

CHARLES R. KNAEBLE V.F.W. POST #494
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CHARLES R. KNAEBLE V.F.W. POST #494
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Facebook: **VFW Post 494**



**Bronze Award National Newsletter
contest for large posts in 2020!**

NEWS & VIEWS • April 2024

#1 newsletter in the State of Minnesota for large VFW Posts—2020, 2021, 2022, 2023!

Post #494 Officers / Trustees

2023-2024

CommanderRick Godfrey
Sr. Vice CommanderKen Olson
Jr. Vice Commander.....Sandra Lindley
QuartermasterJim Richter
Gambling Manager/
Ass't. Quartermaster Gene Burdick
AdjutantHarland Anderson
Chaplain Steve Jones
Judge AdvocateDon Fernstrom
Surgeon Steve Hawk
Service OfficerDon Fernstrom
Officer of the Day Fred Crimmins
Door Guard.....Bill Blair
1 Yr Trustee.....John Faulk
2 Yr Trustee.....Jay Leamons
3 Yr Trustee.....Fred Crimmins



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

Post #494 CMC Members

2024

1 Yr CMC Member Gene Burdick
1 Yr CMC MemberDon Fernstrom
1 Yr CMC MemberSteve Hawk
2 Yr CMC Member Bill Blair
2 Yr CMC MemberJim Hagenbrock
3 Yr CMC Member Ken Olson
3 Yr CMC Member Steve Jones

Auxiliary #494 Officers / Trustees

2023-2024

President Marge Rubenstein
Sr. Vice PresidentOPEN
Jr. Vice PresidentLisa Sundberg
Secretary Debbie Larson
TreasurerLori Aydt
ChaplainHelen Hauser
ConductressLori Martens
Guard Craig Dahlin
Patriotic Instructor Virginia Sroka
1st Yr. TrusteeMary Touve-Kackman
2nd Yr. TrusteeJo Peterson
3rd Yr. Trustee Pam Aritt

★ **Club Management Committee (CMC) meeting is the 2nd Monday, 1:00 p.m.**

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

from the COMMANDER



Greetings Comrades,

Spring is in the air and summer is right around the corner. It is time to reflect on the past year. We performed 1049 hours of community service last year which is a huge increase. Great job. Post Gambling

Donated \$325,755 to a variety of charities in our community.

The Second Brigade M/C Chapter Z held their 3rd Annual Chili Feed last month at our Post and they had a great turnout. They also donated \$750 to the post. Thank you for all you do for our veterans!

Wednesday, April 17, 2024: Join us for the annual Veterans on the Hill gathering in St. Paul. If you're interested in going please contact me at rickgodfrey@comcmast.net or Past Post Commander Don Fernstrom at dgfernstrom60@gmail.com We will be providing a bus to the St Paul Armory.

Poppy time is coming up in May. Contact the Post or Jim Hagenbrock to volunteer for distribution. I had the chance to man the Crystal's Cub Foods last year. It is a major fundraiser for Post activities, as well as a time to reconnect with the community.

As a reminder, Spring is a time of renewal. Nominations and Officer elections are coming up in April at the meeting on Tuesday, April 16. Come out to vote or run for office. It is your Post, so have a say in how we operate. Your participation is always welcome. Meetings are on the third Tuesday, at 7 PM in the Banquet room downstairs I hope to see you there!

Here are the open positions: Commander, Sr Vice Commander, Jr Vice Commander, Quartermaster, Chaplin, Three-year Trustee,

Our Post will be hosting the District and Auxiliary Meeting on Saturday, April 20th. It is a good time to show off our place to other Post representatives. **The dining room and bar will be closed until Noon due to the district meeting.**

District Meeting Agenda:

Memorial for those who passed in the last year.

Business Meeting

Installation of District & Auxiliary officers

Lunch

Our Post is more than a place to meet. It helps generate the resources we need to support veterans and our community: Schools, food shelves, veterans' resources are only a few of the things we support. I hope you have the chance to come in and participate. It is your Post. Our meetings are on the third Tuesday of every month at 7:00 in the lower-level Banquet room.

See you at the "V".

Respectfully,

Commander Rick Godfrey



GOOD OF THE ORDER

Spring is here. Does that mean it's time for the annual tournament snowstorm? You bet. It also means we will soon be hearing the whirl of lawnmowers and whack of golf balls. Life in the great State of Minnesota.



We have some unfinished business in the VFW. Veterans on the Hill is coming up on April 17th at the State Capitol. Important legislation affecting veterans' interests is on the agenda, not the least of which is, the bill to legalize sports betting throughout the State.

Why do we care you ask? Because tied into this legislation is long overdue tax relief for our charitable gambling operation, including the popular electronic pull tabs. It wasn't long ago we were at risk of losing electronic pull tabs due to the opposition of the Native American lobby. The bill which legalizes sports betting in Minnesota has changed the landscape. The tax revenues from sports betting will go directly toward reducing the nearly 40 per cent tax currently assessed on our charitable gambling operation.

What does this mean for us and our community? It means we will retain more of the revenue from our gambling operation to distribute to our veteran programs and local community needs. Do we really think our elected representatives are better judges of the needs of our

from the AUXILIARY PRESIDENT



Greetings members,

What a crazy winter we've had this year, one day it's 60 degrees and the next we're having snow and rain! Let's hope we can leave the snow and cold weather behind us and enjoy some warm sunny days.

As we end our Auxiliary year, it's time for Election of Auxiliary Officers. Elections will be held at the April 16th meeting. If you are interested in an office, please make sure to attend our meeting starting at 6:30. Any member who has their membership dues paid and is a member in good standing can be elected as an officer. If you can't attend the April meeting and wish to hold an office or chairmanship, please submit your willingness to hold an office in writing to me. We are all here to mentor and help you, so don't think you will be alone. If you are interested in one of the chairmanships for one of our programs also let me know.

Upcoming Events

- ★ Veterans Day on the Hill is April 17th: all are welcome to join on the steps of our State Capitol in St Paul in support of our Veterans needs
- ★ April is the month of the Military Child- Remember them every day.
- ★ April is also keep America Beautiful Month.
- ★ Gold Star Spouses Day - April 5
- ★ Air Force Reserve Birthday
- ★ Tax Day April 15
- ★ Auxiliary Meeting and Election of Officers - April 16
- ★ Veterans Day on the Hill- April 17
- ★ District Meeting- Crystal April 20
- ★ Army Reserve Birthday- April 23
- ★ Service Banner Day April 29

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

Yours in Patriotism,
Marge Rubenstein, Auxiliary President

Good of the Order continued

community or do we want to have a direct say on who our gambling revenue helps? You be the judge.

You can be a positive influence on the passage of this legislation and other bills which benefit our veterans, merely by showing up at Veterans on the Hill and wearing your VFW hat. Politicians respond to numbers of voters. When they see an overwhelming presence of veterans in support of these bills, they are more likely to vote for them.

Congratulations to our VFW Post 494 Ritual Squad. We were honored to be selected as the color guard for presentation of the colors at a ceremony at the United

States Post Office in downtown Minneapolis, when it was renamed after the late Rep. Martin Olav Sabo. Sen. Amy Klobuchar was gracious enough to have a picture taken with us. Whatever you may think of her political stand, she is a stalwart supporter of veterans causes in Congress.

Finally, you may have noticed some photos in our display cabinet depicting scenes from the Vietnam War. Vietnam War Recognition Day is on March 29th, recognition which is appreciated even if long overdue. Please join us at the Post and welcome our Vietnam veteran's home.



Chaplain's Corner

Taps & Sick Call



Helen Hauser

TAPS

SICK CALL



Spring has officially arrived! The birds are singing, the sun is warmer and the days are longer. The flowers and grass are starting to green and the Earth feels renewed. During this time of year many people feel rejuvenated. Spring can be a great time for starting new projects or giving your home (and your spirit) a good spring cleaning.

Psalm 51:10 – A Clean Heart: Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. (Psalm 51:10)

Psalm 51:7 – Wash Me: Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean. Wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow. (Psalm 51:7)

Proverbs 20:9 – Pure: Who can say I have made my heart clean? I am pure from sin. (Proverbs 20:9)

Matthew 23:26 – Clean Inside First: Blind Pharisee! First clean the inside of the cup so that the outside of the cup will be clean too. (Matthew 23:26)

Romans 14:14 – Nothing Unclean: There is nothing unclean of itself but to him that sees anything unclean, to him it is unclean. (Romans 14:14)

1 Corinthians 13:12 – See Through: For now we see through a glass darkly, but then face to face. Now I know in part but then shall I know even as also I am known. (1 Corinthians 13:12)

Here is one of my favorite Springtime devotionals . . . To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven.—Ecclesiastes 3:1 (KJV)

Spring is a season of growth. The budding flowers are beautiful proof of nature's resilience. Each bloom is a reminder that life is filled with transition. If you are experiencing a challenging time, trust that it is temporary and that every moment in your life serves a purpose in God's plan—an opportunity for growth.

Heavenly Father, help me remember that hard times help me grow in grace.

May the joy of Spring add pep to your step and sunshine to your heart.

Kind regards,

Helen Hauser

Charles Knaeble VFW Post 494 Gambling Monthly Donations for March

1. Near Food Shelf	\$500.00
2. Crescent Cove Children's Hospice	\$500.00
3. Every Third Saturday Veteran's Assistance	\$500.00
4. North Hennepin Community College Food Cupboard	\$500.00
5. John Faulk Pilgrim Cleaners Ritual Uniform	\$54.26
6. Bemidji State University Veteran's Club	\$500.00
7. Galls Uniforms Bob Parlow Ritual Squad Shirt	\$98.79
8. Army Surplus World 4 jackets & 2 liners	\$503.86
9. BPAA 12U Baseball Cooperstown Dreams Park Visit	\$2,500.00
10. Robins Adaptive Athletics Team	\$2,500.00
11. Cooper Hawks Girls Fast Pitch Softball Association	\$2,500.00
12. Leukemia & Lymphoma Society Student Visionaries of the year Sophie Durand	\$500.00
13. Children's Mental Health Services CMCS Stomp the Stigma 5K	\$500.00
14. Second Stork Post Delivery Free Infant Care Items	\$500.00
15. Totino Grace High School VFW Baseball Team	\$3,000.00
16. Northside Legion Baseball	\$3,000.00
17. Knights of Columbus Tootsie Roll Project	\$500.00

VFW Post 494 Veteran and Community Support



Post 494 VFW sponsors Crystal Police K9 Officer Ace and his handler Officer Michael Callahan



BIG BUCK\$

B I N G O

CRYSTAL VFW POST 494
5222 BASS LAKE RD
CRYSTAL, MN
SUNDAY APRIL 21, 2024 @ 2:00

12 TOTAL GAMES:
10 GAMES @ \$30 PER PACKET PLUS
2 COVERALLS @ \$5 PER CARD – 3 FACED

PAYOUT AS FOLLOWS:
2 COVERALLS EACH \$1199 (MUST GO)

2 GAMES @ \$150
2 GAMES @ \$200
2 GAMES @ \$250
2 GAMES @ \$300
2 GAMES @ \$500

\$40 TOTAL

RESERVATION REQUIRED @ 763-533-0567 OR @ PULLTAB BOOTH
LICENSE #00155

The 2nd Brigade Motorcycle Club Chapter Z held their 3rd annual Chili Feed at our Post on Saturday, March 2. Club members presented a check for \$750 to Quartermaster Jim Richter and manager Sandy Evans in support of Veterans causes.



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Friday	Live Music 7:00
April 5	City Lights
April 12	Wayne & the Boys
April 19	Tailspin
April 26	Percolators

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. Eight prize games plus \$500 Coverall. RINGO starts after the **SATURDAY MEAT RAFFLE** around 5 PM. Come on down for the raffle and **STAY and PLAY.**



- ★ **eTabs** available at pulltab booth daily
- ★ **Electronic Pulltab Races: Rats, Cash, Horse, Duck, Piggy, Matador** on weekend meat raffle days

MEAT RAFFLES

Fri. 4pm & Sat. 2pm

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



- \$1 / TICKET for **\$20 meat pkg**
- \$2 / TICKET for **\$40 meat pkg**
- \$5 / TICKET for **\$110 case/meat**



from the Kitchen and Bar

Hello April, okay we had our winter, let's get into Spring!!

Please remember that we are **CLOSED** on Easter Sunday, March 31.

Come and join us this month for these special activities:

- ★ **Tuesday, April 2** there will be a **Blood Drive** in the lower level. Please consider donating if you are able.
- ★ **Saturday, April 20** we are **closed** to the public **until NOON** in order to host a **District Meeting**. We will be **open after noon** for the usual food and beverages, meat raffle, electronic pulltab races, Karaoke and Texas Hold 'Em.
- ★ **Sunday, April 21** is **Big Bucks Bingo**. Make your reservations at the pulltab booth.
- ★ **Saturday, April 27** there will be a **Craft Fair** in the lower level.

Thank you for supporting Veterans and being a part of our club!

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

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



VFW POST 494 (763) 537-9914



April 2024

* *Note: Calendar information is subject to last minute change. Check the signage in the club / bar and our new Facebook page [VFW Post 494](#) for the most recent news and daily updates.*

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Lunch Special Sloppy Joe with chips Bar Bingo 6-9	2 Lunch Special Italian pasta salad with roll DJ Trivia 6:30 pm	3 Lunch Special Tuna noodle casserole with roll 5-7 pm Vietnam Vets Pork Chop Dinner Auxiliary Bake Sale 4:30-7 pm KARAOKE 7:30	4 Lunch Special Country fried steak with mashed/gravy & roll/butter Bar Bingo 6-9	5 Lunch Special Grilled ham and cheese on croissant with chips Evening: Shrimp Scampi Meat Raffle 4pm Live music 7:00 City Lights	6 Breakfast 8:00: Apple fritter french toast with meat Meat raffle 2 pm RINGO 5:00 PM KARAOKE 7:00 Texas Hold 'Em 7pm
7 Breakfast 8:00: Apple fritter french toast w/meat	8 Lunch Special Italian Beef dip w/ chips Gambling Mtg 12:00 CMC MTG 1:00 Bar Bingo 6-9	9 Lunch Special 1/2 Waffle + 2 chicken tenders DJ Trivia 6:30 pm	10 Lunch Special Mini 1-topping flatbread pizza 5-7pm Lion's Steak Fry KARAOKE 7:30	11 Lunch Special Baked chicken breast w/potatoes, gravy & roll Bar Bingo 6-9	12 Lunch Special 3 Beef tacos hard or soft shell Evening: Steak Meat Raffle 4pm Live music 7:00 Wayne & the Boys	13 Breakfast 8:00: Porkchop, eggs, hash browns and toast Meat raffle 2 pm RINGO 5:00 PM KARAOKE 7:00 PM Texas Hold 'Em 7pm
14 Breakfast 8:00: Porkchop, eggs, hash browns and toast	15 Lunch Special Italian hoagie w/chips Bar Bingo 6-9	16 Lunch Special Double cheeseburger w/ chips Post and Auxiliary Meeting 7 pm / 6:30 DJ Trivia 6:30 pm	17 Lunch Special Chicken alfredo w/garlic toast 5-7pm Westphal Legion Spaghetti Dinner KARAOKE 7:30	18 Lunch Special Meatloaf with mashed and gravy Bar Bingo 6-9	19 Lunch Special Tuna salad sandwich w/chips Evening: Walleye Meat Raffle 4pm Live music 7:00 Tailspin	20 Breakfast 8:00: NO BREAKFAST CLOSED UNTIL NOON District Meeting Meat raffle 2 pm RINGO 5:00 PM KARAOKE 7:00 PM Texas Hold 'Em 7pm
21 Breakfast 8:00: Mini breakfast flatbread BIG BUCKS BINGO 2 PM	22 Lunch Special Swedish meatballs on egg noodles w/roll and butter Bar Bingo 6-9	23 Lunch Special Loaded baked potato DJ Trivia 6:30 pm	24 Lunch Special Tater tot hotdish w/roll and butter 5-7pm VFW BBQ Ribs KARAOKE 7:30	25 Lunch Special Pork chop, mashed w/gravy, roll/butter Bar Bingo 6-9	26 Lunch Special Open faced tuna melt w/chips Evening: Prime Rib Meat Raffle 4pm Live music 7:00 Percolators	27 Breakfast 8:00: Biscuits & Gravy with eggs NOON CRAFT FAIR Lower Level Meat raffle 2 pm RINGO 5 PM KARAOKE 7:00 PM Texas Hold 'Em 7pm
28 Breakfast 8:00: Biscuits & Gravy with eggs	29 Lunch Special Egg Salad on a Croissant w/chips Bar Bingo 6-9	30 Lunch Special Italian Dunkers w/ marinara DJ Trivia 6:30 pm				