Old Settlers Newsletter

Post 4659 - District 5

November – December 2026

Publisher & Editor: Lisa Love

Commander Jay Benner - Sr. Vice Paul Rick - Jr. Vice Paul Chris Campbell

Quartermaster Kevin DeBruyne - Chaplain Bob Bartkowski - Adjutant Ben Light



Comrades,

As we enter November and December, we have many meaningful dates to remember and many reasons to come together as a Post, support our veterans, and care for one another. In November, we honor our veterans on Veterans Day and give thanks on Thanksgiving. We also recognize the founding of the United States Marine Corps on November 10, 1775. On December 7, we remember Pearl Harbor and the Americans who lost their lives in the attack. As the year draws to a close, Christmas offers an opportunity to share kindness, fellowship, and hope with our families, friends, and community.

December also marks an important date in recent military history: the United States formally declared its mission in Iraq concluded on December 15, 2011. We remember all who served in Iraq, those who did not return home, and the families who carried the burdens of deployment and sacrifice. The purpose of the VFW is to serve veterans, service members, and their families; advocate for the benefits and support they have earned; and strengthen our communities through service and outreach. Our work continues after military service ends. By helping veterans navigate resources, supporting their families, and standing beside one another, we carry forward the spirit of service that brought us together. the Missing Man Table has been placed front and center as a solemn tribute to those who died in service and those who remain missing in action. Please treat the table and everything on it with respect: do not touch or move anything, and do not place anything on that table. Thank you for helping us honor their service, sacrifice, and memory.

A reminder about monthly reports: Hospital reports: Please provide your information to Dave Dicicco by the 15th of each month. Activity reports: Please submit your information to the Commander by the 18th of each month. Timely reports help us recognize the care and service taking place throughout our Post and ensure our activities are properly documented. Thank you for your cooperation and for all you do.

On behalf of the Post, I wish everyone a healthy, happy, and peaceful holiday season. May you enjoy time with family and friends, and may we continue to look after our veterans and one another.

With sincere gratitude and Respect

Jay Benner, Post Commander

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Please join us at Old Settlers Post 4659 for our Veterans Day service on Wednesday, November 11, at 11:00 a.m. Lunch will follow the service.

We hope you'll join us as we gather to honor and remember all who have served

VFW Auxiliary

Unwavering Support For Uncommon Heroes®



Greetings from your Auxiliary President!

On Labor Day, the Auxiliary and Post members participated in the Annual Romeo Peach Parade along with Scout Troop 158 and Frank Brown, a 101-year-old WWII Veteran. We had members and their families in a 2002 Camaro, a 1967 Mustang and the Westview Orchards wagon. We tossed candy to the crowds and the scouts passed out flags to the children lining the route.

District 5 Annual Picnic was held at the VFW New Baltimore Post 7573. Children and Adults each had a chance at their respective pinatas. Past Auxiliary President Sylvia Pocock took a turn at the big flag filled with adult beverages, lottery tickets and candy. POW-MIA ceremonies took place on September 18th at the VFW New Baltimore Post 7573. Members of our Post and Auxiliary attended this solemn ceremony and enjoyed a steak dinner afterwards. A Purse Auction & More was organized by Sharon Jeffery and held at our Post on Friday, September 25th. All who attended said that it was a lot of fun. The money raised is benefiting the Michigan Veterans Home in Chesterfield and other Veteran facilities.

The 53rd Annual Gold Star Mothers Banquet was held in Warren at VFW Post 9021 to honor those families that have lost a son or daughter during their military service. Donations were made to support their volunteer activities at VA Hospitals, clinics and homes and supporting Veterans, Active-Duty Military, and their families.

Again, this year, the Auxiliary displayed their scarecrow named Hawkeye at the Shelby Township Spooktacular held at Heritage Gardens. He was assembled by our creative Auxiliary members – Pam Riden, Rita Bonnani and Sylvia Pocock. On October 9th, the Auxiliary set up a table; Betty Fleming and I passed out candy to children who came out to Trick-or-Treat. A fun event in a beautiful setting around the lake.

Pre-Karaoke on Friday, October 16th featured a Soup bar. Post and Auxiliary participated in this delicious dinner. On Saturday, October 17th, Show Me the Meat Raffle was held at the Post. The Auxiliary had 15 raffle baskets at this event with the proceeds benefiting Veterans Mental Health Awareness and Suicide Prevention. A HUGE shout-out to Past Auxiliary President Sylvia Pocock for being an important part of the Raffle committee and handling the baskets and their display. Thanks to all who contributed to the baskets valued at $50 or more. Please remember Veterans Day ceremonies to be held at 11am on 11.11.2026 at the Post.

Diane Huge, Auxiliary President

SAVE THE DATE

Saturday, December 12, 2026 at 12:00 noon

SANTA is coming for the Kids Christmas PARTY!

Ages 0-10. Child must be present to receive their gift from SANTA. Slips will be available to fill out Tuesday, November 3, in the clubroom. You must be present to complete the form - the clubroom employees will not take your information over the phone. Deadline for turning in names is Sunday, November 22.

Santa is ready!

Denise Frey, Youth Activities Chairman

Clubroom / Canteen Notes



Hello everyone! We have a lot coming up in the next couple months so I'll get right to it.

First off, the Post is collecting candy to be sent to Veterans. The collection box will be in the Clubroom through November 5th. Please drop off donations as soon as possible.

November 6th, we're having a Fish Fry 4:00-7:00pm. Alyssa will be there! November 8th, Show Me the Money starts @ 2:00pm. Bring a snack to pass.

November 11th is VETERANS DAY. The Clubroom will open at 10:00am, the service will be at the monument @ 11:00am followed by luncheon in the Hall.

On the 3rd Friday of every month, we always have dinner before karaoke. In October we had a Pot of Soup Potluck. It was great, we had 10 different soups! I'm sure we'll do that again this winter. For November's dinner we'll have our annual TURKEY DINNER. It'll be on the 20th starting @ 5:00pm. As always, the Clubroom will supply the turkey and there will be a sheet posted to sign up to bring your favorite "Thanksgiving style" side dish. This is always a great time together. This year will be fun because Karaoke starts @ 7:30pm!

We have another Show Me the Money on November 22nd @ 2:00pm. November 28th is Game Night. We start with dinner @ 5:32pm so bring something yummy to share!

We've had another successful Wii bowling season, and again, a big thank you to Joe MacDonald for doing what you do for us!

There will be a Fish Fry on December 4th, 4:00-7:00pm.

Denise will have "Santa" in the Clubroom soon, get your littles signed up for the Children's Christmas Party, its December 12th at noon-3:00 p.m.

Just one Show Me the Money in this busy month of December, it's the 13th @ 2:00 p.m. You don't want to miss it!! Sharon and Darlene, we appreciate you!!

December 18th is Karaoke time! We'll have a spaghetti dinner from 5:00-7:00pm and DJ MJ starts @ 7:30pm.

Our Clubroom Christmas Party is on December 20th @ 4:00pm with dinner at 5:00pm. We'll provide the dinner, but if you have a special holiday treat/dessert that you'd like to share, it would be much appreciated. Along with dinner we'll have games, prizes, and of course, the gift exchange! There will be a sign-up sheet on the board in the Clubroom, let us know if you can make it. We hope to see everyone there!

We will be open on Christmas Eve, 12:00pm till 6:00pm and closed on Christmas Day.

On MONDAY, December 28th, we will be open @ 6:00pm for the LIONS GAME!

And lastly to close out the year, we'll have a NYE party in the clubroom on the 31st! We'll post those details in the Clubroom, and we're open to ideas!

We hope everyone has had a great year and we wish you an even better 2027!!

Happy Thanksgiving! Merry Christmas! Happy New Year!

Kathie Holloway, Clubroom Manager



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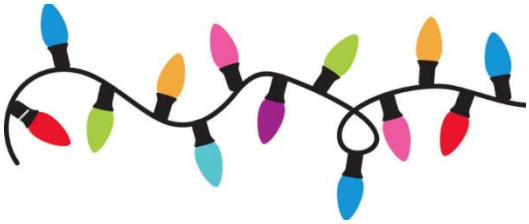
Article 3: How Business Moves Through a Meeting

Robert's Rules give meetings a recognizable path. The chair calls the meeting to order, confirms that a quorum is present, follows the adopted order of business, recognizes members who seek the floor, and keeps the assembly focused on the pending item. This structure helps prevent side discussions from becoming the meeting.

Most business begins when a member makes a motion. If a second is required and received, the chair states the motion so everyone knows the exact question before the assembly. Members may then debate, propose amendments, or use other proper motions before the chair puts the question to a vote and announces the result.

Key takeaway: A meeting runs better when every item of business moves from motion to discussion, from discussion to decision, and from decision to a clear record.

Paul M. Rick, Senior Vice Commander



Honor Guard

Greetings everyone,

Hope all is well with you. Just want to keep you informed of our Post Honor Guard activities and events.
Saturday October 3rd, we performed final Honors at the Bruce Armada Cemetery for Army Vietnam Veteran John Salsido Sr., who didn't receive honors at the time of his passing. Wednesday, October 7th was our monthly Holly Honors. Friday, October 9th we performed final Honors at the Richmond Cemetery for Army Vietnam Veteran Sydney Noble, who didn't receive honors at the time of his passing. On Saturday, October 10th, we provided Final Honors for Army Vietnam Veteran Timothy O'Callahan at Wujek Calcaterra of Shelby Funeral Home. On Sunday, October 11th, we performed Final Honors for our Post Member Army Vietnam Veteran Harold Cope at our Post.

Our Upcoming events are Holly Honors on Wednesday, November 4th. Tuesday, November 10th we'll be at the Washington Township Veterans Memorial Park at 27 mile and Van Dyke for their Veterans Day Ceremony at 11:00am. Wednesday, November 11th we'll be doing ceremonies at Pine Ridge of Shelby 9:00am, Prestonville Cemetery at 10:00am and our Post Ceremony at 11:00am. Wednesday December 2nd is Holly Honors and Saturday, December 19th at 12:00pm is Wreaths Across America at Cadillac Memorial Gardens.
We again welcome our new Honor Guard Member Mike Glass, we sure are glad to have you, Mike stepped right in and is doing an outstanding job.

As you can see, we are quite busy. We're getting asked to support more events. We welcome anyone who is interested in joining our team, please consider joining our dedicated group of professionals. If interested, please let me know at a meeting or give me a call at 586-457-5403.

Brad Hoffman, Honor Guard Captain



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Membership



Welcome
Michael Glass - US Army Vietnam - new member
Nicole Gonzelas - US Navy -Kuwait - transfer from member at large

TAPS
Thomas Malone - age 79 - US Army Vietnam
Bruce Rife - age 92 - US Army & Navy Korea
Lawrence Pennefather Sr. - age 86 - US Army Vietnam
William Andrew - age 81 - US Army Vietnam
Peter Viviano - age 83 - US Marine Corps Vietnam

586-260-4200 or kennethjklee51@gmail.com

Kenneth Klee Membership Chairman

Show Me the Meats / Charity Poker

The Show Me the Meats event in October was a great success! We had many happy people depart with full coolers. Thank you so much to the players and to the many helpers and of course, the generous sponsors!

Don't forget the next charity poker event is at Mr. Bs in Shelby Twp on December 31 – January 3, 2027 from 10:45am to 6pm

Thanks for ALL your help,

Michael Salyers, Poker Chairman





Comrade Mike Salyers showing off 2 of the fantastic tomahawk steaks that were raffled off!



Auxiliary members Betty Fleming & Sylvia Pocock at the raffle table. There were some awesome baskets won this evening!

Have a special occasion

and need a hall rental?

Contact Joe at (586)808-0754



Fish Fry

November 6 & December 4

4pm-7pm



In the month of September, Post 4659 upgraded an area at the Prestonville Cemetery to allow personal to use an area during Funerals. Post members and Frances Kopicki cleaned up an area to make area available to funerals and a sitting area for visiting family. There are 188 Veterans buried at the Cemetery and VFW Post 4659 has helped with honors and support since 1946.

Post 4659 was well-represented by post and auxiliary members at the POW-MIA ceremony on September 18 at VFW New Baltimore Post 7573





The 53rd Annual Gold Star Mothers Banquet was held at the VFW Village-Stinson Post 9021.

The October 16 “Pot of Soup” Potluck went over very well! There were 10 delicious soups to choose from!



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