



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: Jonathan Chieco
 Jr. Vice Cmdr: Richard Koenig
 Quartermaster: Eugene J. Ratigliano
 Chaplain: Chris Underwood
 Adjutant: Eugene J. Ratigliano

Auxiliary

President: Bertha Kelly
 Sr. Vice Pres: Johnna Raylinsky
 Jr. Vice Pres: Cathy Orruba
 Treasurer: Mike Joyce
 Chaplain: Jean Ratigliano
 Secretary: Open

Board of Directors

President: Harold Patchen Vice Pres: Jonathan Chieco
 Treasurer: Eugene J. Ratigliano Secretary: Eugene J. Ratigliano

Newsletter

Editor: Gene Ratigliano
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Published Quarterly

JUL - SEP NEWSLETTER 2024

Issue 9 Number 3



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 & OTHER EVENTS

JUL 2024

- 4 Independence Day (Holiday)
- 10 Board of Directors 6:00 PM, Post Meeting 7:00 PM
- 21 **District 3 Picnic & Planning Meeting At Post 420**
- 27-28 VFW National Convention, Louisville, KY

AUG 2024

- 14 Board of Directors 6:00 PM, Post & Auxiliary Meeting 7:00 PM.
- 10 Post 420 at the Track – Community Booth
- 23-27 VFW Commander in Chief Homecoming Savannah, GA
- 31 Department of NY VFW State Commander's Homecoming, Constantia NY VFW Post 7325 – 2-6 PM

SEP 2024

- 2 Labor Day (Holiday)
- 11 Board of Directors 6:00 PM, Post & Auxiliary Meeting 7:00 PM
Patriot's Day
- 16 Father's Day
- 20 POW/MIA Recognition Day
- 21 **Dept of NY VFW Officer's Training (OTI) Marriott Wolf Road**

POST SOCIAL CALENDAR

Events to be announced on Facebook & Post Web Page at www.vfwpost420.com

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Timothy E. Lewis
Daniel C. Martellotta, Jr.
Jason D. Collins
William F. Schmeelcke
Michael P. Foster

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.



TAPS
Charles L. Tryon

Commander's Message

Comrades – I want to thank everyone that helped Post 420 become an All – American once again. We were one of four posts in District 3 that made it. Again, this year the membership goal established by our Commander in Chief and Department Commander both will be 102%.

Post Meeting:

Remember our Post meetings are held the 2nd **Wednesday of every month at 7:00 PM.** I understand that everyone can't make every meeting but to make 2-3 a year isn't too much to ask. You'd be surprised at what you might learn about what's going on at the post. You may even want to get involved with an event or two.

Anyone with ideas for a veteran's function that might help our post membership numbers increase, let me know. We need to become a Family Friendly Post once again. Posts around the district that are family friendly seem to have members willing to work together for the good of their post, as well as a better younger / older veteran relationship. We used to be like this and need to get back to it.

A Salute goes out to:

All who worked on our **Post Day of Service on May 18th** at Maplewood cemetery: Wayne Senecal, William Potter, Samantha Potter, Dick Wilberding, Scott Hayes, Tom Miller, Jean Ratigliano, Gene Ratigliano, Jon Chieco, Pat Huggins, Pat's grandson Carson and Tim Herbert.

Those who marched in the Elks Fourth of July Parade. Pat Huggins, Shane Larkin, Gene Ratigliano, Jon Chieco, Scott Hayes, Jean Ratigliano, Nick Casey, Bill Schmeelcke and myself. It was a hot one but we all made it through to the end. Thanks to everyone. Our volunteer bartenders: John, Louise, Scott, Tim, Gerard, Kevin and Marie. I hope that I didn't miss anyone.

that he'd be ready to read his essay at our Post Award ceremony to be held in April.

Harold Patchen

Post Commander



POST HOURS

Monday & Tuesday Closed
Wed 3 – 7 PM
Thurs – Fri 4 – till PM
Sat 2-7 PM
Sun 12- till

**CALL THE POST
UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE
TO SEE IF WE ARE OPEN
-SHORT BARTENDERS-**

UPCOMING DUES RENEWAL

There are still members whose dues will be expiring soon. Please make an effort to join us and send in your dues.

We will miss you and want you to stay! Please send your dues in today and help us continue serving veterans.

Dues can be mailed directly to National in the dues notice envelope you received or mailed or dropped off at the Post Attn: Post Quartermaster, PO Box 209 Saratoga Springs, NY 12866

DUES EXPIRED

Paul Bedard
Shirly Demers

DUES COMING FOR RENEWAL

Gerardo Diaz-Aponte	31 Aug
James Ellsworth II	30 Sep
Dean J. Higgins	30 Sep
Andrew McCormack	30 Sep
Daniel M. Gordon	30 Sep
Lincoln Page	30 Sep
James Parker	30 Sep
Tom Prusinowski	30 Sep
Edward J. Riely	30 Sep
Gerard Rodrigue	30 Sep

We want you back and miss you!!

**It's easy to renew - mail your \$40.00 dues to
VFW Post 420 Quartermaster, PO Box 209,
Saratoga Springs, NY 12866**

Membership is critical for the VFW to have the power in numbers on the hill when our legislative representatives go before Congress **to fight for you**

NOTICE

Due to the increased cost of mailing and the laborious task of putting the Post newsletter together we would like to e-mail the newsletter to as many members as possible.

If you are not receiving the newsletter by e-mail please e-mail me your e-mail address to: mcpo4@nycap.rr.com.

You may find that if you have received the newsletter by e-mail at times but at other times by mail, we need to mail a minimum of 200 to get the bulk mail mailing rate from the post office so you may get your copy either way or both ways at times.

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Even if you do not wish to attend meetings, **membership is important for the strength of our organization.** Renew today. We need YOU!

Social Events

7/25	Open Mic 7PM
7/26	Line Dancing 6:30
8/1	Open Mic 7PM
8/8	Open Mic &pm
8/12	Off Track Band 6PM
8/15	Open Mic 7PM
8/19	Off Track Band 6PM
8/22	Open Mic
8/23	Line Dancing 6PM



**VFW Post 420 Auxiliary
President's Message**

Thank you for this opportunity to introduce myself. My name is Bertha Kelly and have been elected to the position of President of the VFW post 420 Auxiliary. I am a life member of VFW Auxiliary joining 420 just over 2 years ago. Transferred from Post 7336 Sgt Edward R Miller Post, Queens NY
I'm looking forward to working for Post 420 and the districts. Our military veterans and their families are in need and will serve them to the best of my abilities.

Happy Spring! Hopefully we are done with winter and can look forward to warmer weather and lots of sunshine!

VFW Post 420 Auxiliary Election results:

President – Open
Sr. Vice President – Johnna Raylinsky
Jr. Vice President – Cathy Otruba
Treasurer – Michael Joyce
Secretary – Open
Chaplain – Jean Ratigliano
Trustee #1 – Bertha Kelly
Trustee #2 – Sandra Hamlin
Trustee #3 – Roberta Boone

Bertha Kelly

Bertha Kelly
Auxiliary President

EMERGENCY AND FIRE PROCEDURES

As a reminder to all members - in the event of an emergency or fire where the Post building has to be

evacuated, all individuals in the building are to use the closest exit available to them in the building and to form up at the flag pole in front of the building so that everyone who may have entered the building can be accounted for. Periodic fire drills will be held throughout the year.

New Flag Poles

The Post has had new flagpoles installed in front of the Post home. We wish to thank the following donors who made this happen: Robert Nevisn, Gene Ratigliano, Harold Patchen, Shane Larkin, Richard Koenig, Wayne Senecal and unnamed others who donated in our donation can on the bar.

The money collected fully paid for the new flagpoles in front of the Post. We are still accepting donations to replace the two flagpoles at our Maplewood VFW Cemetary plot. Those who may wish to donation can make their donation out to VFW Post 420 and mail it to the Post at PO Box 209, Saratoga Springs, NY or drop it off at the Post canteen.

State Commander & State President's Homecoming

A homecoming party for State Commander Dan Kell and State President Dalene Baker will be held at the Trach-Auringer VFW Post 7325 in Constania, NY on Saturday, August 31, 2024. Festivities will run from 2 – 6 PM. All are welcome and there is no cost for attendance.

40th Annual Eastern States Conference

The 4th Annual Easter States Conference will be held in Burlington, VT, November 1 – 3, 2024 at the Doubletree by Hilton Burlington, 870 Wiliston Rd, South Burlington. Room Rate for the Conference is \$219.00 (includes taxes). Reservations can be made by calling 1-900-445-8667. Deadine for booking is October 2024.

A Conference Dinner will be held on Saturday, November 2, 2024 at \$55.00 per person. . Information will be posted on the Post Bulletin Board or you may contact Quartermaster Gene Ratigliano at 518-885-9666 or email at mcpo4@nycap.rr.com for more information.



VA Expands Toxic Exposure Presumptions

The Department of Veterans Affairs has added three cancers to the list of presumptive diseases covered under the *Honoring our PACT Act of 2022* (P.L. 117-168). Male breast cancer, urethral cancer, and cancer of the paraurethral glands are **now presumed** service-connected disabilities due to toxic exposure, streamlining the claims process for eligible veterans with evidence of a diagnosis. [Learn more](#) about PACT Act benefits or find an [accredited service officer](#) to help file a claim.

Training Tools Available

In an effort to better serve the members of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, tools are available at "VFW Training and Support." There you will find Member & Officer Training, Forms and Templates; training material relating to Membership Recruiting and Retention; Community Service & Youth Programs; Bylaws: Training, Forms & Templates; Communications & Public Affairs; Post Service Officers; VFW Foundation; Veterans & Military Support; and Department Resources. To utilize these valuable training guides, videos, forms and templates, please login at vfw.org, proceed to "My VFW" and click the link "VFW Training and Support."

Day of Service At Maplewood



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

Your VFW has a large hall and outdoor pavilion to hold that special event. Our spacious banquet hall and pavilion are available to rent at very reasonable rates. A small meeting room is also available for your business meetings or other small event. Tell your friends and remind your relatives to help support your post when considering a party or other event. For more information, availability and pricing contact our banquet manager

CONTACT:

Louise at Kouki3@aol.com or

Rich Koenig at carver270@yahoo.com

or 518-584-9686



GURTLER BROS. POST 420, V.F.W.
190 Excelsior Avenue
SARATOGA SPRINGS, N.Y. 12866-0209



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

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NEXT MEETINGS

Aug 9, 2024

Sep 13, 2024

Oct 11, 2024