



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



March 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,

Another year has passed and that means it is time to start the process of electing new leadership for the post. I have enjoyed being the Commander for the past 3 years and have accomplished quite a lot, however it is time for me to step aside and let someone else take the reins as commander and bring in a fresh perspective and new ideas to help run the post.

The first step in electing new leadership is to nominate candidates for all positions at this month's post meeting. At next month's meeting nominations are again accepted and then the actual vote is taken.

We nominate and elect officers in this manner so that if a person cannot make it to one month's meeting they still have a chance at the next meeting to get nominated for a position. I would encourage all members to come to the next couple meetings and make your voices heard on how you feel the club and post should be run.

The post is in the beginning stages of starting a men's auxiliary. The requirements are quite easy in that you only need a family member that is eligible to join the VFW. Family member eligibility extends as far as a half brothers or sisters or step parents. If you know anyone interested in joining, please have them contact me and I'll get the information to the right person. Interested persons can also email me at commander@vfwpost9433.org or call me at (651)452-6909.

Last but not least if you have sent me your email address in the last couple of months please resend it to me at monso020@usfamily.net. I had a major computer crash and my back up member email list was a couple of months old (I now back up more often).

God bless all Veterans and their families and the men and women of our armed services.

Sincerely,

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

Hi everyone,

I hope everyone is doing well. I think that spring is just around the corner and I personally cannot wait.

I would like to remind you that at our March meeting we start the election of officers. I would like to see everyone try to make the meeting and think about how you might best help out the Auxiliary by holding an office.

Also a reminder to the men to encourage your wives, sisters, etc to become a part of our ladies auxiliary group, we always welcome new members along with new ideas.

Hope to see all of you at the next meeting. Think Spring!!

Sherrie Groff, President of Ladies Auxiliary

Thank you to all Auxiliary members who donated cheese trays for the funeral luncheon of sister Ethel Groff. She will be missed.

Becky Anderson, Auxiliary Senior Vice.

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

Reminders :

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.

If you are getting the newsletter via E-mail and wish to stop the mailing of the hard copy please contact me so I can remove you from our newsletter mailing list, thus saving the Post \$\$.

Post 9433 Ceremonial Honor Guard

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, contact David Gary or Greg Rollinger for details.

## Torpedoing the Blue Water Navy

John Paul Rossie for Salem-News

(LITTLETON, Co.) - Vietnam War veterans are a fine lot: they suffered through the War; they suffered the abuse of an ungrateful nation upon their return; they continue to suffer the indignity of an incompetent and antagonistic Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA); and they are the fastest dying group of veterans of any war we've fought.

By the end of 2009, only about 30% of all Vietnam War veterans were still alive. At that rate, the last of the Vietnam War veterans will be buried by the surviving soldiers of WWII.

One group of Vietnam War veterans that have had more than their share of hard knocks are those Navy, Coast Guard, and Marine personnel who served offshore Vietnam. We refer to this group as the Blue Water Navy (BWN). The VA currently refers to them as Vietnam Era veterans, to clearly separate them from those who served in the Vietnam War, which requires having had one's "boots on ground." That is now the definition of a Vietnam War veteran.

Previous generations of soldiers were promised the treatment so eloquently stated in Abraham Lincoln's 2nd Inaugural Address: "...to care for him who shall have borne the battle and for his widow and his orphan..." Such care was offered up through WWII, began to wane with the Korean War, and completely disappeared for the Vietnam War veteran (which from hereon includes the BWN.)

**To find info on the Blue Water Navy and Agent Orange exposure go to [bluewaternavy.com](http://bluewaternavy.com)**

## Monday, March 29 designated Vietnam Veterans Day in Minnesota

Minnesota's Vietnam War veterans now have an annual day of recognition -- March 29.

That's the day the last U.S. combat troops left Vietnam in 1973.

### **VA Health Care Eligibility - What are the Priority Groups?**

The priority groups are as follows, ranging from 1-8 with 1 being the highest priority for enrollment. Under the Medical Benefits Package, the same services are generally available to all enrolled veterans.

**Priority Group 1 Veterans** with service-connected disabilities rated 50% or more disabling, or **Veterans** determined by VA to be unemployable due to service-connected conditions.

**Priority Group 2 Veterans** with service-connected disabilities rated 30% or 40% disabling.

**Priority Group 3 Veterans** with service-connected disabilities rated 10% or 20% disabling. **Veterans** who are former POWs. **Veterans** awarded the Purple Heart. **Veterans** whose discharge was for a disability that began in the line of duty. **Veterans** who are disabled because of VA treatment or participation in VA vocational rehabilitation program.

**Priority Group 4 Veterans** who are receiving aid and attendance or housebound benefits. **Veterans** who have been determined by VA to be catastrophically disabled.

**Priority Group 5 Veterans** receiving VA pension benefits. **Veterans** who are eligible for Medicaid programs. **Veterans** with income and assets below VA Means Test Thresholds

**Priority Group 6 Veterans** with 0% service-connected conditions, but receiving VA compensation. **Veterans** seeking care only for disorders relating to Ionizing Radiation and Project 112/SHAD. **Veterans** seeking care for Agent Orange Exposure during service in Vietnam. **Veterans** seeking care for Gulf War Illness or conditions related to exposure to during service in the Persian Gulf. **Veterans** of World War I or the Mexican Border War. **Veterans** who served in combat in a war after the Gulf War or during a period of hostility after November 11, 1998 for 2 years following discharge or release from the military.

**Priority Group 7 Veterans** who agree to pay specified copay with income and/or net worth above VA Income Threshold and income below the Geographic Means Test Threshold

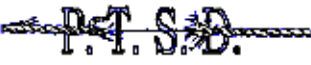
#### **Priority Group 8**

New regulations now allow VA to enroll certain Priority Group 8 Veterans who have been previously denied enrollment in the VA health care system because their income exceeded VA's income thresholds. These Veterans may now qualify if their household income does not exceed the current VA income thresholds by more than 10 percent.

To see if you are eligible and to access a calculator to see how you stand against the income thresholds, visit <http://www4.va.gov/healtheligibility/eligibility/enrollment.asp>. If you have any enrollment or eligibility questions, you may call 1-877-222-VETS (8387).

Post 9433 <b>Wednesday Night Bingo</b>
<b>Progressive Jackpot</b>
<b>Cash Prizes</b>
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