



August 2026

VFW Post 604 News

WWW.VFW-604.ORG

812-339-2375 / main@vfw-604.org



V.F.W. Mission Statement

The purpose of this corporation (VFW) shall be fraternal, patriotic, historical, charitable, and educational; to preserve and strengthen comradeship among its members; to assist worthy comrades; to perpetuate the memory and history of our dead, and to assist their widows and orphans; to maintain true allegiance to the Government of the United States of America, and fidelity to its institutions of American freedom, and to preserve and defend the United States from all her enemies, whomsoever.

Commander's Corner

Welcome to August, the 8th month of the year and usually one of the hottest of the twelve. We had to close on a couple days in July due to the lack of bar tending staff, hopefully we have this under control at this point, however the way our VFW Post 604 is organized with an all-volunteer force, we may be forced from time to time to close due to lack of personnel both on the gaming and bartender side of the house. Please be patient with us and keep your eye on the VFW face book page for updates.

The Monroe County Veterans Honor Guard is looking for more volunteers to assist with funerals for or veterans, if interested in more information please contact me for more information, my contact info is below.

VFW Post 604 is responsible for the Veteran's Columbarium at Valhalla Memory Gardens in Bloomington, this is where a veteran's ashes may be placed at minimal cost to the veteran's family. If interested in more information about the details of a columbarium niche, please contact Dale Blubaugh or Brad Mobley for more details.

The Post meal for August 7th will be Pulled Pork and French fries for \$10, As for August 21st, the comeback of our Smoked Pork Chop, with Cheesy Potato Casserole, and Crock Pot Green Beans for only \$10. Come out and support your VFW Post 604 and enjoy some delicious very affordable Dinners. Our Monday lunch specials remain with the \$3 - ¼ pound hotdog and the ever popular Smoked Pork Chop Sandwich for \$5.

Have a GREAT month, Commander out... ❖

Commander – Dale Blubaugh

(812) 606 8230

Dale.blubaugh@gmail.com

VFW Auxiliary

Hello to all. Summer for the kids is coming to end, but as any Hoosier knows – that does NOT mean the end of summer and hot weather. Stay safe in all this heat.

The National Home trip is at the end of September- please see the information at the end of the newsletter. Chelle and I are going again and would love for anyone to join us. We do have a woman who is potentially looking for a roommate for the trip, so please let me know if that extra woman might be you!

I was unable to attend the June convention for personal reasons, but got an email the next day with all the awards that our Auxiliary received for the year. I've posted the list on Facebook. It was quite impressive! I'll be picking them up on August 9th at our next district meeting. It's in Martinsville for anyone wishing to join us! Our annual district School of Instruction will be September 13th from 2-4p in Martinsville for anyone wishing to attend. If you'd like to get more involved, this is a great opportunity to learn more- and it's generally a fun time.

Please see the end of this email about information on Gerry Kisters. There will be a ceremony honoring him on August 24th at 4pm at Monroe County Airport - AKA Gerry Kisters Field. He was the first WWII vet to receive the Distinguished Service Medal and The Medal of Honor- in addition to receiving the Purple Heart. I am unable to attend the ceremony, but it would be wonderful if the VFW were represented.

Still no word yet on things that are being collected for District committees, but I'll keep you posted- and leave a box in the entryway to the Post.

On November 10th, the Marine Corps birthday, our

See Auxiliary..... Continued on Page 2

Veteran's Plots & Columbarium

Valhalla Memory Gardens' free columbarium niche & grave plots are still available to honorably discharged veterans and their spouses. Individuals are only responsible for any required opening & closing costs and site markers not provided by the military. For more information contact VFW Post 604 Commander Dale Blubaugh at (812) 606-8230



Canteen News

Post hours of operation are:

Sunday..... 12:00 PM – 6:00 PM
 Monday..... 12:00 PM – 9:00 PM
 Tuesday..... 12:00 PM – 9:00 PM
 Friday..... 4:00 PM – 10:00 PM
 Saturday..... 12:00 PM – 6:00 PM

Happy Hours are:

5:00 - 7:00 PM Monday & Tuesday
 4:00 - 6:00 PM Friday
 3:00 - 5:00 PM Saturday & Sunday

Quartermaster's Corner

As students return to Bloomington for the new school year, VFW Post 604 is excited to welcome them back to our community — especially the dedicated cadets of Indiana University's ROTC program. These young men and women balance rigorous academics with military training, and they're even stepping up to support Post 604 directly by volunteering during our Friday night dinners. We truly appreciate their hard work around the Post and look forward to standing behind these future leaders all semester long.

The start of the school year also means one big thing: Hoosier Football **is back!** Whether you're heading to Memorial Stadium or looking for a great spot to watch the games, Post 604 is your home base for fall matchups. Stop by the canteen for cold drinks, great food, and camaraderie with fellow veterans, family, and friends as we cheer on the Hoosier's team all season long.

Auxiliary.....Continued from Page 1

Auxiliary is again doing a "Meet and Greet" at the VA Clinic in Bloomington. It will run from 8am-2pm. We are looking for volunteers to man the tables for 1-2 hrs that day. We'd like to have at least 2 at a time. Please contact Jenny Tracy at 812-320-3871 to set up your time frame.

Last week, Kathy Norris and I delivered 60 shelf stable meals to Wheeler Mission. They serve about 150 meals a day for our housing challenged population, which does include several of our veterans.

Meals for August will be August 14th - lasagna for \$10 and August 28th - breaded or grilled pork tenderloin sandwiches for \$10. Please come join us and bring family and friends!

Drawing on July 21st for \$97.50 was Sandi Taylor-NS/NP.

If you or a loved one is sick, I wish you health. If you have lost a loved one, I wish you peace and comfort...❖

Carol Rowan-Ozug – Auxiliary President
 (812)325-3377 crowanozug@gmail.com

COMMANDER'S DRAWING



Date	Member Drawn	\$Pot\$	Result
07/03	Paul Davis	\$450	Not signed
07/10	Bruce Outcalt	\$655	Not signed
07/17		CLOSED	
07/24	William R Sills	\$870	Not signed

\$5 to play – Sign up – Who wins, who knows?
 Be here Friday @ 7:00 PM – if your # is drawn – get it all!

Laurens B. Strain – VFW Post 604

August

1200 - 1800	1200 - 2100	1200 - 2100	CLOSED	CLOSED	1600 - 2200	1200 - 1800
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Souper Sunday !!! Serving 1200 – 1600 2	 Hot Dog Monday \$3.00 Chips & Fixin's 3 Open to the Public	4	5 CLOSED	6 CLOSED *Vet to Vet – 1800	Serving 1730 – 1930 Pulled Pork Sandwiches with Fries 7 \$10 Open to the Public	1 & 8 Smoked Porkchop Sandwich \$5.00 Serving 1200 – 1730
Souper Sunday !!! Serving 1200 – 1600 9	 Hot Dog Monday \$3.00 Chips & Fixin's 10 Open to the Public	11	12 CLOSED	13 CLOSED *Vet to Vet – 1800	Serving 1730 – 1930 Lasagna, Garlic Bread, & Salad 14 \$10 Open to the Public	15 Smoked Porkchop Sandwich \$5.00 Serving 1200 – 1730
Souper Sunday !!! Serving 1200 – 1600 16	 Hot Dog Monday \$3.00 Chips & Fixin's 17 Open to the Public	18 Meetings V.F.W. 1800 V.F.W. Auxiliary 1800	19 CLOSED	20 CLOSED *Vet to Vet – 1800	Serving 1730 – 1930 SMOKED PORKCHOP, CHEESY POTATO CASSEROLE, & CROCK POT GREEN BEANS 21 \$10 Open to the Public	22 Smoked Porkchop Sandwich \$5.00 Serving 1200 – 1730
Souper Sunday !!! Serving 1200 – 1600 23	 Hot Dog Monday \$3.00 Chips & Fixin's 24 1600 - Monroe County Airport - Gerry Kisters Marker Dedication	25	26 CLOSED	27 CLOSED *Vet to Vet – 1800	Serving 1730 – 1930 Grilled or Breaded Pork Tenderloin Sandwiches 28 \$10 Open to the Public	29 Smoked Porkchop Sandwich \$5.00 Serving 1200 – 1730
Souper Sunday !!! Serving 1200 – 1600 30	 Hot Dog Monday \$3.00 Chips & Fixin's 31	  				

Telephone (812) 339-2375

(*Vet-to-Vet at IVY Tech, 200 Daniels Way - room B123 – Check <http://www.vettovetbloomington.com/> to confirm location)

Gaming License # 002744

2026-2027 VFW Post 604 Officers

Dale Blubaugh	Commander
Aaron Dobrin	Sr. Vice Commander
Cathi Johnson	Jr. Vice Commander
Scott Tincer	Quartermaster
Peter Chadwick	Chaplain
Ken Sexton.....	Judge Advocate
Richard “Moe” Moldenhauer...	Surgeon
Debbie Deckard	Adjutant
Debbie Deckard	1 Yr. Trustee
Will Warner	2 Yr. Trustee
Bradley Mobley	3 Yr. Trustee

Carol Rowan-Ozug.....	President
Mike Pipher	Sr. Vice President
Julie Martin.....	Jr. Vice President
Michelle Brown	Treasurer
Karen Cain	Secretary / Membership & Scholarship Chair
Greg Johnson.....	Conductor
Jenny Tracy.....	Patriotic Instructor
Kathy Norris.....	Guard
Sara Dobrin.....	Chaplain
Julie Martin.....	1 Yr. Trustee
Kenya Blubaugh.....	2 Yr. Trustee
Kathy Norris.....	3 Yr. Trustee

7th District National Home Bus Trip

19-20 September 2026



V F W
N A T I O N A L H O M E

Contact Keith Rohloff (keith.rohloff@outlook.com) to sign up. Bus leaves Brazil VFW Post @ 1000 and Greenwood VFW Post @ 1200 Saturday September 19th, 2026. Cost is \$170 per person/double occupancy at Tru by Hilton in Jackson. Deadline to sign up is August 20th or sooner if bus is full (First 46 paid riders) State pick-up point with payment.

Mail your check to:
Keith Rohloff
100 Brinegar Drive
Springville IN 47462

September 19, 2026

9:30 AM Bus Arrive Brazil VFW Post 1127 (Park on Depot St in front of VFW Post)
303 S Depot Street Brazil 47838

10:00 AM Leave Brazil VFW Post 1127

11:15 AM Arrive Greenwood VFW Post 5864 (Park behind building -VFW Post entrance)
1842 Veterans Way Greenwood IN 46143
317-888-2488

12:00 PM Depart Greenwood VFW Post 5864

TBD Stop on way for smoke break (Will be determined by riders/bus driver)

4:30 PM Arrive Tru by Hilton
2401 Shirley Drive Jackson Michigan 49202
517-867-5000

5:30 PM Group Dinner – TBD

September 20, 2026

9:00 AM Depart Hotel to go to VFW National Home
3573 S Waverly Rd Eaton Rapids MI 48827
800-424-8360

10:00 – 2:00 PM Tours/Lunch/Program (Driver invited to participate/Driver provided lunch)

2:00 PM Depart VFW National Home

TBD Stop on way for smoke break (Will be determined by riders/bus driver)

6:30 PM Arrive Greenwood VFW Post 5864

6:45 PM Depart Greenwood.

8:00 PM Arrive Brazil VFW Post 1127



Veterans & Family Support

VFW Auxiliary 604

Gerry Kisters Historical Mark ; David Nord Monroe County Historian – appointment by the Indiana Historical Society, is working on program.

Honoring Gerry Kisters, who was the first American soldier in World War II to receive both the Medal of Honor and the Distinguished Service Cross. The marker is complete and delivered. It will be erected at the Monroe County Airport – 972 Airport Road, which was named Kisters Field in 1944.



SAVE THE DATE: AUGUST 24 – 4PM ET Dedication Ceremony

Kisters was born on March 2, 1919 in Salt Lake City, Utah, to a family that had worked in the fur trade for generations; his family moved to Bloomington, Indiana, in 1937, where his father opened a fur shop. Kisters worked for his father and then opened his own fur shop in Vincennes, Indiana, operating it for several years before he was drafted in January 1941. He was assigned to a reconnaissance unit training at Fort Bliss, Texas.

By 1942 Kisters' unit, formerly attached to the 1st Cavalry, had become an independent unit, the 91st Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron. At the end of 1942 they were sent to Casablanca to join the Tunisian campaign. On May 7, 1943, Kisters, now a staff sergeant, surprised and killed the crew of a German 88 mm artillery gun, earning a Distinguished Service Cross.

By July 31, 1943, Kisters' unit was attached to the 2nd Armored Division, then involved in the Allied invasion of Sicily. On that day, near Gagliano, Sicily, he and an officer captured an enemy machine gun position. Kisters then went forward alone and, although wounded in both legs and his right arm on his approach, single-handedly captured a second machine gun emplacement. He was subsequently promoted to second lieutenant and, on February 18, 1944, was awarded his Distinguished Service Cross and the Medal of Honor. He was the first American soldier to be awarded both during World War II. He was featured in war bond drives, and the Monroe County Airport was named Kisters Field in his honor.

Kisters was sent back to the U.S. and spent months recovering from his injuries. After his recovery he taught reconnaissance at Fort Riley in Kansas and reached the rank of first lieutenant. After the war he reopened his fur shop and became a successful businessman.

He died on May 11, 1986 at age 67 and was buried at Rose Hill Cemetery in Bloomington, Indiana.