beneficiaries. Presently, the basic monthly rate of compensation ranges from \$123 to \$2,673 to Veterans without any dependents. Disability compensation is a non-taxable, monthly monetary benefit paid to Veterans who are disabled as a result of an injury or illness that was incurred or aggravated during active military service.

For more information about disability compensation, go to [www.va.gov](http://www.va.gov). Additional information about Agent Orange and VA's services and programs for Veterans exposed are available at [www.publichealth.va.gov/exposures/agentorange](http://www.publichealth.va.gov/exposures/agentorange).

Post 9433 <b>Wednesday Night Bingo</b> Progressive Jackpot Cash Prizes Games Start at 7:00 P.M. Food Specials 5 - 9 All Are Welcome
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Don't wait until you break...



Need help with Veterans Benefits?  
Dakota County Veterans Services,  
651-554-5601.

WIN \$\$\$ !!  
Charitable Gaming  
Powerball & Minnesota Lottery  
PULL TABS \$1.00  
Mon.-Fri. 2:00 PM - 1:00 AM  
Sat. 11:00 AM - 1:00 AM  
Sun. Noon - 1:00 AM  
Support Your Club