



CRESTON VFW POST 3023

OCTOBER 8, 2011



THE COMMANDER CORNER'S

Ladies and Gentlemen

Summer is over and I hope everyone had a safe and fun summer. Now that summer is behind us, it's time to get to work down here at the post. We have some areas of concern, mainly our finances. We are just barely getting by and the bean counters have advised me that unless something happens real soon we could be in some serious trouble. Now, I don't know about you, but I will not see this post go down, especially under my watch. We have been fortunate enough that the IRS refunded a few thousand dollars but this could will only hold us over for a short time.

Therefore we are planning on some events down at the post and they can't succeed without your help. We are planning on 3 consecutive weekends of Texas Holdem and other poker games in the month of October. Watch for more information on these events. Tell your friends and come down for some fun. We need to rent the upstairs more often as well. Please tell people family friends about what we have to offer. That is a lot of space up there that is sitting idle so let's utilize what we have to offer. Contact Ben for info on the hall rentals. Something else that has been very disappointing is the walk of honor brick program that I have started. Please consider purchasing a brick for your veteran family, member or friend. With the holidays soon approaching that would make an ideal gift. Please consider this post fundraiser.

All I can add is that when we have functions down here we really do need your support. Most of our WWII veterans have either passed or cannot get out anymore and Korean Vets are fading away as well so that leaves us Vietnam, Iraq and Afghanistan Vets to continue on. I never thought I would say this but if a member passes away please remember the Post, if at all possible a memorial donation would be greatly appreciated. Thank You in advance. Until next month, thank you to the people down here that have been giving there all. Thank You so much.....Steve.

Texas Hold'em Tournament

Friday, Saturday,
& Sunday

Oct. 21, 22, 23

Oct. 28, 29, 30

2011

4 pm to 11 pm

Open to the
public.

Food,
Music,
and Fun.

Come on down

Quartermaster Report

Dear friends and family, we are slowly rejuvenating! Thanks to our new members and recently renewed members. However, we still need more assistance with daily tasks. Our automation is continuing so please check our website frequently for updates and emergent issues. Our current financial resources are limited and dwindling, but we remain temporarily solvent today. Please email or call when you can help. Thank you.

Jim Dykstra

Ph 361-1245

Cell 920-2288

Email: crestonvfw3023@gamil.com

Website: crestonvfw3023.org

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

If you know of someone in the hospital or that has passed away.
Please contact me, thanks. Chaplain Arlen Dove (616-) 915-1780

Part 3

Three Kinds of Freedom

Philosophers distinguish three kinds of freedom. 1) Freedom to do what you must leads to totalitarianism. 2) Freedom to do what you want leads to anarchy. 3) Freedom to do what you ought is true freedom, because it takes into account the common good, as well as the individual good. True freedom demands integrity, responsibility, accountability and appropriate self-restraint. Any nation crippled by law-breaking, violence and uncivilized conduct is not a nation that is truly free.

When Francis Scott Key saw the American flag flying over Fort McHenry, he was thrilled by the sight, and the knowledge that the fort had not fallen. Key wrote some verses on the back of a letter. Later, after the British had withdrawn, Key completed his poem on the defense of Fort McHenry. Within a few days the poem was put to the music of an old English song. Both the new song and the flag became known as The Star-Spangled Banner. Congress made the phrase In God We Trust "the nation's official motto in 1956, but it probably originated from verse 4 of The Star-Spangled Banner: "And this be our motto: 'In God is our trust.'"

Democracy can be a noble vehicle for life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness when checks and balances work properly, and when freedom is used responsibly to enhance the common good. The Fourth of July celebrates the signing of the Declaration of Independence. This is an appropriate time to remind ourselves of the final line of the Declaration of Independence: "And for the support of this Declaration, with a firm reliance on the protection of Divine Providence, we mutually pledge to each other our Lives, our Fortunes and our sacred Honor."

FISH FRIES DATES

November 11th

Price: \$9.00

Time: 5:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Serving:

Ocean Perch
Cole Slaw
or Apple Sauce
Potato Salad
or Fries
Bread



Burger Nights

Burgers with all the fixin's!

Time: 5:30pm to 7:00pm

Only \$ 5.00

Friday

Oct. 28



LADIES AUXILIARY

Dear Ladies,

Your officers are the following for the ensuing year of (2011-2012).

President-----Linda Walthorn
Sr. Vice-----Eugenia (Jean) Bigelow
Jr. Vice-----Eula Giauque
Secretary-----Eula Giauque
Treasurer-----Margaret (Maggie) Nickelsen
Chaplin-----Elizabeth (Liz) Marin
Conductress-----Patricia Alexander
Guard-----Dodie Brigham
3rd Yr Trustee---Sheila Reed
2nd Yr Trustee---Linda Johnson
1st Yr Trustee---Judy Jones

Well, fall is upon us and the leaves are turning to many beautiful colors and winter will be here sooner than we think. For our annual members who leave Michigan for the winter don't forget to pay your 2012 dues before December 1st 2011. The "dues" will be increasing as of January 1st 2012. National has voted to raise our yearly dues from \$25.00 to \$30.00 for our annual members. So, get those dues in early, please!

We started up our Fish Fries again and could use help even if only for an hour or two. There is a lot that goes into getting ready for these meals. Several different things have to be put in place such as: buying food, setting up the dining room, scaling the fish and getting help for many several jobs the night of the fish fry. Call me at my house (616-363-7626) if you can help. Let it ring and leave a message.

I hope we will all continue to support each other in more ways then we know. I want to welcome all new and seasoned members to continue to support our functions when ever possible. "United We Stand" and we can tackle anything.

We are always searching and looking for new members. Any wife, mother, or daughter of a Veteran (living or deceases) who would like to become a member of our auxiliary can contact any of the above line officers.

Ladies come to our monthly meetings. They have been shortened and we try to get you out in a timely manner. Remember the monthly meetings are the 1st Monday, of each month at 7:00 p.m., except if it falls on a holiday, then they are on the 3rd Monday. So, our next meeting will be November 7, 2011, at 7:00 p.m. I'm looking forward to seeing more members in the coming months. Hope to see you at one of our meetings soon!!!

Our Awards Dinner will be in November. Any member that joined in a year that ends in a 1 or 6 for example: 1991, 1996, 2001 or 2006 etc. will be up for an award this year. All members in good standing that are due membership pins need to be present at the dinner on November 12, 2011, to be honored.

Our current treasurer, Maggie Nickelsen, is resigning as of October 31, 2011 due to illness. If you or anyone you know is interested in taking this position , please call Judy Jones at 616-363-1640 or Linda Walthorn at 616-363-7626.

Please continue to remember our Veterans and their families as well as those at our Grand Rapids Home for Veterans. "Freedom is not Free". We continually need to fight for our rights and freedoms continuously.

Linda Walthorn
Ladies Auxiliary President
616-363-7626

If you know of any Auxiliary in the hospital or that has passed away. Please contact me, thanks. Liz Marin 616-940-0716 Ladies Auxiliary Chaplin

Creston VFW Post Children's Christmas Party

Saturday, December 17th

Please enter your child's name and age of those attending.
Cut out sign up below and drop of or mail to Eula Giaouque,
6066 Idaho NE Belmont, Mi. 49306
or email emgiau47@yahoo.com, or call 363-7349
deadline is December 5, 2011

Child's Name	Age

Important Dates:



➤ **November**

- 5th District 8 Mtg. in Wayland (11:00 a.m.)
- 7th VFW Auxiliary Mtg. (7 p.m.)
- 11th Veterans Day Fish Fry 5-8 p.m.
- 12th Awards Banquet (6:00 p.m.)

➤ **December**

- 5th VFW Auxiliary Mtg. (7:00)
- 17th Kids Christmas Party
(Deadline entries by Dec. 5.)
- 19th Post & Aux. Christmas Dinner
(Potluck) No Gift Exchange

Have a safe, happy and beautiful fall!!!

I am hospital chairman for the Ladies Auxiliary and I have a need to tell you about at the vets home. We are in need of Large size clothing. 4,5,,and 6 extra large. We do accept gently used and clean clothing. Donations to the unmet needs program are also important to provide things for residents not provided for such as tickets to sports,and other entertainment. If you can donate please send checks to the Auxiliary and we will send one check to State, Please earmark checks in the memo if they are for the unmet needs program.

Last I want to let you know the Ladies Auxiliary will be serving meals at the Texas Holdem tournaments So come Join us for good food and lots of fun. Fridays we will have Soup and Sandwiches, Saturdays, October 22 we are doing a steak fry, and October 29 Pork chops and dressing. There will be snacks at the snack bar for anyone who doesn't want a full meal.

We need you the members and friends to support the fund raisers if we are to continue the work we are hear to do, "Honor the Dead by helping the Living."

Have a safe and Happy Thanksgiving and hope to see you at the Post soon.

Loyally Eula Giaouque
Auxiliary Secretary, and Jr Vice President

VFW 3023 Dinner and Awards
Presentation

Saturday, Nov 12, 2011
Social time 6pm
Dinner 7pm
Awards presented after dinner

Circle choice:

swiss steak or turkey breast

Ticket Prices \$5 non refundable
Deadline is November 1, 2011
include check for \$5
made to: VFW3023 Ladies Auxiliary

Cut out and drop off at Post or

Mail to: Creston VFW 3023
5535 Monroe Ave NW
GrandRapids, MI 49505

To whom it may concern,

Greetings from Kandahar, Afghanistan! I am assigned to the Brigade Support Medical Company, 25th Brigade Support Battalion, 1st of the 25th Stryker Brigade Combat Team from Fort Wainwright, Alaska. Our Battalion Aid Station operates an amazing program, the Wolf Case Management Program (WCMP). WCMP houses and rehabilitates wounded or ill Soldiers back to health so that they are fully mission capable and can go back to the fight. The majority of these Soldiers are medically evacuated and are taken so quickly that they are not able to grab any personal belongings. Most of them show up with only the clothes on their backs.

These Heroes suffer more than just physical wounds. In a time of healing, it is extremely difficult to be away from not only your family, but your army family as well. Unfortunately, we are basically building this program from scratch and need the supplies necessary to give comfort to these Soldiers.

Due to the busy and dangerous Afghanistan summers, we are expecting an exponential increase in patients. We have contacted several programs and are expecting the packages to arrive in a short amount of time. Unfortunately, our supplies deplete very quickly.

We are requesting supplies such as personal hygiene items, running shoes, loofa's, puzzle books, portable DVD players, DVD's, books, underwear, pajama/sweat pants, white crew cut socks, t-shirts, towels, snacks, individual powder drink mixes, handheld games, etc.

Please consider donating to our program. It's just a little price to pay for brave Heroes who protect our families and country.

SGT Franks, Angel
WCMP NCOIC
BSMC 25th BSB, 1-25 SBCT
Kandahar Airfield, Afghanistan
DSN: 770-6017

Please see attached supply list on our website.

[Support our Troops Letter.pdf](#)

Sr. Vice Corner

I am humbled by the trust you have placed in me by electing me as your Sr. Vice Commander. I will do everything in my power to justify your confidence.

As our Commander noted in last months newsletter we have a new set of officers and the enthusiasm is fantastic. There is a lot of changes in the works and it is all for the better for OUR Post.

I can only ask that as members of this post to try your hardest to attend our meetings. They are only once a month and are for YOUR benefit as a member to let us hear your voice. We can't fix it if we don't know what's broke.

I have also sent off the paperwork to National to start up our very own VFW RIDERS program. If you know anybody who owns a motorcycle and enjoys riding let them know that we are starting this program. The only requirement is that they be a member of the VFW, Ladies Aux, Men's Aux, and Dads in good standing. We will be the only Post in the District with this program and members of other posts will be accepted into our Riders. This is a great tool to get our name out there and show our pride in the VFW.

Thanks again for your confidence and I look forward to having a GREAT year as YOUR Sr. Vice.

Yours in Comradeship,
Mike Saxton
SR Vice Commander

October 2011

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
25 Sept 2011	26	27	28	29 7 pm Karaoke with Jack Ward	30 5 :30 pm Burger Night Groove Therapy	1
2	3 7pm Post Meeting 7pm Women Aux. Meeting	4	5	6	7 Fish Fry 5 - 8 pm Groove Therapy	8 Post & Aux Cleaning 10am
9	10 6 pm Men Aux. Meeting	11	12	13	14 Texas Hold'em Tournament Old Dudes Rock	15 Texas Hold'em Tournament Old Dudes Rock
16 Texas Hold'em Tournament	17	18	19	20	21 Texas Hold'em Tournament Dusty Chaps	22 Texas Hold'em Tournament
23 Texas Hold'em Tournament	24 7 pm House Committee Meeting	35	26	27	28 Texas Hold'em Tournament 5:30 pm Burger Night Dusty Chaps	29 Texas Hold'em Tournament 8 pm Halloween Party
30 Texas Hold'em Tournament	31					

November 2011

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
30 Texas Hold'em Tournament	31	1	2	3	4 Groove Therapy	5
6	7 7 pm Post Meeting 7 pm Women Aux. Meeting	8	9	10	11 5 pm Fish Fry Groove Therapy	12 6 pm Awards Night Dinner
13	14 6 pm Mens Aux. Meeting	15	16	17	18	19
20	21 7:30 Marine Corps League Meeting	22	23	24	25 7 pm Dusty Chaps	26
27	28 7 pm House Committee Meeting	29	30	1	2 7 pm Dusty Chaps	3

Creston VFW 3023
5535 Monroe Ave NW
GrandRapids, MI 49505

Trenz Pruca
4321 First Street
Anytown, State ZIP