



Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U.S.
 Gurtler Brothers Post 420
 190 Excelsior Avenue
 Saratoga Springs, New York 12866-0209
 (518) 584-9686



Email address for post inquires: mcpo4@nycap.rr.com
 Web Page: www.vfwpost420.com

Officers

Commander: Harold Patchen
 Sr. Vice Cmdr: Richard Sehein
 Jr. Vice Cmdr: Richard Koenig
 Quartermaster: Eugene J. Ratigliano
 Asst Quartermaster: Jack Eckert
 Chaplain: Roland "Bud" Abare
 Adjutant: Richard Sehein

Board of Directors

President:	Harold Patchen	Vice Pres:	Richard Sehein
Treasurer:	Eugene J. Ratigliano	Secretary:	Richard Sehein

Auxiliary

President: Dawn Herbert
 Sr. Vice Pres: Trish Luce
 Jr. Vice Pres: Vera Kasson
 Treasurer: Cathy DesFosse
 Chaplain: Jean Ratigliano
 Secretary: Vera Kasson

Newsletter

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The Apr-Jun Newsletter will be a brief one which is enclosed with this mailing of our 100th Anniversary announcement and dinner information. If you would like to attend the dinner please complete the reservation form enclosed and drop it off or mail it to the post. Reservations are limited to approximately 130 so it will be first come first served for the dinner attendance.

Continue to renew your membership. Pay your dues.

Your dues support the VFW Programs that support our veterans - UNMET Needs - PTSD Counseling, and more!



Post Web Page at: www.vfwpost420.com



We are also on Facebook

UPCOMING VFW EVENTS

April 2020

- 2 Open Mic at the Post 6:00 PM
- 8 **Board of Directors 6:00 PM, Post & Auxiliary Meeting 7:00 PM. Nominations Closed and Election of Officers**
- 10 Good Friday
- 11 Music at the Post
- 12 Easter Sunday
- 16 Open Mic at the Post 6:00 PM
- 25 Music at the Post

May 2020

- 1-2 District 3 Convention, Red Lion Hotel, Wolf Rd, Albany, NY
- 2 DAV 50th Anniversary Dinner, Sweet Basil Restaurant 6:00 PM
- 9 Music at the Post
- 13 **Board of Directors 6:00 PM, Post & Auxiliary Meeting 7:00 PM.**
- 14 Open Mic at the Post
- 17 HMCC Meeting 1:00 PM, VFW Post 358 Ballston Spa, Nominations & Elections'
- 22 **VFW Post 420 Golf Tournament**
- 23 **VFW Post 420 100th Anniversary Dinner. Cocktails 6:00 PM. Dinner at 7:00 PM. Wishing Well Restaurant**
- 25 Memorial Day

June 2020

- 6 Musci at the Post
- 10 **Board of Directors 6:00 PM, Post & Auxiliary Meeting 7:00 PM**
- 11 Open Mic at the Post
- 10-14 **Dept of NY VFW State Convention at the Marriot Hotel, Wolf Road**
- 20 Music at the Post
- 25 Open Mic at the Post 6:00 PM

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Welcome new members and we want to welcome back those who were previously with us and have reinstated their membership. We cannot stress enough how important membership is to the strength of our organization.

Scott Todd, USAirNG
Jordan Schultz, USAirNG
Katrina A, Wilkins, U.S. Army
Nicholas S. Casey, Sr., USAirNG
Greg A. Martin, US. Army
Hunter C. Harrison.
Jason B. Ambers, USAirNG
Michael J. Mitchell, US. Army

James S. Kim, US Army
Amanda L. Eldred, US Army
Corey D. Light-Reyome, US Army



TAPS

Edward Patterson

POST DONATIONS

District 3 VFW Memorial Boosters	\$	10.00
Dept NY VFW Commander's Special Project	\$	100.00
Homeless Veterans Community Housing	\$	100.00
Dept of NY Service Officer Fund	\$	25.00
District 3 Gold Chevron	\$	70.00
STRIDE Inc.	\$	100.00

Dues Renewal

A number of members are now past due in their annual dues for 2020 and some will be coming due very shortly. We need you as members and don't want to lose you. Please drop off or mail your dues if you have not already sent them to National. Dues can be sent to the Quartermaster at: Post Quartermaster, Gurtler Bros. VFW Post 420, PO Box 209, Saratoga Springs, NY 12866

Commander's Message

Greeting Members and Friends,

Comrades and Auxiliary members – I want to thank everyone of you who has attended a meeting since this past June. Our Post and Auxiliary meetings allow not only a time to fellowship with comrades but to get to know the “new folks on board” and **hear what is going on at our post and the VFW as a whole.**

Our annual mid-winter BBQ is now history. I had a great time and a really good meal. I want to thank Tim Herbert, Mike Biss Jr, Gene Waters, Chuck Luce, Gene Ratigliano, John Biss, Deb Vincent, Terry Harlow and Erin McAllister and our bartender Kathy Desfosse for all of your help. If I've missed anyone it wasn't intentional. Helping out at a function is very rewarding and I would suggest to anyone who hasn't that you should give it a try. If you're looking for a function needing help feel free to reach out to me and we'll get you hooked up. NO committee chairman will ever say no to help, right Tim? I want to take this opportunity to give a special “thank you” to Erica Luce and her fiancé Phil for cleaning the kitchen. It was in dire need and now looks great. When

anyone uses the kitchen **please clean up** any mess made. It makes it easier for everyone who uses the kitchen after you.

A reminder to read the newsletter from beginning to end to see what we have going on at the post. If anyone hasn't made it to **our every other Thursday Open Mic**, might I suggest that you try and make one. It's a good evening out, good music and food (cost varies from \$5.00 to \$7.00 depending on what's on the menu). The evening starts at 6:00 and ends sometime after 9:00 P.M.

We also have our **Post 100th anniversary** weekend celebration coming up sooner than you think. We kick or Tee it off if you golf on May 22nd (golf outing) and dinner on May 23rd at the Wishing well. Everyone will be getting notified of this event. There will be a firm count so get your reservations in soon as both are first come first served.

Our golf outing, in conjunction with our 100th Anniversary celebration, will take place on **Friday May 22nd**, at **Airway Meadows golf course** (7:45 check in time. cost is **\$60.00 / golfer**). We are going to limit it to 20 foursomes, so at the price we have settled on they will go fast. Package includes 18 holes, carts and hot dogs/ chips at the turn. **Mulligans at a cost of \$20.00/ foursome will be available** also. There will also be a cart girl coming around periodically, with drinks for sale. Not everyone drinks, so we elected to keep the cost per golfer down by having, if you will, "**A CASH CART**" for those who wish to imbibe. After we finish at Airway Meadows **all golfers are invited back to the post for a BBQ in the pavilion**. We'll have beer (draft), wine, soda, burgers, dogs, sausage (link), baked beans, Mac and cheese, some veggie platters, salads and more. At the BBQ we'll announce the winners of closest to the pin, coed foursome, women's foursome and men's foursome. The winning foursome from each of the three categories will get a small cash prize. There will also be raffle prizes offered at 10 tickets for \$5.00. **Your spouse or significant other is welcome to attend the BBQ for \$12.00**. You can pick up an entry form at the post or you can call me (**AFTER 6:00 PM. At 518-899-4976. You can leave a message if I'm out**) and I'll see that you get one.

At the recent chicken BBQ, a member spoke to me about the possibility of having "**Line dancing**" maybe on a Friday night. Any member, VFW or auxiliary, interested in seeing this happen please contact me either by email at hjp5551@gmail.com or my home phone in the evening at 518-899-4976. Given enough interest we will make it happen. Give this idea some thought and let me know. If anyone has any other ideas for events, don't be shy, feel free to bring them to my attention. We have a varied age group of members at 420, so you might be

surprised at who would be interested. Let's come up with some ideas and see where they take us.

Lastly, I will speak to membership. Yup, we still haven't obtained our 100%. We are close but as yet no cigar. Bud Abare and I have been actively reaching out to eligible veterans, somewhat local to the post, but I'm sure that there are many more out there. If you see someone with a veteran's cap, see if you can start a conversation. You might be talking to an eligible veteran who has never been asked to join. **Remember the price to become eligible**. We, the VFW, and other veterans groups need the numbers when we go to congress to get the rights, we have earned and deserve.

I guess I should shut up now (no applause necessary). I hope that we'll have a good turnout for the 100th Anniversary events coming up.

Harold Patchen

Harold Patchen
Post Commander

Bartender Help Needed!

The post is in need of some additional bartenders to serve our members and guests. If interested please contact Bar Manager Tim Herbert at (518) 232-2752 or btcssw@yahoo.com or Chuck Luce.

*Visit Our Post
On the web at:
www.vfwpost420.com*

POST ELECTIONS

At the monthly meeting on April 8, 2020 Nominations will be closed and elections for Post officers will be held.

Hudson Mohawk County Councils Meeting

The next meeting of Hudson Mohawk Counties Council will be held on May 17, 2020 at 1:00 PM at VFW Post 358 in Ballston Spa. Nominations and Election of Council officers will take place..

District 3 Convention

The District 3 Convention will take place at the Red lion Inn, 205 Wolf Road, Albany, NY on Saturday, May 2, 2020 beginning at 9:00 AM. The testimonial dinner to honor outgoing Commander Bod Mitchell and President Belinda Cole will be on Friday evening, May 1st at 5:00 PM. The Dinner and District Convention will both be held

at the Red Lion Inn. Check the Post Bulletin Board for more specific details.

100th Anniversary Testimonial Dinner

The Post will host a 100th Anniversary Dinner at the Wishing Well Restaurant on Saturday May 23, 2020. Details are in this newsletter. Due to the busy May season in Saratoga venues were limited for holding this dinner and attendance must be limited to around 130 so it will be first come first served for reservation. If you desire to attend, get your reservations and money in to the post early.



VFW Post 420 Auxiliary

President's Message

Poppy Drive – May 23rd at Walmart from 9-3, and May 24th at Lowes from 9-3
District 3 Meeting which was scheduled for March 14th has been cancelled due to the current Pandemic Corona Virus.
District 3 Auxiliary has achieved a goal of attaining 100% participation in the “Buddy Poppy/VFW National Home for Children programs.
The Auxiliary Spring Conference which was scheduled for March 20 & 21 has been cancelled due to the Corona Virus.
Volunteers and golfers wanted for May 22nd Golf Outing and BBQ following the golf tournament at the Post. Please stay alert ad keep yourself healthy and try not to catch the Corona Virus. Wash your hands and use sanitizer. Those most at risk are: the elderly, those with weakened immune systems and children.
We are always looking for new members to join the Auxiliary (both men and women can join now). Stop by the Post and we can get you an application. We DO need a copy of a DD-214 showing an immediate family members eligibility for the VFW and expeditionary medal overseas.

Spring is right around the corner
Sincerely,
Dawn Herbert
Dawn Herbert, Post 420 Auxiliary President.

**HAVING A WEDDING/BABY SHOWER?
GRADUATION PARTY?
BIRTHDAY?
ANNIVERSARY?
WEDDING?
BUSINESS MEETING?
TRAINING SESSION?**

For more information contact Rich Koenig at carver270@yahoo.com or call 518-796-4338 and leave a message.

Corona Virus Update

At the present time the Post will continue to hold its regular meetings on the Second Wednesday of each month as well as Open Mic and other events at posted until further notice. If it becomes necessary to curtail meetings and events we will post such notices on our Facebook page and website at www.vfwpost420.com. Members who have provided us their e-mail will be notified by e-mail as well.



BLUE STAR MOTHERS
"BLUE JEAN BALL"



On Saturday, April 25th the Capital Region NY 2, Blue Star Mothers of America will be holding its 13th annual *Blue Jean Ball* at the Joseph E. Zalonga American Legion Post 1520, 4 Everett Road Ext, Albany, NY. For more information please contact Robin Johnson at Robin.Johnson000@gmail.com.

Otto R. Madsen III Awarded National Firefighter Recognition Award



(LtoR: Harold Patchen, Post Commander, Otto R. Madsen III, Deputy Fire Coordinator, Roland "Bud" Abare, Gene Ratigliano, Quartermaster/PSC)

