

# ARLINGTON VFW POST 981

Meetings: 7:00 PM 1<sup>st</sup> Weds. Of Each Month – Wheeling AMVETS Post #66



Website – [vfwpost981.com](http://vfwpost981.com)

SPRING 2021 NEWSLETTER

## CELEBRATING OUR POST TURNING 100

On October 5 1922 Arlington Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 981 was granted its charter. In anticipation of the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of that momentous event a committee has been formed under the leadership of former Commander Chuck Vassallo. Commander Voss has tasked the committee with arranging for a celebration night of dining and dancing with special guests from both the VFW world and the community. The committee has begun its work already, anticipating that the pent up demand from delayed weddings, anniversaries and the such would make getting the right venue on the right date difficult unless action was immediately taken. The committee is pleased to announce that a date and the venue have been confirmed:

**SATURDAY OCTOBER 8 2022**

**CONCORDE BANQUETS, KILDEER**

Mark this on your calendar and anticipate further details during the months leading up to the event.

## COMMANDER

It looks as if spring is finally here. The Sox are tied for first place and over 100 million Americans have had at least one dose of the vaccine, things are finally starting to look good around here again! Last week the Staff held our first in person meeting at the AMVETS in over a year and by the time you read this we will have had April's general membership meeting in person as well. In order for

us to meet we are not only following all of the CDC recommended guidelines but the OSHA guidelines as well. Member safety is and will continue to be our primary concern as we resume our regular monthly meetings at the AMVETS post. We will continue to host an internet Zoom call for those who are not yet comfortable with attending a group setting.

As the rest of the world continues to move forward towards 'normal' so is our Post. Poppy Days have been scheduled to resume on May 22 in Arlington Heights and May 29 in Buffalo Grove. Our annual Boomers baseball game outing is set for Sunday July 25 and our Color Guard has resumed honoring deceased Veterans at their funeral services.

The 100th Anniversary Committee has not only set a date for our Post's Centennial celebration, October 8, 2022 but they have also secured the location; Concorde Banquets in Lake Zurich. Please mark the date in your calendars and plan on celebrating this incredible event. More detail will follow, but for now save the date!

*Semper Fi*

*Matt*

## SENIOR VICE-COMMANDER

Things seem to be looking up as Spring is here and we have gained an hour of daylight. At this time in our lives every little thing is a blessing. I need all your help now in getting new members. We have lost 14 members since last year and need more members or absorb another Post. If you meet someone please advise them of our 50% off on Life Membership. Until we can again meet in person if they or you have questions please have them call

me at **708 598 8000** and I'll be glad to send them a new membership form and let them know more about Post 981. We have a great group of Veterans and remember what we do best "**Veterans helping other Veterans**". We can do this and have done it in the past so again please talk it up and try to get new members now, our Post needs your help **now**.

*Tony*

## **JUNIOR VICE-COMMANDER**

VFW Post 981 will be going back to see the Schaumburg Boomers baseball team on July 25. For \$5 each, a Post member can invite one additional adult guest and any children under 18. We will be occupying a skybox with all you can eat lunch & refreshments (maybe even beer). What a deal! Any other guests will cost \$25. Check out the flyer farther in our newsletter. See you there.

*Mike Kolbuk*

## **UPCOMING POST EVENTS**

- **Post Meeting** – Wednesday (May 5)
- **Poppy Sales** – Saturday (May 22) Arlington Heights and Saturday (May 29) Buffalo Grove
- **Memorial Day Remembrance** - AMVETS Post 66 – Monday (May 31)
- **Post Meeting** (Installation of Officers) – Wednesday (June 2)
- **Post Meeting** – Wednesday (July 7)
- **4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade** - either Arlington Heights or Palatine Sunday (July 4)
- **Home Fest Recruiting** Palatine – Friday (July 2) & Saturday (July 3)

## **TAPS**



The members of Arlington Post 981, Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States of America, pay their last tribute of respect to our departed comrades.

The following comrades passed away, or we have been notified of their passing, since the last newsletter came out:

### **Robert Martin**

As brave men and women they marched away with abiding faith in their God, their country, and their flag.

As soon as is possible we request that family members **notify the Post via telephone** (listed on our website) if a comrade has passed away. Too many times we must rely on seeing an obituary in the newspaper which leaves little or no time for members to pay their final respects. If a family in the Arlington Heights area wishes a 21-gun salute, they should contact American Legion Post 208 in Arlington Heights (847-253-6632).

## CHICAGO WOLVES OUTING

No outing due to no spectators being allowed to see games in person.

## WALLY LUETSCHWAGER SCHOLARSHIP

The scholarship committee received 19 applications and has identified the 3 finalists. The committee and Commander Matt will interview each finalist near the end of April and make the decision. All will have to bring proof of Veteran's direct relationship & a grade transcript.

## AMVETS TANK



Ever wonder about the tank in front of AMVETS Post 66? Here is the story as related by Tony Altieri, the former commander of Post 66. During the 1980's the AMVETS were seeking to obtain some sort of U.S. military artifact to set the building apart from other local veterans buildings. In 1989 they were able to secure a tank from the U.S. Army Tank Automotive Command in Warren, Michigan. Tony remembers that the transportation cost was high. When it arrived in Wheeling Dan Horcher, brother of current Wheeling President Pat Horcher, used his wrecker to position it in its current location. AMVETS must maintain it and send a

photograph each year as proof to continue to have it.

The tank is a M47 Patton tank designed to be used in the Korean War. However, it did not go into service until 1958. By the time of the Vietnam War the M48 superseded it for U.S. forces. The tank was successfully used by other countries in wars around the world such as Israeli-Jordan, India-Pakistan and Turkey's invasion of Cyprus.

The tank boasted a 90 mm cannon and 3 machine guns manned by a crew of 5. Top speed was 37 mph with a range of 100 miles.

## VOD/PATRIOTS PEN

Our Voice of Democracy winner, Kyra Koch, did not make it out of the District 4 contest. The same fate befell our Patriots Pen winners, Kendall Flournoy and Leo Michels. Congratulations to all three! Also, a shout out to Joe Wein for another successful District 4 Voice of Democracy/Patriot's Pen season.

The new theme for 2021 has not been announced as of press time.

*Smokey*

## NEW POST MEMBERS

None since the last newsletter.

## POST 981 COLOR GUARD

Due to COVID restrictions our Post Color Guard participated in only one activity this winter. On March 26 a request for a 21-gun salute was filled. Seven members of the guard went to All Saints cemetery in Des Plaines to honor WWII veteran John Kubar. While there, another veteran was being laid to rest and the Guard also formed and presented arms as his casket was brought into the chapel. Both families were extremely appreciative.

The Color Guard upcoming planned events:

**May 31st** – Possibly AMVETS Post 66 Memorial Day Observance as Arlington Heights parade has been cancelled.

**July 4** – Parade Location to be Determined

The Guard is growing. Even if you can't march you can participate in wakes and funerals. In addition,

there are many other activities that we are involved in that you could participate in. If you would like to learn more about joining the Color Guard and the commitment level.

If a comrade has passed away, as soon as is possible we request that family members **notify the Post via telephone** (listed on our website). Too many times we must rely on seeing an obituary in the newspaper which leaves little or no time for members to pay their final respects. If a family wishes a rifle salute, they should contact Dale Berg at the number listed on our website.

Please Dale Berg at 847-636-1479 or email [bergda@comcast.net](mailto:bergda@comcast.net).

*Dale Berg*

# ARLINGTON VFW POST 981 BASEBALL TRIP



## Schaumburg Boomers

### SKY BOX BASEBALL EXPERIENCE

JOIN US ON JULY 25 AT NOON (1200 HOURS) IN SCHAUMBURG (SPRINGINSGUTH RD & ELGIN-OHARA XWAY) FOR A SKY BOX EXPERIENCE FEATURING ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT FOOD & DRINK ALONG WITH THE GAME. ENTER AT VIP GATE & GO TO WILL CALL. MENTION POST 981

Post Members, 1 Guest, & Grandchildren under 18 – \$5 apiece. Other Adults & Grandchildren over 18 - \$25

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Send your reservations and checks (made out to VFW Post 981) to: Michael Kolbuk, 654 Briarwood Dr, Wheeling, IL 60090. Deadline for reservations - July 7 Meeting. Your name with amount of each type guest & total paid needed.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

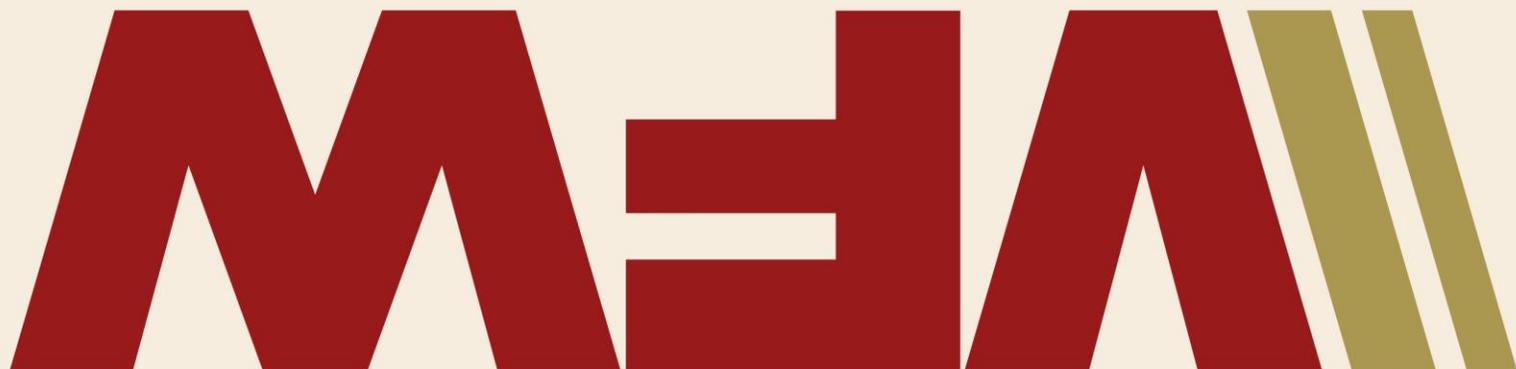
\$5 Guest \_\_\_\_\_

# Of Children (under 18) \$5 \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Other Adults \$25 \_\_\_\_\_

Amount enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS®**



**ARLINGTON VFW POST 981**

**C/O Mike Kolbuk**

**P.O. Box 825**

**Arlington Heights, IL 60006**

**TO:**