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The Silver Star



Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 5061

August 2020



Commander's Corner

Greetings! We've returned to mail-out newsletters! In case you've been missing them, they are posted on vfwpost5061.org and on the VFW Post 5061 Facebook page. As you may already know, we've adopted COVID protocols in order to open. These include masks on bartenders, masks if you are moving around the place (but not while seated), temperatures taken when you arrive, sign-in sheet for everybody (helps us contact everyone if someone reports a sickness), hand sanitizer, no glassware, no food at the bar, and enhanced cleaning protocols. The hall will not be rented for the foreseeable future. Bingo has re-started as well. We can always use help from about 1030 – 1400 every Friday at Barry's Bingo Hall at the corner of S. Federal and W. Evans. Watch for advertisements about potential dinners – all boxed for here or to go! Thank you for your patience as we open the Post! Best wishes to Jerry Jones and Janie Stevens as they heal.

*With Respect,
Jim Kruse, Commander*

Post Officers

Post Commander: Jim Kruse
Sr. Vice Commander: Steve Coca
Jr. Vice Commander: Tammy Greene
Quartermaster: Tom Yepsen
Adjutant: TBD
Chaplain: Manuel Sais
Judge Advocate: Carl Miller
Surgeon: Mario Rodriguez
Service Officer: Carl Miller
Trustees: Delbert Bowen, Mario Rodriguez, Bill Costa
Home Board: Charlie Dominguez, Lee Bonney, Joe Gomez, Carl Miller, Steve Coca
Canteen Manager: Jerry Jones
Bingo Manager: Tom Yepsen
Hall Manager: Joe Tafoya

Auxiliary Officers

President: Michael Casagrande
Sr. Vice: Tim Gilmore
Jr. Vice: Bernadette Sannino
Treasurer: Juliana Mancuso
Secretary: Kathy Kurtenbach
Chaplain: Roxi Nielsen
Conductress: Christine Dominguez
Trustees: Christine Dominguez, Roxi Nielsen, Tim Gilmore
Guard: Joe Tafoya

Auxiliary News

I hope everyone is distancing and practicing good hygiene. If you can't distance, wear a mask to prevent the spread. The State is doing better than most and at least a person can be hospitalized if they are unlucky enough to come in contact with an asymptomatic person. That is why distancing is the best way to avoid getting infected.

The Auxiliary has three new members waiting to be accepted by a vote of the membership. Our Auxiliary has a 100% renewal this year plus the new members.

The Auxiliary has had to cancel all of the monthly dinners due to the Covid 19 Pandemic. Everyone misses the comradery and teamwork it takes to make the dinner a success. Hopefully we will resume the dinners in the near future if all goes well.

Please take care of yourselves and don't get lackadaisical about the information you have learned in order to protect yourself. The next meeting will be August 12th at 7:00pm and structured to be safe with distancing and face masks.

*Michael Casagrande
President*

Post Members: Did you pay your dues? Check your membership card for your anniversary date.

Auxiliary Members: Annual Auxiliary memberships expired on December 31, 2019. Pay your dues now!



VFWPost5061.org

Post and Auxiliary Meetings

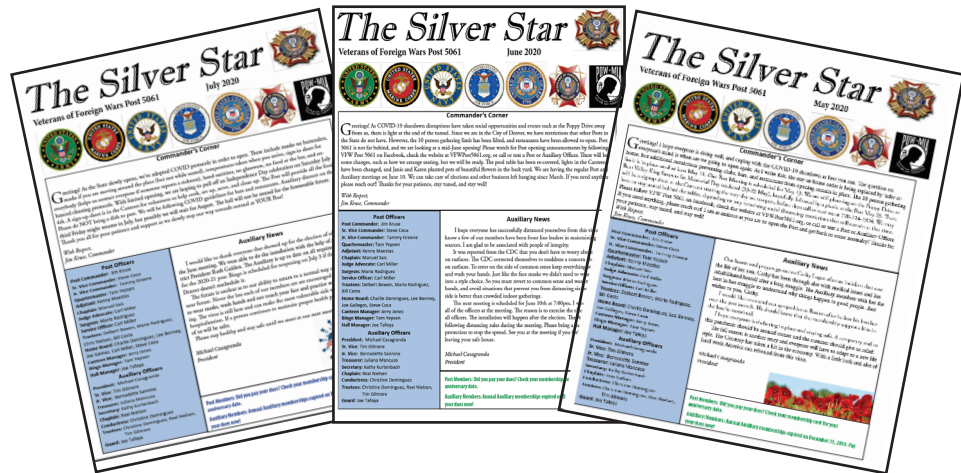
Wednesday, August 12

7 pm

Please wear a mask

Missed Previous Newsletters?

Download them at vfwpost5061.org



Legislative News

Senate Approves Adding Agent Orange Presumptives in Defense Bill: The Senate recently approved a VFW-supported amendment to S. 4049, the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021 (NDAA), to add bladder cancer, hypothyroidism, and parkinsonism to the list of presumptive conditions associated with exposure to Agent Orange. The scientific community maintains that sufficient evidence exists to link these three conditions. The amendment was introduced by Sen. Jon Tester (D-MT) and was approved by a vote of 94 – 6. A vote on the Senate NDAA is expected to occur within the next few days. The VFW thanks Sen. Tester for his efforts to expand veteran's disability benefits, and urges the conference committee to keep this provision in the final version of the NDAA.

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This Month in Military History

August 2, 1990 - The Iraqi army invaded Kuwait. Kuwait was annexed by Iraq on the claim that Kuwait was historically part of Iraq. This resulted in Desert Shield, and later the war against Iraq, Desert Storm.

August 6, 1945 - The first Atomic Bomb was dropped over Hiroshima, Japan at 8:15 a.m. by the B-29 bomber Enola Gay, killing over 105,000 people and destroying the city. Another estimated 100,000 persons later died as a result of radiation effects.

August 7, 1964 - Following an attack on two U.S. destroyers in the Gulf of Tonkin off North Vietnam, the U.S. Congress approved the Gulf of Tonkin Resolution, granting President Lyndon B. Johnson authority to repel attacks against U.S. armed forces and to prevent further aggression.

August 7, 1990 - Just five days after the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait, President George H.W. Bush ordered Operation Desert Shield, a massive military buildup to prevent further Iraqi advances.

August 9, 1945 - The second atomic bombing of Japan occurred as a B-29 bomber detonated an atomic bomb over Nagasaki at about noon, destroying half the city and killing an estimated 70,000 people.

August 13, 1961 - The Berlin Wall erected after East Germany closed the border between east and west sectors of Berlin. Barbed wire was replaced by a 12 foot-high concrete wall eventually extending 103 miles around the perimeter of West Berlin. “The Wall” became a notorious symbol of the Cold War. The wall was finally opened in November 1989 and torn down by the end of 1990.

August 14, 1945 - V-J Day, commemorating Japan's surrender to the Allies.

August 16, 1780 - Revolutionary War Battle of Camden in S. Carolina; American forces under General Gates were defeated by British General Cornwallis, resulting in 900 Americans killed and 1,000 captured.

August 17, 1943 - During World War II, the Allies secured the island of Sicily after just 38 days. Allied forces now controlled the Mediterranean, leading to Italy's eventual withdrawal from the war.

August 21, 1863 - During the Civil War, William Quantrill led 450 irregular Confederate raiders on a pre-dawn terrorist raid of Lawrence, KS, leaving 150 civilians dead, 30 wounded and left the town a ruin.

August 24-25, 1814 - During the War of 1812, Washington, D.C. was invaded by British forces that burned the Capitol, the White House, most public buildings and a number of homes.

Navy Ship T-Shirts

Search for your ship name and you'll find your ship

- Carriers: <https://rebrand.ly/aircers-1b9ee>
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- Sub: <https://rebrand.ly/8ac5b>

Need Help?

If you need someone to pick up groceries or essential items, please call the following Auxiliary members:

Tim Gilmore - 720-353-7855
Janet Farris 720-217-4356

If an Auxiliary member becomes ill or loses a family member, please let our Auxiliary Chaplain, Roxi Nielsen, know as soon as possible. (303-517-7774)

MIA Update

The Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency announced one new identification and one burial update for service members who have been missing and unaccounted-for from WWII and the Korean War. Returning home for burial with full military honors are:

Army Pfc. Glenn E. Collins, 21, of Tucson, Arizona, was a member of Heavy Mortar Company, 1st Battalion, 32nd Infantry Regiment, 7th Infantry Division. He was reported missing in action on Dec. 2, 1950, when his unit was attacked by enemy forces near the Chosin Reservoir, North Korea. Following the battle, his remains could not be recovered. Collins will be buried in his hometown at a date yet to be decided by the family.

Marine Corps Pfc. John P. Langan, 18, was a member of Company C, 1st Battalion, 6th Marine Regiment, 2nd Marine Division, Fleet Marine Force, which landed against stiff Japanese resistance on the small island of Betio in the Tarawa Atoll of the Gilbert Islands, in an attempt to secure the island. Over several days of intense fighting at Tarawa, approximately 1,000 Marines and sailors were killed and more than 2,000 were wounded, while the Japanese were virtually annihilated. Langan died on the third day of battle, Nov. 22, 1943.