

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

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Facebook: VFW Post 494



Bronze Award National Newsletter
contest for large posts in 2020!

NEWS & VIEWS • June 2025

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

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

Post #494 Officers / Trustees 2024-2025

CommanderRick Godfrey
Sr. Vice CommanderJohn Faulk
Jr. Vice Commander.....Mike Johnson
QuartermasterJim Richter
Gambling Manager/
Ass't. QuartermasterGene Burdick
AdjutantSandra Lindley
ChaplainSteve Jones
Judge AdvocateDon Fernstrom
SurgeonSteve Hawk
Service OfficerDon Fernstrom
Officer of the DayFred 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 MemberBill Blair
1 Yr CMC MemberJim Hagenbrock
2 Yr CMC MemberKen Olson
2 Yr CMC MemberSteve Jones
3 Yr CMC MemberGene Burdick
3 Yr CMC MemberMike Johnson
3 Yr CMC MemberSteve Hawk

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

Auxiliary #494 Officers / Trustees 2024-2025

PresidentMarge Rubenstein
Sr. Vice PresidentLisa Sundberg
Jr. Vice PresidentTheo Page
SecretaryDebbie Larson
Assistant SecretaryGeri Westley
TreasurerPam Aritt
ChaplainHelen Hauser
Chaplain AssistantKathy Lund
ConductorDiane Johnson
GuardMarlene Lietzow
Patriotic InstructorVirginia Sroka
1st Yr. TrusteeMarlene Lietzow
2nd Yr. TrusteeTheo Page
3rd Yr. TrusteeDarlene Hauschildt

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

from the COMMANDER



Greetings, Comrades.

I hope you are enjoying the great weather. While you're out enjoying the great weather, don't forget what the VFW has going on. Live bands, meat raffle, horse races. Daily lunch specials and breakfast specials every weekend.

The VFW & Auxiliary handed out poppies at multiple locations again this year. Thank you to all who volunteered. We also held our day of service on May 3rd, featuring a street cleanup. Thank you to all the volunteers. Thank you to all the people who attended our day of service on May 3rd. It was great to see some new faces!

St. Cloud area will be the site of the Department of Minnesota, VFW State Convention for 2025, June 5-8, 2025, Kelly Inn, 100 4th Ave S., St. Cloud, MN

We had the installation of VFW officers and Auxiliary before our membership meeting on May 20th. Congratulations to Marge Rubinstein as Auxiliary President and all the officers on being elected. The officers will assume their new duties after the State Convention. I look forward to working with you all to continue to make VFW Post 494 a great place for Veterans and their Families.

For Memorial Day this year, our Ritual squad performed at the following.

- ★ Gethsemane Cemetery
- ★ VFW Post 494
- ★ Glen Haven Cemetery



What does the VFW do?

Across America, the initials VFW are a familiar sight and symbolize a commitment to the nation both at home and abroad. **Our Mission:** To foster camaraderie among United States veterans of overseas conflicts. To serve our veterans, the military, and our communities. To advocate on behalf of all veterans.

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 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

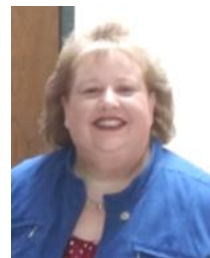
Thank you for supporting our Post, Jim Richter,
Quartermaster.



from the AUXILIARY PRESIDENT

Please remember to submit your community service hours each month.
Thank you!

Marge Rubenstein,
Auxiliary President



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.

Veteran Support

Fisher House Foundation builds comfort homes where military & veteran families can stay free of charge, while a loved one is in the hospital.

These homes are located at military and VA medical centers around the world.

Fisher Houses have up to 21 suites, with private bedrooms and baths. Families share a common kitchen, laundry facilities, a warm dining room, and an inviting living room.



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 95th 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 56th 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 56th Ave N. Crystal, MN 55429.
For information or to sponsor a hole, contact Jim Richter at 612-805-3561

Charles Knaeble VFW Post 494 Gambling Monthly Donations May 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



Chaplain's Corner



Helen Hauser

Taps & Sick Call

TAPS

Deb Sundseth

SICK CALL

Craig Dahlin

Jay Leamons



Hello Everyone,

I would like to start off by welcoming my new Co-Chaplain Kathy Lund. Kathy is a transfer from West Metro and I am thrilled to have her share this position with me. Kathy will be introducing herself in our next Chaplain's Corner.

In June we remember a momentous day in military history – D-Day, or the Normandy landings. The landing of the troops on June 6, 1944 marked the Allied invasion of France which was the beginning of the liberation of Western Europe. It was the largest amphibious landing in history and a pivotal moment in World War II. On that day the world lost a total of 4,414 Allied troops, including 2,501 Americans. The heaviest casualties for the U.S. Army were on Omaha Beach, where 2,000 American troops were killed, wounded, or went missing. We remember all of those who died for our freedom and we thank you for your sacrifice.

Flag Day is also observed annually in June. This U.S. holiday celebrates the adoption of the national flag. The Continental Congress officially adopted the design of the Stars and Stripes on June 14, 1777.

Fun facts about the flag:

- ★ A 17-year-old designed the American Flag as we know it today. Student Robert Heft created the design for a school project, and President Dwight D. Eisenhower chose his design over 1,500 other submissions.
- ★ The flag's colors each represent something symbolic. Red represents valor, white represents purity, and blue represents perseverance.
- ★ There have been 27 different versions of the U.S. flag. Each version has a different number of stars.

"I am whatever you make me, nothing more. I am your belief in yourself, your dream of what a people may become."

— *The American Flag*

In closing - rest in peace Deb Sundseth, long time member of the VFW Auxiliary. May her soul have eternal rest with our father in heaven.

Sincerely,
Helen Hauser
Auxiliary Chaplain



Brief History of the Poppy



The inspiration for the Poppy came from Col. John McCrae's famous poem "In Flanders Fields". In 1921, the Franco-American League conducted a nationwide sale of poppies made in France for the benefit of children in the war-torn areas of France and Belgium. In 1923 the V.F.W. evolved the idea which resulted in the "Buddy Poppy" exclusive to the V.F.W. In February 1924, the V.F.W. registered the name with the US Patent Office and still holds all trademark rights.

The Poppy has become traditional as the Memorial Day flower and as the symbol of remembrance for the men and women who have lost their lives or health in the defense of their country.

Today the "Buddy" Poppy is assembled in the US by disabled veterans. The Veterans of Foreign Wars pay for the assembly of these "Buddy" Poppies.

V.F.W. and Auxiliary members who distribute the "Buddy" Poppies cannot and do not receive pay for distribution Poppies. The monies received from the distribution of "Buddy" Poppies and V.F.W. Poppy cards can only be used in assisting needy and disabled veterans, their families and the widows and orphans of veterans.



In Flanders Fields

In Flanders Fields, the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row.
That mark our place; and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below.

We are the dead, short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved and were loved, and now we lie
In Flanders fields.

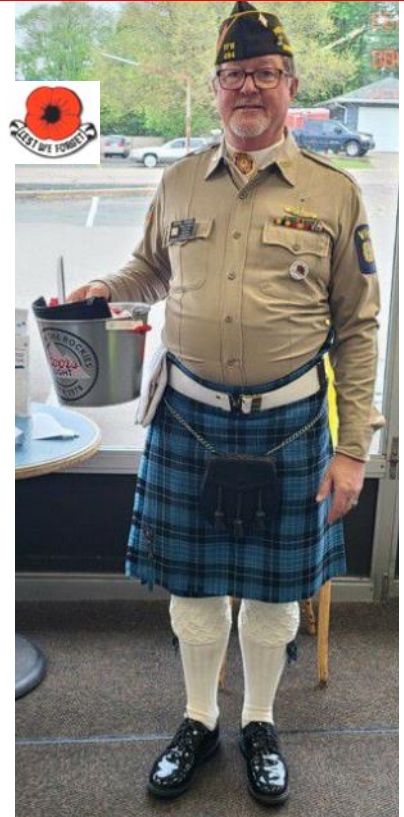
Take up our quarrel with the foe:
To you from failing hands we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high.
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders fields. — *John McCrae*



VFW Post 494 Veteran and Community Support



Decorated by 3rd Floor Calibar Chase ladies for Memorial Day. Poppies & Flags



Chaplain Rev. Steve Jones distributes Poppies at Almstead's Grocery during May Poppy days.



Charles Knaeble VFW Ritual squad gathers before the Memorial Day Rituals. Members and friends gather for the Memorial Day flag raising. (more pictures on page 7)



Top: Hundreds of Poppy Cards from donations are displayed throughout the bar and restaurant area.

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Jason Lindberg
Owner

JasonLfanfarepromotions.com

www.fanfarepromotions.com

Business: 763-576-0195

Friday	Live Music 7:00
June 6	City Lights
June 13	Miller Brothers
June 20	Lost Marbles
June 27	Tailspin



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



June 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
1 Breakfast 8:00: Mess Hall skillet	2 Lunch Special Cobb Salad Bar Bingo 6-9	3 Lunch Special <i>TACO Tuesday</i> 3 beef tacos DJ Trivia 6:30 pm	4 Lunch Special Hamburger Stroganoff Auxiliary Bake Sale 4:45 pm <div>5-7 Vietnam Vets Pork Chop Dinner</div> KARAOKE 7:30	5 Lunch Special Egg or Tuna salad sandwich on a croissant Bar Bingo 6-9	6 Lunch Special Swedish Meatballs Evening: Chicken & Rib dinner Meat Raffle 4pm Live music 7:00 City Lights	7 Breakfast 8:00: Mexican Skillet Meat raffle 2 pm RINGO 5:00 PM KARAOKE 7:30 Texas Hold 'em 7:00
8 Breakfast 8:00: Mexican Skillet	9 Lunch Special Mandarin Orange Salad Gambling Mtg 12:00 CMC MTG 12:30 Bar Bingo 6-9	10 Lunch Special <i>TACO Tuesday</i> 3 beef tacos DJ Trivia 6:30 pm	11 Lunch Special Salisbury Steak <div>5-7 pm Lion's Steak Fry</div> KARAOKE 7:30	12 Lunch Special BLT Wrap Bar Bingo 6-9	13 Lunch Special Spaghetti and Meatball Evening: Deep Fried Walleye Meat Raffle 4pm Live music 7:00 Miller Brothers	14 Breakfast 8:00: Steak & Eggs Meat raffle 2 pm RINGO 5:00 PM KARAOKE 7:30 PM Texas Hold 'em 7:00 Flag Day 
15 Breakfast 8:00: Steak & Eggs Happy Father's Day	16 Lunch Special Tuna Melt Bar Bingo 6-9	17 Lunch Special <i>TACO Tuesday</i> 3 beef tacos Post Meeting 7 pm Auxiliary Meeting 5:30 pm	18 Lunch Special Liver & Onions <div>5-7 pm Westphal Legion Spaghetti Dinner</div> KARAOKE 7:30	19 Lunch Special Nan's Chicken Salad Bar Bingo 6-9	20 Lunch Special VFW Chicken Bowl Evening: Deep Fried Shrimp Meat Raffle 4pm Live music 7:00 Lost Marbles	21 Breakfast 8:00: Eggs Benedict Meat raffle 2 pm RINGO 5:00 PM KARAOKE 7:30 PM Texas Hold 'em 7:00
22 Breakfast 8:00: Eggs Benedict	23 Lunch Special Pear & Chicken Salad Bar Bingo 6-9	24 Lunch Special <i>TACO Tuesday</i> 3 beef tacos	25 Lunch Special Meatloaf <div>5-7 pm VFW Rib Dinner</div> KARAOKE 7:30	26 Lunch Special Chicken Parm Sandwich Bar Bingo 6-9	27 Lunch Special Lasagna Rollups Evening: Turkey Dinner Meat Raffle 4pm Live music 7:00 Tailspin	28 Breakfast 8:00: Cheesy Potatoes w/ ham and 2 eggs Meat raffle 2 pm RINGO 5:00 PM KARAOKE 7:30 PM Texas Hold 'em 7:00
29 Breakfast 8:00: Cheesy Potatoes w/ Ham and 2 eggs	30 Lunch Special Tater Tot Hotdish Bar Bingo 6-9		<div> Happy Father's day, Sunday June 15 8 a.m.—3 p.m. Visit the Crystal Airport Open House and treat dad to a Plane or Helicopter Rides or just visit the displays </div>			