

# Post Scuttlebutt

VFW Post 7308 Pleasant Prairie Memorial Post

31 March 2015 | Ist Quarter 2015

# Special points of interest:

- Consolidation & Working Together
- Membership
- Next Post Meeting
- Upcoming Events

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#### Commander's Corner



VFW Post 7308 Commander Paul Fredericksen

This will be my last article for the newsletter as Commander of Post 7308. I want to thank all of the men and women of our post for their outstanding support over the last two years.

We have an excellent strong slate of new Officers who will take over the leadership of our post and guide us in maintaining our reputation as one of the finest posts in the State. We have a winning tradition and I am confident in our new Officers' ability to make us even better. We are a Community Service Post and have demonstrated our commitment to the communities surrounding Kenosha County and especially the Village of Pleasant Prairie.

When I became Commander we had 105 members. Through excellent recruiting efforts by our members and consolidation with Somers Post 2751 we have grown to almost three times that size in two years.

I will continue to work as hard as I can for the post after I step down as Commander and encourage all members to redouble their efforts to keep us successful in our support for veterans' issues and the community we represent. Together we have achieved much and I look forward to our continued success.

Thank you for all of your support!

Semper FLY!

Paul Fredericksen Commander (2013-2015) Post 7308

## VFW Post 7308 Pleasant Prairie Memorial Post Consolidates with VFW Post 2751 Coat of Arms Post

On 15 January 2015, VFW Post 7308 Pleasant Prairie Memorial Post and VFW Post 2751 Coat of Arms Post consolidated as one. A new Charter has been presented to Commander Paul Fredericksen, which declares this consolidation to be approved and complete. Membership transfers have been made and those of VFW Post 2751 are now honored members of VFW Post 7308.

Those of us who are original members of VFW Post 7308 welcome our new Comrades with open arms and we are very proud to have each and everyone of you among our growing membership. We look forward to a great combined Post that shows we have picked up the challenge of "WORKING TOGETHER!"



Pictured above is the cake to celebrate the consolidation fo the two Posts and displaying the theme of WORKING TOGETHER and in so doing, we them members of the consolidated VFW Post 7308 Pleasant Prairie Memorial Post rededicate ourselves to God and Country!

# Next Post Meeting

Our next meeting will be on 16 April 2015 @ Birchwood Grill, located at 7515 125th Ave., Kenosha, Wl. The Senior Staff Meeting will start at 6:00 PM, immediately followed by the Regular Monthly Meeting.

# Upcoming Events



WISCONSIN Prisoners Of War Remembrance Day



April 9, 2015



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Community Service with the US Army IROTC Cadets of Indian Trails HS



Pictured above (from left to right) are VFW Post 7308 Chaplain Stephen Thompson, Senior Vice Commander Herbert (Skip) Mann, two Cadets and VFW Post 7308 Commander Paul Fredericksen

On 28 January 2015, VFW Post 7308 joined together with the US Army JROTC Unit of Indian Trails High School and the staff of the Interfaith Shalom Center of Kenosha. Here, members of these groups worked together to serve the needy and the homeless, to ensure they had the opportunity to receive a hot meal and friendship. It is a key effort of our Post to serve our surrounding community and to help teach our young people the importance of giving back to their community as well.

These young Cadets give from their hearts and gives all of us faith and hope for the future of our community!



Pictured above are the US Army JROTC Cadets of Indian Trails HS that faithfully volunteer each month to serve the needy and the homeless at the Interfaith Shalom Center of Kenosha.

Pictured below are Colonel Randolph Moffat (USA/Ret), a staff member of the Center, and Commander Paul Fredericksen.



VFW Post 7308 & American Legion Post 21 Host the 2nd Annual Veteran's Chili Cook-Off at the Paul Herrick Post

1st Quarter 2015



On 28 February 2015, VFW Post 7308 and American Legion Post 21 combined forces and hosted the 2nd Annual Veteran"s Chili Cook-Off Fund Raiser. We had raffles, games, lots of food and deserts, even held a Tattoo Contest!

Professional entrants, Veteran Service Organization entrants and everyday folks entered the cook-off. A great time was had by all and we raised money for each of the two hosting organizations so that they might continue to do what they do best, helping Veterans and the people of the surrounding communities.

Pictured above (from left to right) are American Legion Post 21 Commander Thomas (Woody) Visintainer and VFW Post 7308 Commander Paul Fredericksen.



Miss Pleasant Prairie and Elvis (the Kingfish Baseball Team mascot) helped out at the 2nd Annual Veteran's Chili Cook-Off at American Legion Post 21 of Kenosha, WI This is a wonderful place where Veterans can come together, talk, share stories, take part in activities and share in a camaraderie that only those who have experienced the sacrifice of

military service can truly understand.

Pictured above is one of the founders of the Hero's Café and a true friend to Veterans everywhere, Ms. Mary Domes who is holding some of the gift cards from Texas Roadhouse.

Veterans from every walk of life, every recent American war or campaign, from every military service experience, are welcomed into the Hero's Café. Here we can relax amongst fellow Veterans and know that we are appreciated and understood. It is here that you may here a colorful joke, a story of a forgotten time that has never been shared before, a birthday celebration or an anniversary celebration, or perhaps a shared moment of silence to remember those who did not return.

This has become a refuge for many, a joyful place for others and still a solemn place to remember! We will forever be indebted to Mary Domes, Sharon Janis and Angie Roscioli .



Pictured above VFW Post 7308 Chaplain Stephen Thompson shares a moment with two other Veterans who are visiting the Hero's Café at Festival Foods of Kenosha

## VFW Post 7308 and Girl Scout Troop 7293 Deliver Girl Scout Cookies to the Union Grove Veterans Center

1st Quarter 2015

On 08 March 2015, members of VFW Post 7308, Girl Scouts of Troop 7293, members of VFW Post 1865, members of Navy Club Ship 40—Kenosha and St. Mary's Lutheran Church came together to bring laughter, smiles, love and cookies to the Veterans and in some cases their families, at the Southern WI Veterans Center in Union Grove, WI.



Pictured above are the Girl Scouts of Troop 7293 and members of the different organizations who came along with us to deliver the cookies at the Southern WI Veterans Center in Union Grove, WI

The guests living in the center were surprised and overjoyed to see these young ladies come to visit and let them know that each and everyone of them are remembered and revered. To experience the coming together of very young people and their seniors is just something that cannot be described here. It is just a wonderful time and a great way to say "Thanks for your service to our country!"



Pictured above are the Girl Scouts of Troop 7293 bringing cookies and smiles to the residents of the Southern WI Veterans Center in Union Grove WI.



Saturday, April 18, 2015 at 12:00PM



#### Zablocki VA Medical Center VETERANS' LEGAL CLINIC

#### FREE LEGAL ADVICE

Attorneys will be available to answer your legal qui general consultations on a wid by military veterans, including:

- Child Support and Child Custody Divorce (pre- and post-Judgment) Creditor/Debtor issues (bankruptcy)
- Housing/Mortgage foreclosure Landlord/Tenant issues

- entitlement Program disability and SSI) VA Benefits

## SATURDAY, APRIL 25, 2015

Matousek Auditorium uth Entrance (Nat

Co-Sponsored by

JUSTICE POINT &

The Veterans Legal Support C Milwaukee County

NOTE: PLEASE BRING TO THE CLINIC ALL <u>DOCUMENTS</u> OR <u>OTHER INFORMATION</u> NECESSARY TO AN UNDERSTANDING OF YOUR LEGAL ISSUES











# Patriot Pen and Teacher of the Year Award Ceremony and Pizza Party

On 12 March 2015, VFW Post 7308 hosted an Awards Ceremony and Pizza Party for our Patriot Pen Winners and our Teacher of the Year. It was held in the Birchwood Grill at 7515 125th Ave, Kenosha, WI.

Our 1st Place Patriot Pen winner is Kerigann R. Ballard and our Teacher of the Year winner is Ronald Peterson of Mahone Middle School, who also came in 3rd Place in the VFW Dept. of WI competition.

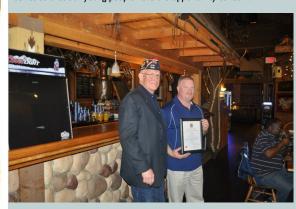
It is only with the great cooperation we get from the teachers and the parents of these students, that VFW Post 7308 has had one of the most successful programs within the Department, typically more than 450 participants a year!



Pictured above are Patriot Pen 1st Place Winner Kerigann R. Ballard and VFW Post 7308 Commander Paul Fredericksen

VFW Post 7308 has had the pleasure of working with the teachers of Mahone Middle School and Lance Middle School of Kenosha, WI over the past several years. These teachers work very closely with their students and make every effort to ensure they not only receive a scholastic education, but also teach them patriotism, pride in their country, and the importance of community service and giving back!

It is an honor to work with these men and women who give of themselves so that our young people have the opportunity to learn.



Pictured above (from left to right) are VFW Post 7308

Commander Paul Fredericksen and our Teacher of the Year Mr.

Ronald Peterson.

# Voice of Democaracy and Civil Air Patrol Awards at March Meeting



Pictured above (from left to right) is Voice of Democracy winner Lauren Mossman and VFW Post 7308 Commander Paul Fredericksen

On 19 March 2015, VFW Post 7308 held an awards ceremony at our Regular Monthly Meeting. Here, we recognized our 1st Place Voice of Democracy winner, Ms. Lauren Mossman.

Ms. Mossman did very well in the VOD competition, not only was she Ist Place for VFW Post 7308 but was also selected as 2nd Place for VFW Dept. of WI District I.

Also, during the evenings ceremony VFW Post 7308 recognized and presented certificates and medals to three Outstanding Civil Air Patrol Cadets. Recognized were Cadet Airman 1st Class Elizabeth Mustell, Cadet 2nd Lieutenant Rebekkah Rosenberg and Cadet Technical Sergeant Curtiss Starck.

Pictured below (from left to right) are Cadet Airman 1st Class Elizabeth Mustell, Cadet 2nd Lieutenant Rebekkah Rosenberg and Cadet Technical Sergeant Curtiss Starck.



# Support **Our Troops**

MARQUETTE

Gen. Douglas MacArthur Commemoration Breakfast

Monday, April 27th 2015 7.00 am Registration, 7.30 am Program and Breakfast

ROTC Gymnasium, 1508 W Clybourn St - Marquette Campus - \$10 per person

Join us to recognize Gen. Douglas MacArthur at the Marquette University & NOTC.
There we will deducte 4 plaques to commemorate the 64° Anniversary of Merquette
President, Father Edward O' Donnell presenting the honorary Doctor of Laws degre
on this actual date.

MacArthur Memorial Museum Archivist, James Zobel will be the keynote speaker reflecting on the newly dedicated MacArthur and McCahilli Jaques, the unique relationship between General Douglas MacArthur and Father Edward O'Donnell, S.J. including the honorary Doctor of Laws degree from Marquette University, the onloging friendship between MacArthur and Father O'Donnell, the plaque on the \$2 years of military and diplomatic service of General MacArthur; the return of Jera Fatichoth MacArthur in June, 1999 and the important symbolism of the McCahill Award at Marquette University:



Monday, April 27th 4:00 pm MacArthur - World War I Lecture which will also be on the Marquette campus. This will featur WWH historian, D. Julius R. Ruff and MacArthur Archivist, James Zobel. To be held at the Altunuti Memorial Union, Room 157 1442 W Wisconsin Act, Milmunke, WI 53223



#### Saturday May 16, 2015 10:00 am - 10:00 pm

Ozaukee County Pioneer Village

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

i5pm... Taps n... Mess Call

sion: \$10 Adults, \$8 Students (13-17) & Ser \$5 Veterans & Children (12 & undex), World War II Veterans FREE. For more information, go to our website www.ochs.co.ozaukee.wi.us/



Remember our VFW National Home for Children! It is easy and right to become a Life Member of the National Home! Donate and support the young Children!

# Veterans in the Classroom National

VFW Post 7308 serves the surrounding communities in many ways. One that is not only important to us, but an honor to take part in is the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States Veterans in the Classroom Pro-

**Awards** 

The VFW strives to thank our community educator's by providing resources that can bring history to life! We can provide a unique perspective of the sacrifices made by America's service members to maintain our freedoms and the American way of life. American history, how better to tell that story than by our members who have had a large part in shaping



Pictured above (from left to right) is VFW Post 7308's Chaplain Stephen Thompson and Commander Paul Fredericksen.



Pictured above (from left to right) is member Michael Renbarger and Commander Paul Fredericksen



Pictured above (from left to right) is member Dan McKee and Commander Paul Fredericksen

#### Growing Membership is a High Priority

VFW Post 7308 Commander Paul Fredericksen has placed a challenge that each member of the Post try to recruit one new member in the remaining VFW year. Over the past few years we have continued to grow in number, but more importantly....we have grown in quality and

At the time of this newsletter we are at 298 members with a standing of 111.61% and still we are only in 10th place in our Division, nationally. We need all of our members to continue searching for new members, members that are willing to work hard and make a difference.



Pictured above (from left to right) are new members Pat Hubbard, Steven Eichorst, Scott McHale and Jodi Yenerall as they receive

### VFW Post 7308 Buddy Poppy Drive at Woodmans of Kenosha

VFW Post 7308 has Buddy Poppy Drives so that we might continue to garner funds for our Relief Fund. With the proceeds of these fund raisers, we are then able to assist other Veterans in need, their family members or members of our community. As we position ourselves in different locations around the Village of Pleasant Prairie or in the city of Kenosha, we reach out to our neighbors and hope that they will help us and enable us to do the very important business of the VFW.

We also use these opportunities as a "Boots on the Ground" recruiting effort. We have been very successful in both fund raising and recruiting. It is because of our membership that we are able to do these things and are then able to provide assistance when needed.

Our most recent Buddy Poppy Drive was on 28 March 2015, where we collected a near record and were able to recruit two new members. Along with this we gave out information to Veterans that will help them in gaining their benefits.



Pictured above (from left to right) is Sr. Vice Commander Herbert (Skip) Mann, Jr. Vice Commander George Stoeber, friend of the Post Tom Denma, and new member Steve Eichorst at Woodman's.

3RD ANNUAL





DANCE FOR THE HEARTS SUPPORTING FREE RETREATS FOR VETERANS

SATURDAY, MAY 23, 2015 MILWAUKEE HARLEY-DAVIDSON 11310 W SILVER SPRING DR MILWAUKEE, WI 12:00 N TO 6:00 PM POKER RUN BEGINS 11:00AM

#### FREE ADMISSION

- RIDE IN AND PRESENTATION OF COLORS BY AMERICAN LEGION RIDERS AND GUESTS
- LIVE MUSIC AND DJ (VIETNAM VETERAN)
  JAMES BARNES FAMILY FRIENDLY 12-2
- RAFFLES
- LIVE AUCTION WITH BILL BETTHAUSER
- FOOD AND BEVERAGES AVAILABLE FOR

Full details at www.starfishfound.org/dance









#### FREEDOM IS NOT FREE

9th Annual "Support The Troops" Memorial Ride And Fundraiser Saturday, May 23, 2015



USMC SGT, CHAD M. ALLEN, KIA 2-28-07

TO: SUPPORT OTHER FALLEN FAMILIES

IELP OUR SERVING AND RETURNING HEROES

(TRAGEDY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR SURVIVORS)

TO: INJURED MARINE SEMPER FI FUND

THE MEMORIAL RIDE IS A RAIN OR SHINE EVENT ANY WAY YOU WANT TO TRAVEL. REGISTRATION BEGINS AT 11-00, LEAVING AT NOO \$2.00 PER PESSON INCLUDES DINNER & BUS FIRST 100 GET MEMORIAL BANDANA

50/50 AT EACH STOP RIDE DEPARTS "HILLSIDE INN" AT NOON 33595 ST. RD 35. DANBURY WI

STOPS INCLUDE: CHECKERBOARD - COPPER KETTLE - MOOSE JUNCTION

LIKE US ON FACEBOOK:  $9^{\rm TH}$  ANNUAL SUPPORT THE TROOPS MEMORIAL RIDE AND FUNDRAISER Contact Deb For More Information dallen002@centurytel.net

#### Join us for a Veterans Picnic

June 14 ★ July 19 ★ August 16, 2015

#### **Stepping Stone Farms** School of Horsemanship

1439 92nd Street in Franksville, 3

A gathering for veterans, their families and friends to enjoy time together, meet new people and make some new 4-legged friends. Please join us for lunch, activities and the great outdoors. Don't miss out. Save the date today!

call 414.379.2314. Visit our websit



VFW Post 7308 Newsletter—The

Staff

Editor—Randy Strickland

**Scuttlebutt** 

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## Next VFW Post 7308 Regular Monthly Meeting and Elections for Post Officers

VFW Post 7308 will meet next on 16 April 2015. Commander Fredericksen will call his Staff together at 1800 hrs, immediately followed by the Regular Monthly Meeting and elections for the upcoming VFW year 2015 to 2016.

Nominations will be opened once again, before the elections are held. If you are interested in stepping forward to fill one of the important positions within the Post, please contact Commander Fredericksen or his Chief of Staff Randy Strickland, as soon as possible. All members in good standing are eligible to hold office.

#### Upcoming Events over the next Quarter

- 04/01/15—Veteran's Talk at Ridgewood Nursing Home
- 04/05/15—Easter Dinner with the US Coast Guard
- 04/15/15—GTC Student Veterans Brown Bag Lunch
- 04/16/15—VFW Post 7308 Meeting and Elections
- 04/19/15—Prairie Lane School Girl Scout Troop 7293 Pancake **Fundraiser**
- 04/25/15—Loyalty Day in New Richmond, WI
- 04/29/15—Assist at the Interfaith Shalom Center
- 05/16/15—Armed Forces Day
- 05/18/15—Presentation of Police, Fire and EMT National awards at the Village of Pleasant Prairie meeting
- 05/21/15-VFW Post 7308 Meeting
- 05/24/15—Union Grove Veterans Cemetery Memorial Day Cere-
- 05/25/15—VFW Post 7308 Memorial Day Ceremony at Old St. Mark's Cemetery
- 06/03 to 06/06/15—VFW Dept. of WI State Convention in
- 06/14/15-Flag Day Parade in Waubeka, WI
- 06/18/15-VFW Post 7308 Meeting
- 06/28/15—City of Kenosha Parade
- 07/04/15—Independence Day Parade in Somers, WI
- 07/18 to 07/22—116th VFW National Convention in Pittsburgh. PA

#### Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans

## A Message From National Commander John Stroud

1st Quarter 2015

March 30 is a very important day, not only to the VFW, but to all of America. It is a day dedicated to a generation of Veterans who were made extraordinary by their commitment and lasting resolve.

In 2011, nearly 38 years after the final withdrawal of U.S. combat and combat-support troops from Vietnam, the Senate unanimously passed a resolution designating March 30, "Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans

From February 1961—May 1975, more than 3,400,000 Americans served in support of the U.S. military operations in Vietnam and Southeast Asia; more than 58,000 gave their lives.

Our Vietnam Veterans are worthy of every praise, monument and memorial erected in their name. They served with a tenacious and indomitable spirit and returned to a homeland in political turmoil. Regrettably, their noble and steadfast service was overlooked by many upon their return. In many cases their sacrifice went unappreciated, dismissed or even insulted.

Though long-overdue, today America recognizes each and every Vietnam Veteran who did not receive the proper welcome home they earned and deserved. We prais their sense of duty, unselfish devotion and courageous willingness to put their country first.

We truly owe them a great debt. It's because of their strength that the flame of freedom burns brightly today in countries all around the world. And it's because of their vision for the future that no Veteran will ever again return to an America unappreciative of one's service and sacrifice

To all Vietnam Veterans: today and every day, on behalf of the entire VFW, thank you for your service, and welcome home.

John Stroud

VFW National Commander