



## Message from the Commander

Six months ago, I was sworn in as the Commander of Tri Community Post 4719. It has been quite a ride so far. And, I am looking forward to the next six months. There is a lot to be done.

Beginning in January, we will start a capital funds campaign for improvement of this facility. It will take approximately \$60,000 to \$70,000 to resurface the parking lot.

This is an “All Hands-on Deck” effort. There are three phases to this campaign. First, personal donations will be accepted. Second, we are looking for fund raising ideas. And third, we will be asking local businesses to support our veterans. I am working with the American Legion, AmVets and the Marine Corps League, asking them for help (volunteers and fund-raising ideas) to improve this facility for *ALL VETERANS*. Again, this is an “All Hands-on Deck” effort. We need your support.

To do this right, we need a committee of three or four people to help plan and execute this campaign. If you are interested, please contact me at 614-506-5793 (text). This is for our future of the VFW, American Legion, AmVets, Marine Corps League and the auxiliaries in the Gahanna, New Albany and Blacklick areas. Thank you for your support.

### Let’s talk Military History

In 2023, I plan to set up “Round Table Discussions on Military History.” Each month I will provide suggested topics for discussion. Everyone is invited to participate. This month’s topics are listed below.

#### Desert Storm 1991

It was in the January 1990, the Marine Corps announced troop reduction Corps wide. I had two years remaining on my contract. I was offered early out at 20 years. My retirement date was set for June 30, 1990. Four days later, Saddam Hussein attacked Kuwait. All services did an immediate recall of most recently released service members, but I was not called back. In August, Desert Shield began. The Gulf War was waged by a coalition force from 35 nations against Iraq in response to its invasion and annexation of Kuwait. Desert Storm began January 17, the ground assault began Feb 24. It was a decisive victory for the coalition. The coalition declared a ceasefire 100 hours after the ground campaign began.

#### Vietnam Cease Fire 1973

A cease fire in the Vietnam Conflict was to take effect on January 27. Most American combat troops were out of country. The US government was to provide financial and military support to the government of South Vietnam.

#### Tet Offensive 1968

On January 31 the Viet Cong and North Vietnamese began an all-out offensive against American forces and South Vietnamese troops. The North Vietnamese and Viet Cong suffered heavy losses.

### Meeting Times

VFW 4719  
3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday @ 7P

VFW Auxiliary  
1<sup>st</sup> Thursday @ 6:30P

American Legion 797  
3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday @ 7P

American Legion Aux.  
4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday @ 6:30P

Marine Corps League  
3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday @ 7P

40&8  
1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday @ 7P

AMVETS 5  
1<sup>st</sup> 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

Bill Pedersen, CMDR  
Denise Roberts, Sr. Vice  
Mike Zanella, Jr. Vice  
Richard Leister, Adjutant  
Bill Scharff, Quartermaster  
Joel Miller, Chaplain  
Chuck Rees, Trustee  
Steve Ebersole Trustee  
Steve Pearson, Trustee

# MONTHLY POST HAPPENINGS



*Drawing every Thursday  
at 8:00pm*

Must be a VFW, American Legion,  
Amvets, Auxiliary, or Social  
Member to play

*Sunday Movie  
No Movie for January*



*Friday Dinner  
Sunday Breakfast*

It takes several volunteers to help meals run smoothly. Friday dinners and Sunday breakfasts need people to serve the meals, distribute desserts, and clear tables, and wash dishes.

Volunteers must be at least 15 years of age or older.

*If you are interested in volunteering contact:  
Tom May at the post or via email  
thomas.may728@yahoo.com*

## SUNDAY BREAKFAST

9:00A – 11:00A

Choose from:

Eggs to order, Pancakes, French toast, Waffles,  
Bacon, Sausage, Home Fries, Toast \$8

## EVERYDAY

Cheeseburgers, Chicken Potpie, Hotdogs, White  
Castle Sliders and More!

Subject to Change ~See bartender for availability

## FRIDAY DINNERS

5:30P – 7:30P

1<sup>st</sup> Friday ~ Steak Night

Baked potato, salad, roll, and dessert \$17  
(Chopped steak option \$10)

2<sup>nd</sup> Friday ~ Jo Ann's Famous Meatloaf

Mashed potatoes, green beans, and dessert \$9

3<sup>rd</sup> Friday ~ Bev's Open-Faced Roast Beef

Mashed potatoes, gravy, vegetable of the Day \$9

4<sup>th</sup> Friday ~ AMVETS Riders ~ Sloppy Joes, Hot  
Dogs, beans. Donations Accepted

# HAPPENINGS AROUND THE POST

## Christmas and New Year's Eve Parties

Members gathered together at the post for the Annual Christmas party which included a White Elephant exchange and an Ugly Sweater Contest.



New Year's Eve saw a few members come out to watch the OSU football game and celebrate the arrival of 2023.



### TRIVIA

What prototype aircraft became the first operational U.S. Jet Fighter?

1. Bell P-59 Airacomet
  2. Lockheed P-80 Shooting Star
  3. Republic P-84 Thunder Jet
- (answer on page 5)



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## **VFW & Auxiliary Information & Reminders**

### **Monthly Round Table Discussions with the Commander**

Join us for this month's Round Table Discussions of Military History. Commander Pederson will be leading them. Date to be determine.

This month's subjects are: Desert Storm 1991; Vietnam Cease Fire 1973; Tet Offensive 1968  
*Additional information in the Commander's Message*

### **VFW and Auxiliary Department of Ohio** **Mid-Winter Conference**

January 13-15, 2023 Crowne Plaza Columbus-North

Hotel Information: <https://tinyurl.com/midwntrhtl>

VFW Mid-Winter Agenda & Forms: <https://tinyurl.com/VFWmidwintr>

VFW Auxiliary Mid-Winter Agenda & Forms: <https://tinyurl.com/vfwauxforms>

### **Passing of Vernell Smith-Brown, District 11 VFW Auxiliary President**



It is with profound sadness that I write this to my Auxiliary Brothers and Sisters. As many of you know, Vernell battled cancer for many years. Though she fought valiantly, and conquered cancer several times, on January 1, 2023, she passed away surrounded by her family.

Vernell was dedicated to her family, friends and veterans. She was, in her words, "Determined" to fulfill the duties of her office with the Auxiliary, in spite of her illness which she did bravely. Please keep her family in your thoughts and prayers at this time. At this time there is no additional information regarding funeral arrangements

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### **Newsletter Editor Needed**

Due to the passing of District President Vernell Smith-Brown, it now falls to me to step in as District President to complete her year. In light of these new developments, and my coming year as District President, I will be unable to continue putting out the monthly newsletter.

It has been my pleasure to keep our VFW and Auxiliary "in the know" through the production of this, and I will miss working on it each month.

If you are interested in taking over as editor, please contact me at 614-257-7573 or [marieleister16@gmail.com](mailto:marieleister16@gmail.com).



**MILITARY HUMOR**

Each branch has a military ball (Navy Ball, Army Ball, etc.)  
And it warms my heart to know that one branch will be having "Space Balls"  
from here on out.



What's the difference between a fighter pilot and a fighter jet?  
The jet stops whining once you turn the engine off.



Two Army 2nd lieutenants in North Carolina were going into the training area at night and  
were arguing about distances.  
One said, "OK, Smarty, which is closer, Florida, or the moon?" The second one said, "DUH?  
The moon is closer. You can't see Florida!"



Why does my wife always  
wait until I'm at the  
opposite end of the house  
before asking me to  
'Merm frner mernferr  
brnerfer!'



Trivia Answer:  
Number 2, Lockheed F-80 Shooting Star



# January 2023

Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thu.	Fri.	Sat.
1	2	3 40&8 7pm	4 Amvets 6pm Amvets Riders 7pm	5 VFW Auxiliary 6:30p  Queen of Hearts Drawing	6 Steak Fry 5:30-7:30pm	7
8 Breakfast 9-11	9	10 Canteen Committee Mtg. 6:30pm	11	12   Queen of Hearts Drawing	13 Meatloaf Dinner 5:30-7:30pm	14
15 Breakfast 9-11	16	17 VFW Meeting 7:00pm	18 Marine Corps League 7:00pm	19 American Legion 797 Mtg. 7:00pm  Queen of Hearts Drawing	20 Roast Beef Dinner 5:30-7:30pm	21
22 Breakfast 9-11	23	24 American Legion 797 Auxiliary 6:30pm	25	26   Queen of Hearts Drawing	27 Dinner AMVETS 5:30-7:30pm	28
29	30	31				

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



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cmd@vfw4719.org**