



Highland Park Veterans of Foreign Wars Memorial Post 4737 NewsGram

P.O. Box 47, Highland Park, Illinois 60035
Meetings at Wooden Nickel, 444 Lakeview Ave., Highwood IL
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May 2018

Honor the Dead by Serving the Living

ALL FUTURE POST MEETINGS AT WOODEN NICKEL, 444 LAKEVIEW AVE., HIGHWOOD, IL AT 7:00PM ELECTION RESULTS FROM APRIL 12 MTG:

Dave Kunz-Commander
Greg Detlie-Senior Vice Commander
Glenn Koets-Junior Vice Commander
Peter Quilici-Quartermaster
Aaron Peaslee-Three Year Trustee
Aaron Ferrer-Chaplain

Incoming Commander Dave Kunz is presently considering his roster of Appointees, including Adjutant, Judge Advocate, Surgeon, Officer of the Day, Service Officer and Guard. These are required appointments per the VFW By-Laws, Sec. 216, and their duties are specified at Manual of Procedure Sec. 218. These positions can be significant, depending on the holder. Be all you can be! Contact Dave Kunz if you are interested.

Also, agreed at the last meeting:

1. **We will continue to meet at the Wooden Nickel in Highwood until further notice.** The owner, Post Comrade Howard Hughes, and in-coming Trustee, Comrade Peaslee, have cleared out a room for our monthly meetings. We have enjoyed and appreciated use of the HP Police Dept.'s Training Room, but this space is livelier and seems to better fit where the Post is headed.

2. **The Installation Brunch and Anniversary Brunch at The Grove Banquets and Catering (Schwabens Soccer Club) are suspended until further notice.** Attendance at these events has been dropping for years, and the time has come to re-think many things considering the changing Post membership.

Please attend all coming meetings so your voice is heard on other issues as our Post undergoes a period of transformation.

POST 4737 WILL MEET on Thurs, May 10, 2018, **7:00pm** at the Wooden Nickel, 444 Lake View Ave., Highwood, IL. Future mtgs: June 14, July 12, Aug 9 and all second Thurs.

POST MEMBER TO BE HONORED AT HIGHLAND PARK MEMORIAL DAY CEREMONY: This year's Highland Park Memorial Day Ceremony is scheduled for Monday, May 28, 11:00am, at the Highland Park High School auditorium. Handicapped parking will be on the north side of Maple Avenue directly across the street from the auditorium entrance. A police officer or CSO will be stationed to assist attendees crossing St. Johns Ave.

As part of the program, Commander Greg Detlie will be presented as the Hero Among Us. Cmdr Detlie served in Vietnam with the US Navy's Construction Battalion (better known as the "SeaBees") at the Danang Naval Base during 1968-69.) We understand that a WWII veteran unaffiliated with a veterans' group also will be honored.

ANNUAL POPPY DRIVE: Poppy Chmn Bill Gansberg will bring the collection cans, poppies and other materials needed for volunteers to the May 10 meeting. There are open slots for the Jewel on May 25, 27 and Sunset Foods May 25, 26. This is our Post's only fundraiser, and we need volunteers!

POST PATRIOT'S PEN ENTRY WINS 3RD PLACE AT DISTRICT: David Ayzman from the Elm Place Middle School in Highland Park, who won our Post Pat Pen competition, placed third at the District level. The essays submitted by our students are truly remarkable. Here's a quote from David's essay:

"... Six hundred thousand American soldiers lost their lives to preserve the value of freedom and democracy in Europe, Korea, Vietnam, Afghanistan and Iraq. America has zero tolerance for tyranny, terrorism and genocide.

The precious gift of liberty is something my generation must appreciate more than anything."

With citizens like David, the concept of freedom, which is the bedrock of our nation, will continue. And we can help with our continued support of the VFW's Voice of Democracy and Patriot's Pen youth essay programs.

LIE TILL THEY DIE: The sad saga of death and illness at the IL Dept. of VA Quincy Home continues.

On Apr 5 the Chicago Tribune reported 24 individuals at Quincy experienced vomiting and diarrhea from a suspected Norovirus outbreak. Legionnaires Disease already has killed 13 people at the Quincy IL veterans' home since 2015.

Now the Chicago Tribune reports that a task force convened by Gov. Rauner recommends rebuilding the facility at a cost of \$202 to \$245 million.

Are they kidding? The state's broke. It's the fiscal deadbeat of all 50 states. Construction for the 200 bed Illinois veteran facility on Chicago's northwest side started in 2014 and is at a standstill. The 52 story Prudential Bldg in downtown Chicago took only four years to build.

And who takes the fall? Director of the IDVA Erica Jeffries has resigned.

Comrades, the policy at the IDVA and the federal DVA appears to be founded on lying until we die. And when our numbers are severely diminished, the stain of promises made and broken disappears.

QUOTE TO REMEMBER: "I can resist everything but temptation." *Poet and playwright Oscar Wilde.*



VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS
OF THE UNITED STATES
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...INCLUDES NEWS OF
HO TAI P.T. #67 MOC



ALL MEETINGS AT WOODEN NICKEL

HUH? DEPORTED VETERANS SHELTER HOUSE IN TIJUANA?:

"The Bunker," also known as the Deported Veterans Support House, is a small building on a side street in Mexico's border town of Tijuana, and it is frequented by veterans of every branch of the US, who fought everywhere from Vietnam to Afghanistan. Former Army paratrooper Hector Barajas, 39, opened it to be a gathering place and a refuge for veterans who, like him, had been deported.

Many undocumented immigrants serve in the US armed forces in hopes of obtaining citizenship. No promises are made of a grant of US citizenship. Some receive honorable discharges. Some not. When they return home, they may receive some deference in applying for citizenship. Or they may not. If they are arrested or convicted of a crime they can be sent to their home countries. Or for no reason at all. Several tours of combat duty are irrelevant.

To add insult to injury, these deported veterans may be eligible for veterans' healthcare, but it is unavailable in most foreign countries.

It appears that this issue is now on the radar, and the Trump administration is taking steps to cease the practice. But this has been going on for years. Where was the advocacy for these Comrades? Few veterans in the US Congress is one reason. And hostility towards the military in prior administrations is another.

Read up on this issue at: <https://www.snopes.com/fact-check/united-states-deporting-veterans/>

UPCOMING COMMEMORATIVE DATES: May 28 (Memorial Day); June 6 (D Day: Allied invasion of Europe, 1944); June 14 (Flag Day: Adoption of US Flag on June 14, 1777); July 4 (Independence Day). Remember to display the Flag.

POST HOSPITAL NITE: Our Bingo Hospital Nite at Lovell is on hiatus until September. Our next Post Bingo Nite is on Sept 24 at 6:30 PM and on most following fourth Mondays at Bourke Hall, Bldg. #4, Lovell FHCC.

HO TAI PUP TENT NO. 67 - A brief resume of "Louse-y" News

SCRATCH, SCRATCH: June 7, July 5, Aug 2 and all subsequent Scratches (first Thurs unless otherwise notified) will be held at 6:59 1/2 PM, at the Highland Park Police Dept. Training Room, 1677 Old Deerfield Road, Highland Park, IL.

COOTIE HOSPITAL NIGHTS: Capt. James Lovell Fed Health Care Ctr, Bldg. 134, Bingo and Ward visits, 6:30 PM. Coming dates are May 17, June 28, July 19 and all third Thurs, unless otherwise notified.

"KEEP 'EM SMILING IN BEDS OF WHITE"

UPCOMING LOCAL ACTIVITY CALENDAR:

All first Thursdays of the month: Ho Tai Pup Tent No. 67 Scratch.

All second Thursdays of the month: Post 4737 meeting.

All third Wednesdays of the month (except July and August): Meeting of Lake County Veterans Assistance Commission at Forest City Community Center, 2001 Virginia Avenue, Great Lakes, IL 60088.

All third Thursdays of the month: Ho Tai Pup Tent No. 67 Hospital Nite.

All fourth Mondays of the month (except June, July, Aug)-**this month also April and May cancelled**): Post Bingo Nite at Lovell FHCC.

May 19-5th District Meeting at Fox River Post 4600, 3002 Route 120, McHenry, IL. **Attendance by Cmdr or delegate required.**

May 28-Memorial Day. The Post traditionally provides a Color Guard to post the Colors and for a closing Bell Ceremony. Also, this year we are scheduled to present a Highland Park resident member as a "Hero Among Us."

June 19-Lovell FHCC Patient Carnival. Usually third Tuesday in June. Post volunteers handle the grill.

July 21-Lovell FHCC Car Show. Usually third Saturday in July. Post volunteers handle the grill.

(Further info on events available on VFW Natl/Dept websites, gen internet search or contact QM Quilici)

CONTACT THE NEWSGRAM WITH NEWS/COMMENTS THROUGH: Editor and QM Peter A. Quilici, 7501 Kostner Ave., Skokie, IL 60076/ Phone: (847) 997-7662 (cell) or (847) 763-1793 (home hard line) / E-mail:

pquilici@ameritech.net. **Please feel free to submit for publication news of interest to veterans.**