



Munster Indiana Post 2697
VFW
Veterans of Foreign Wars



PASS THE WORD
OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER FOR THE MEMBERSHIP OF POST 2697

**Munster VFW Post 2697 has been
recognized as an
All-American Post
2023-2024!**

**Congratulations to all the members of the post for doing
the work and helping the post reach this milestone in back-
to-back years!**

August 2024

**Next Regular Business Meeting: WEDNESDAY, 14
AUGUST @ 1900 hrs AT THE VETERANS MEMORIAL**

Important Dates to Remember:

- 4 August – U.S. Coast Guard Established (1790)
- 7 August – Purple Heart Medal Established (1782)
- 7 August – Vietnam War Began (1964)
- 14 August – Japan Surrendered, ending WWII (1945)
- 14 August - **Regular Business Meeting at Veterans Memorial @ 1900 hrs.**

VFW Membership

Our VFW Post exceeded the 102% membership requirement for the 2023/24 VFW calendar year. Thanks to John S. and Frank D. for bringing in the new members. Our post received a congratulatory plaque for reaching our membership goal. For the year, the Department also met

it's 102% goal and is being recognized as an All-American Department. I believe the goal for this year is also 102%.

All American Department/District/Post 2023-2024

Congratulations to the following:

District 1 Commander Daniel Petersen and QM James Davis

Post 717 Commander Sandra Bukowinski and QM Charlie Brown

Post 6448 Commander James R. Davis and QM Justin Zandy

Post 2697 Commander Jose Garcia and QM John Sarnecki

August General Orders & District 1 News

Highlights from the August General Orders are listed below. If you want any further information on anything below, please don't hesitate to ask and something can be sent out to you specifically.

- **Combat Veteran Newspaper Deadline** – The deadline for the Combat Veteran Newsletter is 23 August.
- **National Home Bus Trip** - District 11 is sponsoring a bus trip up to the VFW National Home in Eaton Rapids, MI, September 21st and 22nd. If interested, please contact Commander Joe. The pickup points are in Indianapolis.
- **2024/25 VOD and PP Theme's** – The VOD theme is, "Is America Today Our Forefathers' Vision?", the PP theme is, "My Voice in America's Democracy?"
- **Post Audits** – The goal for District 1 Audits is the end of October.
- **2024 School of Instruction** – The SOI is on Saturday, August 17th at the Indianapolis Marriott East. If you are a QM, Adjutant or Trustee and are interested in going, please see Commander Joe.
- **2024-2025 State Shirt** – The state shirt is available for order and must be received by 17 August in order to receive them for the fall conference in October. If interested in a state shirt, please see Commander Joe at the July business meeting.
- **Dyer VFW Post** – Due to the big storms through the area back in July, the Dyer VFW post building was damaged and rendered unusable at that time. Their post meeting room sits in the basement of a building so any loss of power could have potentially flooded their building. They have not asked for any type of assistance and I'm not sure what their current situation is.

National Night Out Against Crime - Debrief)

Munster's Nationally Ranked Night Out Against Crime was another success. Thanks to Frank, Jesse, Fernando and Joe for attending and reaching out to the community. As part of our efforts, we may have a couple of new members joining our ranks. Unfortunately, we were not interviewed this year by the local media.

Post Website Update

The post website is now updated with current contact information and links to the National Suicide Hotline. I also added the monthly newsletters and will do my best to continue to add them throughout the year. Most of the pictures on the site are old, so if you have any recent pictures you'd like to add, please send them my way. Many people don't know, but we also have a twitter account and a Facebook account. I will try to link Facebook to the website soon. I admit, I'm a social media idiot so I have no idea if I've set it up correctly (I might need my kid to help.) The website address is: **munstervfw.org**.

Other tech notes.....

For the April Business Meeting, we trialed a TEAMS call, (it's basically a zoom call under a different name.) Surprisingly we were able to get it to work and our Sr. Vice Commander was able to remote into the meeting live. We were unable to try out TEAMS for our June meeting because we were moved to the small conference room by some politicians who surprisingly (sarcasm) went over their scheduled meeting time, and there isn't a TV monitor capable of accessing TEAMS, so we're going to try it one more time here at the July meeting, if it works again, then we'll send it out to the membership so even those members not in the area can still attend a meeting. In order to participate, you'd have to download the Teams app on your phone or computer then you should be good to go. It's very easy to access Teams for remote meeting access. We do need to do some homework on using this new type of remote access, I believe by accessing a meeting remotely, then you are still actively engaged in the functions of the meeting, which means you can make/2nd motions, vote and participate in discussions. The only thing you can't do remotely is eat donuts with the members afterwards.

We are also working on setting up a QR code to assist with our fundraising efforts. Those of us who have worked a poppy day fundraiser always hear, "I don't have any cash on me." Having a QR code takes that excuse away. We're hoping to have it in place for the fall fundraiser.



Voice of Democracy and Patriot Pen

It's never too early to start reaching out to any youth we might know about submitting for these two programs. The deadline is 31 October.

Patriot Pen Theme = "My Voice in America's Democracy?"

Voice of Democracy Theme = "Is America Today Our Forefathers' Vision?"



SUCCESS

If at first you don't succeed, destroy all evidence that it was you that tried.

*"We shall attack and attack until we are exhausted,
and then we shall attack again."
General George Patton Jr - June 1944*



Carry On!
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