



# Medina VFW 5137



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## Commander’s Corner — Chuck “Sarge” Heller

Since I am new at putting items in a newsletter I will make this short. I would just like to thank you for the trust you have put in me by voting me in as the new Commander of Post 5137.

A short brief on my background is as follows. As most of you who know me, I started in office as Jack Forster’s Quartermaster and then was Commander Scotty Kopfstein’s Quartermaster for three years. I am a 48 year Life Member of the American Legion in Wadsworth. I am a five year past Commander of Post 170 in Wadsworth. I am also the only person from the American Legion in Medina County who has held the position of Commander in the Legions fifth district which is the largest in the state with ten counties. Holding that position in 2002-2003 when there were over 17 thousand legionnaires in the district.

Of course meetings may be run a little different but I don't foresee any big problems. I am looking forward to getting started in July. Thanks for your attention.

Commander Elect 2017-2018  
Chuck "Sarge" Heller

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**3916 Pear Road**  
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**330-725-0884**

*“The primary goal of the VFW is to support Veterans, their families and the Medina community”*

## Past Commander — Jim Hoessle

Our new Commander is Chuck “Sarge” Heller. Congratulations and best of luck Chuck.

The Post is busy as ever with some great summer events coming up. Please check the Canteen Manager`s schedule in this newsletter.

Anyone wishing to use the Hall or the Pavilion please book as soon as possible and know that we have booked for dates in 2018 already.

Our Building and Grounds crew continues to be busy with landscaping, painting, and repairs. If you are able to help with maintenance, kitchen work, or improvements let us know.

Fundraising and charities are a big part of the VFW and the Post has been able to continue supporting worthy causes for many years.

The Honor Guard is always busy and they deserve our thanks.

Thanks to the Auxiliary for their invaluable service to veterans and the community. Our membership numbers continue to grow when many Posts are struggling .

Thanks to all for keeping our VFW strong and welcoming to veterans, families and guests.

Happy Trails,

Commander Jim Hoessle



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**Rudy and Linda**  
**Kerr**  
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Let me tell you about one of our most loyal families, Rudy & Linda Kerr. They are both very active in our VFW Post 5137. Rudy has been Captain of our Honor Guard for a total of 15 years, OD for 8 years, and worked for Grounds & Maintenance, as well as any thing else that he can do.

He has been a Life Member since 1991, and was Junior Vice for awhile. His wife Linda has also been a Life Member since 1991. She has held office for many years in the Auxiliary which includes, Junior Vice for 2 years, Secretary for 6 years, and Chaplain for 10 years.

She also takes part in making desserts for our dinners, and helping in other projects. She has been in the Auxiliary for many years.

This couple is truly a credit to the Post!



## **POW/MIA Report “...let us never forget.” — Gene Galandiuk, Chair**

The Defense Dept. MIA/POW Accounting Office reports that 56 sets of remains were recovered and ID`d.

20 sailors from WW2 aboard the USS Oklahoma. 1 sailor from Vietnam. 7 soldiers from WW2. 15 soldiers from Korea. 1 Army Air Corps from WW2. 4 airmen from Vietnam. 7 marines from WW2. 1 marine from Vietnam.

## **Service Officer’s Report — Jeramie Hach, Service Officer**

### **VA ACCOUNTABILITY WHISTLERBLOWER PROTECTION ACT BECOMES LAW**

President Trump passed into law that the VFW-championed Department of Veterans Affairs Accountability and Whistleblower Protection Act of 2017.

"Accountability must be a two-way street, and today’s signing now provides VA Secretary Dr. David Shulkin the authority to manage his people in a manner expected of all senior executives, public and private," said VFW National Commander Brian Duffy.

This bill means that employees of the VA will be held accountable of nonperformance and personal conduct. If you would like more info on the bill you can go to VFW Action Corps Weekly report dated June 23,2017. They also have a link to watch coverage of the event. Have a nice 4th of July.

Jeramie Hach, Service Officer

## **Chaplain’s Report — Pat Pinkerton**

It has come to my attention, as your chaplain, that our fellow brothers and sisters of VFW status are somewhat in question! Our Washington law makers are asking if our veterans with combat injuries should continue to receive their compensation for any injuries they received.

We who gave some, and some gave all, are now thought to live on less, with any current physical conditions after serving our country!! This is not a political statement from your chaplain, it is a moral, official statement from a fellow Veteran of Foreign War, who is a clergy, officially attached to your lives as a family member.

We have a major investment in the freedoms of this great nation. Our lives were endangered daily, to then protect our government, and day to day populations as well as its honorary combatants. We cannot be hood-winked by our national government leaders to try to cut spending by our sacrifices for them!!!! Stand your ground today, as you did years ago. Amen.

Now for our hospital report. Jim Benson passed away this spring and Jim was a forty year victim of PTSD from Vietnam service! Aunt Jean is back at Evergreen Care Center from her hospital visit.

Yours in Christ,

Pat Pinkerton



## July - September Events

Event	Description	Date	Time
Free Hot Dogs & Chips	Open	July 4	
Gibson's	Pork Chops	July 7	5:00 PM – 7:00 PM
Auxiliary Meeting		July 10	7:00 PM
POST Meeting		July 11	7:00 PM
Gibson's	TBA	July 14	5:00 PM – 7:00 PM
Steak Blast	Open to Public music/cash bar	July 15	5:00 PM – 7:00 PM
Wade Park Treat	Need cookies	July 16	
Gibson's	TBA	July 21	5:00PM – 7:00 PM
Waskey Fundraiser	Music/Raffles	July 23	
Gibson's	TBA	July 28	5:00PM – 7:00 PM
Gibsons'	TBA	August 4	5:00 PM – 7:00 PM
Rolling Thunder Pig Roast		August 5	
Gibson's	Beef Tips	August 11	5:00 PM – 7:00 PM
Gibson's	TBA	August 18	5:00 PM – 7:00 PM
POST Picnic		August 19	
Gibson's	TBA	August 25	5:00 PM – 7:00 PM
Gibson's	TBA	Sept 1	5:00 PM – 7:00 PM
Gibson's	TBA	Sept 8	5:00 PM – 7:00 PM
POW/MIA	Sloppy Joes	Sept 15	5:00 PM – 7:00 PM
Gibson's	TBA	Sept 22	5:00 PM – 7:00 PM
Clam Bake		Sept 23	
Gibsons'	Stuffed Chicken	Sept 29	5:00 PM – 7:00 PM

## Honor Guard Report— Rudy Kerr, Captain

5-2-17 Military Rites for Blake J. Fliedt Life Member and Past Post Commander

5-4-17 Military Rites for 4 funerals at O.W.R.N.C.

5-4-17 Posted colors for the Republican Party Lincoln Day Dinner

5-6-17 Posted colors for the Medina County Coalition 5th annual Military Banquet.

5-20-17 10 Honor Guard members assisted in the Desert Storm recognition and cook out.

Also these Honor Guard members worked with the Rolling Thunder Chapter 8 posting colors, a 21 gun salute and taps to support and honor the military families.

5-23-17 The Honor Guard provided a recognition ceremony, 21 gun salute and taps for Veterans living at the Evergreen Rest Home in Medina.

5-25-17 11 Honor Guard members provided a “Silent Guard” and VFW ritual at Armstrong Funeral Home in Seville for Life Member James Benson.

5-27-17 7 members posted US flags at 4 private cemeteries in Medina Township.

5-29-17 17 members were involved in the Post 5137 memorial service, marched in the Medina parade, and provided a 21 gun salute and taps at Spring Grove Cemetery and again at the Vietnam Veterans`

## Auxiliary Report — Angela Clabaugh

My name is Angela Clabaugh. I am the new Auxiliary President Elect.

First of all, I would like to thank Krissie for her years of service and guidance. We are better because of you. Secondly, I would like to thank everyone for the opportunity I have before me. My goals for the upcoming year are plentiful but first and foremost is to do all we can to honor our Vets, both those that have served and those that are serving now, for they are our future!

Our pledge that we take when we become a member of this auxiliary states that our purpose is to reach out to those who need us. “Let us be ever mindful.”

This Post is a great one! It takes countless volunteers and countless hours to keep it that way. My hope for this year is that we will continue to serve our community and those that need us and give and volunteer with a cheerful heart. We must work hard to reach out to our younger vets and their families. We need to ensure our future.

I’m looking forward to a great year!

Angela Clabaugh



## Results of Kids Fishing Derby

This year's turnout was rather small but all had a great time and lots of fish were caught. I would like to thank my cousin Bruce Rossow for coming out and measuring all the fish and Jack Coyne from our Post for cooking the burgers and dogs. Thanks guys!

### 4-10 year old Results:

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Riley Cogar      15 in. Bass (Eagles)

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Luci Lechendo 14 1/2 in. Bass (Eagles)

3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Anthony Argirdkis      14 1/2 in. Bass (VFW)

2<sup>nd</sup> Place caught 7 Bass, 3<sup>rd</sup> Place caught 1 Bass.

### 11-16 Year old Results

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Nick Farnsworth      14 3/4 in. Bass (Eagles)

2<sup>nd</sup> Place: Evan Thompkins      14 1/2 in. Bass (VFW)

3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Carter Yedlick      13 3/4 in. Bass (Eagles)

Great job kids! Hope to see more out next year. Most of all thanks to our sponsors:

Medina Eagles, Medina VFW and Medina Moose. Without your support these fishing derbys would not be possible.

Sincerely, Scotty Kopfstein Medina VFW Post 5137

