

VFW POST 10302 - Northenders -

Dale Abbott - Adjutant www.vfw10302.org

The Friendly Post



Hello Comrades,

August has been a busy month for the post, but we have accomplished a lot. I would like to thank all who helped with the fair. We had a good turnout and things went well on our part. Commander Edwards and all who helped on veterans' day did a great job. The parade was a success. Thanks to Dale for the use of his truck and trailer.

I also wanted to give a big thanks to those who worked at the post on all the projects while I was at the fair. To everyone keep up the good work.

We have three new members to add to the post in September. Let's keep up the good work on membership.

Commander of Post 10302

Larry Carter

Queen of Hearts

Thursday @ 7:00 P.M

**You can buy tickets at any time in the
canteen**

Mike Woodcox Chaplin Post 10302

I have been assigned as chairperson for the children's home.

It is easy to apply, you go to their web site and get the application and then each month you send your payment. I would like to see 100 percent participation for a monthly donation from the post. Any question you contact me at 2179718560 Mike aka Sarge.



Chaplin

#STILL SERVING

Here are just some of the ways your Post can support the National Home for Children:

- Purchase a Life Membership in the Home for yourself, a worthwhile Comrade, or a Post Officer
- Purchase a Tribute Brick, to make your Post a part of the National Home's history, or a personalized brick, which can be a beautiful way to honor a friend or loved one and leave a lasting mark on the campus.
- If you shop Amazon, you can support the Home through its "Amazon Smile" program.

There are many ways a Post can raise funds in support of the Veterans of Foreign Wars National Home for Children.

For Donations Call 866-483-9642 or email info@vfwnationalhome.org

For Help Call 800-313-4200
For General Information 800-424-8360
Monday - Friday: 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. EST
or write to
573 S Waverly Rd
Eaton Rapids, MI 48827

We are
**#STILL
SERVING
HERE AT VFW.
NO ONE DOES
MORE FOR
VETERANS**



What's the PACT Act and how will it affect my VA benefits and care?

The PACT Act is perhaps the largest health care and benefit expansion in VA history. The full name of the law is The Sergeant First Class (SFC) Heath Robinson Honoring our Promise to Address Comprehensive Toxics (PACT) Act.

The PACT Act will bring these changes:

- Expands and extends eligibility for VA health care for Veterans with toxic exposures and Veterans of the Vietnam, Gulf War, and post-9/11 eras
- Adds more than 20 new presumptive conditions for burn pits and other toxic exposures
- Adds more presumptive-exposure locations for Agent Orange and radiation
- Requires VA to provide a toxic exposure screening to every Veteran enrolled in VA health care
- Helps us improve research, staff education, and treatment related to toxic exposures

If you're a Veteran or survivor, you can file claims now to apply for PACT Act-related benefits.

What does it mean to have a presumptive condition for toxic exposure?

To get a VA disability rating, your disability must connect to your military service. For many health conditions, you need to prove that your service caused your condition.

But for some conditions, we automatically assume (or “presume”) that your service caused your condition. We call these “presumptive conditions.”

We consider a condition presumptive when it's established by law or regulation.

If you have a presumptive condition, you don't need to prove that your service caused the condition. You only need to meet the service requirements for the presumption.

Based on the PACT Act, we've added 2 new Agent Orange presumptive conditions:

- High blood pressure (also called hypertension)
- Monoclonal gammopathy of undetermined significance (MGUS)

If you think you're eligible for VA health care and benefits, we encourage you to apply

We had a wonderful time out at the Illinois State Fair. Our post was represented all day long during the Veteran's Day events at the fairgrounds. We took the opportunity to speak with a lot of Veterans and handed out a bunch of applications. It was a fantastic day out with friends and family.

#StillSevering

If you are looking for a terrific way to volunteer for the post. Get ahold of the Commander about opportunities for next year's Illinois State Fair



**Check out the new website
www.vfw10302.org**

THE EPIDEMIC

This is a horrible topic, but one that must be at the top of our newsletter. I know it is not an easy conversation to have. Life after the service is different for every soldier, and that plays a part in the high rate of suicide. We all deal with things differently, and when the structure that the military gives us is gone, all too often the veteran is left with only their own thoughts, and they feel like they have no footing under them.

This month being suicide prevention month we encourage everyone to pull that phone out to Call, Text, Video chat, drive over, or whatever, just do that "BUDDY CHECK". Do your part to bring that number 22 down to zero.

I do not know what the best way is to discuss this. I do not know if there is a right or wrong way, and the only thing that matters is continuing to talk about it. We cannot stand by and watch anymore soldiers take their own life. If you are like so many of us Veterans, you struggle with things and you just might want to sit down and talk to someone? Maybe you don't want to talk, maybe you want to just sit down and have a drink. Whatever it is that you need, I hope you have that support. If not, there is a VFW full of Veterans just like you, we have great resources here in Springfield Il. The Vet Center 217.492.4955, VAC 217.753.6694



66%

Share of people worldwide with a mental health condition that fail to receive the care they need

90%

Share of the 1 Million people worldwide that die by suicide each year who have a mental health condition

31%

Share of Americans who seek mental health services that worry about others judging them

We have a new home on the web, www.vfw10302.org Our website works with the national website. It does allow us to stay updated with all District, Department, and National events taking place, or any important date to remember.

The advantages that it offers our members.

1. Information is passed along faster than ever before
2. Hall rental easily booked
3. Calendar for Hall Rental
4. Training Videos
5. Resources from all over.
6. Information on youth scholarship
7. Information on all VFW programs
8. Having the email sit up to never change,
9. Our Memorial Wall Copied from Post
10. News/



Announcements you can check in here everyday News and Announcements are posted all the time. You will never have to wait to find out anything happening at the post. Just jump on to www.vfw10302.org

This web page is the recommended website from nationals. The first year is paid for with a grant that was given to us by national. The cost of the web service is \$360.00 less than a dollar a day to have these and so many other benefits. I

would encourage you to have a look if you have not done so yet.

When you go to www.vfw10302.org at the top of the page under resources, you will find training videos. In there I will show you how to log on to the area for members only. If you ever have any questions on how to navigate the webpage, please let me know at Adj@vfw10302.org. I would also like to ask everyone to be my proofreaders. If you see something wrong on the website, let me know asap. This website is our we are represented the correct way.

Greetings everyone!

It's hard to believe summer is ending and it's back-to-school time! My mother used to tell me that when I got older the time will just fly by. Boy was she correct!

Summer's end and back-to-school time reminds me of two thoughts to share as they relate to our efforts to support our veterans and our communities: The Illinois State Fair and VFW Scholarship Programs.

1. The 2022 Illinois State Fair (ISF) officially ends today. Other than a huge downpour of rain yesterday, we had beautiful weather throughout the fair. Veteran organizations throughout the state hosted an impressive informational event and parade on ISF Veteran's Day, Sunday August 14th. Veterans young and old met with your State VFW and Auxiliary President, fellow comrades, and veteran's support organizations to share ideas and voice concerns. Additionally, the ISF beer tents are staffed by volunteers from veteran organizations throughout the state. Each organization represented will receive monetary payment for the hours worked by volunteers. Post 10302 was well-represented with both membership and auxiliary volunteers working many hours. Thank you to all who volunteered.



2. Back-to-school time means it's time to send out information on our scholarship programs. We'll soon be sending out information on the VFW scholarship programs to local schools (public, home study and parochial). The **“Voice of Democracy”** and **“Patriot's Pen”** programs offer scholarships to students who submit written or verbal essays expressing their views on the selected theme. Monetary scholarships are awarded at several levels including national awards. Both scholarships are open to students enrolled in public, private or home study program in the United States, it's territories and possessions, or dependents of U.S. military or civilian personnel in overseas schools. U.S. citizenship is not required but students must be lawful U.S. permanent residents or have applied for permanent residence and intends to become a U.S. citizen. Complete information and rules for both scholarships are online at www.vfw10302.org

The Voice of Democracy scholarship is open to students in grades 9-12 who compete by writing and recording a 3-5-minute audio essay on this year's theme, “Why Is the Veteran Important?”. State level winners receive an all-expense-paid trip to Washington DC, to tour the city, be honored by the VFW and its Auxiliary and receive their portion of national awards, the top scholarship being \$30k.

The Patriot's Pen scholarship is open to students enrolled in 6-8th grade who write a 300-400 word typed essay expressing their views on this year's theme, “My Pledge to Our Veterans.” Each entry is submitted to the VFW for judging. The contest eventually concludes at the national level. First place prize is currently \$5k. **SUBMISSION DEADLINE FOR BOTH SCHOLARSHIPS IS 10/31/22.**

Upcoming events: The website has all upcoming events as well www.vfw10302.org

1. August events:

- a. 8/26-28th- Council of Administrators (C of A) meetings at the post.
- b. 8/27-Commander Edwards' Homecoming will be held in the Northender's Post 10302.
 - i. Post membership will pay for any post member and their spouse who wishes to attend AND any auxiliary member and their spouse
 - ii. \$35 per ticket
 - iii. Prime Rib OR Chicken Dinner
 - iv. Contact Erin at State Headquarters for ticket asap as there are only 200 available.
 - v. Casual attire.
- c. 8/28 - Commander's Breakfast – Auxiliary will serve breakfast (\$8 for biscuits & gravy, OJ, coffee, milk) from 8-11. Basically, a way for people who came from out of town for homecoming and C of A meeting to come grab a quick bite and get on the road- plus we'll open it up to the public.

2. September Events/Meetings:

- a. 9/2-Dance--Need volunteers to work the door and sell 50/50 tickets.
- b. 9/5-Labor Day
- c. 9/6-Joint Officer's Meeting 6pm-meeting open to any member in good standing
- d. 9/11-possible membership recruiting table at local event (8-10am?)
- e. 9/12-Amvets Meeting
- f. 9/13-Membership Meeting-Meal provided by Leslie, Gladys, & Judy
- g. 9/16 Dance-- Need volunteers to work the door and sell 50/50 tickets.
- h. 9/17-Amvets picnic here at post
- i. 9/21-Auxiliary Meeting-Official visit scheduled by District President Carol Shutts (Snacks appreciated from Auxiliary members).
- j. 9/26-Honor Flight dinner
- k. 9/27-Honor flight return to capitol airport

3. October Events:

- a. 10/8 (Saturday) District 10 Midstate Luncheon for Dept. President Marvie Wisniewski- Open luncheon at Post 10302. Auxiliary asked to serve.

1. **Shirts:** The Post is going to order shirts again. We asked if they could check on getting women's cut, V-neck and/or ¾ sleeve. Cmdr. Carter will ask.
2. **Assisting Guard Members:**
 - a. The Auxiliary voted to purchase \$1000.00 in gift cards from Casey's to help Air Guard members with travel expenses during their drill weekend. We will purchase 20 \$50 cards and gift them to the guard by presenting them to an appointed command staff to distribute to those in need.
 - b. We asked and the Post Membership also voted to donate \$1000 towards gas cards for the Army Guard.
3. **Bake Sale Fund Raiser:** Possible fund raiser for the Sunday before Thanksgiving here at the post. (November 20). More information to come as it gets closer.

Please consider attending your monthly auxiliary meetings. It is a way to share ideas and successes and to become a part of a team committed to assisting our veteran community.

Respectfully,

Cindy Daugherty



POST 10302
NORTHEENDERS

2349 Stockyard Road
Springfield il 62702

Non-Profit org.
U.S. Postage

PAID

Permit #286
Spfld, IL

Return Service
Requested

Check out the new website www.vfw10302.org

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