





Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 2671 Gary Fravel, Commander

May 2021

COMMANDERS NOTES

This month at our May 4th Legion meeting at 6pm, we will be holding an important vote. American Legion Department of Illinois is voting to impose a \$4 increase in annual dues, which will take effect the 2022 membership year. Their decision to do this is from declining membership statewide, which has resulted in them having budget shortfalls. We at the Post have to vote on if we are going to meet this increase by changing our annual dues from \$40 to \$45, or if will we take the financial loss. A detailed letter explaining this was mailed to all our members, but I would like to use this forum to address it as well. Many incorrectly believe that when you pay your \$40 annual dues, that all, or a majority, remains here at the Post. This is not so. When you pay your dues, we immediately have to "pay up" \$31 in order to process your membership. National is paid \$18.50 and Department is paid \$12.50. Of the \$40 you pay; the Post only keeps \$9. This increase Department is imposing will raise them from \$12.50 per member to \$16.50, which will cut us from \$9 per member to only \$5. We are not a large Post, and we do not significantly profit off of dues collection. We do put what we make off of it to good use though. Our Post pays the annual dues for certain members; those who are Active-Duty military, past Post Commanders, those who are in financial distress, members who are severely disabled, and those who are sick and, in the hospital, or who live in assisted living or nursing homes. This past year, we had 27 members fall into this

category. Without meeting this increase, it could affect us from continuing this practice. At our April meeting this issue was discussed, and it was decided to table it until May. Due to our delay in deciding, if we do vote for the increase, then the first round of 2022 Dues Notices, which go out in July, may have an incorrect "Amount Due" on them. However, each subsequent notice which goes out will have the proper amount. All members are welcome, and encouraged, to come and have their voices heard in this very important issue.

Fair Winds and Following Seas—Ron Rose Stanley McCollum Am. Legion Post 280

This month's meeting will be held at 6pm on Tuesday, May 4th. We will be voting on a \$5 increase of annual dues. We will also be holding the second nomination for Post Officers. The Testimonial Dinner for Freda Broadway on May 8th. On Saturday, May 22nd the S.I. Plant Lovers Facebook Group is hosting a Plant Swap in the Hall from 10 am to 2pm. 2021 Membership Cards are available for those who have not yet paid their 2021 Legion dues. Please attend your meetings to stay up to date on all information regarding these, and other, events.

Harry H. Kinman VFW Post 2671

HARRY H. KINMAN VFW POST 2671 – MAY, as always, is going to be a busy month for us. If you would like to know more about what The VFW is doing, come to our monthly meeting on the second Tuesday of the month! This month's meeting is the 11th at 1800hrs (6:00PM). VFW Officer elections are complete. Congratulations to those newly

elected and appointed officers. The results are posted on VFW bulletin board at the post. This is farming season; large slow-moving vehicles are using the road ways. Give them the right of way when you can. REMEMBER America's FARMERS and RANCHERS FEED the WORLD!! Start seeing motorcycles. The weather is finally warming up, and the Bikers are out. SO, Be Aware and Share the ROAD. No Mission to Difficult – No Sacrifice to

AM. LEGION AUX UNIT 280

Unit 280 will hold their monthly meeting on May10th. We will elect new officers at the meeting. Hope to see many smiling faces. Meeting starts at 7:00 pm. When you think of quitting, just remember why you joined. "For God and Country" we serve. --- Freda Broadway, Pres.

VFW Aux Post 2671

Great! Gary Fravel

Greetings! We had a good turn-out for our meeting. We had a guest, District President Pat Caraker. We had nominations and election of Officers for the upcoming year. There was discussion on what we could try to accomplish. We are looking forward to the 2021 & 2022 year. Our next meeting will be on May 18th, 2021. Always remember to thank a Veteran for their service. **Respectfully, Howard D. Johnson, President.**

Sons of the American Legion Post #280

The next meeting is on Sunday, May 16th at 2pm.

Legion Riders of Post #280

Our next meeting is on Monday, May 17th at 6pm in the Hall.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

May 1st SAL Poker Run for Freda Broadway May 4th American Legion meeting at 6pm May 8th Testimonial Dinner at 6pm for Freda Broadway May 10th Legion Auxiliary meeting at 7pm May 11th VFW Post 2671 meeting at 6pm May 11th House Committee meeting at 7pm May 16th Sons of the Legion meeting at 2pm May 17th Legion Riders meeting at 6pm May 18th VFW Auxiliary meeting at 7pm May 22nd Plant Swap hosted by Southern Illinois Plant Lovers 10am to 2pm June 24th River Radio Blood Drive 1-6pm

REOCCURRING EVENTS

Sunday: Bloody Mary - \$2.00

Monday: <u>DOMESTIC BEER 3 for \$6.00 - Natty's</u> 3 for \$4.00 Day Shift only 9am to 5pm

TUESDAY - DOMESTIC BEER 3 for \$6.00 - Natty's 3 for \$4.00 Day Shift only 9am to 5pm

Wednesday: Queen of Hearts ticket sales end at 7:00 p.m. - Auxiliary 50/50 Drawing and Queen of Hearts at 7:30 p.m. Happy Hour from 6pm to 9pm. Game Night begins at 4pm! <u>DOMESTIC BEER 3</u> for \$6.00 – Natty's 3 for \$4 Day Shift only 9am to 5pm.

Thursday: Extreme Bingo at 6:30pm. Chicken Wings hot or mild - 50¢ cents each. 5pm to 8pm.ONION PETALS ARE BACK! Potato Dippin' Wedges, Cheesy Potato Bites, Fried Mushrooms, Chicken Strips, Fries, Onion Rings, Cheese Sticks, and more. DOMESTIC BEER 3 for \$6.00 - Natty's 3 for \$4.00 Day Shift only 9am to 5pm

FRIDAY - DOMESTIC BEER 3 for \$6.00 - Natty's 3 for \$4.00 Day Shift only 9am to 5pm

SATURDAY – Free Darts All Day! 6 to 10pm Beer Can Specials 3 for \$6 Domestics and \$2.50 Bombs!

Follow Us Online bentonvets.org Facebook & Twitter

HALL RENTALS AVAILABLE