

**POST &
AUXILIARY
MEETINGS**
3RD Thursday
both 7 p.m.

Benson VFW Post 2503 DECEMBER 2022

www.vfwpost2503.org
(402)-571-8397

**Honor Guard
Meeting**
2nd Thursday
every month
7:00 pm



POST 2503 OFFICERS 2022-2023

Commander: Larry Quilliam
Sr. Vice Commander: Al Dorn
Jr. Vice Commander: Mike Hackenberg
Quartermaster: Sharon Cooper
Chaplain: Dennis Kerr
Surgeon: Jim Sorensen
Judge Advocate: Tom Penke
Officer of the Day: Mike Hackenberg
Adjutant: Richard Runnels
Guard: T Trotty
Service Officer: Paul Riccio



AUXILIARY OFFICERS 2022-2023

President: Micky Dorn
Sr. Vice President: Linda Humphrey
Jr. Vice President: Jan Davis
Treasurer: Sue Stark
Secretary: Luanne Rosso
Chaplain: Mary Dalton
Conductress: Marcia Jones
Guard: Jeanne Shadden
Patriotic Instructor: Luanne Rosso

VFW POST #2503 HOLIDAY CRAFT SHOW

**DECEMBER 3, 2022
9AM-3PM**

8904 Military Road
Omaha, NE 68134

FREE ADMISSION

FOOD
AND
RAFFLES
ALL DAY
LONG



**VFW POST 2503
COOKIE EXCHANGE**
DECEMBER 11, 2022 Noon—2PM
PLEASE BRING 2 to 3 DOZEN
COOKIES, CANDIES, FUDGES
Call Linda for more information
at 531-205-5641

NEW YEARS EVE DINNER at THE POST

**DECEMBER 31, 2022
5:30 to 7 PM**

New York Steak, potatoes, salad,
spaghetti, dinner rolls, vegetable tray,
and dessert for \$20.00 per person.

Reservations and payment must
be made before 6 PM on
December 26th.

Please contact Commander Larry
(or Mary) Quilliam or a bartender
(Mary, Kathy, or Nikki) to make
your reservations.



From the Commander

DEAR POST 2503 FAMILY,

I hope you all were able to take advantage of the Post's activities on Veterans Day, a cold sunny day with all our flags surrounding the parking lot. This was our effort not only to serve a great meal, but also to serve our veterans with helpful opportunities on the day we recognize veterans for their service to our country. Besides providing a free spaghetti dinner to all Veterans, we also had a spectacular Auxiliary bake sale, with options ranging from homemade pies, cakes, cookies, and fudge bars. In addition to the great meal and desserts, the Post took the opportunity to serve our veterans by providing outreach tables from nine private and public agencies who answered many questions posed by the veterans and their families. And the generosity from our members and guests went beyond expectations with a successful clothing and food drive that filled up a trailer, which was donated to the Moving Veterans Forward Foundation. Ron Hernandez does a terrific job of reaching out to needy veterans. I can't thank enough the many volunteers who made this day a terrific success!

You can beat the crush of inflation at the Post on Saturday December 3rd, starting at 9 AM and running till 3 PM for our Holiday Craft Show. What a great opportunity to complete your Christmas list and one stop shopping to boot! See you bright and early!

—continued on page 2—

From the Auxiliary President

Wishing you a happy, healthy Holiday Season:

Your Auxiliary has been busy!

We honored our first responders in Volunteer Fire and Rescue, honored our Gold Star Members at a luncheon, replaced a tattered Flag at Shipley Cemetery, helped raise a new flag at the Post, took part with the American Legion for community Trunk or Treat, and handed out bubbles and glow bracelets with witchy fun! The Youth/ Americanism Programs taught flag folding and etiquette to children in schools and supplied fun activity pages and crayons at our Post. The Hospital Program gave handmade hats, scarves, and lap blankets to Veterans. Poppy "Pops" crowned the great Pumpkin, and donations went to the Relief Fund to support our local vets and the National Home. One hundred years of Poppies!

The annual Veterans Day Bake sale was over-the-top: the patriotic décor and your donations of tasty desserts made a very special festive day. Thank you to our members Mona, Garland, Carrie, Lindy, and Vicki, all of our members who donated *the goods*. See the December Calendar of Events; come on and join in the fun!

—continued on page 2—

From the Commander

—continued from Page 1—

The Post is excited to announce that there will be a New Year's Eve dinner on December 31, from 5:30 – 7:00. The dinner will consist of New York Steak, potatoes, salad, spaghetti, dinner rolls, vegetable tray, and dessert for \$20.00 per person. Reservations and payment must be made before 6:00 p.m. on December 26th. Please contact Commander Larry (or Mary) Quilliam or a bartender (Mary, Kathy, or Nikki) to make your reservations. You will never be able to find a New Year's Eve dinner for \$20.00, so please join us to help kick start your New Year!

Less than two months remain before the VFW annual Dart League begins on Tuesday, January 10, 2023. Stay tuned for more details.

The A.B.A.T.E annual chili contest in the traditional and nontraditional categories will be held on Sunday, January 15th, at the Post from 1:00 p.m. until 3:45 p.m. All are welcome to enter, but you must bring a minimum of 6 quarts of chili. Registration starts at 1:00 p.m. and ends promptly at 2:00 p.m. There will be a \$5.00 donation to vote. The contest will end at 3:30 p.m. Winners will be announced at 3:45 p.m. for a \$50.00 First Prize in both categories. It will be a great time at the Post and a chance to try some different chilies.

On behalf of VFW Post 2503 and all veterans, I accepted the Veterans Service Award the day before Veterans Day at the Creighton vs North Dakota Basketball game. I'm proud to have served but even more proud of the volunteers we have serving our Post. Every Post volunteer makes a huge difference.

I want to take this opportunity to wish you all a very happy Christmas holiday. Please come by the Post and share some cheer with your fellow vets during the month.

Carry on,
Larry Quilliam
VFW Post 2503



From the Auxiliary President

—continued from Page 1—

Dec 3, is the Craft Show Luncheon fundraiser. Volunteers are needed to serve hot dogs and sloppy joes. We need three volunteers for the kitchen and one to hand out chips and cookies. We serve 11-1 but need set up and clean-up, too. Call to volunteer.

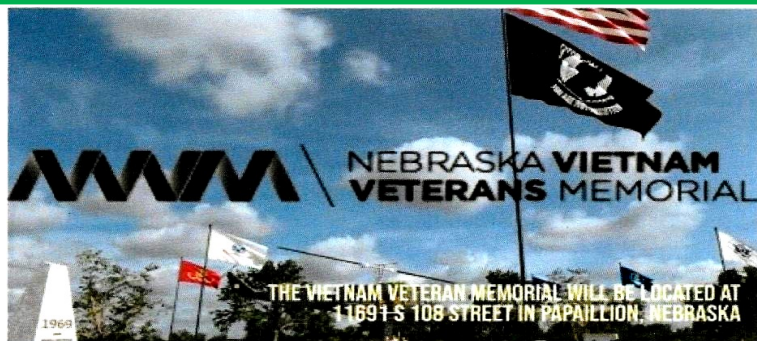
Dec 11, is the Cookie Exchange time! Bring two dozen cookies and take two dozen home. Refreshments will be served!

Dec 15, is the meeting night for the Auxiliary Christmas Party Pot Luck at 7 PM. We will have a mini-meeting, food, and fun.

Dec 31, is the deadline for annual membership dues. After that, you will not be in good standing and not eligible for some benefits. After June 30, you will need to reapply for membership. If you need help, please call me.

Call someone you have not seen or talked to in a long time. Holidays are difficult and lonely for many people. Cookies or a Christmas call can help put a smile on someone's face and warm feelings in their heart. (And yours, too!)
Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

Respectfully submitted,
Micky Dorn, President
(402) 850- 5075



GIVING OPPORTUNITIES

THE NEBRASKA VIETNAM VETERAN MEMORIAL NEEDS YOUR SUPPORT. THERE ARE WAYS TO SUPPORT THIS IMPORTANT AND LASTING PROJECT:

- Sponsorship and Naming Opportunities
- Monetary Gifts and Donations
- Bequests and Legacy Giving
- *Honor A Loved One* Ceramic Tile Program

Contact Sharon Cooper at 402-676-5253 for information.

ROOM RENTALS at VFW POST 2503

NORTH ROOM

OR

SOUTH ROOM



Contact Mary Miller at 402-943-9067 to reserve your date. Spread the word to your friends and family.

The Post's rooms look great decorated for Christmas gatherings, weddings, birthdays, and graduation parties.





VFW Post 2503 HONOR GUARD L to R: Leo Harrington, Tim Ross, Ron Braun, Chuck Wolf, Les Hardesty.
—not pictured: Greg Peteler & Leigh Freeman—
Preparing for Military Honors for a Veteran at Omaha National Cemetery on a cold and windy morning.

"It's about how we treat our veterans every single day of the year. It's about making sure they have the care they need and the benefits that they've earned when they come home. It's about serving all of you as well as you've served the United States of America." -- Barack Obama

"We will not tire, we will not falter, we will not fail." -- George W. Bush

CHAPLAIN'S MESSAGE OF HOPE

We had a Navy veteran in our church. One day he takes his love for wood-working and makes a loom for us to weave our prayers into. Congregation members could write a prayer on a cloth and weave it into the loom. A new minister comes and there is conflict. He feels it's time to move on, and I can't bring myself to just throw prayers in the garbage. My friend Marcia Jones from the Auxiliary is a person of faith. So I explained my dilemma to her. And last week I was presented with a quilt that contains all the prayers in the loom, suitable for framing or hanging on loops. When we share prayers together, it is a special moment of caring that one cannot buy in the store or take a pill for. This is the generosity of Marsha and the Auxiliary that helps us remember the gift of caring.
Dennis Kerr,
Post Chaplain

House and Building Report

House and Building needs your help! We usually have the same people helping around the Post and some new faces and helping hands would be nice and very welcomed.

We have quite a few small and not so small maintenance projects already planned for the near future. Project schedules will be determined and published in the newsletter, so anyone who wants to lend a hand will be aware. Look for that schedule in our next newsletter and going forward.

To provide an idea of the things we're working on, here are a few items currently on our *To Do* list that are small one person items: paint touchup, fix/replace thermal stripping on doors, install a window on the north door leading to our new patio, adjust an exterior door that's not closing properly, fix the men's restroom door in the canteen that has been slamming shut on people, fix the gas burner pipe and rearrange lava rocks in the new firepit, which was disturbed during a rental by someone's unsupervised child. Regarding the patio, we're discussing ways to restrict access to it when access isn't needed, and, possibly, a damage deposit or usage fee.

We're also looking into some ideas for improving the Post's appearance and for entertainment and new food options. More details will be provided once the new ideas are fully formed, researched, and discussed among the committee.

Please give us your feedback on anything that needs the attention of the House and Building committee. If you have and suggestions, concerns, or maintenance issues, please write it down and put it in the suggestion box or let any of the Post officers or committee members know.

Thanks,
Joe Bohelski



DECEMBER DONATIONS

December Wish List for Moving Veterans Forward:

3 in 1 Toaster, Skillet, Coffee Maker, Blenders, Bath Towels, Hand Towels, Hot Pad, Oven Mitt, Broom/Dust Pan, Cookie Sheets, Pizza Pans, Colander, Rubber Spatulas, and Pitchers.
Dan and Kathy Raabe are still the contacts for Moving Veterans Forward. We are taking Intentional Peer Support classes to become certified. We will work with MVF, G4V, 50-Mile-March, and Peer Support beginning December 1. Thank you all for your continued support of these organizations that directly support Veterans. Questions? Call Dan at 402-651-8039, or Kathy at 402-392-0210. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from the Raabes!

DECEMBER 2022

KITCHEN NEWS for DECEMBER

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

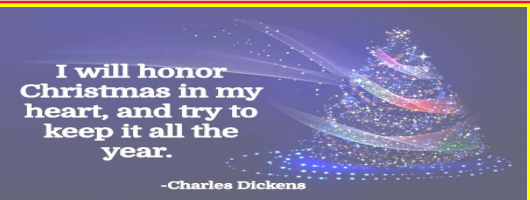
Volunteers to head up or work a Wednesday night

crew. Also needed is

someone who can come in during the day **EACH**

Wednesday to help with prep and setup for Wednesday night

hamburger nights. Please contact Linda at 531-205-5641



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Post Closed	Post Closed	Post Open	Post Open	Post Open	Post Open	Post Open
		6 7 PM BOB FIELDS BAND 	7 <u>Hamburger Night</u> BEEF & NOODLES Crew— Am Legion #112 MARINE CORPS LEAGUE @ 7 PM	8 Sewing Ladies 1:00pm 172nd Trans 5:00 pm Am Legion 7:00 pm Honor Guard Pizza @ 6 PM—Meeting @ 7:00 pm	9 HAPPY HOUR 4 TO 7	10 SONS OF AMERICAN LEGION @ 6 PM 10 point pitch @ noon
4 Room Rentals Available	5					3 Holiday Craft Show 9 AM TO 3 PM  10 point pitch @ noon Room Rentals Available
11 POST OPENS @ 8 AM BREAKFAST 8 AM to NOON Cookie Exchange Noon to 2 PM 	12	13	14 <u>Hamburger Night</u> CHICKEN FRIED STEAK Crew— The Baylors	15 POST/TAUX Meeting 7:00 pm House Comm Meeting @ 6:00pm Sewing Ladies 1:00pm	16 HAPPY HOUR 4 TO 7	17 10 point pitch @ noon Room Rentals Available
18	19	20	21 NO HAMBURGER NIGHT 	22	23 HAPPY HOUR 4 TO 7	24 CHRISTAMAS EVE CANTEEN HOURS NOON to 5 PM 10 point pitch @ noon Room Rentals Available
25 Room Rentals Available 	26	27	28 NO HAMBURGER NIGHT 	29	30 HAPPY HOUR 4 TO 7	31 NEW YEAR'S EVE STEAK DINNER at The POST 5:30 pm TO 7 pm 



V.F.W. Post 2503
8904 Military Road
Omaha, NE 68134

Non-Profit Org
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit #610
Omaha, NE



SEE INSIDE FOR:
HOLIDAY CRAFT SHOW
COOKIE EXCHANGE
NEW YEAR'S EVE DINNER

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

From Your Honor Guard Captain Leo Harrington

MILITARY RITES: OCTOBER 2022

Military Members Deceased	Cemetery	#	Hours
10/01/2022 Scott Bergman	VFW Post 2503	6	18
10/02/2022 Ecclesiastes Oliver Jr	Mount Hope	9	27
10/05/2022 Dennis Hansen	Calvary	9	27
10/05/2022 Randy Wilkinson	Omaha National	9	27
10/05/2022 Dick Ulfers	Omaha National	10	30
10/06/2022 Rex Ekwall	Voss-Mohr	4	12
10/07/2022 Donald Darrow	Omaha National	6	18
10/10/2022 Rodney Lechtenberg	Omaha National	10	30
10/10/2022 James Stewart	Westlawn-Hillcrest	9	27
10/12/2022 Lyle Street	Omaha National	8	24
10/13/2022 Henry Avant Jr	Omaha National	4	12
10/14/2022 Brian Bond	Omaha National	10	30
10/14/2022 Robert Holbrook	Forest Lawn	7	21
10/15/2022 William Tietjens	Westlawn-Hillcrest	6	18
10/18/2022 John Dickey	Omaha National	8	24
10/18/2022 Dusty Richard	Omaha National	7	21
10/18/2022 Bert Zampese	Calvary	8	24
10/20/2022 Melvin Young	Omaha National	8	24
10/21/2022 William Winchester	Omaha National	6	18
10/21/2022 William Chadwell	Omaha National	5	15
10/22/2022 Jarome Adams	Forest Lawn	6	18
10/24/2022 Richard Bergstrom	Omaha National	5	15
10/25/2022 Charles Perry	Omaha National	5	15
10/27/2022 Dean Stastny	Omaha National	4	12
10/28/2022 Leonard Jensen	Omaha National	4	12

* Post Member
Months' Total: 25 Funerals, 173 Member Participation, 519 Hours



OCTOBER 2022
All of our brave brothers
And sisters
who have
Passed before us.

NOTICE: All articles should be in the Newsletter Box, **IN WRITING**, at the Post no later than SATURDAY, DECEMBER 24th, for the **JANUARY Newsletter**. If articles are not submitted by the deadline, they will have to wait for the next newsletter. *Thank you.*

The Post is selling Memorial Bricks around the memorial walk and flag. Memorial Bricks are being sold by Post 2503 to be put around the outside of the Memorial flag pole. These bricks will cost \$60.00 each. They will be for VFW, Auxiliary, AMVET & Auxiliary members, their families, and people they sponsor. They will be ordered once a year on April 1st, for installation by Memorial Day each year. Max 16 spaces per line, 3 lines, and cost \$60.00 per brick.



Name _____

Phone # _____

WORDS ON BRICK

Line 1 _1 _1 _1 _1 _1 _1 _1 _1 _1 _1 _1 _1 _1 _1 _1

Line 2 _1 _1 _1 _1 _1 _1 _1 _1 _1 _1 _1 _1 _1 _1 _1

Line 3 _1 _1 _1 _1 _1 _1 _1 _1 _1 _1 _1 _1 _1 _1 _1

Checks Only—No Cash / Return this form to the Post