VFW Post 8794 TOWN CRIER - Newsletter

Vol. 2 Edition 82 May 2026

Message from the Commander

Greetings to all Members,

The election for all VFW Post Officer Positions for 2026-2027 was completed at the April 9, 2026 Meeting. The complete list of elected and appointed officers is published in this Newsletter for all to see. I want to thank all those who volunteered to step up and hold an office for next year; your service will be valuable to the continued success of this Post. The Installation of Officers for 2026-27 will be performed right after the May Meeting so we are ready to get to work for next year.

A couple important dates to remember for May are the 10th which is Mother's Day and the 25th which is Memorial Day. We will again be placing American Flags on the graves of all Veterans at the Forest Lawn Memorial Gardens Cemetery on Broad Street & Taylor Station Road on May 23, 2026 beginning at 7 am. Please come out and join us in honoring our fallen comrades. On May 25th at 11:30 am VFW 8794 will conduct our Memorial Day Ceremony at the Forest Lawn Memorial Gardens Cemetery's Freedom Square Monument. It has always been a well-attended event, and we look forward to seeing you again this year. After the Ceremony at Forest Lawn, we will return to VFW Post 8794 to have lunch at 1pm.

Memorial Day is the time for Americans to reconnect with their history and core values by honoring those who gave their lives for the ideals we cherish and those who are no longer with us. More than a million American service members died in the wars and conflicts this nation fought since the first colonial soldiers took up arms in 1775 to fight for independence. Each person who died during those conflicts was a loved one cherished by family and friends; each was a loss to the community and the nation. The VFW continues doing an important mission, making a difference, by serving our country yesterday, today and in the future. You can make a difference for all Veterans by ensuring that the past and our fallen comrades are never forgotten and indeed changing this country for the better. We in this country owe a great debt of gratitude to those who sacrificed their lives so that we could live free and we can start to pay that debt by not forgetting, by remembering what they did and what they stood for. That is why it is important to spend some time during Memorial Day weekend to attend a ceremony, remember and honor those who served and gave all so that our country would continue to be a great and free nation.

It has been a great honor to again serve as your Commander these past couple years and I look forward to assisting our new Commander Shannon Devera in the coming year, he has a great group of Officers to work with and we will do well. Let us make sure we give him our full support.

Thank you again for your support. Remember the Post Meeting for this month will be on 14 May 2026 at 6:30pm; we need our VFW members to attend and participate so we can keep you informed and vote on Post Issues.

God Bless the U.S.A.

Bob Burns
Commander
2025-26

Message from the Auxiliary President

Hello Brothers & Sisters,

The election of Auxiliary officers for the upcoming 2026-2027 was held at our meeting last month. And for the first time in many years, it will not be me. I will be happy in my new role as Auxiliary Treasure and I look forward to assisting our new Auxiliary President Shane Gibson.

Please mark your calendar for May 23rd to help assist with the placing of the flags at Forest Lawn Memorial Gardens located across the street from Mt. Carmel East hospital. This event starts at 7:00 am rain or shine, please bring a good pair of shoes that you do not mind getting dirty. Following this event breakfast will be provided at the VFW around 9:00am. Also, our Memorial Day ceremony will be held on May 25th at 11:30 am at Forest Lawn Memorial Gardens with luncheon to follow at the VFW. We are asking anyone to please bring in a side dish for our luncheon at the Post. The Post will provide the main course for this event.

Continue to keep up the unwavering support for our heroes.

God bless America!
Sincerely,
Pat Kelly
Auxiliary President, 2018-26

Message from the Quartermaster

Congratulations to all! Our Post will make All-State and All-American this year which will be another crowning achievement for the post. These are very special recognitions this year considering only 57 Posts in Ohio made All-State and as of today only 18 Posts are qualified for All-American. What a great tribute to all Post Thank you to all members who have renewed and joined this year we are at 105% membership for the year and the year does not end until June 30th. Really great job!

If you are an **ANNUAL MEMBER** and would like to join as a **VFW Post 8794 LIFETIME MEMBER, WE have an offer you cannot refuse through 2026, we will pay your first $100 of whatever the cost of your Lifetime Membership is.** (See below Chart for your age group)

LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP COST

		VFW 8794	YOU PAY
Through Age 30	$425.00 –	$100 =	$325.00
31-40	$410.00 -	$100 =	$310.00
41-50	$375.00 -	$100 =	$275.00
51-60	$335.00 -	$100 =	$235.00
61-70	$290.00 -	$100 =	$190.00
71-80	$225.00 -	$100 =	$125.00
81 and over	$170.00 -	$100 =	$ 70.00

If you are interested in this program and want to Join Lifetime, see me or call me and I will make it happen! This is a great opportunity.

Richard Curry, QM, 2025-26

Message from the Canteen Manager

Hello all,

WELCOME ALL MEMBERS TO OUR FOXHOLE CANTEEN! May flowers after April showers, right! **We got a lot planned for events so all you Rat bastards come on down and join in the fun! Our Queen of Hearts is growing again**, it is now over $30,000, nice! We have Euchre beginning at 1 pm on Saturdays & Texas Hold-Em on Tuesdays 6-9pm. Come in and sit in on some card games where we play for fun. Check out the calendar for our great events. Do not forget to purchase one of our new shirts for the driveway fund.

Canteen Hours: Monday – Thursday 3 to 10pm
Friday - Saturday 1- Close
Sunday 1- 9 pm

R.G. Kouns
Canteen Manager

Message from the Bingo Manager

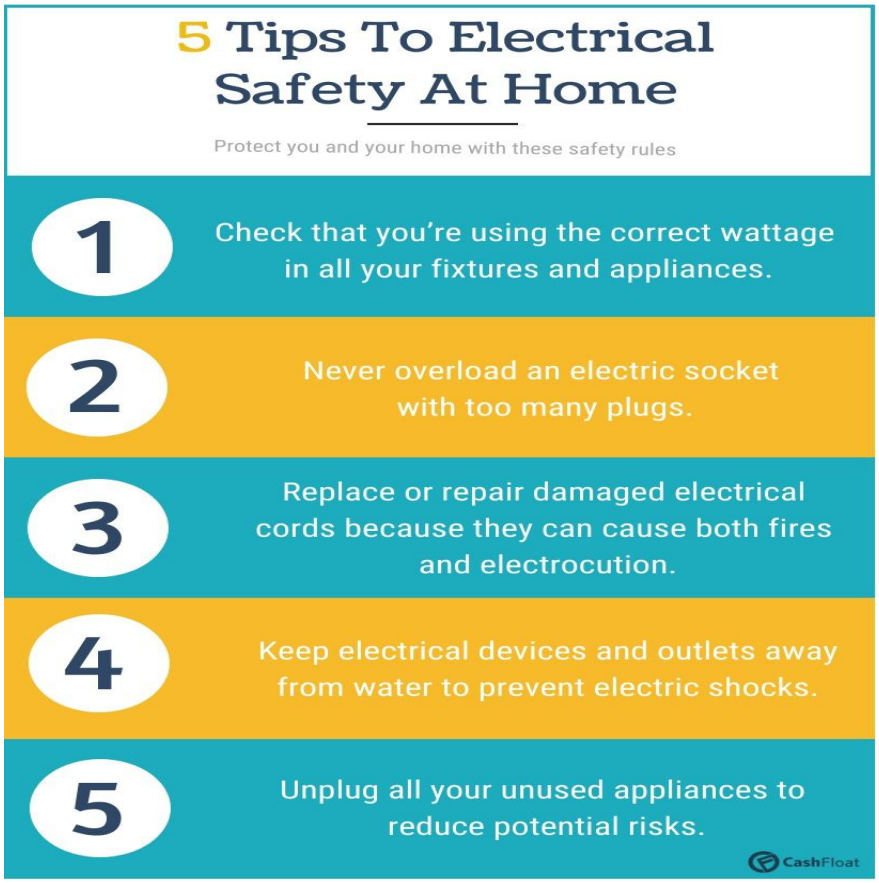
Hello Everyone,

It's May, April showers is bringing us May flowers, haha. Thank you to all of our bingo players and the volunteers that make our bingo sessions happen. Sunday, doors open at 3pm, bingo starts at 5pm, We will have the monthly drawing on Sunday May 31st. Also don't forget there is no Bingo on Memorial Weekend Sunday, May 24th.

The Guru Says – "It's all fun and games…. until someone yells Bingo!!"
Thanks, Becky Kelly, The Bingo Guru, O-74……. Good Number!

Safety Message

May Safety Tips



Events Committee

We will still need your support! We will still need you to volunteer. Come on its fun, help out where you can? If you have a great idea you would like to present it to the Events Committee Meeting now meets on the **4th Monday of the month at 6:00pm**. Get involved, it doesn't hurt…..much! All Members are welcome at the meeting.

SEE CALENDAR FOR EVENTS.

VFW Memorial Post 8794
Elected and Appointed Officials 2026-2027

COMMANDER:	Shannon Devera
SR. VICE CMDR:	George Laury Jr.
JR. VICE CMDR:	Bob Burns
QUARTERMASTER:	Richard Curry
ADJUTANT:	Christine Curry
CHAPLAIN:	RG Kouns
JUDGE ADVOCATE:	Bobby Oliver
SURGEON:	Donald Holland

3 YR. TRUSTEE:	Sherry Kemp-Woodyard
2 YR. TRUSTEE:	Bobby Oliver
1 YR. TRUSTEE:	Ellen Brandes-Mattingly
3YR. HOUSE:	Bob Burns
2 YR. HOUSE	Ron Pannell
1 YR. HOUSE:	Rob McKee
BENEFITS ADVISOR:	Richard Curry

VFW Memorial Post 8794
Elected and Appointed Officials 2025-2026

COMMANDER:	Bob Burns
SR. VICE CMDR:	Christine Curry
JR. VICE CMDR:	Shannon Devera
QUARTERMASTER:	Richard Curry
ADJUTANT:	Christine Curry
CHAPLAIN:	RG Kouns
JUDGE ADVOCATE:	Bobby Oliver
SURGEON:	George Laury Jr.
OFFICER OF THE DAY:	Frank Clements
GUARD:	Ron Pannell
3 YR. TRUSTEE:	Robert Oliver
2 YR. TRUSTEE:	Ellen Brandes-Mattingly
1 YR. TRUSTEE:	Sherry Kemp-Woodyard
3YR. HOUSE:	Christine Curry
2 YR. HOUSE	Frank Clements
1 YR. HOUSE:	Ron Pannell
SERVICE OFFICER:	Richard Curry
LEGISLATIVE CHAIR:	Shannon Devera

VFW Memorial Post 8794
Elected and Appointed Auxiliary Officials
2025-2026

President – Pat Kelly
Sr Vice – Shane Gibson
1st Vice – Dave Hutchison
Treasurer – Tamara Bowsher
Secretary – Nancy Johnson
Chaplain – Carmen Johnson
Conductor – Michelle Roberts
Guard – Sandra Hill
3-YR Trustee – Beth McKee
2-YR Trustee – Mary Britton
1-YR Trustee – Roberta Thacker

Welcome New Members

(VFW Members)

Stiltner, Neva
Mims, Kevin
Smith, Ruth
Doane, Dean
Hallam, Kraig
Hartsock, Christopher
Howard, Seth
Johnson, Larry
Saxbee, Charles
Woods, Dashawn
Horrocks, John
Blann, Kyle
Steel, Brian

(Auxiliary Members)

(Associate Members)

SICK CALL

TAPS 2025-26

Ochsendorf, Bobby - Auxiliary

Cyrus, Ernest - VFW

Brunney, Hugh – VFW

Brown, Shawn - Auxiliary

Dreisbach Jr., George - VFW

Watson, Gerald E - VFW

Dionne, Donald - VFW

Napper, Ronald - VFW

Geil, Kenneth - VFW

May Humor

WHO WANTS THEIR BURGERS RARE?
WHO WANTS THEIR BURGERS WELL-DONE?
SHOULDN'T THERE BE OTHER OPTIONS?
WHO WANTS TAKEOUT PIZZA?
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MAY VFW POST 8794 EVENTS 2026

BINGO EVERY SUNDAY 5 PM (Doors Open at 3 pm)

CANTEEN OPEN: MONDAY-THURSDAY (3 -9pm) /FRIDAY- SATURDAY (1-10pm) / SUNDAY (1-9pm)

Daily Drawing – Monday through Saturday 7 pm
Tuesday Drawing – 8pm
Friday Drawing – 8pm

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
The Foxhole Canteen					1 Sliders & Sides	2 Euchre 1pm Christine Curry/Marie Leister District 11 Testimonial at VFW Post 4719 Gahanna 7pm
3 BINGO NITE! 5 PM District 11 MTG – Sunbury VFW 8736	4 QUEEN OF HEARTS VA Medical Van 9am – 3pm	5 Starts @ 6pm Lg Draft Beer $2 VA Medical Van 9am – 3pm	6 SHOW ME THE MONEY 6-7PM	7 Auxiliary Meeting 7pm Ladies Nite 50 cents off alcoholic drinks	8 Beef & Noodles	9 $6 PIZZA
10 BINGO NITE! 5 PM Pool League Nite	11 QUEEN OF HEARTS	12 Starts @ 6pm Lg Draft Beer $2	13 SHOW ME THE MONEY 6-7PM	14 House Committee VFW Post Meeting 6:30 pm Ladies Nite 50 cents off alcoholic drinks	15 Spaghetti	16 Craft Show 9am
17 BINGO NITE! 5 PM	18 Events Committee Mtg. 6:00pm QUEEN OF HEARTS	19 Starts @ 6pm Lg Draft Beer $2	20 SHOW ME THE MONEY 6-7PM	21 Ladies Nite 50 cents off alcoholic drinks	22 Pulled Pork Mac & Cheese	23 Forest Lawn Flags Placement Breakfast for Flag Volunteers at Post
24 No Bingo 31 BINGO NITE! Starts at 5 PM	25 MEMORIAL DAY Ceremony 11:30 Forest Lawn Cemetery & Luncheon at Post	26 Starts @ 6pm Lg Draft Beer $2	27 SHOW ME THE MONEY 6-7PM	28 Ladies Nite 50 cents off alcoholic drinks	29 Subs & Salad	30 Marquis 66 Band Steak Dinner