

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

Benson VFW Post 2503  
**AUGUST 2023**  
www.vfwpost2503.org  
(402)-571-8397

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



**POST 2503 OFFICERS 2023-2024**

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



**AUXILIARY OFFICERS 2023-2024**

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

From the Commander

Greetings, Comrades!

ALL-AMERICAN. It's official! Benson VFW Post 2503 received the "All-American Post" award for 2022-23. A recent message to me stated that our Post is among the Top 50 in the world! This is tough to earn for small posts, let alone a very large one like ours. Congratulations Post & Auxiliary members, and WELL DONE! RECENT FUN. We have had a number of events in the past few months that took us into the community, or brought the community to us. We've hosted the Quilts of Valor, including June and July ceremonies honoring at least two of our own Post 2503 members. And on July 4<sup>th</sup>, a small group of Post and Auxiliary members marched or rode in the Ralston Independence Day Parade. We all had a great time waving to the crowd and saluting fellow veterans. We had a great time on July 7<sup>th</sup> celebrating with one of our most-active members, "T." That same night, a packed room enjoyed comedienne *Lotto Marie* and her game show, "Survey Says". (Obviously, chips are eaten by hand, and seafood was a bogus answer.) We hosted several charities: the Omaha Area Bikers' annual Poker Run to help fight Spina Bifida. "Taco Tuesday" seems to be off to a great start. I recommend everyone stop by and try it. THINGS TO COME: August will also be a busy month at the Post, with two big events. The first is the kick-off to the Nebraska Vietnam Veterans Reunion, featuring an opening ceremony here at Post 2503. This reunion is held every fifth year in Omaha, and we are privileged to host Vietnam vets from all over the USA. But this year the NVVA welcomes all veterans whether they served in Vietnam or not. You must pre-register to participate in the BBQ Dinner. The following week, our own 172<sup>nd</sup> Transportation Company will hold its 55<sup>th</sup> annual reunion here. This is an opportunity to serve our veteran community, and I am pleased that they have chosen Post 2503 again. XUV RAFFLE. Our state HQ, VFW Dept. of Nebraska, is raffling a new, special "Honor Edition" cross-over utility vehicle. You have to see it! It comes to Post 2503 in October for the final drawing. Tickets are \$100 each, available from me or our quartermaster (or online). The vehicle with pre-paid taxes is valued at \$34,000. Only 1,000 tickets were printed, and all of those may not be sold. PRICES. One liquor and wine supplier will raise prices on August 1<sup>st</sup>. This will affect Canteen prices. VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES: The *Douglas County Veterans Treatment Court* needs veteran-to-veteran mentors. Several of us from Post 2503 already volunteer to assist veterans who wish to reclaim their honor.

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From the Auxiliary President

Happy Day Everyone,  
Fourth of July: The Auxiliary and Honor Guard rode in our truck to the Ralston and Benson Patriotic parades. We showed our patriotism, waved flags, and visited with Representative Don Bacon.

National Convention: The Department of Nebraska State won the National award for six programs for the 2022-2023 year, the most won by any State. Nebraska received the most for many years. The National By Laws were reviewed, and there were some changes that were voted in by the delegates. I will let you all know as soon can. (I just returned from Convention!)

It is strongly suggested that we now use the words "Prisoner Of War, Missing In Action" rather than the letters POW/MIA. They deserve the words be spoken and not shortened to 6 letters, which lose meaning over time.

The Vietnam Veterans Reunion is August 10, VFW Post 2503 is hosting the opening ceremony at the Post. Pre-register for the event and meal. Pre-registration credentials are needed for the Post BBQ dinner. Please respect the attendees.

Suicide awareness continues to be a theme for 2023-24. Call 988 option #1 is the hot line number for crisis situations, or for help when you need someone to talk to. The teardrop we wear is a reminder to all members to be alert to signs of someone needing help.

The Post and Auxiliary are hosting the Homecoming for our Department Commander and President this year on October 7<sup>th</sup>.

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38th ANNUAL "NVVR"  
NEBRASKA VIETNAM VETERANS REUNION  
AUGUST 10-13 2023  
Omaha Marriott 10220 Regency Circle  
Omaha, NE 68102 www.Marriott.com/Omaha  
ALL VIETNAM "ERA" VETERANS - SURVIVORS & FAMILIES WELCOME  
CO-CHAIRMEN  
RON HAASE 402.740.3305 GARY WACHTER 402.427.5255  
UP TO DATE INFO => www.VetsReunion.com



When your family calls, the Honor Guard will be there for you.  
 Until then, will you consider being there for us?  
**JOIN THE HONOR GUARD**

# MassMutual



**Thomas A. O'Hara III**  
 Financial Advisor and Planner

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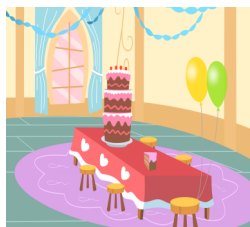
**CHAPLAIN'S MESSAGE OF HOPE**  
**Brothers & Sisters:**  
 One day, several members of an AA group we sponsor at our church decided to actually show up Sunday morning to see what church was like.

One man who had never been to church before, recited the *Lord's Prayer* with us, and at the end he continued from AA habit: "Keep coming back; it works."

Our minister rescued the situation saying, "Yes, it does."

I really love and respect the *Lord's Prayer*, and I have learned as I get older, it is my North Star for morality and ethics. For one thing, it is naturally resistant to the abuse of religion. It is at the same time aspirational, instructional, and a code of conduct. To find the story of when Jesus taught us to pray look at Luke 11, and Matthew 6.  
 Dennis Kerr, Post Chaplain

## ROOM RENTALS at VFW POST 2503



**NORTH ROOM OR SOUTH ROOM**  
 Contact **MONA RUSSELL** at **402-943-9067**



**Moving Veterans Forward**  
 We are here to accept all donations to Moving Veterans Forward. Food and cleaning supplies are always a priority. For help with your donation, please contact Ron Hernandez at 402-301-6300.



**EVERY TUESDAY AT THE POST 5:30 to 7 PM**

## BUY OR SELL A HOME WITH ME AND PICK ONE:

- 1) A 1 yr home warranty from Service One
- 2) A whole house inspection
- 3) A \$500 rebate at closing

In addition, all clients are entered into an end of year drawing for \$5,000!



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**CORNHUSKER FOOTBALL**  
**NEBRASKA vs MINNESOTA**  
**AUGUST 31, 2023**  
**7 PM**  
**AT THE POST**



## From the Commander

—continued from page 1—

A local hospice is asking for veteran-to-veteran volunteers. This, too, can be a very rewarding experience. If you want further information, please contact me or our Post Service Officer. We have several unfilled offices within our Post: *Community Service, Membership, and Poppies*. Please contact me. PACT ACT REGISTRATION DEADLINE: AUGUST 9<sup>TH</sup>. The one-year deadline to sign up is fast approaching: August 9<sup>th</sup>! Vets who file for benefits after the deadline will not be eligible to receive retroactive payment for this past year. DO YOU HAVE IT? As a veteran, one of the most important documents you need to have is your *Certificate of Release or Discharge From Active Duty*, commonly called, simply, "DD214." It certifies your eligibility for VFW membership, opens many doors at the VA, authorizes veteran license tags, etc. Equally important is that your family will want to have it someday: To know more about your history; To help you claim medical benefits; To bury you with a grave marker; and to file for survivor benefits after your passing. Some of you do not currently have your DD214, or cannot locate it. Our Post 2503 officers can help you get a copy. Some of you keep your DD214 in a place that your family cannot readily find. If this applies to you, you need to change that right away. This is easy to ignore, but believe me that a time will come when your family will want or need it. Speaking of a Will, you need one of those, too. Alan "AL" Dorn  
Commander, Benson VFW Post 2503



**VFW POST 2503 AUXILIARY VOLUNTEERS  
AT THE OMAHA VA HOSPITAL  
MARCIA JONES, JAN DAVIS, and CATHY BRAUN SERVE  
COOKIES, COFFEE, AND OTHER REFRESHMENTS FOR  
VETERANS AT THE VA HOSPITAL.**

**NO ONE DOES MORE FOR VETERANS.**



**VFW POST 2503 HONOR GUARD  
AND AUXILIARY AT THE BENSON DAYS PARADE**

## From the Auxiliary President

—continued from page 1—

Desserts will continue to be available for donations every Wednesday Hamburger night. Thank you to all members who bring desserts for the Auxiliary. If you want to bring a cake or a pan of sweet goodies or consider giving a little time to help cut the cakes or serve ice cream. It is fun! You are supporters of our veterans and family programs and the donations we make to charities. We plan other ways to help veterans this year.

We will place information on the TV bulletin board in the Canteen and special information on the tables.

This Post and Auxiliary are doing an awesome job for veterans. Let us continue and improve what we do for veterans.

**Micky Dorn  
President**

**JOIN US IN THE CANTEEN FOR HAPPY HOUR  
FROM 4 TO 7 EVERY FRIDAY**



# AUGUST 2023

## KITCHEN NEWS for AUGUST VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Still looking for volunteers for Hamburger Nights.

Help in the Kitchen or the Serving Table. If you have a group of 5 or 6 volunteers, **YOU** can start your own crew!

Please contact Linda at 531-205-5641



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Post Open	Post Closed	Post Open	Post Open	Post Open	Post Open	Post Open
Room Rentals Available		5:30 to 7 PM <b>TACO TUESDAY</b> TACO TUESDAY	2 Hamburger Night <b>PULLED PORK SANDWICH</b> Crew— S Schaefer	3 Sewing Ladies 1pm	4 HAPPY HOUR 4 TO 7	5 10 point pitch @ noon- Room Rentals Available
6 Room Rentals Available	7 <b>PURPLE HEART DAY</b> 	8 5:30 to 7 PM <b>TACO TUESDAY</b> TACO TUESDAY QUILTS OF VALOR @ 5:30	9 <b>NO HAMBURGER NIGHT</b>	10 <b>NEBRASKA VIETNAM VETERANS BBQ</b> POST OPEN TO TICKET HOLDERS ONLY	11 <b>NEBRASKA VIETNAM VETERANS REUNION</b> HONOR GUARD @ 7 HAPPY HOUR 4 TO 7 SONS OF AMERICAN LEGION @ 6 PM	12 <b>NEBRASKA VIETNAM VETERANS REUNION</b> 10 point pitch @ noon- Room Rentals Available
13 POST BREAKFAST 8 AM to 11	14 STAFF MEETING 5:30 PM	15 5:30 to 7 PM <b>TACO TUESDAY BOB FIELDS BAND @ 7 PM</b> USCG @ 7 PM 	16 Hamburger Night <b>CHICKEN FRIED CHICKEN</b> Crew— Cabin LEGION RIDERS @ 6	17 <b>POST/AUX Meeting 7 PM</b> House Comm @ 5:30 Meeting @ 6:00pm Sewing Ladies 1:00pm	18  172nd TRANS CO 55 ANNIVERSARY AUG 18-19 @ POST	19  10 point pitch @ noon
20 <b>POST WORK DAY Begins at 9 AM</b> 	21	22 5:30 to 7 PM <b>TACO TUESDAY</b> TACO TUESDAY QUILTS OF VALOR @ 5:30	23 Hamburger Night <b>BEEF SANDWICH</b> Crew— The Bayers	24 Sewing Ladies 1:00pm MOC COOTIES @ 7:00pm QUILTS OF VALOR @ 5:30	25 HAPPY HOUR 4 TO 7	26 10 point pitch @ noon Room Rentals Available
27 AMERICAN LEGION BREAKFAST 8:30—11:30 AM 	28	29 5:30 to 7 PM <b>TACO TUESDAY</b> TACO TUESDAY 	30 Hamburger Night <b>ITALIAN SAUSAGE SANDWICH</b> Crew— Am Legion #112	31 <b>FOOTBALL FOOTBALL KICKOFF @ 7 PM</b> See You @ THE POST 	<b>CORNHUSKERS VS GOPHERS</b> 	





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

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Omaha, NE



**SEE INSIDE FOR:**  
**HUSKER FOOTBALL**  
**TACO TUESDAYS**  
**TWO BREAKFAST SUNDAYS**

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

From Your Honor Guard Captain, Les Hardesty

**MILITARY RITES: JUNE 2023**

Members Deceased      Cemetery      #      Hours

- Post Member  
Month's Total: 31, Member participation: 190, Total hours: 570



**JUNE 2023**  
All of our brave brothers  
And sisters  
who have

**2 X 2**

**ADVERTISING SPACE AVAILABLE IN  
THE VFW POST 2503 NEWSLETTER:  
EVERY MONTH FOR SIX MONTHS.**

**TOTAL COST IS \$200.**

**Call Quartermaster AT 402-571-2835.**

**MEMBERS AND FRIENDS WILL NOTICE.**

**JAN and RANDY DAVIS with niece, Teri Herrera-Loebl,  
at the QUILTS OF VALOR presentation on July 11th.**



**NOTICE:** All articles should be in the Newsletter Box,  
**IN WRITING**, at the Post no later than **SATURDAY, AUGUST 26th**,  
for the **SEPTEMBER Newsletter**. If articles are not submitted by  
the deadline, they will have to wait for the next newsletter. *Thank*



**ON POST WORK SUNDAY, 23 JULY,  
JIM SORENSEN INSTALLS MEMORIAL  
BRICKS NEAR THE FLAGPOLE**