



VFW Post 261

10550 Pendleton Pike
Indianapolis, IN 46236
317-823-0481 www.vfwpost261.org



May - June 2010

Commander: Bruce Swenson
Senior Vice: Randy Cordero
Junior Vice: Diann Lawrence
Quartermaster: Dick Braun
Adjutant: Dick Braun
Chaplain: Cordia Masten
Judge Advocate: Brady Huggins
Surgeon: Merle Ritter
Trustee #1: Bill Edwards
Trustee #2: John Armstrong
Trustee #3: Joe Harter
1st year House: Brady Huggins
2nd year House: Charles House
3rd year House: Mike Haeberle
Service Officer: Dennis Lewandowski

POST HOURS OF OPERATION:

The Post opens at 10:30 am Monday – Friday and at 2:00 pm on Saturday. Kitchen hours are lunch menu 11:00 am – 1:00 pm and evening menu 4:00 pm – close Monday – Friday. The Post will close when there are not enough customers to warrant staying open or not later than 1:00 am. If you plan to stop by in the evening, please call ahead 317-823-0481 to verify that we are open.

President: Rhonda Smith
Senior Vice: Jessica Smith
Junior Vice: Donna Poindexter
Treasurer: Constance Gruner
Chaplain: Chris Huggins
Conductress: Shirley Booth
Secretary: Constance Gruner
Guard: Roxanne Moore
Trustee #1: Donna Poindexter
Trustee #2: Tonie Cordero
Trustee #3: Jessica Smith

ATTEND A MEETING! See what goes on, make a new friend, rekindle old friendships, and above all, participate!

FROM THE COMMANDER » Greetings fellow Comrades, Spring has sprung and everybody is enjoying the beautiful weather that we are having, so come out to the Post and join us for horseshoe pitching behind the post. There are several comrades that play almost every afternoon and watch for upcoming tournaments. I have been approached about starting a euchre tournament which we would like to get started but I need someone who knows how to run one of these tourneys to volunteer to help us get it going. If you can help us stop by the canteen and give your name and phone number and I will get in touch with you.

Volunteers Volunteers Volunteers we need you. On May 14 and 15 we need volunteers to distribute poppies at two locations. The proceeds from poppies go to the Post Relief Fund to help local veterans that are in need. The more help we have means more money for the Relief Fund. Your Post needs as many volunteers as we can get, there are many activities that we would like to get started but we need people to help. You don't have to volunteer for every function, even if it is just one that will be a big help in making your Post the best in the district.

Membership Membership Membership The Post is very close to 100% so if you know of anyone who hasn't paid their dues please talk to them and get them back. Also if you know someone who is eligible to join please recruit them and let them know new members get their first years dues paid for by the Post.

Stop in the Post or check our website www.vfwpost261.org for upcoming events and

remember to keep our troops and their families in your prayers.

Yours in Comradeship,

Bruce D. Swenson

Bruce Swenson, Commander

FROM THE POST CHAPLAIN » If you know of any comrade that is ill or deceased please call the post (823-0481) and they will let me know. Have a blessed and happy holidays. Chaplain Masten.

ELECTION RESULTS » **VFW Post 261** Commander Bruce Swenson; SR. Vice Randy Cordero; Jr. Vice Larry Ward; Quartermaster Dick Braun; Chaplin Cordia Mastin; Judge Advocate Brady Huggins; Surgeon Larry Harris; Trustee 3rd Year James Womack; House Committee 3rd Year Brady Huggins. **Auxiliary** President Donna Poindexter; Sr. Vice Jessica Smith; Jr. Vice Susan Scott; Treasure Connie Gruner; Chaplin Chris Huggins; Conductress Rhonda Smith; Guard Tracy Poindexter; Trustee #1 Tonie Cordero; Trustee #2 Jessica Smith; Trustee #3 Rhonda Smith. All Officers will be sworn in during a joint ceremony on a date to be announced soon. Congratulations to all!!!

AUXILIARY CHAPLAIN'S CORNER » If you know of any auxiliary sisters that is deceased or sick please let me know.

Home # 855-3360 or cell # 697-9399 or call the post 823-0481. As God has distributed to each one,

as the Lord has called each one, so let him walk.
Christine Huggins, Auxillary Chaplain.

NEED TO KNOW » Mark your calendars now! The next Post business meetings will be held at 7:00 PM on May 17th and June 21st. The next Auxiliary meetings are May 10th and June 14th. Come out and support your post by attending the appropriate meeting. We need your input.

Donna Poindexter has announced the Saturday bi-monthly breakfasts will continue throughout the summer. They occur on the second and fourth Saturday of the month.

The Post now accepts **major credit cards!**

Get an up-to-the-minute calendar view of the happenings of the Post by clicking the calendar menu button on our web site www.vfwpost261.org

VFW Fires Back at Defense Official

Don't pin budget blame on servicemembers or retirees

WASHINGTON, March 11, 2010 - "Any attempt to link rising military personnel costs with shrinking military readiness is total nonsense," said Thomas J. Tradewell Sr., who leads the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U.S., the largest and oldest major combat veterans' organization.

"If the Defense Department needs a larger budget for personnel programs, then let the VFW carry that message to Congress. Just don't pin the budget blame on servicemembers and military retirees."

Tradewell's ire is targeted at the new DOD undersecretary of personnel and readiness, Clifford L. Stanley, who in testimony yesterday before the personnel subcommittee of the Senate Armed Services Committee, said "Rising personnel costs could dramatically affect the readiness of the department." His predecessor, Dr. David Chu, took the same position in a January 2005 *Wall Street Journal* article, by saying "The amounts have gotten to the point where they are hurtful. They are taking away from the nation's ability to defend itself."

"What's hurtful," said Tradewell, a combat-wounded Vietnam veteran from Sussex, Wis., "is a continuing perception that DOD is more concerned about the budget than they are about recruiting and retaining a professional volunteer force that's been at war now for more than eight years."

(for the rest of the article go to <http://www.vfw.org/index.cfm?fa=news.newsDtl&did=5408>)

GET INVOLVED » **We need you!** Contact Comrade Bruce Swenson about assisting on a committee. He will be very happy to hear from you and will explain how you can help. Don't have any time you say, well it doesn't take a lot of time when you are sharing the load with others, and the comradeship will give you back more than you put in. VOLUNTEER TODAY —your Post needs YOU!

MARION COUNTY VETERANS BURIAL TEAM - Did you know that some branches of the services only send 2 or 3 people to do a military funeral? They play taps and flod the flag. We do the FULL SERVICE! We have a Commander, Chaplain and Firing Squad. We are able to play TAPS and flod the flag. Tell the funeral home what you want! Also, if you know any veterans who would like to volunteer to be on this team, please give them our names and numbers. If you have any questions, please feel free to call Richard Viles at 317-244-1465 or Tom Elias at 317-908-5980.

NEWSLETTER ONLINE OR BY EMAIL » Get this newsletter online by going to www.vfwpost261.org or by email instead of on paper. You will get it quicker and can save it for referral without having the paper lying around. To be added to the Post email list or if you do not want the paper copy mailed to you, email your request to dbraun@msbservices.com

TAPS » Post: None. Auxiliary: Bonnie Scott.

WELCOME » New Post members this period are: Larry Harris(Life Member), Joseph M Donnelly, Justin Jenkins, James McCurry, Lawrence Harris. New Auxiliary members this period are: NONE.

Deadline for submissions to the next newsletter is June 15th. Submissions may be mailed to Dick Braun, 5339 Hedgerow Drive, Indianapolis, IN 46226, emailed to dbraun@msbservices.com or leave them at the Canteen and he will pick them up.

IDENTIFICATION STATEMENT » The VFW Post 261 Bi-Monthly Newsletter; Issue Date: May 1, 2010; Frequency: Published BI-Monthly; Organization: VFW Post 261, 10550 Pendleton Pike, Lawrence, IN 46236; Issue 3 Volume 2.



	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	Apr 25	26	27	28	29	30	May 1
4/25 - 30			Tacos				Loyalty Day
	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
5/2 - 7			Tacos		Spaghetti Dinner		WWII Ends in Eu
	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
5/9 - 14		Auxiliary Meeting	Tacos			Buddy Poppie event at Marsh and Kro	
	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
5/16 - 21		Post Meeting	Tacos				11th District Mee
	23	24	25	26	27	28	29
5/23 - 28			Tacos				
	30	31	Jun 1	2	3	4	5
5/30 - 6/4			Tacos		Spaghetti Dinner		

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	May 30	31	Jun 1	2	3	4	5
5/30 - 6/4			Tacos		Spaghetti Dinner		
	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
6/6 - 11			Tacos				
	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
6/13 - 18		Flag Day Auxiliary Meeting	Newsletter Subn Tacos		State Convention at Marriott Hotel, Indianapolis, IN ; 21st & S		
	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
6/20 - 25	State Convention .	Post Meeting	Tacos	VA Hospital Visit			
	27	28	29	30	Jul 1	2	3
6/27 - 7/2		Memorial Day	Tacos		Spaghetti Dinner		