

VFW POST 4719 NEWSLETTER

Message from the Post



How long has it been since you have been to the post? Look at what the team has done to make it more comfortable and modern. We still have room to purchase some more stools with your family or in memory of a loved one. The cost is \$160 dollars a stool, please see a bartender or reach out to Kim Sims (719-502-6086) if you would like to make a memory.

Dates to Remember

Operation Desert Shield

On the morning of 2 August 1990, Iraq invaded nearby Kuwait. In less than four hours, Iraqi forces occupied Kuwait City and had annexed the country as the 19th province of Iraq. In response, the U.S. government initiated Operation Desert Shield on 6 August to deter and contain potential attacks on neighboring countries. By 21 August, the U.S. had based fighter, attack, reconnaissance, electronic warfare, airlift, and tanker aircraft in the Gulf region. On 17 Jan, the coalition aircraft set forth on the largest air campaign since World War II. By the end of the day, Iraq was well on the way to defeat, in no small part due to the strategic air campaign. Over time, the attacks drove Saddam and his leadership underground, reducing its control over events, and heavily damaging critical military support networks such as command and control, communications and intelligence capabilities, integrated air defenses, and power generation. On 28 February, only one hundred hours after the ground campaign began, President Bush declared a ceasefire and announced that Kuwait had been liberated.

Meeting Times

VFW 4719
3rd Tuesday @ 7P

VFW Auxiliary
1st Thursday @ 6:30P

American Legion 797
3rd Thursday @ 7P

American Legion Auxiliary
4th Tuesday @ 6:30P

Marine Corps League
3rd Wednesday @ 7P

AMVETS 5
1st Wednesday @ 6P

Post Canteen Hours

Sunday ~9A-8P+
Monday ~ 4P-10P+
Tuesday ~ 12P-10P+
Wednesday ~ 12P-10P+
Thursday ~ 12P-10P+
Friday ~ 12P-10P+
Saturday ~ 12P-10P+

Canteen Manager
Dutch Grootendorst

Post Officers

Louis Santos, CMDR
Kim Sims, Sr. Vice
Andrew Thornton, Jr. Vice
Bill Pederson, Adjutant
Bill Scharff, Quartermaster
Ben Brockway, Chaplain
Chuck Rees, Trustee
Steve Ebersole, Trustee
Steve Pearson, Trustee

Coast Guard Anniversary

The United States Coast Guard's anniversary is on August 4th, marking the day in 1790 when President George Washington authorized the construction of ten revenue cutters to enforce tariff and trade laws. This year, 2025, marks the 235th anniversary. The Coast Guard, originally the Revenue Cutter Service, has grown into a multifaceted service with a vital role in safeguarding the nation's maritime interest.

Gulf of Tonkin, Vietnam

On 2 August, the destroyer USS Maddox, while performing a signals intelligence patrol as part of DESOTO operations, was approached by three North Vietnamese Navy torpedo boats of the 135th Torpedo Squadron. Maddox fired warning shots, and the North Vietnamese boats attacked with torpedoes and machine gun fire. In the ensuing engagement, one U.S. aircraft (which had been launched from aircraft carrier USS Ticonderoga) was damaged, three North Vietnamese torpedo boats were damaged, and four North Vietnamese sailors were killed, with six more wounded. There were no U.S. casualties. Maddox was "unscathed except for a single bullet hole from a North Vietnamese machine gun round".

On 3 August, destroyer USS Turner Joy joined Maddox and the two destroyers continued the DESOTO mission. On the evening of 4 August, the ships opened fire on radar returns that had been preceded by communications intercepts, which U.S. forces claimed meant an attack was imminent. The commander of the Maddox task force, Captain John Herrick, reported that the ships were being attacked by North Vietnamese boats when, in fact, there were no North Vietnamese boats in the area. While Herrick soon reported doubts regarding the task force's initial perceptions of the attack, the Johnson administration relied on the wrongly interpreted National Security Agency communications intercepts to conclude that the attack was real.

While doubts regarding the perceived second attack have been expressed since 1964, it was not until years later that it was shown conclusively never to have happened.

Purple Heart Day

National Purple Heart Day, observed annually on August 7th, honors the sacrifices of service members wounded or killed in action. The award's history dates back to 1782 when George Washington established the "Badge of Military Merit," a precursor to the modern Purple Heart. While initially intended for meritorious service, it was later repurposed to recognize those wounded or killed in combat. George Washington awarded the original Purple Heart, designated as a Badge of Merit, in 1782. There was a lack of funds in the Continental Army at the time, so the award was a way to honor enlisted and deserving people. The honor is presented to soldiers for "any singularly meritorious action." It was designed with a piece of silk bound through it with a thin edge of silver. Washington only gave out three of the badges himself, and instead authorized subordinates to issue the badges as they saw fit.

The Badge of Merit faded from use but was revived and launched in 1932, this time as the Purple Heart. As well as honoring those wounded in combat, this iteration of the Purple Heart recognized commendable action. It was in 1944 that the policy was tweaked slightly, and the Purple Heart was given the purpose we know it for today, specifically to honor those who have been wounded or died.

The first service member to be given the modern Purple Heart was General Douglas MacArthur for his service in the Pacific theater during World War II. In total there have been 1.8 million Purple Hearts awarded over the years.

Purple Heart Day was first observed in 2014 and has been observed every year since. It's a chance to reflect on the bravery of those who have fought for the U.S. and to ensure that their courage is never forgotten.

VJ Day

VJ Day, or Victory over Japan Day, is celebrated on August 15th in many countries, commemorating the announcement of Japan's surrender in World War II. However, the United States officially recognizes September 2nd as VJ Day, the date when the formal surrender documents were signed.

126th VFW NATIONAL CONVENTION

The 126th VFW National Convention will be held Aug. 9-13, 2025, at the Greater Columbus Convention Center in Columbus, Ohio. For more information, please go to vfw.org.

POST PICNIC

The annual Post Picnic will be held on Saturday, August 30th at 12:00 p.m. The Post will provide hamburgers, hot dogs, buns & all the fixin's. We ask that if you attend, please bring a side dish or dessert to share. There is a sign-up sheet on the table as you enter the front door. Any questions, please contact Bill Pederson at 614-506-5793 or Dee Snyder at 614-900-6174.

THE VIETNAM TRAVELING MEMORIAL WALL

The Wall will be at Gahanna Veterans Memorial Park from October 2, 2025 to October 6, 2025. This is sponsored by American Legion Post 797. Donations are welcome. Please visit GahannaVets.org for more information.

3RD ANNUAL VFW POST 4719 GOLF SCRAMBLE

The Golf Scramble is on October 18, 2025 starting at 9:00 a.m. at New Albany Links 7100 New Albany Links Dr., New Albany. This is a 4-person scramble format—18 holes. \$85.00/player—\$340.00/team. Light breakfast, Longest Drive (Men's and Women's), Closest to the pin (CTP). A late lunch after the round is included.

We need hole sponsors, golfers and raffle items. If each family could find a hold sponsor or a raffle item, we could make this golf outing the best so far. Please visit the VFW web page or contact Kim Sims at 719-502-6086 or more information.

BOB ROSS PAINTING CLASS

Kathleen Sheppard, Bob Ross Instructor, is holding classes that offer intense training Utilizing The Bob Ross techniques. You will learn how to paint the "wet-on-wet technique," for which Bob Ross is known for, as well as many other popular techniques. In addition, you will receive one-on-one attention to help guide you as you improve your painting skills. Each class is between two and four hours long and will be noted by the time.

If you are interested in being added to the mailing list so you are notified when the next class is posted, please send an email to ksbobrosscri@gmail.com and advise of your interest.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 <h1>August 2025</h1> <p>NO ONE DOES MORE FOR VETERANS.</p>						
					1 Steak Dinner 5:30-7:30	2
3 Breakfast 9-11am	4	5	6 Amvets 6pm Amvets Riders 7pm	7 VFW Auxiliary 6:30 pm Queen of Hearts	8 Meatloaf Dinner 5:30-7:30pm	9
10 Breakfast 9-11am	11	12	13	14 Queen of Hearts	18 Taco Dinner 5:30-7:30pm	16
17 Breakfast 9-11am	18 Euchre Night 6:30pm	19 VFW Meeting 7:00pm	20 Marine Corps League 7:00pm	21 American Legion 797 7:00pm Queen of Hearts	22 VFW Auxiliary Spaghetti Dinner 5:30-7:30pm	23
24 Breakfast 9-11am 31 Breakfast 9-11am	25	26 Am Legion Auxiliary 6:30pm	27	28 Queen of Hearts	29	30 Post Picnic Noon

Printed copies of the Newsletter may be found on the bulletin board in the entryway



VFW Tri Community Post 4719
75 W. Johnstown Rd., Gahanna OH 43230
614-475-9111