

**VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS
OF THE UNITED STATES
WHITE LAKE POST 3256 & AUXILIARY
OCTOBER 2005**

COMMANDER'S CORNER

Comrades,

I hope that everyone is in good health and doing well.

At the National Convention, the Life Membership fees were turned down by only 200 votes. The biggest complaint was that every three years, there would be a Cost of Living increase added to the Life Membership Fees. Most Members said that any increase in the dues should be voted on, not be an automatic thing. I can't say for sure, what the increase will be proposed, at the next National Convention, but it will be at least a 50% increase over what the fees are now. I am urging everyone that is not a Life Member, to become one before the fees go up.

I would like to thank everyone who has helped in the last few weeks in September. It has been a very busy time, and with your help, everything has been done.

The District 12 meeting went very well. I was told by a lot of people that the Dinner was excellent! Also, many people were very impressed with our Flag display outside. Some drove by it a few times just to look at it. We can be very proud of our Post Home.

Remember the dinners in October. They help to keep the Post going.

One of the things that we are looking forward to being done yet this year is putting new windows in the Post. If things work out, we may be able to side the building and fix the South Parking lot. Our ambitions are great and we need the help and support of ALL VFW Members.

Take Care, Norm

WOMEN'S AUXILIARY NEWS

Dear Auxiliary Sisters,

We would like to welcome Diane Kammers back to our Auxiliary. I would like to thank every one who worked on the District 12 meeting dinner, also, thanks to the lady who has been selling baked goods during Friday Fish Fry. A few Post and Auxiliary members worked at the Armory on September 23 and 24 quilt show sponsored by the family Support Group of deployed troops to Iraq. Thanks for helping out.

There will be an Enchilada Dinner October 28th 5-7:30 PM. Price \$5. All Proceeds will go to buy Christmas gifts for the veterans at the Grand Rapids VA Hospital. Sue Falconer is the chairperson for this event. Please come out and support her in her effort.

Remember, we have Auxiliary shirts and Rada Knives for sale in the club room.

It was brought up that the list of officer's for 2005-2006 were not published, so here it is:

President: Bette Bloomberg
Secretary: Evelyn Lovejoy
Treasurer: Val Mikkelsen
Senior Vice: Wendi Hall
Junior Vice: Penny Rushing
Conductress: Margaret Tabor
Chaplain: Delores Powell
Historian: Rose Stamper
Guard: Phyllis Blamer
Flag Bearers: Annie Ward, Rita Van Dyke, Joyce Patton, Priscilla Clementon

Trustees: Deb Cincush, Tracy Van Geison June Russell

Fondly,
Bette

MEN'S AUXILIARY NEWS

Dear Membership,

It's time to think about a costume for our October 29th Halloween Party. We'll start the evening with a Swiss Steak dinner with mashed potatoes and gravy, green beans, and a roll – all for only \$8.00! We'll serve from 5:00 to 7:30. Those of you who don't want the dinner, but would like to party with us, it's just \$2.00 to help offset costs.

We'll have karaoke music by Ed & Jan and costume judging at 9:00 PM. 1st Place \$25, 2nd Place \$15, and 3rd Place \$10. Please come help support this function. Costumes are optional.

Also, we should be through the 'red tape' by now and have raffle tickets available for the 5.0 cubic ft. upright freezer in the clubroom. The drawing will be 11-13-05, just tin time for that fresh venison. Good luck everyone!

For God & Country,

Mark L. Riggs Sr., American

MEMBERSHIP (LIFE)

As Membership Chairman of Auxiliary #3256 and of the Department of Michigan Ladies Auxiliary to the VFW, I would like all Auxiliary members who have yet to pay their dues, to PLEASE CONSIDER DOING SO NOW!! Your dues dollars are what enables this Auxiliary to do the programs that we do, both locally and statewide, plus help out our Post with the needed repairs and

projects that are needed at the Post home. Whether you pay the annual dues of \$25.00 or the Assigned fee for a Life Membership, I encourage you to act soon. As the Department (State) Membership Chairman, I have set up goals and deadlines for all Auxiliaries in the State. I sure would like my own Auxiliary to be leading the group for awards, not one of the ones that are trailing in the background!! To all of you who have paid your dues, Thank you! To all of you that have purchased a Life Membership, WHEW, what can I say! The response has been great!! Take heed of what is said in the Commanders article about the VFW raise in Life Membership amounts. When the VFW passes their increase or before, the Auxiliary will also. I have heard that the Auxiliary increase will be a minimum of a 50% increase and maybe upwards of 100% increase. NOW SEEMS TO BE THE TIME TO ACT ON LIFE MEMBERSHIPS!!! However, if you chose to remain an Annual Member, we need and want you, just as well!! For those Annual Members, remember, if your dues are not to me in the proper time frame, you will lose your rights for a Cancer Grant for one year. Please, do not take that risk. Get your Dues in to me as soon as possible. Also, please be patient, with me and with the National Organization. I am doing the best that I can to process the dues and so is the National Organization. This time of the year, some things just seem to get "bogged down" a bit, and take a little longer than we like.

Loyally,
Val Mikkelsen
Aux. #3256 & Department of Michigan Ladies Aux. To VFW Membership Chairman