

POST SENTINEL

VOLUME 16, EDITION 05

MAY 2025

COMMANDER'S CORNER

Dear Comrades and Auxiliary Members,

Our Poppy Drive will be held at the Hamburg Walmart from Friday, May 23rd through Sunday May 25th. We are looking for volunteers for the Poppy Drive, sign-up sheet is in the Post lounge. If you can't get to the Post to sign the sign-in sheet, please reach out to Sr. Vice Commander John Redmond at 716-863-3911. We still have many spots available; this is only two hours out of your time. We are asking for participation from Post and Auxiliary members and family who can assist too! Poppy funds go into our Relief Fund Account, which in turn assists veterans and their families. Let's make this year a success!

We have many Memorial Day events scheduled, if you would like to participate. On Saturday, May 24th our Honor Guard will be performing a ceremony at the Field of Valor at Lakeside Cemetery that starts at 9:30 a.m. On Monday, May 26th, the Honor Guard will be participating in the Lakeview Community Parade at 10:30 a.m., Hamburg Brewery Company is holding their annual ceremony at 1:00 p.m., and our Post Memorial Day ceremony will be held at 2:00 p.m. to honor our fallen heroes. Our Auxiliary will provide a light lunch after the ceremony.

I would like to welcome our newest member, Michael Cid who served in the United States Navy. Military holidays in the month of May: Military Spouse Appreciation Day is on Friday, May 9th, Armed Forces Day is on Saturday, May 17th and Memorial Day is on Monday, May 26, 2025. Enjoy your Memorial Day, as many Americans have off, enjoy picnics, gardening, and relaxing with a beer, but don't forget the meaning of that day that was originally called Decoration Day. From the early tradition of decorating graves with flowers, wreaths and flags, Memorial Day is a day for remembrance of those who have died in service to our country.

Wishing all our Post and Auxiliary Mothers a very Happy Mother's Day.

In Comradeship,

Amy Owczarczak, Commander
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*If you know of someone
not receiving the
Newsletter have them
send a message to the
GMAIL ADDRESS
ABOVE.*

NEXT BAR TENDER
MEETINGS WILL BE
HELD AT 10:00 AM
ON:

May 10th

August 9th



VFW AUXILIARY

Well, elections were held and we welcome our newest Board Member, Marcia Kieffer who has accepted the role of Trustee 3 year. That means that she will hold the elected office for 3 consecutive years without being subject to re-election until the 3 years have passed. The other officers remain unchanged.

The entire Auxiliary Board and Membership would like to extend our forever gratitude and Love to Fran Wright who has served this organization for more than 40 years holding office in almost every one of those 40+ years. You will forever be held in our hearts and minds. As you move on to your future years please know that we will strive to live up to the standards you have taught us and held us to.

On Memorial Day we will in fact be providing a light lunch after the Post Ceremony at 2:00. We are requesting the donation of Cookies, Brownies, Cake, Pies etc. for Deserts that day.

Katy Blaszkiewicz
Auxiliary President.

WE STILL WEAR RED ON FRIDAYS

VFW Urges Action on Suicide Prevention:

The Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs held a legislative hearing on enhancing mental health services and programs. In a statement submitted for the record, VFW National Legislative Associate Director Meggan Coleman emphasized the importance of strengthening the Staff Sergeant Parker Gordon Fox Suicide Prevention Grant Program as essential to ensure the program's effectiveness in the unique communities it serves. She also expressed the VFW's recommendation to combine the four proposed bills into a comprehensive package to better address veteran suicide prevention efforts.

Oversight Hearing on State Veterans Homes:

The House Veterans' Affairs Subcommittee on Health held an oversight hearing on reform at State Veterans Homes. In a statement submitted for the record, VFW National Legislative Associate Director Meggan Coleman emphasized the importance for VA to proactively address the geriatric-specific needs of the aging veteran population, the growing demand for long-term care services, and the integration of mental and behavioral health support. She also stated that the VFW urges Congress to provide full funding for VA to eliminate the backlog of pending State Home Construction Grants to ensure facilities are available and safe for veterans.

Amy Taylor, sister of Life Member Byron Taylor, passed away very unexpectedly on March 25th. Our Deepest and Heartfelt Condolences are being extended to Byron and his family.



HONOR GUARD CORNER

May is upon us and the nice weather is just around the corner. I hope everybody is well and finally enjoying the weather.

With Memorial Day this month it will keep the Honor Guard busy. Some of the things on our schedule include 5/19/25 Hamburg Town Hall with American Legion #527 for a ceremony at 7:00 pm. On the 24th, we will be at Lakeside Cemetery Field of Valor to Honor our Fallen Comrades at 9:30 am, and on the 26th, we will lead the Parade in Lakeview at 10:30 am. We will then travel to Hamburg Brewery for an additional ceremony at 1:00 pm returning to our Post Home for our final ceremony of the day at 2:00 pm.

As you can see this month is a busy one for the Honor Guard and we're hoping to see you at some of our ceremonies. I almost forgot, on May 25th 6:30 pm, there will be a Memorial Day Concert in the Village of Hamburg at Memorial Park. Both the Auxiliary and the Post, along with many other organizations, have helped to sponsor this event and your attendance would be appreciated by all. There will be a brief ceremony before the concert with the Playing of Taps for our Brothers and Sisters who have given the Ultimate Sacrifice

Also sending out a reminder about our Fund Raiser June 21st at 1300hrs(1:00). Come join us for some fun and comradery. It's \$15 to attend which gives you draft beer and food and a good time. There will be drawings for prizes and also the drawing for the Henry rifles. Tickets are available at the bar for both. Hope to see there.

Well that's all I have for now so as always God Bless America and Our Troops. Let us not forget those who gave the ultimate sacrifice and those who can't be with us for our Ceremonies.

Yours in Comradeship,
Don Hancock
Honor Guard Captain.

POST SENTINEL INFORMATION

The Deadline for article submission is the FRIDAY AFTER THE POST MEETING. It is very important that all articles are submitted by the due date.

The Deadline for next month is

June 6th

All submissions should be sent via email

to

postsentinel1419@gmail.com



SICK CALL

If you know of any member of the Post or the Auxiliary, who is sick, in the hospital, or has died, please let someone know.

Post Chaplain Brent Doyle	716-649-3019
Auxiliary Chaplain Terry Walker	716-912-6849
Commander Amy Owczarczak	716-432-0829
Aux. President Katy Blaszkiewicz	716-253-4681
Honor Guard Don Hancock	716-830-4237
You can also call the Post and tell whoever answers the phone.	716-648-2618

"I can't change the direction of the wind, but I can adjust my sails to always reach my destination"

