



## NEWSGRAM

HIGHLAND PARK ILLINOIS VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS  
MEMORIAL POST 4737

March 2019

P.O. BOX 47, HIGHLAND PARK, ILLINOIS 60035  
Meetings at Wooden Nickel, 444 Lakeview Ave., Highwood IL  
www.vfwpost4737 Like us on Facebook

Email: vfwpost4737@gmail.com

*Honor the Dead by Serving the Living*

**NOMINATIONS AT MARCH 14 MTG:** Per the VFW Manual of Procedure (MOP) Sec. 217, Post Officers shall be elected in April with nominations opening in March. Positions requiring election are: Commander, Senior Vice Commander, Junior Vice Commander, Quartermaster, Chaplain and one Trustee. No member may hold two elected positions. See, Sec. 215, VFW By-Laws.

We encourage our new members to consider elected office or seek the appointed offices of Adjutant, Service Officer, Judge Advocate, Officer of the Day or Surgeon. The nomination and election processes are set forth at VFW Manual of Procedure (MOP) 217, and the duties of the elected/appointed officers are set forth at VFW Manual of Procedure (MOP) Sec. 218.

Remember: If you're shy about asking someone to nominate you, you can nominate yourself. Nominees may accept a nomination in person at a meeting or by submitting a written acceptance.

**POST WILL MEET:** On Thurs, Mar 14, 2019, 7:00pm at the Wooden Nickel, 444 Lakeview Ave, Highwood, IL. Future mtgs: Apr 11, May 9 and all second Thursdays of the month, unless otherwise notified. The Post will provide after-meeting fare from the Wooden Nickel menu.

**\*\*\*A rehab/redecorating project is underway to convert our meeting space at the Wooden Nickel into a more suitable venue. Attend the meeting and check on the progress.\*\*\***

**POST HOSPITAL NITE:** Our next Post Bingo Nite is on Mar 25 at 6:30 PM and on most following fourth Mondays at Bourke Hall, Bldg. #4, Capt. J. Lovell Federal Health Care Center. We entertain 30 plus veterans at this monthly event. **Volunteers needed!!** Last month's crew included Bill Gansberg, Joe Heim and Pete Quilici.

**UPCOMING COMMEMORATIVE DATES:** Mar 24 (Start of Kosovo Campaign in 1999); Mar 29 (National Vietnam War Veterans Day-last US combat troops left Vietnam); Mar 31 (End of Operation Restore Hope-Somalia-1995); May 1 (Loyalty Day); May 8 (VE Day: German unconditional surrender signed 1945); May 27 (Memorial Day); June 6 (D Day: Allied invasion of Europe, 1944); June 14 (Flag Day). Remember to display the flag.

**SLUM CONDITIONS AT MILITARY HOUSING???:** Reuters News Agency recently ran a scathing series of exposes detailing the deplorable condition of military base housing for all services. Check it out at: <https://www.reuters.com/investigates/section/usa-military/>. Apparently, mold, termites, lead paint and other serious deficiencies in military housing have been neglected. The military contracted housing out to the private sector and failed to keep an eye on the contractors. And now the government claims it didn't know a thing. See this piece in Military.com wherein the Army Undersecretary claims he didn't know: <https://www.military.com/daily-news/2019/02/27/army-under-secretary-housing-crisis-its-embarrassing.html>.

Hiring private contractors to run base housing is fine and probably preferable from a cost and mission readiness perspective, but military units that do so must maintain vigilance. Frankly, the NewsGram finds it hard to believe that base commanders and their staff on the affected posts didn't know about poor housing conditions. Did the private contractors pass along a little hush money to the right people?

**POST MEMBER HONORED BY CONGRESSMAN BRAD SCHNEIDER:** Post Life Member Nate Firestone was honored by Congressman Brad Schneider on Feb 22 at the Congressman's Lincolnshire office for his WWII service as a B-24 navigator. Nate was a POW after his plane was shot down on his 28th mission. Nate is 100 years old. His family was present, as were members of the American Legion, Jewish War Veterans and Bill Gansberg, Joe Heim and Pete Quilici from the Post. An official recognition was entered into the Congressional Record on Feb 19, 2019 recognizing Nate's 100th birthday and his service to our country. A special thanks to Karyn Davidman at Congressman Schneider's office for working the logistics.



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### **MEETINGS AT WOODEN NICKEL IN HIGHWOOD**

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**120TH VFW NATIONAL CONVENTION:** This year's National Convention will take place from July 22-24 in Orlando, FL. The National VFW website has details.

**98TH ILLINOIS VFW CONVENTION:** This year's Department of Illinois Convention will take place June 13-16 in Springfield, Il. The Dept of IL VFW website has details.

**COURT DECIDES BLUE WATER NAVY VETS ELIGIBLE FOR AGENT ORANGE BENEFITS:** A federal court ruled in January that Vietnam veterans who served on ships offshore during the war are eligible for benefits to treat illnesses linked to exposure to the chemical herbicide Agent Orange. The government could seek a review of the case from the U.S. Supreme Court. 50,000 to 70,000 veterans could now become eligible for benefits. Read further at: <https://www.stripes.com/court-decides-blue-water-navy-veterans-should-be-eligible-for-agent-orange-benefits-1.566543>

**POTENTIAL NEW BRAIN SCAN TECH FOR TROOPS WITH PTSD:** A California company is combining old and new technology to try and help the military cope with post-traumatic stress disorder. San Diego-based Baslyne partnered with medical technology company WAVi to measure the strength and quickness of the brain's response in members of the military. Together, the companies are using an electroencephalogram (EEG) to measure brain activity, combined with a specialized test to measure response to various tones. While this technology has been used to understand concussions in young athletes, Baslyne's CEO Tom Kinder said they are now using it to understand PTSD in the U.S. military.

This sort of tech may develop into pre-deployment testing to create a benchmark for post-deployment testing. This could greatly assist in expediting disability claims, which often are denied by the VA because of lack of stressor evidence inducing the PTSD. Read further: <https://www.wcpo.com/lifestyle/brain-scan-tech-hopes-to-help-troops-with-ptsd>



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

**SCRATCH, SCRATCH:** Apr 4, May 2, June 6 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 Mar 21, Apr 18, May 16 and all third Thurs, unless otherwise notified.

**"KEEP 'EM SMILING IN BEDS OF WHITE"**

**CONTACT THE NEWSGRAM WITH NEWS/COMMENTS THROUGH:** Editor 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](mailto:pquilici@ameritech.net). Please feel free to submit for publication news of interest to veterans.