

CHARLES R. KNAEBLE V.F.W. POST #494  
5222 56TH Avenue North  
Crystal, MN 55429

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## CHARLES R. KNAEBLE V.F.W. POST #494 Crystal-Robbinsdale, Minnesota

Phone: 763-537-9914 • Fax: 763-537-2418 • crystalvfw.com

Facebook: VFW Post 494



Bronze Award National Newsletter  
contest for large posts in 2020!

## NEWS & VIEWS • July 2025

2nd Place State of Minnesota  
contest for large posts in 2024!

**#1 newsletter in the State of MN for large VFW Posts—2020—2023, 2025!**

### Post #494 Officers / Trustees

2024-2025

Commander .....Rick Godfrey  
Sr. Vice Commander .....John Faulk  
Jr. Vice Commander.....Mike Johnson  
Quartermaster .....Jim Richter  
Gambling Manager/  
Ass't. Quartermaster .....Gene Burdick  
Adjutant .....Sandra Lindley  
Chaplain .....Steve Jones  
Judge Advocate .....Don Fernstrom  
Surgeon .....Steve Hawk  
Service Officer .....Don Fernstrom  
Officer of the Day .....Fred Crimmins  
Door Guard.....Travis Nienaber  
1 Yr Trustee.....Fred Crimmins  
2 Yr Trustee.....Dave Soukup  
3 Yr Trustee.....Jay Leamons



All American Post  
1993, 1996 Banner Post

### Post #494 CMC Members

2025

1 Yr CMC Member .....Bill Blair  
1 Yr CMC Member .....Jim Hagenbrock  
2 Yr CMC Member .....Ken Olson  
2 Yr CMC Member .....Steve Jones  
3 Yr CMC Member .....Gene Burdick  
3 Yr CMC Member .....Mike Johnson  
3 Yr CMC Member .....Steve Hawk

★ Club Management Committee (CMC)  
meeting is the 2nd Monday, 12:30 p.m.

### Auxiliary #494 Officers / Trustees

2024-2025

President .....Marge Rubenstein  
Sr. Vice President .....Lisa Sundberg  
Jr. Vice President .....Theo Page  
Secretary .....Debbie Larson  
Assistant Secretary .....Geri Westley  
Treasurer .....Pam Aritt  
Chaplain .....Helen Hauser  
Chaplain Assistant .....Kathy Lund  
Conductor .....Diane Johnson  
Guard .....Marlene Lietzow  
Patriotic Instructor .....Virginia Sroka  
1st Yr. Trustee .....Marlene Lietzow  
2nd Yr. Trustee .....Theo Page  
3rd Yr. Trustee .....Darlene Hauschildt

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

## from the COMMANDER



Greetings, Comrades,

I can't believe it's already July. We had the State convention last month in St Cloud. The convention went well. I am happy to share that Your Quartermaster, Jim Richter, and I were named to the All-State Team for the second year. We

appreciate the Post's efforts; these honors reflect the team's efforts, from adding members to community service, to name a few. You should be very proud of our Post!

Our Post won a few awards this year at the State convention!

- ★ Buddy Poppy Display, Public Promotion, Second place Category 1 Congratulations, Jim!
- ★ Community Service, Second place, Category III. Congratulations to all for your community service!
- ★ Our newsletter editor, Lesley Kurke, took first place again in the large Post newsletter category 2. Congratulations Lesley!

Congratulations to our new state Commander, Edward Keogh.

I would like to thank our members and guests, who support our post day in and day out. Your business and support are appreciated!

Your Post is doing well, still serving veterans and our community. We can't do it without you, so please come down and participate. If you are on a renewing membership, please remember to renew; otherwise, switch to either a Life Membership or the new Legacy option. As always, our meetings are on the third Tuesday of every month at 7:00. We hope to see you there!

I hope to see you at the "V".

Respectfully,

Commander Rick Godfrey

## from the QUARTERMASTER

### Newsletter Communications

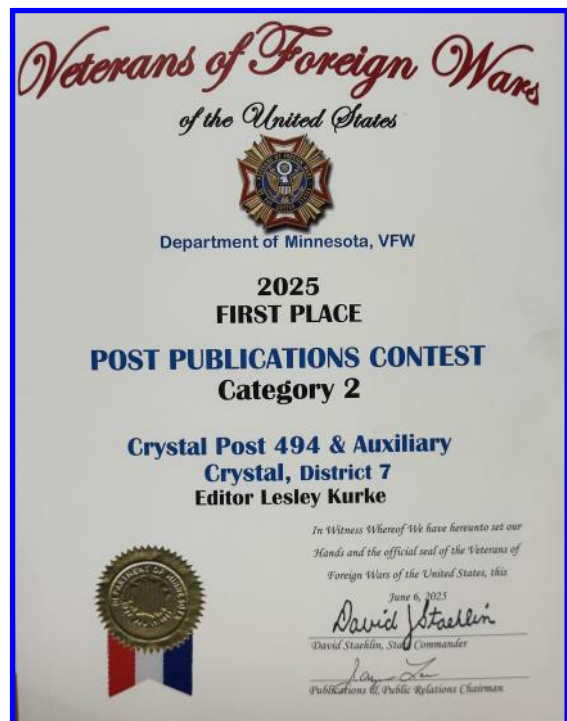
**We are moving toward ALL *electronic distribution* of the newsletter to save on postage and undeliverable mail costs.**

⇒ **Please contact me via Email at: [quartermaster494@comcast.net](mailto:quartermaster494@comcast.net) with your email address and full name. Please put **NEWSLETTER** in the subject line. You will receive your electronic newsletter in color, more quickly, and help the Post by saving us the high cost to print and mail.**

**Visit our FaceBook page: VFW Post 494**

**Visit our website: [crystalvfw.com](http://crystalvfw.com)**

Thank you for supporting our Post, Jim Richter, Quartermaster.



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

## Good of the Order



We are struggling with the loss of a great American and fellow Minnesotan, Melissa Hortman. She was killed along with her husband Mark, by a deranged individual with an agenda.

By all accounts, she was a selfless leader, concerned about the welfare of all the people in our great state but, especially for women and children in need. She was the Speaker of the House for all Minnesotans, willing to reach across the aisle and compromise on issues near and dear to her heart, for the better good of all Minnesotans regardless of party. It will not be easy to replace such leadership in these turbulent times.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to her family, who lost both mother and father in this tragic event.

Senator Hoffman and his wife are also in the front of our minds. We pray for a speedy and complete recovery from the multiple gunshot wounds they sustained.

Where do we find the people to replace such dedicated public servants? God only knows, but there are heroes and heroines among us. People like Melissa Hortman, who just did their jobs to the best of their ability, seeking no other reward than a job well done.

Don Halverson and Sandra Lindley of our Post come to mind. If you haven't thanked them for their service yet, I urge you to do so. Don and Sandra are two among us, that just did their jobs to the best of their ability.

Most of you know that Don fought his way up the boot of Italy during WW2 from Naples, Anzio, Monte Cassino, the Volturno River, the Apennine's and, on to the Alps overlooking Switzerland, when the war came to an end. He doesn't consider himself a hero. He was: "Just doing my job."

Sandra served two tours in the Middle East, one on a Marine Assault Carrier off the coast of Afghanistan and one off the coast of Iraq, in support of the boots on the ground as a Harrier jet mechanic. If you missed her interview on CCX Media Veteran's Stories, ask them if they plan to show it again this month. If not, maybe we can obtain a copy for a watch party at the Post.

Julie Deshler, the Mayor of Crystal, made the courageous call to cancel a planned Juneteenth celebration in Becker Park, in the wake of Speaker →

## from the AUXILIARY PRESIDENT

Greetings Members,  
I hope this finds you enjoying our Summer Weather, connecting with friends and family, taking some road trips while the weather is still nice. Let's not forget State Fair is right around the corner!



At our last Auxiliary meeting we presented an award to our Hospital Volunteer of the year, Dorothy Aho.



Dorothy spends time visiting with our Veterans at the Hospitals. We appreciate her taking the time to visit and bring some cheer to our

Veterans who are in hospitals and care centers.

As we start our new year let's not forget while our membership is right on track, it's never too early to start recruiting new members. We have done a tremendous job this past year and I know we will continue for 2025-26. Thank you all for your dedication, I know this year will be a great one.

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

Loyally,  
Marge Rubenstein,  
Auxiliary President



### Good of the Order

Melissa Horton's assassination and threats of violence at the event.

My point is, there are heroes among us, that often go unrecognized. Look for the good in people, you may be surprised.

Don Fernstrom, Judge Advocate / Service Officer and Past Commander



## Chaplain's Corner



**Rev. Steve Jones**

## Taps & Sick Call

### TAPS

Bob Parlo

### SICK CALL

Craig Dahlin



No Chaplain submission for July



### The Larry Greshowak Memorial Charity Golf Tournament for Fisher House

Four person; best ball format!

Note: limited number of golfers, registration deadline is Friday, August 15

**When:** Sunday, August 24, 2025

**Time:** 9:00 am Shot Gun Start,  
check in at 8:30 am

**Where:** The Vintage Golf Course, Inc.,  
10444 95<sup>th</sup> Street NE, Otsego, MN  
55632 763-271-5000

**Cost:** \$60 per golfer, which includes 18 holes of golf, cart plus:  
**Pig roast at: Crystal VFW (Bass Lake Road)**  
**5222 56<sup>th</sup> Ave N, Crystal, MN 55429**

Make checks payable to: VFW Post 494. Please sign up and pay by Friday, August 15

Mail checks to: Jim Richter, Tournament chair at 5222 56<sup>th</sup> Ave N, Crystal, MN 55429.  
For information or to sponsor a hole, contact Jim Richter at 612-805-3561

## VFW Horseshoe Tournament

**Luck-of-the-Draw  
Sunday, July 13  
NOON sign up  
1:00 START  
\$10 entry fee**

## Charles Knaeble VFW Post 494 Gambling Monthly Donations June 2025

Charity	Purpose	Donation
Near	Food Shelf	\$500.00
Crescent Cove	Hospice care	\$500.00
Every Third Saturday	Veterans care	\$500.00
North Hennepin Community College	Food cupboard	\$500.00
Walk MS 2025		\$500.00
New Hope Animal Humane Society		\$800.00
Fort Snelling National Cemetery		\$1,000.00
Good Samaritan	Non-Profit Org for Vets	\$1,000.00
Commanders Project	BELIEVET K-9	\$1,000.00
Sonnesyn Elementary School PTSO	Enriching Student Learning	\$1,000.00
Golden Valley Girls Softball – GVGS		\$1,000.00
Mpls Northside Baseball		\$1,000.00
Eaton Rapids National Home		\$2,000.00
Cancer Research Fund		\$2,500.00
Armstrong Summer VFW Baseball		\$3,000.00
City of Crystal	Park Contribution	\$10,000.00
Veterans Valor Farm	Veterans Assistance Program	\$800.00
		<b>\$27,600.00</b>



# VFW Post 494 Veteran and Community Support



Quartermaster Jim Richter and Commander Rick Godfrey with their All State white hats.



**Above:** Jim Richter (3rd from left) with other All State Quartermasters for 2025. **Below:** Rick Godfrey (4th from left) with All State Commanders for 2025



John Faulk with 2nd place Poppy Display winner Jim Hagenbrock



Sr. Vice Commander John Faulk with 2nd place Community Service winner Adjutant Sandra Lindley



**Above:** Don Halverson (center) holds the Italy Campaign plate that commemorates the battle in which he fought. Left: Sr. Vice Commander John Faulk and on the right: Past Commander Don Fernstrom



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### Joe's Barbershop



Joe Mullen  
Barber / Owner  
5707 West Broadway  
Crystal, MN 55428  
763-536-9879

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P.O. Box 290298  
Brooklyn Center, MN 55429

Bus: 763-560-0666  
Fax: 763-585-0465  
Cell: 763-568-1004

**Derek Krempin**  
Commercial  
Representative



**763-535-4774 O**  
**612-289-0121 C**

8175 Lewis Road, Golden Valley, MN 55427  
[derek@metrogaragedoor.com](mailto:derek@metrogaragedoor.com)

### HAWK REALTY CO.

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Wanda Mitchell  
763.222.4598



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[www.creativepaintingmn.com](http://www.creativepaintingmn.com)



**Jason Lindberg**  
Owner

[JasonLfanfarepromotions.com](http://JasonLfanfarepromotions.com)

[www.fanfarepromotions.com](http://www.fanfarepromotions.com)

Business: 763-576-0195

Friday	Live Music 7:00
July 4	Wayne & the Boys
July 11	Mr. Winky
July 18	Bird Dogs
July 25	Saintrio

## 4th of July

*Come and celebrate Independence Day weekend: Friday, July 4-6 at your VFW Post 494!*

**JULY 4:** Friday afternoon lunch special is Brats, Beans, Potato Salad and our evening special is Steak Dinner plus full menu options.

Also on **Friday at 4 PM** is our **Meat Raffle** which will be gift cards only instead of meat packages, electronic racing pull tabs and around 7 p.m. live music with Wayne & the Boys.

**JULY 5:** Saturday's Meat raffle at 2 pm will also feature Gift Cards instead of meat packages, there will be electronic pull tab racing, and following meat raffle is RINGO, our free Bingo game with a cash prize for the final game. Following RINGO, join us for Karaoke.

**Friday, July 4 & Saturday, July 5**

## Gift Card Meat Raffle

No fresh meat prizes for this weekend's raffle due to holiday

*Come play and win a gift card!*

## Weekly Entertainment

**Bar BINGO: 6 PM start Mon. & Thurs.**

**\$500-\$1,000 progressive Coverall and \$1199 Coverall final**

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



**Bar RINGO: FREE to play.** Eight prize games plus \$500 cash 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 Friday and Saturday 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 of meat**

## 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



VFW POST 494 (763) 537-9914



# July 2025

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

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		<b>1 Lunch Special</b> <i>TACO Tuesday</i> 3 beef tacos  <b>DJ Trivia 6:30 pm</b>	<b>2 Lunch Special</b> Sloppy Joes with chips  <b>Auxiliary Bake Sale 4:45 pm</b>  <div>5-7 Vietnam Vets Pork Chop Dinner</div> <b>KARAOKE 7:30</b>	<b>3 Lunch Special</b> Shrimp Basket  <b>Bar Bingo 6-9</b>	<b>4 Lunch Special</b> Brats, beans, potato salad  <b>Evening: Steak dinner</b> <b>Gift Card Meat Raffle 4pm</b>  <b>Live music 7:00</b> <b>Wayne and the Boys</b>	<b>5 Breakfast 8:00:</b> Breakfast Pizza  <b>Gift Card Meat raffle 2 pm</b>  <b>RINGO 5:00 PM</b> <b>KARAOKE 7:30</b> <b>Texas Hold 'em 7:00</b>
<b>6 Breakfast 8:00:</b> Breakfast Pizza	<b>7 Lunch Special</b> Cuban Sandwich w/ chips  <b>Gambling Mtg 12:00</b> <b>CMC MTG 12:30</b>  <b>Bar Bingo 6-9</b>	<b>8 Lunch Special</b> <i>TACO Tuesday</i> 3 beef tacos  <b>DJ Trivia 6:30 pm</b>	<b>9 Lunch Special</b> Meatloaf w/mashed potatoes  <div>5-7 pm Lion's Steak Fry</div> <b>KARAOKE 7:30</b>	<b>10 Lunch Special</b> BBQ Shredded Chicken Sandwich <b>Bar Bingo 6-9</b>	<b>11 Lunch Special</b> Deluxe Grilled Cheese  <b>Evening: Ribs and Chicken</b> <b>Meat Raffle 4pm</b>  <b>Live music 7:00</b> <b>Mr Winky</b>	<b>12 Breakfast 8:00:</b> Apple Fritter French Toast  <b>Meat raffle 2 pm</b> <b>RINGO 5:00 PM</b> <b>KARAOKE 7:30 PM</b> <b>Texas Hold 'em 7:00</b>
<b>13 Breakfast 8:00:</b> Apple Fritter French Toast	<b>14 Lunch Special</b> Cold Tuna Noodle Salad  <b>Bar Bingo 6-9</b>	<b>15 Lunch Special</b> <i>TACO Tuesday</i> 3 beef tacos  <b>Post Meeting 7 pm</b> <b>Auxiliary Meeting 5:30 pm</b>	<b>16 Lunch Special</b> Baked chicken & stuffing  <div>5-7 pm Westphal Legion Spaghetti Dinner</div> <b>KARAOKE 7:30</b>	<b>17 Lunch Special</b> Loaded Baked Potato  <b>Bar Bingo 6-9</b>	<b>18 Lunch Special</b> Beef Taco Wrap  <b>Evening: Steak Dinner</b> <b>Meat Raffle 4pm</b>  <b>Live music 7:00</b> <b>Bird Dogs</b>	<b>19 Breakfast 8:00:</b> Mexican Skillet  <b>Meat raffle 2 pm</b> <b>RINGO 5:00 PM</b> <b>KARAOKE 7:30 PM</b> <b>Texas Hold 'em 7:00</b>
<b>20 Breakfast 8:00:</b> Mexican Skillet	<b>21 Lunch Special</b> 1 topping pizza  <b>Bar Bingo 6-9</b>	<b>22 Lunch Special</b> <i>TACO Tuesday</i> 3 beef tacos	<b>23 Lunch Special</b> Liver and Onions  <div>5-7 pm VFW Rib Dinner</div> <b>KARAOKE 7:30</b>	<b>24 Lunch Special</b> Egg or Tuna salad sandwich w/chips  <b>Bar Bingo 6-9</b>	<b>25 Lunch Special</b> Chicken Parm Sandwich w/chips  <b>Evening: Deep Fried Walleye</b> <b>Meat Raffle 4pm</b>  <b>Live music 7:00</b> <b>Saintrio</b>	<b>26 Breakfast 8:00:</b> Corned beef hash  <b>Meat raffle 2 pm</b> <b>RINGO 5:00 PM</b> <b>KARAOKE 7:30 PM</b> <b>Texas Hold 'em 7:00</b>
<b>27 Breakfast 8:00:</b> Corned beef hash	<b>28 Lunch Special</b> Crunchy chicken wrap w/chips <b>Bar Bingo 6-9</b>	<b>29 Lunch Special</b> <i>TACO Tuesday</i> 3 beef tacos	<b>30 Lunch Special</b> Salisbury Steak  <div>5-7 pm West Metro FD Relief Assoc. Meatloaf dinner</div> <b>KARAOKE 7:30</b>	<b>31 Lunch Special</b> Pork tenderloin sandwich w/chips  <b>Bar Bingo 6-9</b>		