

### SEPTEMBER 2024 NEWSLETTER



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Pat Moran



Linda Moran

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Post and Auxiliary meeting times and dates

We're moving back to our Fall = Winter = Spring meeting times. Please join us when you can:

- Location: De Pere Community Center, 600 Grant St., De Pere enter the Community Center's top floor by the flag poles. Our meeting rooms are at the end of the hall on the right side.
  - Times: **3:00 pm** (2024 = October 3<sup>rd</sup>; November 7<sup>th</sup>; December 5<sup>th</sup>; 2025 = January 2<sup>nd</sup>; February 6<sup>th</sup>; and March 6<sup>th</sup>)
  - \*\*Starting in April 2025 we once again move back to our 6 pm meeting start time for the spring, summer and fall meeting dates.
- Dates: Always the 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of the month.
- If you can't make a meeting but would like to be included, please call Commander Pat Moran (cell number listed above) at the meeting start time to be included (conference call).

### --- POST AND AUXILIARY MEMBER ALERT -

The VFW Post 2113 and Auxiliary Post 2113 web page and Facebook page are a year-old today



www.vfwpost2113.org

https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61558223282770

We're always looking for ways to improve both so, PLEASE let either Pat Moran or Linda Moran know if you have any recommendations for improvements, updates, or changes to either the Post website or Facebook page.



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### SAVE THE DATES - CAENDAR OF EVENTS - SAVE THE DATES

We encourage ALL Post and Auxiliary members to either volunteer to help at the following events or to just stop by and meet and greet other members.

- \*\*Monthly Post and Auxiliary meetings see page 1 of this newsletter for details.
- \*\*Friday, September 13, 2024 <u>Post and Auxiliary Brat Fry</u>. Festival Foods, 10 am to 5 pm. Call Pat or Linda for details on signing up to help. If nothing else, stop by and purchase dinner to support the Post/Auxiliary.
- \*\*Friday, September 13, 2024 <u>Team One Mile Operation Healing Heart</u> Team One Mile mission to help the children of our fallen warriors. Hagemeister park, Green Bay, Bicyclists start arriving around 4:30 pm to 8 pm. Food, music guest speakers, etc. Post member Dan Ammerman is on the organizing committee and VFW Post 2113 is a sponsor.
- \*\*Saturday, September 14, 2024 <u>Annual Gun and Craft Show</u>, 8 am to 2 pm. At partner Veterans organization's Wrightstown American Legion Post 436 Clubhouse. All funds raised support veteran issues.
- \*\*Saturday, September 14, 2024 <u>All-American Courage Cookout</u>. 11 am 2 pm. Free to all Veterans as a way of honoring them for their service. Prince of Peace Catholic Church, Green Bay, sponsored by Prokowall Funeral Home RSVP required 920-468-4111
- \*\*Saturday, September 28, 2024 <u>U.S. Flag Retirement Ceremony</u>, at our partner Veteran's organization the American Legion Post 436, Wrightstown clubhouse. Starts at 10 am until all flags are retired. Also, in partnership with our adopted De Pere Boy Scout Troop 1039. Bring your and your neighbor's used and tattered U.S. Flags to the Clubhouse to retire them.
- \*\*Saturday, September 28, 2024 <u>Dedication ceremony</u> for the Fire Department monuments, City of De Pere Fire Station #1, 400 Lewis St, De Pere. Starts at 11 am. Post 2113 and Auxiliary are the primary designers of the monument and lead community sponsor of this project. The monuments were designed by your VFW Post 2113
- \*\*Thursday, October 3, 2024 <u>Brown County Council meeting</u> hosted by your VFW Post, De Pere Community Center, 6 pm to 7 pm. Come that day for the Post and Auxiliary meeting then stay to welcome all Brown County VFW Posts.
- \*\*Friday, October 11, 2024 <u>Veterans Program</u>, Neville Public Museum, Green Bay. 10:30 to 12 noon. Veteran's Informational presentations followed by lunch (\$5 donation requested but not required). Sponsored by the Brown County Veterans Service Office. Call the Brown County ADRC to RSVP, 920-448-4300.
- \*\*Monday, October 21, 2024 <u>De Pere Community Silver Knight Award presentation ceremony</u>, held at the Swan Club of De Pere. Time to be determined RSVP required call Pat or Linda to RSVP.
- \*\*Wednesday, November 6, 2024 <u>City of De Pere Veterans Day Lunch and ceremony</u> for all De Pere area veterans and spouses, and spouses of deceased veterans. At the De Pere Community Center (downstairs). Starts at 11:30am Coordinated by your VFW Post 2113 and Auxiliary. RSVP required call Pat or Linda to RSVP
- \*\*Saturday, November 9, 2024 <u>12<sup>th</sup> Annual Veterans Suicide Awareness Ruck March</u>, sponsored by our partner Veterans organization the 4<sup>th</sup> H.O.O.A.H WI. KI Convention Center, 8 am to 7 pm. 17.5 mile walk. Registration required to walk https://hooahwi.org/event/12th-annual-veteran-suicide-awareness-march/
- \*\*Thursday, December 5, 2024 <u>Post 2113 and Auxiliary Christmas Potluck dinner and meeting</u>. De Pere Community Center, 3:00 pm to 5 pm. Call Pat or Linda to let them know what dish (main meal, desert, snacks) you will be bringing.
- \*\*Saturday, December 14, 2024 <u>432<sup>nd</sup> Civil Affairs Battalion (CA BN) Family Christmas Party</u>. Place and time to be determined. The 432<sup>nd</sup> CA BN is our adopted U.S. Army Reserve military unit.
- \*\*Saturday, April 5, 2025 8<sup>th</sup> VFW District of Wisconsin quarterly meeting, held at the Cotter Community Center, 518 Meadow Lane, Wrightstown. Registration begins at 9 am, meeting start at 10 am, with a light lunch to follow immediately after the meeting. Your VFW Post 2113 and Auxiliary are sponsoring this meeting along with our community partner Cotter Funeral Home. Come out to support your Post and explore this brand new facility in Wrightstown.



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#### FOUR MESSAGES FROM THE TOP OF THE MOUNTAIN

### **VFW National Commander**

My fellow veterans of De Pere VFW Post 2113 and its outstanding Auxiliary members:

"I am deeply humbled to have been elected and installed as the new national commander of the VFW. Today, we stand strong as a veterans service organization comprised of more than 1.4 million eligible veterans, military service members, and our partner Auxiliary members. I'm calling on all levels of the VFW to embrace the courage and the warrior spirit that sets the VFW apart as the oldest and largest combat veterans organization in the world. <u>Operation</u>
<u>All In —</u> is my mission statement to each of you, for you to stand up and embrace your warrior courage, spirit, and devotion to duty - together lets lead this organization into the future.

<u>Operation All In</u> - It is our joint role, no matter what branch you served in or your military specialty, to never forget those who no longer have a voice. Too many people in this nation have forgotten what it is to be a warrior. Heroes are what others think of us. Warriors are who we are.

Operation All In - Believe in what you do - do what you believe in."

Alfred "A1" Lipphardt, the 116<sup>th</sup> VFW Commander-in-Chief, 2024-2025 Commander "A1" joined the VFW in 2022, served in Vietnam from 1967-1968 and 1970-1971, is a Gold Legacy Life member, a member of VFW Post 2667 (Newnan, GA) and is a former VFW Department of Georgia Commander.

#### VFW Department of Wisconsin Commander

Greetings Comrades of De Pere VFW Post 2113:

"This year (2024-2025), our focus will be on community service and continuing to return to our core values that define the Veterans of Foreign Wars. We must step out from behind the bar, get out of our homes and immerse ourselves in our communities. It is essential to remember that it is the community that supports us, enabling us to fulfill our mission to advocate for and assist our Veterans and their families in need.

Our powerful VFW national mantra "Believe in what you do, do what you believe in" is key to our community service. Driven by our shared belief and dedication, we must ALL strive to find and recruit our fellow Veterans. Only by keeping our Post-level, Department-level and VFW national membership numbers strong can we hope to effectively help our fellow veterans, their families and our communities. If you know a Veteran who qualifies for VFW membership please call, text or email your Post Commander – Pat Moran – with that Veterans information. This membership growth mission / objective is yours to accomplish. "Believe in what you do, do what you believe in" – recruit a new member today !!"

Ron Ramos, VFW Wisconsin State Commander – 2024-2025.



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### 8th VFW District of Wisconsin Commander

Greetings De Pere VFW Post 2113 and Auxiliary members. As we proceed into this 2024-2025 VFW year I'd like to provide you with two main thoughts:

First – <u>JUST DO IT – BE INVOLVED</u>. As veterans and Auxiliary member's we must always strive to find ways to serve other veterans and their families in their times of need. From providing guidance of where to go to file for their VA benefits (typically your County Veterans Service Office, the VFW Department of Wisconsin Veterans Service Office (414-902-5748), the Green Bay Vets Center (920-435-5650), any of the local VA Medical Clinics, or your local VFW Post Service Officer or Commander); the VFW Unmet Needs Fund (provides emergency funds for many family/housing/automobile issues), or your local VFW Post Relief Fund, or just listening to their stories. Bottom line there are many ways to assist your fellow Veterans and their families - <u>JUST DO IT - BE INVOLVED</u>.

Second - The calendar in this Post newsletter contains a list of many community and/or Veteran-related activities. <u>JUST DO IT – BE INVOLVED</u> in as many community events in your area as possible. Proudly wear your Veteran, VFW or Auxiliary cap or shirt so your neighbors know that you are a Veteran or Auxiliary member. By being visible and showing your Veteran or Auxiliary colors you are truly helping your fellow veterans and their families by showing them that they have a village of fellow Veterans and Auxiliary members that can help them through any issues they may be facing. - JUST DO IT - BE INVOLVED.

Thank you for listening to my thoughts for making 2024-2025 a very successful VFW year!

Aaron Volling, Commander, 8th District (NE Wisconsin) of the VFW Department of Wisconsin and Commander, VFW Post 3635 (Florence City, WI)

### De Pere VFW Post 2113 Commander

Well, fellow De Pere VFW Post 2113 members <u>WE FINALLY DID IT !!!!</u> For the first time in our Post's long and distinguished history we were selected not just as an Wisconsin VFW All-State VFW Post BUT also as a VFW National All-American Post. That is quite the accomplishment and a total team effort by all our Post 2113 members.

I'm forever indebted to and would like to especially thank the following key Post members for their support, guidance, and volunteer efforts that made this happen. You know who you – Joe R.; Bill K.; Randy H.; Dan A.; Jim V.; Roger N.; Max S.; Michelle L.; George A.; Tim B.: Dan L.; Henry R.; Darin S.; Jennifer T.; Elizibeth M.; and Daryl B.

I'd also like to take a moment to personally thank the VFW Department of Wisconsin total leadership team for their mentorship and drive that were also key components that helped drive VFW Post 2113 to become an 2023-2024 VFW All-State AND All-American Post - **WE FINALLY DID IT !!!!:** 

- \*\*<u>Department</u> Commander Ron Ramos; Department QM Thomas Heath; Department ADJ Adam Wallace; Department Assistant ADJ/QM Steve Eisenhauer; and the Department keystone Mary Lannoye.
- \*\*<u>8</u><sup>th</sup> VFW District of Wisconsin District Commander Aaron Volling; District Sr. Vice (and VFW Brown County Council Commander) "Sarge" Verheyen; District QM "Twiggy" Johnson; and District Chief of Staff Bruce Sorensen.
- \*\* VFW WI Brown County Council Commander Richard "Sarge" Verheyen and his leadership team Justin L.; Bruce J.; Bruce S.; Charlie W.; James B.; Deke S.; and Justin S.

Pat Moran, Commander, De Pere VFW Post 2113

Newsletter Editors' note: The statements on page 2 of this newsletter - from VFW National Commander-in-Chief Lipphardt are from his acceptance speech at the 125<sup>th</sup> VFW National Convention; and from the VFW Department of Wisconsin Commander Ramos are from his Commander's remarks on page 2 of the July/August 2024 edition of the VFW Wisconsin News 2024.



### **SEPTEMBER 2024 NEWSLETTER**



The City of De Pere also broke ground in September 2023 on the new Nelson Family Pavilion – a new outdoor entertainment venue in the city's Voyageur Park.

Your Post 2113 and Auxiliary was there for the ground breaking and the July 26, 2024 dedication ceremony, as we are Silver-level donors to this new and exciting pavilion.



### MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD – PRESERVING VETERANS RIGHTS AND BENEFITS

### THE FIGHT FOR THOSE WHO SERVED, ARE SERVING, AND THEIR FAMILIES

This year marks the beginning of VFW's 125th anniversary. Founded on Sept. 29, 1899, VFW has a legacy of fighting for and preserving the rights of our veterans and their families – it is a legacy that has endured the test of time through many generations. As the nation's oldest combat veteran's organization, VFW national and the VFW Department of Wisconsin have opportunities every year for you to personally make your voice heard – please add your voice to the collective voice to make a resounding impact on our Federal and State legislative leaders. This is your legacy we all jointly fight for – please help us ensure a bright future for your fellow brothers and sisters in arms and their families, and for the generations that follow us – your voice counts.

During this highly partisan time in Washington DC and in Madison (WI) it is next to impossible to get much of anything done. Bringing together Republican and Democrat leaders to jointly approve anything is no small feat. VFW members, at both national and Wisconsin levels, are the stakeholders in the grassroots fight. Only by adding your voice to the fight will ensure the United States maintains the GOLD STANDARD in the health and welfare of our fellow veterans and their family members.

**VFW National** – PLEASE join the VFW Action CORPS to keep up-to-date on all national veteran related issues –

### https://vfw.org/ActionCorps

**VFW Department of Wisconsin** – Please visit the VFW Wi "Voter Voice" web page and sign up for alerts.

https://www.votervoice.net/VFWWI/home





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#### REMEMBERING THE FALLEN

On May 27, 2024 we lost legendary Post member Harold "Butch" Zelten at 93 years young. Butch was very instrumental in forming the Post Honor Guard and leading it as they, on average, performed over 100 military funeral honors for deceased veterans all over Brown County per YEAR. Just prior to his passing, Butch penned the following letter and we feel it is very important for all to read.

"I left my family, friends, and my job when I joined the U.S. Marine Corps at the age of 19 to fight in the Korean War. It was scary yet exciting. Within a very short time I found myself in a strange country, living in tents and trenches with mortar and small arms firing all around you. Soldiers from WWII stayed in that war from the start to the very end, so I considered myself very lucky to have only stayed in Korea for 13 months – the length of my combat tour. Lots of men did not make it home and many others came home with terrible wounds. This makes you a veteran, and it is the reason why we have Memorial Day – to remember the ones who didn't make it home and to honor those wounded.

I am now a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Post 2113 here in De Pere. I'm in charge of the Honor Guard for funerals of our departed veteran comrades. We do the firing squad, U.S. flag folding and presentation of the U.S. flag to the family, and playing of taps. Taps is very heart wrenching, and a lump is formed in your throat when you hear it, for you know another proud veteran has left us and their family.

This is the reason I'm writing this letter. I want every person to know about this song. It came from the Civil War where a father found his son dead (a musician) on the battlefield. In his pocket the father found this song his son wrote – Taps. Please don't ever forget it. Here are the words to Taps:

Day is Done – Gone the Sun – From the Hills – From the Lakes – From the Skies – All is Well – Safely Rest – God is Nigh (near) – Go to Sleep – Peaceful Sleep – May the Soldier – God keep – On the Land – Or the Deep – Safe in Sleep – Love, Good Night – Must thou Go – When the Day – And the Night – Need thee So – All is Well – Speedeth All – To their Rest – Fades the Light – And Afar – Goeth day – And the Stars – Shineth Bright – Fare the Well – Day has Gone – Night is On – Thanks and Praise – For our Days – 'Neath the Sun – 'Neath the Stars – 'Neath the Sky – This we Know – God is Nigh.

Remember on this and all Memorial Days for those lost and harmed while serving their country.

Thank You,

Harold "Butch" Zelten - U.S. Marine Corps, 1951 – 1953 - De Pere VFW Post 2113"

Butch – in your honor, your very own U.S. Marine Corps Drum and Bugle Corps now brings us all a very beautiful and touching playing of Taps honoring to all fellow veterans who have gone before us. Please listen to this on the YouTube link (sorry about the commercial that proceeds Taps). <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rbkQk\_10V9Y">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rbkQk\_10V9Y</a>

As you listen to TAPS being played, PLEASE remember our VFW Post 2113 and Auxiliary members and ALL veterans in your family who passed away this past year. They all served their country, their community, their fellow veterans, and their families with honor – Butch Zelten, Jim Bergman, Dick Bracker, John Brooks, Glen Teske, Ron Willems, Lawrence Walker, Gene Coonen, Jim Reignier, and Grace Albers.



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### **2024 VFW Department of Wisconsin State Convention**

### VFW Post 2113 activities and successes



VFW Post 2113 being presented with their "Best in the State" Post All-State White Caps at the Friday night banquet. (I to r) State VFW Commander Ron Ramos, Post Commander Pat Moran, Post Quartermaster Randy Hansen, and VFW National representative Jeff Carroll.



VFW Post 2113 being presented with the 1<sup>st</sup>
Place "Best in the State" small Post Newsletter
for the second year in a row. (I to r) State
Newspaper Editor Marla Morgan, VFW
National representative Jeff Carroll, Post 2113
Newsletter Editor Randy Hansen, and State
VFW Commander Ron Ramos.



Fun times at the banquet – above Randy, Pat, and Linda Moran – below is Post 2113 Service Officer Michelle Leick-Leurquin (2<sup>nd</sup> from right).



VFW Post 2113 member Daryl Booth (on right) taking a well-deserved break during one of the many meetings that took place. And no that is not his beer



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### **2024 VFW Department of Wisconsin State Convention**

### **Auxiliary Post 2113 Activities and Successes**



VFW Post 2113 Auxiliary Secretary Deb Nackers being presented with the "Best in the State" Auxiliary Member of the Year. Presenting the award (I to r) VFW National Representative Jeff Carroll, State VFW Commander Ron Ramos, Deb Nackers, State VFW Auxiliary President Sherrie Rosenau, VFW Auxiliary Representative Donna Mills, and VFW Auxiliary Senior Vice President Cheryl Woodards. That's a WOWZER award!!



Outgoing VFW WI Auxiliary President Sherri Rosenau theme for the 2023-2024 year was "Bee The Change". In this photo all her line officers dressed as a different "Bee" for this farewell event. Linda Moran VFW Post 2113 Auxiliary President and immediate past President of the Wisconsin Military Order of the Cooties Auxiliary is in the picture. Can you pick out Linda in her mandatory "Bee" costume? \*\*Hint – I didn't know Lady Bugs were bees – did you????



To close the 2023-2024 VFW State
Convention the new VFW Department of
Wisconsin Auxiliary Officers are being sworn
in for their 2024-2025 term. The new
Department Auxiliary President Cheryl
Woodards is standing next to the flags and
VFW Post 2113 Auxiliary President Linda
Moran (4<sup>th</sup> person to Cheryl's right) is being
sworn in as the new VFW Department of
Wisconsin Auxiliary Chief of Staff. Huge
CONGRATS to Linda for being selected to
this very important leadership position.



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### De Pere VFW Post 2113 and Auxiliary Convention Highlights

As noted on the proceeding pages, our De Pere VFW Post 2113 and Auxiliary had a very successful 2024 VFW Department of Wisconsin Convention – winning several top awards.

\*\*The Post was once again was awarded the coveted 2023-2024 All-State White Cap. Did you know that there are 235 VFW Posts in the state of Wisconsin and only 14 Posts (or 5% of the total VFW Posts) meet all the requirements to become an All-State Post. That is quite the selection honor – and the thanks go to every Post 2113 member who helped by renewing their membership, elected to join the Post, helped with a community service project, and/or attended a Post meeting – THANK YOU.

\*\*\*But the biggest surprise of the Convention was when it was announced that the De Pere VFW Post 2113 and Auxiliary won 1<sup>st</sup> Place in the Small Post Newsletter competition – FOR THE 2<sup>nd</sup> YEAR IN A ROW. Not only that, but the newsletter won the **VFW National Bronze (3<sup>rd</sup> place) award for small Post newsletters**. Both these awards mark the VERY 1<sup>st</sup> TIME in the history of the Post and Auxiliary that we've had such a award winning newsletter. Many thanks to our Post Newsletter editor Randy Hansen and his Auxiliary assistant Debbie Nackers for producing such a dynamic newsletter.











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### **Post and Auxiliary Membership**

Post and Auxiliary membership is critical to the success we have in supporting our fellow veterans in need, our own members and our community as a whole. YOUR VOICE DOES MATTER!! JOIN TODAY!

VFW Post 2113 Membership Information 🗲

If you know a Veteran who qualifies to join the VFW please call Pat Moran and he'll call that Veteran to get the membership application processed

Annual Post membership fee is only \$35.00.

\*\*The Post has a very special program whereas if you purchase a 1-year membership, then a 2<sup>nd</sup> year membership is paid by the Post. Simply mail your 1-year membership application and payment check to Pat Moran to the Post's post office box listed on the front page of this newsletter.

*Life Post membership* fee is based on your age – see the attached application for these costs.

\*\*The Post has a special Life membership rebate program of \$150.00 to help cover a portion of you becoming a Life VFW member. To take advantage of this special offer, simply mail your Life membership application and payment check to Pat Moran to the Post's post office box listed on the front page of this newsletter.

Download the membership application from our Post web site and mail it along with your check to Pat <a href="https://www.vfwpost2113.org/vfwpost2113membership.html">https://www.vfwpost2113.org/vfwpost2113membership.html</a>

### **Auxiliary VFW Post 2113 Membership Information**

If you know a Veterans family members who qualifies and would like to join our Auxiliary please call Linda Moran and she'll get the membership application processed

<u>Annual Auxiliary membership</u> fee is only \$35.00 for the first year, then \$30.00 every year after.

<u>New Member Application</u> – The completed application with payment check (made out to "Auxiliary VFW Post 2113) should be mailed directly to Linda Moran at the address listed on the front of this newsletter.

**Renew existing membership dues** – Simply mail Linda Moran your annual or Life membership renewal dues payment check and on the memo line write either "annual dues payment" or "life membership upgrade."



Download the membership application from our Post web site. https://www.vfwpost2113.org/auxiliarypost2113application.html

Completed applications along with your membership option check should be mailed or emailed to Linda.



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It's that time of the year when we once again start thinking of finding students, teachers and Girl/Boy Scouts to be selected as De Pere VFW Post 2113 and Auxiliary representatives. These specific programs are:

#### **VOICE OF DEMOCRACY**

Since 1947, the Voice of Democracy has been the Veterans of Foreign Wars' (VFW's) premier scholarship program. Each year, nearly 27,000 high school students compete for more than \$2 million in scholarships and incentives. Students compete by writing and recording an audio essay on an annual patriotic theme. It is open to any student in grades 9-12. All student entries MUST BE submitted directly to Linda Moran to the address shown on page 1 of this newsletter.

#### 2024-2025 Theme - "Is America Today our Forefathers' Vision?"

The 2024-2025 Student entry deadline is October 31, 2024 – download the entry form from this web link–

https://vfwwi.org/di/vfw/v2/default.asp?pid=5640

#### **PATRIOTS PEN**

Since 1947, the Patriots Pen youth essay competition sponsored by the VFW gives students the opportunity to write essays expressing their views on an annual patriotic theme. We invite you to join the more than 73,000 students who participated last year in this contest. It is open to any student in grades 6, 7 and 8. All student entries MUST BE submitted directly to Linda Moran to the address shown on the 1<sup>st</sup> page of this newsletter.

### 2024-2025 Theme - "My Voice in America's Democracy?"

The 2024-2025 Student entry deadline is October 31, 2024 – download the entry form from this web link –

https://vfwwi.org/di/vfw/v2/default.asp?pid=5640

### **SCOUT OF THE YEAR**

Annually, the VFW recognizes individuals who are: Eagle Scouts; Girl Scout Gold Award recipients; Venture Summit Award recipients; and/or Sea Scout Quartermasters who have risen above their peers in exemplifying the qualities of that rank. All entries MUST BE submitted directly to Linda Moran to the address shown on the 1<sup>st</sup> page of this newsletter.

The 2024-2025 Scout of the Year entry deadline is March 1, 2025 – download the entry form from this web link –

https://vfwwi.org/di/vfw/v2/default.asp?pid=5640

#### **TEACHER OF THE YEAR**

The VFW highly supports the education of America's youth. The Teacher of the Year award recognizes those teachers whose programs stimulate interest in America's history; America's traditions; Americanism; civic responsibility; flag etiquette; and patriotism. It recognizes those teachers who promote America's noblest traditions and highest ideals.

The 2024-2025 Teacher of the Year entry deadline is October 31, 2024 – download the entry form from this web link –

https://vfwwi.org/di/vfw/v2/default.asp?pid=5640

All entries MUST BE submitted directly to Linda Moran to the address shown on the 1<sup>st</sup> page of this newsletter.



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On July 26, 2024 your Post and Auxiliary held a Brat Fry at the Festival Foods in De Pere. By all the feedback we received from customers it was a rousing success. Many thanks to our Post Auxiliary team for putting together this great event.



Customer reviews – a solid 3 Thumbs Up – Great Food and Great Service



Post 2113 Service Officer & Surgeon Michelle manning the Post recruiting table.

### SAVE THIS DATE ----September 13, 2024 – 10 am to 5 pm----SAVE THIS DATE

Please come out to our next Brat Fry at the De Pere Festival Foods. You can either help or just enjoy some great food cooked to order by our world-renowned Grill Master – Pat Moran

Call Pat or Linda to get involved or to pre-order some food to go

#### 2024-2025 High School Football Season – It's here

De Pere Redbirds Varsity Football Home Games:

August 30<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm September 6<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm October 11<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm October 18<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm



West De Pere Phantoms Varsity Football Home Games:

August 23rd at 7 pm September 12<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm September 27<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm October 4<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm

Yes, fellow VFW Post 2113 Comrades and Auxiliary members – it's time once again for us to come together and present the U.S., the POW/MIA, the City of De Pere, and the Post flags at this year's varsity home football games.

All are welcome to come out and help – you do not need to be a Post Honor Guard member to carry a flag or a rifle. Simply attending these games to carry a flag, or walk with us, or carry a rifle would be appreciated by us and all the football fans in the stands.

Remember the key words of the 8th VFW District of Wisconsin Commander Aaron Volling on page 4 of this newsletter - **JUST DO IT - BE INVOLVED**. Call Pat to become involved in this patriotic Post mission.

We'd especially like to thank Auxiliary members Linda Moran, Debbie Nackers, and Deborah Hansen who helped last year and will be doing the same this year



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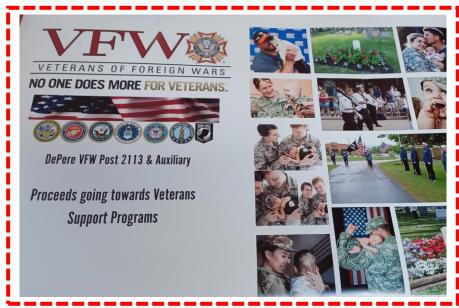


### Message from the President of the Auxiliary, VFW Post 2113

This newsletter Post Auxiliary President Linda Moran is having a guest writer for her portion of the newsletter – you all know her - it's your very own Debbie Nackers. Here is her message to you on behalf of all De Pere Auxiliary members of the De Pere VFW Post 2113:

"You can all be very proud of our Auxiliary this past year. We donated \$4,193.50 to Veterans and Community Programs. Thank you everyone for your amazing support. So many veterans were helped because of your donations.

Our new year started in July. The theme this year is Honoring Veterans
Together. Besides our normal donations to Hospitals, The National Home, VFW
News, Cancer Fund, Youth Projects &
Scholarships, we will be working on 2
special projects. Raising funds for military families overseas and funding a grant to help active military and veterans who are struggling.



Hope to see many of you in the coming months. THANK YOU again for a great year. Debbie Nackers"



Another FUN filled meeting – come join us to see how we support Veterans and their families in need.

Or better yet, attend our meetings to join our world-class

award-winning Jazzy band as we "Band Together for Veterans"



We're very proud of Debbie Nackers involvement in the Auxiliary – for the 2024-2025 year she is the: 1) Department of Wisconsin Auxiliaries Legislative Chairman; 2) 8<sup>th</sup> VFW District Auxiliaries Ways and Means Chairman; and 3) the Secretary and Treasurer for our VFW Post 2113 Auxiliary.

Thank you, Debbie – GREAT article – Linda Moran, President, VFW Post 2113 Auxiliary



#### SEPTEMBER 2024 NEWSLETTER



### Message from the Commander, VFW Post 2113

This newsletter Post Commander Pat Moran is having a guest writer for his portion of the newsletter – you all know her - it's your very own Michelle Leick-Leurquin. Here is her message to you on behalf of all De Pere VFW Post 2113 members:

My name is Michelle Leick-Leurquin, I currently work as the Advanced Medical Support Administration with the Department of Veteran Health Administration along with actively contributing to the betterment of our veteran community through other groups and positions that I hold. I served in the US Army and Army Reserves from 1991 to 2014, including a deployment to Iraq in 2006-2007 as an all-wheeled vehicle mechanic and later transferred to a Combat Support Hospital to take over the Patient Administration Section.

As the District 8 and Post Service Officer, I am an advocate here to assist local Veterans and their loved ones navigate a complicated eligibility and benefits system.

I am a conduit to critical programs and services in the community. Although I am not accredited by the Department of Veterans Affairs for the purposes of representing claimants for their benefit claims before the VA, I am able to help steer Veterans and families in the right direction.

I am also able to keep Post/Members and survivors aware of events, news, and information relevant to local, state, and federal veterans services and benefits.



<u>As the District 8 and Post 2113 Surgeon</u>, I am also the chairman of the Health Committee. I have been promoting and implementing five minutes of health-related activities or information at each meeting.

I have been working with our officers to keep up on the welfare of all Veterans in our community and their families and sending well wishes on behalf of Post.

I look forward to communicating with all members and their families put into effect health programs for the benefit of his Post and the community.

If you know of any Veterans, even if they are not post members, who are in need of benefit assistance please call me or give them my information and I will assist them to the best of my abilities.

Michelle Leick-Leurquin, Post 2113 Service Officer and Surgeon, (920)265-5600, michelle.l.leurquin@gmail.com"

Thank you, Michelle, GREAT article – Pat Moran, Commander, De Pere VFW Post 2113



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**The VFW Mission:** To foster camaraderie among United States veterans of overseas conflicts. To serve our veterans, the military and our communities. To advocate on behalf of all veterans.

**The VFW Vision:** Ensure that veterans are respected for their service, always receive their earned entitlements, and are recognized for the sacrifices they and their loved ones have made on behalf of this great country.

**De Pere VFW Post 2113:** We are especially proud to have partnered with our adopted US Army Reserve unit – the 432<sup>nd</sup> Civil Affairs Battalion – by supporting their deployed soldiers with care packages and their families back home with the support they need. Plus, in partnership with the De Pere Fire Rescue Department and several local small businesses, we completed a special monument project that can be viewed at both the East and West side De Pere Fire Stations. See inside this newsletter for more details on both actions

De Pere VFW Post 2113 September 2024 Post/Auxiliary Newsletter P.O. Box 5604 De Pere, WI 54115-5604