



Veterans of Foreign Wars
Townsend Post 6538
PO Box 207
West Townsend, MA 01474

NONPROFIT
ORGANIZATION
US POSTAGE PAID
TOWNSEND MA 01469
PERMIT NO 3

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

People who volunteer at a soup kitchen through a church or neighborhood group or who volunteer at a veteran's organization can come to feel part of something 'larger.' Such a sense of belonging calls on a different part of a self than society calls on. Our society calls on our sense of self-interest. It focuses us on what we 'get.'

Post 6538 Activities							Oct 2015 (Eastern Time)						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						8pm - KARAOKE							
		6pm - HC Meeting											
		7pm - Members Meeting			7pm - Meat Bingo	8pm - KARAOKE							
10:30am - Dist. 15 Meeting	7pm - Ladies Aux. Meeting	7pm - Men's Aux. Meeting											
						7pm - Halloween Party							8pm - KARAOKE



VFW Post 6538

PO BOX 207 - WEST TOWNSEND, MASSACHUSETTS - 01474
PH. (978) 597-5644



September - October 2015



The Post will be sponsoring a Charity Ride for Veterans & Pig Roast on September, 26 2015.

We are riding to benefit Project New Hope, which is the State Commanders special project. Project New Hopes' mission is to assist veterans and their families with PTSD, TBI, Military Sexual Trauma, Marital Issues, Chronic Pain Issues and Suicidal thoughts, and other issues that might arise. Registration is \$20 for riders and \$15 for passenger. \$15 early Rider registration. Go to TownsendVFW.org and download the forms. BBQ open to non-riders for \$15 a plate while it lasts.



Saturday Evening Chicken BBQ's

As of this newsletter we are still having chicken dinners on Saturday nights. We have had a strong response and many new faces that visited the post just for the dinners. We would like to keep this going but are in need of more volunteers to help. It only takes two people to run the whole BBQ from start to finish. Starts at 6pm.



Meat Bingo Returns!

Starting September 18th and every third Friday of the month. Starts at 7:00 pm in the Function Hall.

DEPT of MA VFW Training

OTI will be held at the Milford Doubletree Hotel, Sept. 18-20. **Any Member** may attend and is recommended if you want to learn more about the VFW. Please see any officer or come to the next meeting and sign up. It's paid for by the post, lunch is provided and transportation to and from Milford can arranged since other members are driving each day.

Cheeseburger Wednesdays at the 'V'



Every Wednesday from 12 -1:30pm. Cheeseburger (fully dressed), beans/chips, pickle & dessert for only \$5.00.

Meatball Monday's at the 'V' - Noon Till Evening!

National POW/MIA Recognition Sept-18th

The Post and its Auxiliary will observe it by conducting a public candlelight ceremony at the Townsend Common beginning at 6:30PM. It is important that we continue to show our commitment to American Prisoners of War and those still Missing in Action. Plan now to join us for this short half hour event as we remember those from ALL wars who have yet to return home



Veterans Breakfast - Last Saturday - September

Workers Credit Union Donation Drive For Edith Nourse Rogers Memorial Veterans Hospital



Workers Credit Union collected toiletries, socks and undergarments for the veterans at the Edith Nourse Rogers Memorial Veterans Hospital in Bedford. The donations and "Thank You" cards were graciously accepted by Post Quartermaster Russ Moore.



FROM THE EDITOR

Welcome to the new post newsletter!

It has been a long time coming and we hope that the information will be more exciting and interesting along with more articles and pictures of what we do. We have also decided to publish the newsletter every other month instead of monthly due to cost and labor.

New features of the newsletter are two actual calendars of what is happening at the post that can be cut out and displayed for easy access. We are also getting away from the labeled sides of the newsletter and all articles will be placed within the newsletter as space permits. Another section will display the names of the current officers of the Post, Ladies and Men's Auxiliaries. The newsletter will also be in color, at least the front page, and will not come in an envelope. There will be other items/articles as space permits that hopefully will make the newsletter fun to look at.

VOICE OF DEMOCRACY

"My Vision for America" is the topic of this year's Voice of Democracy Patriotic Audio Essay Competition for students in grades nine through twelve. Students compete by writing and then recording the essay on an audio CD or a flash drive. Since this is a national program of the VFW and its Auxiliary, there are a multitude of prizes at all levels of competition from a total of \$152,000 in scholarship money to the national winners down to \$300 in cash to the local winners. Information about the contest will be given to the North Middlesex Regional, Nashoba Tech, Ayer Shirley, Groton-Dunstable Regional, and Lunenburg High Schools, but it would be very helpful if you would personally encourage every eligible young person you know to enter this contest. Massachusetts students who are in an approved home study program or who attend a school where the contest is not being sponsored by a VFW Post or its Auxiliary may enter our contest. Anyone needing contest information may contact Contest Chairmen Betty Mae Tenney or Russell Jobe for details. The recorded entries with a typed copy of the script and a completed Official Entry Form are due at the local level by Sunday, November 1st.

VFW NATIONAL BYLAWS AMENDED

At its 2015 National Convention the VFW passed a resolution to amend its National Bylaws to change the name of the Ladies Auxiliary VFW to VFW Auxiliary and to allow eligible male relatives to join the Auxiliary. Males who wish to join the Auxiliary will be required to fill out a membership application, provide proof of eligibility, and their application will be voted on just as females who wish to join. The Men's Auxiliary as we know it has not been recognized by National in the past but allowed to be recognized and run by the state. This resolution now recognizes the Men's contributions and combines them with the ladies to form the VFW Auxiliary. VFW Auxiliary members must be citizens of the United States or United States Nationals and at least sixteen years old. Those now eligible for the VFW Auxiliary are a husband, wife, widower, widow, father, mother, grandfather, grandmother, son, daughter, grandson, granddaughter, brother, or sister of a person who is or was eligible for membership in the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States.



PATRIOT'S PEN

Our Post and Auxiliary are also currently sponsoring the Patriot's Pen Essay Competition for students in grades six through eight. This year's theme is "What Freedom Means to Me". Each essay must be typewritten and contain between 300 and 400 words. No color or graphics should be added. The students may not identify themselves, their school, town, or state within their essay, but a completed Official Entry Form must be stapled to the top of each essay. All local Patriot's Pen Essay Competition entries should be submitted to Betty Mae Tenney or Russell Jobe no later than November 1st. Please encourage all eligible young people you know to enter this wonderful national contest which offers monetary awards at every level of competition. Feel free to contact Betty Mae or Russ for the Official Entry Form or additional contest information.

Townsend VFW Post 6538



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Ladies Auxiliary



President
Betty Mae Tenney
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 978.597.6495 or 8845

Sr. Vice Pres. Terry Duggan
Jr. Vice Pres. Irene Johnson

Treasurer Lisa Jackson
Chaplain Dawn Wright

Conductress Katherine Hitchins

Men's Auxiliary



President
Larry Hartnett

Sr. Vice Pres. Edward Wojciulewicz

Jr. Vice Pres. Michael Maceachern

Secretary Richard Miller

Treasurer James Blanchard

Chaplain David Keefe



I NEED YOU TO VOLUNTEER AT YOUR POST TODAY!

VETERANS FALL FESTIVAL AT THE BEDFORD VA HOSPITAL

Our Post and Auxiliary will again serve ice cream sundaes at the Veterans Festival to be held at the Bedford VA Medical Center on Thursday, October 29th. Volunteers are needed to make and dispense the sundaes as well as to escort hospitalized veterans to the festival. This year's event will have a "Halloween" theme and those volunteering at the festival are encouraged to dress in themed clothing. The festival will begin at 6:30 p.m., but the distance from Townsend and the set-up time necessitates that we leave our Post Home at 4:15. Please join us for this enjoyable activity.

CRUZ NIGHTS AT THE VFW

The last Cruz Night for the summer has come and gone, closing yet another successful 8 weeks of fun, food and good conversation with all who attended and volunteered to make them happen. Thanks to Terri & Mike Roy and their family, and all the other volunteers who cooked, sold tickets and just made things happen.



Post 6538 Activities							Sep 2015 (Eastern Time)	
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat		
30	31	1 6pm - HC Meeting	2	3	4	5 8pm - KARAOKE		
6	7	8 7pm - Members Meeting	9	10	11	12		
13 10:30am - Dist 15 Meeting	14	15 7pm - Men's Aux. Meeting	16	17	18 4pm - VFW OTI Training 6:30pm - Nat. POW/MIA 7pm - Meat Bingo	19 8am - VFW OTI Training 8pm - KARAOKE		
20 8am - VFW OTI Training	21 7pm - Ladies Aux. Meeting	22	23	24	25	26 9:30am - VFW Charity Ride		
27	28	29	30	1	2	3		

POW/MIA FLAG PRESENTATION

Our VFW Auxiliary will present a POW/MIA Flag to Townsend Woods to be flown outside that Senior Housing Complex which is located at 70 Dudley Road in Townsend on the morning of National POW/MIA Recognition Day. Everyone is invited to attend the presentation ceremony which will begin at 11:00 a.m.

JOINT HOSPITAL/VETERANS AND FAMILY SUPPORT WORKSHOP

The Department of Massachusetts VFW and its Auxiliary will hold a Joint Hospital/Veterans and Family Support Workshop at the Brockton VA Medical Center on Saturday, October 10th. The Hospital portion, which will begin at 9:30 a.m., will be an informative program about all the VA Medical Centers, Outpatient Clinics, and Soldiers Homes serving Massachusetts Veterans. Veterans Service Officers will address those in attendance about benefits available to Veterans and their families. Homeless Veterans Shelter representatives will be on hand to accept donations of new and used clothing, towels, and coffee. All Post and Auxiliary members are invited and encouraged to attend this workshop to learn how we can better serve Veterans and their families. Please advise Betty Mae by September 28th if you plan to attend and wish to have a ticket for the luncheon, which will be served at noon, reserved for you.