

**Post & Auxiliary  
Meetings**  
1<sup>st</sup> Thursday  
every month  
7:30 p.m.

# Benson VFW Post 2503

## December 2011

www.VFWPost2503.org.  
402 571-8397

**Honor Guard**  
2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday  
every month  
7:30 p.m.



### POST 2503 OFFICERS 11-12

**Commander:** Tim Ross  
**Sr. Vice Commander:** Doug Whitaker  
**Jr. Vice Commander:** Mike Rosso  
**Quartermaster:** Ron Dupell  
**Chaplain:** Jerry Hodakowski  
**Surgeon:** Terry White  
**Judge Advocate:** Dave Christiansen  
**Officer of the Day:** Bob Podany  
**Adjutant:** Fred Van Peer  
**Guard:** Arnold Gerst  
**Service Officer:** Dave Christiansen  
**Parliamentarian:** Fred Van Peer



### AUXILIARY OFFICERS 11-12

**President:** Connie Dohse-Ross  
**Sr. Vice President:** Luanne Rosso  
**Jr. Vice President:** Royce Dent  
**Treasurer:** Ruth Gerst  
**Secretary:** Pat Dembowski  
**Chaplain:** Blanche Ferree  
**Conductress:** Linda McMullin  
**Guard:** Ann Hoff  
**Patriotic Instructor:** Linda Humphrey

## Commanders Corner

Comrades:

I understand that in these tough economic times, people don't have the income they used to. Americans in particular, are struggling to make ends meet. Some of us are not struggling quite so hard, and we need you to help support the Post. No one person can ensure that we succeed in our efforts to continue the proud traditions of VFW Post 2503. As Commander, I ask for your assistance to contribute to what we do to provide programs that ensure we are able to advocate for veterans.

Do not be afraid to voice your opinions and offer suggestions. One person alone can not make the Post successful. We are a group who together make decisions for the Post. The proper way to voice an opinion or make a suggestion, is to come before the House Committee or the Post Membership Meeting. If your opinions or suggestions are approved by the House Committee, they then go to the Post floor for a vote.

To those who volunteer and do so much for the Post, I continue to thank you. Without you, we could not do the things we do. You touch my heart with all you do. Keep up the good work. I will say it again, good things come to those who work together.

I, along with the Auxiliary President, wish you all a Very Merry Christmas, and a Happy New Year. *Tim Ross, Commander*

**Correction:** In last month's newsletter, it showed that the Post would be closed on the day after Thanksgiving. This is an error, and the Post will have regular hours on Friday November 25<sup>th</sup>.

A few months back, I brought in 2 books for members to pass around. They are coffee table size Marine Corps books. #1 Semper Fi, #2 Marine Corps Heritage Foundation. I'd like to know where they are now.

*Thanks. Pat Peterson*

## Auxiliary News

Dear Auxiliary Sisters:

As I write this, we have had our first snowfall. I was beautiful coming down and I am so glad it did not last. Having to write to you in November for the December newsletter really makes my brain go into overdrive.

The garage sale is over. All the work we did was worth it, we did make money. A very big 'thank you' to Charlotte Thornton for being in charge of this event and to all of you who came and worked so hard, and that includes the Post members. The craft show is also over for this year. Special thanks to Bob Podany and the Boy Scouts who came so very early on Saturday morning to help the crates carry in their things and for coming back in the afternoon to help them carry out and help put the rooms back in order. Thanks to the Cooties for doing the lunch. It was very good food as always and thanks to Charlotte Thornton and those who helped her with the Bake Sale.

Membership dues will go up in January. This was voted on at National Convention, so get your dues paid before December 31<sup>st</sup>, or you will end up paying at least \$5.00 more in January. Remember, if you want to become a Life Member, our Treasurer has a payment plan available. Once a Life Member, then all you have to pay are your Cancer Dues each year. We expect yearly dues will become \$25.00. New members: That would make your yearly Dues initial cost \$30.00.

Don't miss out on these Holiday Events. The cookie exchange will be December 11<sup>th</sup> from Noon until 2:00 pm. Bring several dozen cookies to exchange with friends and take a few dozen home with you. There will be a dinner on December 31<sup>st</sup> (New Year's Eve), and the Humdingers will play for your dancing pleasure. Come out for an evening of fun! Make your dinner reservations with the Bartenders before December 23<sup>rd</sup>.

The Commander and I wish you and your's a very blessed Christmas, a very Happy New Year, and pray that you will continue to support your Post and Auxiliary.

*Connie Dohse-Ross, President 402 391-2292*

## NEWS

After January 1<sup>st</sup>, Membership Cards will be checked. Be sure you have your new 2012 Membership Card if you are not a Life Member. Go to [www.vfw.org](http://www.vfw.org), click on login and create an account. You can pay your dues with your credit card and be sure to have your card on January 1<sup>st</sup>. While you are at it, go ahead and buy yourself a Life Membership, so that you'll be prepared to show your card proudly every year.

If you receive a dues reminder in the mail, PAY YOUR DUES DIRECTLY TO NATIONAL IN KANSAS CITY. If you pay at the Post, there will be a delay in receipt of your membership card.

### POPPY CARDS

Thanks to members for their contributions to the Relief Fund. It is not too late purchase Poppy Cards in memory of a loved one or in your name. Just stop by the Post or send in your contributions.

*Doug Whitaker, Poppy Chairman*

## Happy Holidays

The employees and Officers of VFW Post 2503 and the Auxiliary wish you all a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. When you sit down to dinner, say a prayer for all our men and women who are overseas and away from their families during this Holiday Season. Please drive safely.

Friday Night "Basket Nights" will be back in the new year. The Basket Night crew decided to take November and December off, due to the proximity of Thanksgiving and Christmas. *Lodene, David, Sharon, Tomie, Bill and the Crews*

**See CLUB HOURS  
"CHANGE"  
on Back Page.  
Effective Dec 1, 2011**

# Tom White Thank You Vets

www.tomwhite2010.com

**NOTICE:** All articles should be in the NewsLetter Box, IN WRITING, at the Post no later than December 3<sup>rd</sup>. If articles are not submitted by the deadline they will have to wait for the next newsletter. We try to have the newsletter to the printers by the Friday following the meetings. If changes need to be made after the meetings, articles can be amended. When your article is late, the Newsletter is late to all our members. Please use a full sheet of paper. Little pieces of paper can get lost.




*Thank You*

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## November/December 2011

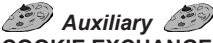
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Post Opens 12 noon -6 pm <b>27</b>  <b>PIZZA</b> Buckets of Beer <b>SPECIAL</b> 5 domestics \$12.50	<b>28</b> Post Closed	<b>29</b> House Committee meeting 7:00 pm Vietnam Vets 7:00 pm	<b>HAMBURGER NIGHT 30</b> 5:30-7:30 pm Hot Beef Sandwich/ Mashed Potatoes/ Gravy/Green Beans or Pork Tenderloin Soup - Ham and Bean Crew - B Thielen	<b>1</b> Ladies Sewing 1:00-3:00 Post & Auxiliary Meetings 7:30 pm	<b>SPECIAL 2</b> Bloody Mary \$2.00 5-7 P.M. Buckets of Beer <b>SPECIAL</b> 5 domestics \$12.50 <b>PLAY KENO &amp; Pickles</b>	 <b>Kid's Party 1:00 - 3:00 pm</b> <b>SPECIAL</b> Bloody Mary \$2.00-7 P.M. Buckets of Beer <b>SPECIAL</b> 5 domestics \$12.50
Post Open 12 noon -6 pm <b>4</b>  <b>PIZZA</b> Buckets of Beer <b>SPECIAL</b> 5 domestics \$12.50	<b>5</b> Post Closed Advertise in your Post newsletter. Call the Post for rates <b>402-571-8397</b>	<b>6</b> Consider having your office party at the Post. Call 402 571-8397. <b>Special rates for Members and Immediate Family when you rent the Post Home.</b>	<b>HAMBURGER NIGHT 7</b> 5:30 - 7:30 pm Hot Meatloaf Sandwich/Mashed Potatoes/Gravy/ Green Beans or Pork Tenderloin Soup - Broccoli & Cheese Crew - M Rosso	<b>8</b> Honor Guard Meeting 7:30pm American Legion 7:00pm 172nd Trans Co	<b>SPECIAL 9</b> Bloody Mary \$2.00 5-7 P.M. Buckets of Beer <b>SPECIAL</b> 5 domestics \$12.50 <b>PLAY KENO &amp; Pickles</b>	<b>SPECIAL 10</b> Bloody Mary \$2.00 5-7 P.M. Buckets of Beer <b>SPECIAL</b> 5 domestics \$12.50 <b>PLAY KENO &amp; Pickles</b>

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## December 2011

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Post Open 12 noon -6 pm <b>11</b> <b>ALL SPECIALS Same as above</b>  <b>Auxiliary COOKIE EXCHANGE</b> Noon until 2:00 pm Sandwiches, hot cider, and coffee will be provided. <i>Join us!</i> NR	<b>12</b> Post Closed	<b>13</b> <b>Keystone 7:30pm</b>	<b>HAMBURGER NIGHT 14</b> 5:30-7:30PM Beef Tips over Noodles/Mixed Vegetables/ Sloppy Joe Soup - Chicken Noodle Crew - K Thielen	<b>15</b> Ladies Sewing 1-3:00pm Cooties 7:30 pm VFW Riders 7:00 pm	<b>SPECIAL 16</b> Bloody Mary \$2.00 5-7 P.M. Buckets of Beer <b>SPECIAL</b> 5 domestics \$12.50 <b>PLAY KENO &amp; Pickles</b>	<b>SPECIAL 17</b> Bloody Mary \$2.00 5-7 P.M. Buckets of Beer <b>SPECIAL</b> 5 domestics \$12.50 <b>PLAY KENO &amp; Pickles</b> NR
<b>Breakfast 18</b> 8:30-Noon \$5.00 Post Open 8:30 am -6 pm  <b>PIZZA</b> Buckets of Beer <b>SPECIAL</b> 5 domestics \$12.50	<b>19</b> Post Closed	<b>20</b> <b>Coast Guard 7:30 pm</b> SR	<b>HAMBURGER NIGHT 21</b> 5:30 - 7:30 pm Chicken Fried Chicken/Mashed Potatoes/Gravy/Corn or Shrimp Basket Soup - Chili Crew - C Thornton Humdingers	<b>22</b> <b>"NOTE" NO FISH FRY Dec 23</b> --->	<b>ALL SPECIALS 23</b> <b>Same as above</b> <b>New Year's Eve Dinner</b> Come and Join your friends for dinner and dancing to the Humdingers. <b>Make your reservations with the Bartenders by 12/23/11</b>	<b>24</b> <b>Christmas Eve POST CLOSED</b>
<b>25</b> <b>Christmas Day Post CLOSED</b>	<b>26</b> Post Closed	<b>27</b> <b>AMVETS meeting 7:30 pm</b>	<b>HAMBURGER NIGHT 28</b> 5:30-7:30 pm BBQ Rib (Featherbones)/French Fries/ or French Dip Soup - Ham and Bean Crew - P Peterson	<b>29</b>	<b>SPECIAL 30</b> Bloody Mary \$2.00 5-7 P.M. Buckets of Beer <b>SPECIAL</b> 5 domestics \$12.50 <b>PLAY KENO &amp; Pickles</b>	<b>ALL SPECIALS 31</b> <b>Same as above</b> <b>YEARS EVE PARTY/DINNER</b> Dinner served from 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm. \$10.00/person and purchase tickets at the bar. Menu - Pork Loin, Mashed potatoes, gravy, green beans and dinner roll. Band - Humdingers start playing at 8:15 pm with a \$5.00 cover charge.

## COOTIE CORNER

Up Coming Events:

3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday, 7:30 pm, Cootie Meeting  
3<sup>rd</sup> Monday, 6:30 pm, Bingo at ENVH  
December 15<sup>th</sup>, Christmas Party & Auction  
replaces meeting at 6:00 pm.

New wrapped items for Auction. Guests welcome. Reservations to Earl Jones 402 926-2648. Chicken will be provided. Please bring a side dish or dessert.

Seam Squirrel Gary Steckelberg, Cootie Pres.  
Toni Geis

### Assistance for the Needy for Thanksgiving & Christmas

Once again we will have funds available to help those Post members or their families that are in need of assistance. Of necessity, assistance is limited to Post/Auxiliary Members, their parents, children and grandchildren. **Application forms are available at the bar and must be filled out completely and turned in at the bar by November 14th for Thanksgiving and December 15th for Christmas.** Jerry Hodakowski, Post Chaplain

**Thanks to Bob Ekdahl** and an anonymous donor, the club has 2 newer pickle machines and cabinets. The newer machines will allow us to sell \$1.00, 50 cent and quarter pickles. These are 6 rows each and less trouble than the older machines that were breaking down often. We hope to get these up and running as soon as we get the permits for them. Thanks again Bob and the anonymous donor for this. *The Pickle Committee*

**Auxiliary Members:** For Your Information!! Some wonder why we have money problems. Annual members pay \$23.00 a year. Of that \$7.00 goes to cancer, 75 cents to Relief, \$8.00 goes to Department and National dues. We have \$7.25 to work with for postage, dues notices, and office supplies. If we have to send a second notice, the cost is doubled.

Life Members pay according to their age. If you paid \$190.00 for a life membership, the entire \$190.00 must be sent to the National office. Each year, the National office sends us \$3.50 for each living Life Member. Each year, we must send \$2.00 for each member to the National office for cancer, according to our membership numbers on June 30<sup>th</sup>. This year we must pay \$1256.00 for 628 members. Life Members, it is important that you pay your cancer dues.

We are anticipating increasing our annual dues from \$23.00 to \$25.00, because on January 1 2012, the National office is increasing the amount we must send them. Instead of \$8.00, we will have to send \$9.50 for each annual member that we process after December 31 2011.

Ladies, if you have not paid your annual dues this year, we would appreciate having them by December 15<sup>th</sup>. Please try to help us in this way. *Ruth Gerst, Treasurer*

## VFW Post 2503 Internet Web Site www.vfwpost2503.org

Our site has seen well over 39,000 visitors since becoming operational in January 2010. We have over 300 people receiving the newsletter by e-mail. Your assistance in reducing Post operating costs is of much importance to the Post. We are also able to provide much more information to you via e-mail. Please be an advocate and encourage other Post and Auxiliary members to sign up for the newsletter by e-mail.

Ron Dupell <Webmaster@FW Post 2503.org

## FROM THE KITCHEN

I want to thank Rob and Sue McDonald for the preparation of the great food for the Octoberfest. A lot of compliments from all who dined. Thanks to Linda Humphrey, Luann Rosso, Ron Karm, Tim Ross and Tiger for all their hard work serving and cleaning up. Thanks to the Day Break Band once again for providing outstanding music to all that attended.

Mark your calendars now for NEW YEAR'S EVE. We will be serving a delicious pork loin, mashed potatoes, gravy, green beans, applesauce and roll dinner. The following guests were the winners for the free meal on Hamburger Night. Nick Harshberger, Brian Vercoe, Paul Donovan and Todd Klein.

Congratulations and thanks for supporting the Post. I want to thank all the new volunteers at the Post and all the volunteers who put in a lot of time working to make all our food nights a success. You are great people. The Post is looking for volunteers to help out on the nights food is served. There are plenty of different things you can do, from writing tickets to serving food. Everyone is welcome. We have fun. You may call me at 402 572-0651 or the post at 402 571-8397 or leave a note at the bar.

**Keep in mind on HAMBURGER NIGHT that hamburgers, chicken sandwiches and fish will always be served. The menu on the calendar is the SPECIAL for that day.** Please remember to fill out a ticket for a chance to win a free meal. *HI BUD!*

Have a Blessed and Wonderful Christmas. Please thank our Veterans and keep our members, families and Troops in your thoughts and prayers. Sincerely, *Kathy "Tiger" Thielen & the Crews*

By the way members, if you need a picture ID to prove you are a Veteran for a discount somewhere, use your Patient ID from the Veterans Administration. I just heard about this. *Sharon*

**POST  
BREAKFAST**  
Sunday, DECEMBER 18<sup>th</sup>  
from 8:30 to Noon  
**Only \$5.00**



## NEWSLETTER DISTRIBUTION UPDATE

We are facing uncertain, challenging, yet exciting times. During the past year, we have 'lost' over \$3,000.00 per month income from an expiring lease on our parking lot and from Honor Guard income.

Post leadership is working hard to replace that income but it is challenging and difficult. Sponsoring Bingo is one option that we are cautiously optimistic about. We hope that you will spread the word to bingo players that you know that we sponsor bingo at the Blondo Bingo Hall on Wednesdays at 7:00 pm and Saturdays at 1:00 p.m.

The postal newsletter costs the Post and the Auxiliary over \$9000.00 each year.

We still are producing over 1,800 printed items with our monthly newsletter. In addition, we are expending monies to have the Postal Service notify us for items that are undeliverable and for address changes. It is important that each member notifies the VFW National or Post 2503 with address changes.

We realize that some members do not have a computer in their homes and that an annual fee for receipt of the newsletter is a burden. Unless we lower expenses, we shall be required to take other actions such as further reducing our operating hours, transitioning to an all volunteer work force, discontinuing services, and reducing member benefits.

Post membership has agreed to the following: Beginning January 1, 2012, we are asking that our members either convert to e-mail with no added cost or contribute \$12 per year for continued mailing of the newsletter via US Postal mail. We hope that you will notify us promptly about receiving the newsletter via e-mail or making a \$12 contribution to the Post to defray cost of newsletter publication.

Ron Dupell, Quartermaster

### VA Announces a Public Service Announcement (PSA) About Women Veterans

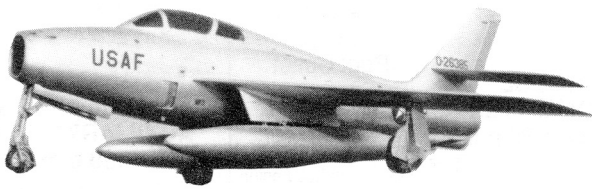
The department of Veterans Affairs is taking its internal culture change message to the public with a new video about the vital role women play in the military and the importance of providing women Veterans with high quality health care. The PSA is available for viewing on You Tube: [http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player\\_profilepage&v=BOP5DCgixPE](http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_profilepage&v=BOP5DCgixPE) and at [www.va.gov](http://www.va.gov)

### AUXILIARY COOKIE EXCHANGE!!

Sunday, December 11<sup>th</sup>  
from Noon until 2:00 pm  
in the Post Lounge.

Please Bring 2-3 dozen cookies to Exchange with your friends. Sandwiches, hot cider, and coffee will be provided. **Join us!**





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**See Inside**

- ★ **KID'S CHRISTMAS PARTY**
- ★ **COOKIE EXCHANGE**
- ★ **SUNDAY BREAKFAST**
- ★ **NEW YEAR'S EVE & THE HUMDINGERS**

From your *Honor Guard* Captain Chuck Wolf

**MILITARY RITES : October 2011**

**Military Members**

Deceased	Cemetery	Members
10/03/11 Lautrup, Edward N	Forest Lawn	9
10/03/11 Wasco, Robert W	Bellevue Memorial Chapel	8
10/04/11 Lienemann, Paul F	Lutheran Church of the Master	10
10/06/11 Allen, Charles "Chuck"	Forest Lawn	10
10/08/11 Burke, Judge John C	Calvary	10
10/11/11 Gill, Melvin	Forest Lawn	12
10/13/11 Klyce, William James	Forest Lawn	10
10/14/11 Hall, Russell E	Forest Lawn	12
10/14/11 Humphrey, Jerry	Mt Hope	11
10/15/11 Wupper, Fred L	Evergreen	13
10/15/11 Fuerst E. Jr	Westlawn Hillcrest	13
*10/17/11 Bolich, Ora O	Forest Lawn	10
10/19/11 Hartline, James S Sr	Forest Lawn	8
10/21/11 Samz, Donald E	Bellevue	13
10/21/11 Keuchel, John A	Calvary	13
10/24/11 Rowen, J Thomas	Resurrection	10
10/25/11 Ireland, George M	Forest Lawn	7
10/26/11 Jensen, Peder	Forest Lawn	10
10/27/11 Heiden, George "Geof"	Forest Lawn	10
10/28/11 Tallant, Gene	Braman Chapel	9
Funerals	20	Members 208
		Hours 624



**October 2011**  
Ora O Bolich  
Joseph M Kvetensky  
Richard W Meier  
James G Perry  
Glen H Peters

**CLUB HOURS**

Monday ..... Closed  
Tuesday ..... Noon -10:00 pm  
Wed. & Thurs. .... Noon -10:00 pm  
Friday & Saturday ..... Noon -11:00 pm  
Sunday ..... Noon- 6 pm

**New CLUB HOURS (Starts Dec 1, 2011)**

Monday ..... Closed  
Tuesday thru Friday ..... 3:00 pm -10:00 pm  
Saturday ..... Noon -11:00 pm  
Sunday ..... Noon- 6 pm

*The Post is selling  
Memorial Bricks*

around the memorial walk and flag.  
Chairman Bob Fenton

**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 memorials for living or deceased people. They will be ordered once a year on April 1st for installation by Memorial Day each year. Max 16 spaces per line, 3 lines, cost, \$60.00 per brick.

**KID'S CHRISTMAS PARTY**

**Saturday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>**

**1:00 to 3:00 pm**

*Santa will be at the Post Home*



**NEW YEAR'S EVE  
DINNER & DANCING**

Pork Loin/Mashed Potatoes/Gravy/Vegetable/Applesauce and Dinner Roll - Served from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. **Only \$10.00**

Please make your reservations with the Bartenders and buy your tickets by 12/23/11.

**Dance to the Humdingers 8:15 PM. Cover-charge \$5.00**

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Please Print

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

**WORDS ON BRICK**

LINE 1 \_ \_ \_ \_ \_

LINE 2 \_ \_ \_ \_ \_

LINE 3 \_ \_ \_ \_ \_

**CHECKS ONLY - NO CASH** Return this form to the post