



Newsletter

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

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



February 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,

As you have heard by now the solders from the 34th Infantry Division "Red Bulls" have started to come home. About 500 soldiers have come home in the last couple of weeks with the rest to follow at the rate of about 200 per week. If you see these heroes please welcome them home and let them know what a great job they did for our country.

Here at the club we have developed a program to teach area children how to present and respect the U.S. flag. The 2 hour class covers flag history, respect and how to present flag. This is done by use of video and hands on participation with Veteran members of the Post.

After the children have finished the class they receive a patch with a picture of a veteran and two children and our post number on it, which they can have sewn on their uniforms or hang it on a pocket button.

If you know any group interested in having this class please contact me and I'll forward it to Linn Laage our youth coordinator. Send inquires to commander@vfwpost9433.org.

The post is once again welcoming you all to come down and enjoy a Lenten dinner at the post. Our Lenten dinners start February 19th and run every Friday until April 2, from 5:00 until 8:00.

We will be serving fish and steak dinner.

I would like to thank all the members of the VFW and the American Legion for the help and participation in presenting the armed forces service flags and the American flag in Rosemount High School's stage production of "Delivering a Decade". The students in this production truly deserve a big thank you from both our originations for allowing us Veterans to be a part of such wonderful production. Thank You!

God bless you and the brave men and women of our armed forces,

Mark Monson, Commander VFW Post 9433

To get your Newsletter via E-mail contact Mark Monson at: monso020@usfamily.net

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

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

Sorry I missed putting something in the newsletter last month, my computer was down. Now I am up and running.

It may be a little late but the Holidays are over and I hope everyone is having a great 2010.

Also a belated and heartfelt thank you to the girl scouts for putting on the Christmas with Santa. They did such a great job and the comments we heard we all so great. Thanks to the leaders that helped make this happen. Great Job!!

The Auxiliary had 95% membership this year, thanks to everyone who paid the dues before the end of Oct.

If any members need a ride to a meeting give me a call, we can work something out to get you picked up.

Remember we are always looking for volunteers; and thanks to those who already volunteer. It brings great joy to you and others.

Sherrie Groff, Auxiliary President - 651-454-8892.

Next Meeting Tuesday, February 9, 2010 House Committee - 6:00 P.M. Post & Auxiliary Meeting - 7:30 P.M. Be There !

Rosemount VFW Post 9433 to form Ceremonial Honor Guard

A permanent Honor Guard for the Post is going to be formed with the need of 9 volunteers. We have three so far who have stepped up. You will be responsible for the purchase of your own uniform and making it to regular training practices when scheduled.

This will be a standing Honor Guard that will represent the Post at all functions where such a group is required.

If you wish to represent the Post in a formal way, with no expectation of free tickets or the like, see David Gary or Greg Rollinger.

Overseas military will have to register again to get ballots this year

Stars and Stripes ^ | January 7, 2010 | Leo Shane III

WASHINGTON — Military members serving overseas will have to resubmit their voter registration this year if they hope to cast a ballot in the November midterm elections.

Veterans, military dependents and other U.S. civilians living overseas will have to as well. Changes in federal law mandate that voters must request a new absentee ballot each year in order to participate in state and federal elections, instead of the previous practice of requiring new applications only every few years.

“The message is for military voters to send in that (federal postcard application) as soon as possible, because they won’t be able to vote without it,” said Bob Carey, director of the Federal Voting Assistance Program. “You need to submit a new postcard every year, and every time you change duty stations, and every time you move.”

The changes came as part of the recently passed Military and Overseas Voting Empowerment Act, which also requires military bases to establish more voting assistance facilities and local election officials to mail out absentee ballots at least 45 days before an election. But Carey said even with those changes military voters in Iraq, Afghanistan or other overseas locations won’t be able to receive a ballot unless they send in their current address information to their local election offices early this year. **More than half of overseas voters who tried to get an absentee ballot for the 2008 presidential election didn’t receive one in time for November’s election.**

THE V.F.W. STORY

This is the story of how the Veterans of Foreign Wars began, how it has grown and how it is shaping the future. Here we describe activities by men who refused to be *forgotten*. They were spurred into action by necessity and they developed the **VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE UNITED STATES**, a national organization whose more than Two Million members employ two powerful principles - comradeship and service.

Our story begins in 1899. That was the year of gas lights, five cent beer and the first horseless carriage. We find the main action in two cities... Columbus, Ohio and Denver, Colorado. The characters in our drama were Spanish American War Veterans who had just returned home from the Cuban and Philippine battlefronts. Those were young fellows, but they were prematurely aged by the ravages of tropical fever, bad food and medical neglect. They were fighting men who had been victorious against foreign enemies. They received their discharge pay, \$15.60 per man.

Then they were turned loose as civilians...free to do as they pleased. They should have been happy, but they couldn’t be. Some of the men were desperately ill, too sick to work steadily. Most of them quickly became penniless. There were no governmental hospitals to which the disabled could go for medical aid. There were no helping hands, no such thing as financial assistance. The plain fact was that no one seemed to care what happened to them. They were truly *Forgotten Men*. It was a picture of deplorable neglect.

VETERANS ORGANIZE THEMSELVES: James Romanis, a young Veteran of the Cuban campaign, lived in Columbus, Ohio. He was disturbed when he saw his suffering comrades going to the poorhouse and dying in squalor. He decided to make the first move. So, on the night of September 29, 1899, Romanis called together about 12 of his Veteran friends. They met in the back room of a tailoring shop in Columbus. There they discussed the plight of the returned men. They organized a club and called it the *American Veterans of Foreign Service*. Membership in that club was limited to overseas Veterans. All members were pledged "to help one another and to work together for the benefit of our country and for the men who fight for this nation." That was the first of several units, which later merged into what is today the **VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE UNITED STATES**.

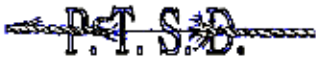
On December 1 of the same year - 1899 - another group of Spanish-American War Veterans held a similar meeting in Denver, Colorado. They rallied around General Irving Hale who had served with them in the Philippines. Those men organized the Colorado Society of the Army of the Philippines. They pledged "loyalty to the United States, fostering of true patriotism and to extend the institutions of American freedom". The Colorado group joined with others to later become the Veterans of Foreign Wars. Today that original western unit is the John S. Stewart Post of Denver...Post Number One of the Veterans of Foreign Wars. It is the oldest V.F.W. Post in the point of continuous service.

Those were the first foundation stones of the Veterans of Foreign Wars. Others were units organized in Altoona and Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, in 1901 and Philadelphia in 1902. Other Posts followed....M.M. Carleton Post #5 of St. Paul and A.R. Patterson Post #7 of Minneapolis. All of the groups comprising the Veterans of Foreign Wars agreed from the very beginning that their job was to represent the men who had fought in the defense of American democracy. The V.F.W. overseas Veterans have stressed patriotism, comradeship and service ever since. That describes the character of our organization today... as set forth in the charter granted the Veterans of Foreign Wars by the 74th Congress of the United States.

The Charter says: "The purpose of this corporation shall be fraternal, patriotic, historical and educational; to preserve and strengthen comradeship among its members; to assist worthy comrades; to perpetuate the memory and history of our dead and to assist their widows and orphans; to maintain true allegiance to the Government of the United States of America and extend the institutions of American freedom and to preserve and defend the United States from all her enemies, whomsoever."

Post 9433 Wednesday Night Bingo
Progressive Jackpot
Cash Prizes
Games Start at 7:00 P.M.
Food Specials 5 - 9
All Are Welcome

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