

CHARLES R. KNAEBLE V.F.W. POST #494
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CHARLES R. KNAEBLE V.F.W. POST #494
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*Bronze Award National Newsletter
contest for large posts in 2020!*

NEWS & VIEWS • December 2022

Number 1 newsletter in the State of Minnesota for large VFW Posts—2020, 2021, 2022!

**Post #494 Officers / Trustees
2021-2022**

- Commander Jim Doten
- Sr. Vice Commander Rick Godfrey
- Jr. Vice Commander Ken Olson
- Quartermaster Jim Richter
- Gambling Manager/
- Ass't. Quartermaster Gene Burdick
- Adjutant Harland Anderson
- Chaplain Steve Jones
- Judge Advocate Don Fernstrom
- Surgeon Dan Zere
- Service Officer Don Fernstrom
- Officer of the Day Fred Crimmins
- Door Guard Bob Vorderbruggen
- 1 Yr Trustee Fred Crimmins
- 2 Yr Trustee Larry Bengtson
- 3 Yr Trustee Jay Leamons



**All American Post 1993,
1996 Banner Post**

**Post #494 CMC Members
2022**

- 1 Yr CMC Member Jim Hagenbrock
- 1 Yr CMC Member Harland Anderson
- 2 Yr CMC Member Steve Jones
- 2 Yr CMC Member Rick Godfrey
- 3 Yr CMC Member Steve Hawk
- 3 Yr CMC Member Don Fernstrom
- 3 Yr CMC Member Gene Burdick

**Auxiliary #494 Officers / Trustees
2021-2022**

- President Marge Rubenstein
- Sr. Vice President Ginny Villagomez
- Jr. Vice President Lisa Sundberg
- Secretary Debbie Larson
- Treasurer Lori Aydt
- Chaplain Natalie Stuhr
- Conductress Mary Touve-Kackman
- Guard Craig Dahlin
- Patriotic Instructor Virginia Sroka
- 3rd Yr. Trustee Jo Peterson
- 2nd Yr. Trustee Mary Touve-Kackman
- 1st Yr. Trustee Lisa Sundberg

★ **Club Management Committee (CMC) meeting is the 2nd Monday, 1:30 p.m.**

Post & Auxiliary membership meeting is the 3rd Tuesday, Post: 7pm, Auxiliary: 6:30pm

from the COMMANDER



Greetings Comrades,

I hope everybody is staying warm. The snow and the cold dropped fast, telling us we are nearing the end of another season. But Fall doesn't end until December, and November brings us one of the more eventful Holidays for us. For most, that means Thanksgiving and

family. As veterans of foreign wars there is another Holiday closer to our thoughts. Veterans Day . . . Not one for celebration but rather for reflection and remembrance. Veterans Day is for honoring veterans. This one is for you. I hope you had a chance to come by your Post. Our Color Guard made an impact at events across the community. At St. Raphael with the students, making an impression on our youth. Also, at St. Theresa's bringing the memories and rituals to our Seniors. Thank you to our Color Guard for their performance. And thanks, as well, to our Chaplain, Comrade Steve Jones for his excellent oratory skills on being a veteran this special day.

Back at the Post, we were treated to the choral renditions of patriotic music by the Plymouth Rockers. Thank you, past Commander Don Fernstrom for arranging the performance. Comrade Fernstrom is a member of the group. The reviews have been touching and heartfelt. I hope they are back next year. After the concert we had the Color Guard leading a flag retirement ceremony outside. The day's events were moving. A great way to honor veterans and our service.

Speaking of service: Community service is a way to give back and keep our Post relevant. We do so much for our veterans and the community at large. Make sure you report your service monthly. It is a great way to highlight what we do. We are continuing to work on our social media presence to let others know what we do as an organization and a Post. Look for upcoming changes.

Our next blood drive is Tuesday, December 6th from 2:00 to 8:00 PM. Please preregister for the event. If you can't sign-up, stop by anyway. Past Commander Jay Leamons says he will find a way to get you in a chair. The record is 52 pints. Let's not stop there.

I am the District 7 Voice of Democracy and Patriots Pen Chair this year. We had entries for both, good luck to our students. I have received quite a few entries from posts across the 7th District. Getting our Post engaged with others in these programs allow us to have a larger impact. Let people know what we do and take pride in your Post.

The annual Children's Holiday Fest will be in the lower level banquet hall of the Post this year. Save the date, Sun., December 4th from 12:00-2:00 PM. This is a long-standing tradition. Bring the kids or grandkids for a good time.

I think I have said enough for now. It is your Post. Come down and get involved. Your Post meets every third Tuesday, at 7:00 PM, in the lower level. I will see you at the "V".

Happy Thanksgiving,

Jim Doten, Post Commander

from the QUARTERMASTER

POST NEWSLETTER: We strive to bring you a newsletter you will enjoy and to provide relevant information.

- ★ **ADDRESS CHANGES:** Please notify us ASAP of any change (temporary or permanent) in your mailing address, as there is a charge to the Post for mail that is undeliverable.
- ★ **EMAIL:** If you prefer to receive the Post newsletter in PDF format, please contact me via Email at: quartermaster494@comcast.net. You will receive your newsletter in color, get it more quickly, and save us the cost to print and mail. And, you will have an electronic copy of the calendar to follow our lunch menu and events.
- ★ **ARTICLE SUBMISSIONS:** If you are submitting articles, photos or information for publishing consideration, please email to: quartermaster494@comcast.net and put Newsletter in the subject line.

Visit our website: crystalvfw.com

Thank you for supporting our Post,

Jim Richter, Post 494 Quartermaster

2023 Calendars on sale at the Post!

Stop in and pick up your 2023 Calendar for \$20 and be eligible to **win daily prizes** of \$50 and up to \$100, \$200, \$250, \$500, and \$1,000 on special holidays.



Proceeds support Veterans and their families.

from the AUXILIARY PRESIDENT



Happy Holidays everyone! I hope everyone will be having a joyous Thanksgiving and enjoy the day with Family and Friends... maybe even some Black Friday Shopping!

With the Holidays fast approaching, let's remember our Veterans, their Families, and our Troops this Holiday Season.

Also let's not lose sight that membership is the lifeblood of our organization. Each one of us has the privilege of being a part of this organization. This is due to a tie that binds us to a Veteran that has served his or her country. It is our duty in turn, to continue the support of this organization by recruiting and retaining members, and continuing our support of Veteran's and Veteran's programs. If you haven't paid your dues for this year, you can still do so by the end of the year and retain your membership in good standing. Currently our membership is at 101.04%! Thank you all for making our Auxiliary strong.

If you will be attending our Auxiliary Meeting in December (Tues, Dec 20) we have decided that instead of having a potluck before the meeting, we will instead gather upstairs at 5:00 for some holiday cheer and fellowship. (Dinner can be ordered on your own before the meeting if you wish.) Auxiliary members, if you wish to participate in our annual gift exchange game, you are welcome to bring a small gift to the meeting. As usual we will have a little fun after the meeting.

Upcoming Events:

Civil Air Patrol Birthday: Thursday, December 1st

Children's Holiday Fest: On Sunday December 4th from 12-2, join us in the lower level banquet hall, for our Kids Holiday fest! There will be crafts, games, movie, treats, hotdogs, candy, etc. Also a visit from Santa and Mrs. Claus.

National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day: Wednesday, December 7th will mark the 81st anniversary of a "date which will live in infamy." On the morning of 12-7- 1941 the Japanese bombers staged a surprise attack on US Military forces in Hawaii. Today the USS Arizona Memorial on the island of Oahu honors the lives lost the day of the attack. Please take a minute on Dec 7th to remember those lost that day.

District Meeting: Saturday, December 10th, **Everett McClay Post 1296 in Bloomington** beginning at 10:00 AM. There will be a bake sale at the district meeting, as well as the Holiday Potluck after.

Membership Dinner: Sunday, December 11th 2 PM, please RSVP by **Monday Dec 5th** to Quartermaster @ 763-537-9914 ext 105.

National Guard Birthday: Tuesday, December 13th

Wreaths across America: Saturday, December 17th at 11 AM, Ft Snelling National Cemetery. This is an annual event which includes a special program and the placing of wreaths in the cemetery as a way to honor the service of our Veterans.

Sat./Sun. December 24th & 25th – Merry Christmas

Sunday, January 1st 2023– Happy New Year

Fri-Sun., January 13th – 15th – Mid-Winter Conference
Marriott NW – Brooklyn Park

May you all have a joyous Holiday Season, and my wish is for a Happy New Year for you and your families. Let there be peace on earth for all! Stay Safe until we meet again.

Thank you for your continued support. Best wishes to all who have been ill and sympathies to those who have lost loved ones.

Yours in Patriotism,

Marge Rubenstein, Auxiliary President



From the Auxiliary treasurer's desk:

Hello. I hope everyone is doing well and enjoying the season. If you or someone you know has any changes in: address, phone number, e-mail info., please let me know.

If you have not paid your dues yet, it's not to late, but after Dec 31 you will be considered delinquent. You can contact me at laydt31@gmail.com or at 612-845-5666.

Post and Auxiliary community service: **Attention all members!**

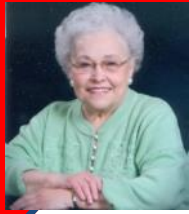
In order to receive state credit for our Community Service, we need the following four pieces of information for any work that is done to benefit the community:

1. What month was it done?
2. What is the activity?
3. How many members involved?
4. How many hours spent?

Please email the quartermaster the above information to report any community activity that would benefit our Post reporting. quartermaster494@comcast.net

Thank you,

Chairman Ken Olson



Natalie Stuhr

Chaplain's Corner



Taps & Sick Call

TAPS

Gerald (Jerry) Anderson

SICK

Past Commander; John Rooney
Mike Frederickson



To all brave American military Veterans:

During this season of our Lord's birth, I want you to know how deeply grateful I am for you . . . a genuine American hero.

May God grant you protection, hope, strength, and peace this Christmas and throughout the year.

Merry Christmas

"For unto you is born this day, in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord . . . Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men. (Luke 2:11)

Natalie Stuhr,

Auxiliary Chaplain of VFW Post 494

GOOD OF THE ORDER

Your Post welcomes Marine veteran Taylor Baumann as a member.

The face of the armed services is changing. Over 300,000 women have served since 9/11.

Your ritual squad had the honor of presenting the colors at a swearing in of six new national guard recruits two of them were women. If you see a woman wearing a service hat please don't forget to thank them.

A special thank you to the Plymouth Rockers for the military songs honoring Veterans Day at the Post. If you missed that concert you can attend their holiday concert at the Wayzata Sr. High School auditorium on Sunday December 4th at 2:00 PM. Your Post is proud to support this group as part of our community service. They do many concerts during the course of the year bringing cheer to assisted living centers and local churches.



Membership Dinner RSVP



Reservations Required

by Wednesday, December 7.

Sunday, Dec. 11 at 2:00 pm

Please call Quartermaster @ 763-537-9914 ext. 105
by Monday, Dec. 5 to make reservations.

Call now, it's only 2 weeks away!



Charles Knaeble VFW Post 494 Gambling Monthly Donations for November

CHARITY

NEAR
Crescent Cove
Volunteer Services
Every Third Saturday
St Cloud VA Hospital
North Hennepin Food Cupboard
Hopkins Track & Field Booster Club
Juvenile Diabetes Research Fund
Brooklyn Park Salvation Army
Minnesota Military Family Foundation
Union Gospel Mission
National Alliance for Mental Illness

PURPOSE

Food Bank
Children's Hospice
CRRV VA 8032 Fund
Veteran's Aid
GPF #8003 General Fund
NHCC Food Shelf
Donation request
In Memory of Aren Damschen
St Paul, MN
NAMI

AMOUNT

\$2,500.00
\$2,500.00
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\$2,000.00
\$2,500.00
\$1,000.00
\$500.00
\$1,000.00
\$1,000.00
\$1,000.00
\$3,000.00

VFW Post 494 Veteran and Community Support



Veteran's Day at Charles Knaeble Post #494: Plymouth Rockers Choir performed at our Post on Friday, Nov 11. and Vets and customers enjoyed the show.



November Vets Recognition Night: MN Blue Ox game

Veterans L to R between players:

Vietnam Vet Mike Clark, Korean War Vet Jerry Hagaman, WWII Vet Don Halverson who dropped the puck, Gulf War Vet Mark Jendro . Post 494 Ritual squad presented colors at the game.



GREAT DAY! Second Brigade MC came through today after months of collecting winter coats at local VFWs and American legions. They cleaned each and every coat at the laundromat and delivered a truck load of winter coats, hygiene kits, water bottles, back packs and more. Post 494 hosted a collection site and our auxiliary donated \$200 for the cleaning of the coats. I'm so honored and grateful for their yearly mission providing much needed help to our Veterans in need here at the VA CRRC. Thank you again for taking the time and care to make a difference to those who gave so much for us, providing warmth and caring heart!

Respectfully,

Lisa Sundberg, RN

Post #494
Auxiliary
Member



happy new year
2023

**New Year's Eve Dinner:
5pm to 9pm Saturday, Dec 31**

Please call for reservations:
763-537-9914 extension 104


Prime rib, chicken, fish

PLEASE SUPPORT OUR SPONSORS



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Friday Night Live Music 6:30-11pm

Dec 2	Basement Bob
Dec 9	Imaginary Roots
Dec 16	Percolators
Dec 23	Authorities
Dec 30	Wayne & the boys
Saturday NYE: Dec 31	Crossfire

from the Kitchen and Bar

It looks like Winter finally found us.

- * The Children's Christmas party is Sunday, Dec. 4 lower level banquet hall
- * Blood Drive: Tues., Dec. 6, lower level banquet hall
- * Craft Fair: 11-4 pm in the lower **CRAFT FAIR** level banquet hall
- * The Club will close at 5 PM Sat., Dec 24 Christmas Eve. We are **CLOSED Sun., Dec 25 Christmas Day**

Happy Holidays and Happy New Year. Thank you to all of our customers for a great year. Be safe!

ROOM RENTALS

For Conference Media Room Rental, Hall Rentals, Banquets, Weddings, Anniversaries and other functions, call the Post and ask for the Manager: 763-537-9914 Extension 104

NEWS & VIEWS is published monthly by Charles R. Knaeble VFW Post 494, 5222 56th Ave N., Crystal, MN 55429. Editing and layout by Lifetime Auxiliary member, Lesley Kurke, content management by Quartermaster,

Weekly Entertainment

Bar BINGO: 6 PM start Mon. & Thurs.
\$750-\$1,000 Coverall and \$1199

Coverall final game!

Plus we have an exciting progressive **Hot Ball** jackpot if you have a BINGO on the hot ball!



Bar RINGO: Free to play. Seven prize games plus \$500 Coverall. RINGO starts right after the **MEAT RAFFLE**, so come on down for the raffle and **STAY and PLAY.**

MEAT RAFFLES

Fri. 4pm & Sat. 2pm

No ticket limits!
Buy as many as you'd like.



\$1 / TICKET for \$20 meat pks
\$2 / TICKET for \$40 meat pks
\$5 / TICKET for \$110 case and a NEW \$90 meat + \$25 cash

VFW Post Auxiliary

Bake Sale

1st Wednesday of the month during Vietnam Vets pork chop dinner

Wed., Dec. 7 @ 4:30-7pm



Stop in and check out our amazing Post 494 Auxiliary Bake Sale and get some dessert to go with your dinner. Homemade items, made from the heart!

Proceeds support Veteran's programs





VFW POST 494 (763) 537-9914

December 2022



**Note: Calendar information is subject to last minute change.*

Check the signage in the club / bar for the most recent news and updates.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 Lunch Special Liver & onions w/ bacon, w/mashed & gravy, roll & butter Bar Bingo 6-9	2 Lunch Special Shrimp basket w/ fries and slaw Meat Raffle 4pm Live music 6:30 Basement Bob	3 Breakfast 8:00: The stacker: egg sandwich on toast w/meat and cheese on bed of hashbrowns w/ hollandaise \$8.95 Meat raffle 2 pm RINGO around 5:00 PM KARAOKE 7:00 Texas Hold 'Em 7pm
4 Breakfast 8:00: The stacker: egg sandwich on toast w/ meat and cheese on bed of hashbrowns w/ hollandaise \$8.95 VIKES vs Jets NOON Marcus & Friends Music after 3	5 Lunch Special Grilled cheese w/ homemade tomato soup w/chips Bar Bingo 6-9	6 Lunch Special Diced ham in scalloped potatoes w/roll and butter \$5 Burger Basket 5:30-9 DJ Trivia 6:30pm	7 Lunch Special Italian beef sandwich w/ mozzarella, chips Vietnam Vets Pork Chop Dinner 5-7 pm Bake Sale KARAOKE 7:00	8 Lunch Special Swedish meatballs over mashed w/roll and butter Bar Bingo 6-9	9 Lunch Special Sloppy joe w/chips and baked beans Meat Raffle 4pm Live music 6:30 Imaginary Roots	10 Breakfast 8:00: Two blueberry pancakes or blueberry waffle w/ choice of meat \$7.95 Meat raffle 2 pm RINGO around 5:00 PM KARAOKE 7:00 Texas Hold 'Em 7pm
11 Breakfast 8:00 Two blueberry pancakes or blueberry waffle w/ choice of meat \$7.95 VIKES @ Detroit NOON Marcus & Friends Music after 3	12 Lunch Special Egg salad on toast w/lettuce, chips Gambling Mtg 1:00 CMC MTG 1:30 Bar Bingo 6-9	13 Lunch Special Chicken enchilada hotdish w/tortilla chips, roll and butter \$5 Burger Basket 5:30-9 DJ Trivia 6:30pm	14 Lunch Special Goulash with garlic toast Crystal Lions Steak Fry 5-7 pm Lions Bake Sale KARAOKE 7:00	15 Lunch Special Salisbury steak w/ mashed, onion gravy, roll and butter Bar Bingo 6-9	16 Lunch Special Grilled ham and cheese on toasted croissant w/chips Meat Raffle 4pm Live music 6:30 Percolators	17 Breakfast 8:00: Corned beef hash, 2 eggs, toast \$7.95 Meat raffle 2 pm CRAFT FAIR 11-4 RINGO around 5:00 PM KARAOKE 7:00 PM Texas Hold 'Em 7pm
18 Breakfast 8:00 Corned beef hash, 2 eggs, toast \$7.95 VIKES vs Colts Time TBD Marcus & Friends Music after 3	19 Lunch Special Breaded pork tenderloin on toast, mayo, lettuce, tomato and chips Bar Bingo 6-9	20 Lunch Special Chicken noodle hotdish, roll & butter Aux. Mtg 6:30 Post Mtg. 7:00 \$5 Burger Basket 5:30-9 DJ Trivia 6:30 pm	21 Lunch Special Italian sausage link on bun w/sauce, onions and peppers, chips Westphal Legion 251 Spaghetti Dinner 5-7 pm KARAOKE 7:00	22 Lunch Special Meatloaf w/ mashed, gravy, roll and butter Bar Bingo 6-9	23 Lunch Special Meatball hoagie and chips Meat Raffle 4pm Live music 6:30 Authorities	24 Breakfast 8:00: Two pork chops, 2 eggs, hashbrowns and toast \$8.95 VIKES vs Giants NOON NO MEAT RAFFLE! CLOSING @ 5 PM For Christmas Holiday
25 CHRISTMAS DAY CLOSED Patriots @ VIKES 7:20 pm	26 Lunch Special Shrimp Po' Boy w/ chipotle mayo and slaw on top, chips Bar Bingo 6-9	27 Lunch Special Beef chow mein w/hard noodles, roll and butter \$5 Burger Basket 5:30-9 DJ Trivia 6:30 pm	28 Lunch Special Italian sausage penne pasta bake, garlic toast VFW Post 494 Rib dinner 5-7 pm	29 Lunch Special Crispy chicken breast w/country chicken gravy, mashed, roll and butter Bar Bingo 6-9	30 Lunch Special Pulled pork sandwich on a bun w/slaw and chips Meat Raffle 4pm Live music 6:30 Wayne and the Boys	31 Breakfast 8:00: Apple fritter French toast w/choice of meat \$7.95 New Year's Eve Dinner 5-9pm: Call for reservations 763-537-9914 NYE Band: CrossFire