

DECEMBER 2025

SANTA FE EXPRESS

VFW POST 846 NEWSLETTER



COMMANDER's COLUMN *Principles Above Personalities*

MARTIN FRIES, Commander

Comrades of Post 846, Hope everyone had a great Thanksgiving. We had at our last meeting the owners of Upper Crest Bakery (Kellie and Lisa). Upper Crest Bakery gave a donation to our post for Veterans. We presented our VFW Coins to both for their donation of over \$4,000 to our post. (See attached photos of all the events we did in November.)

Our Christmas Dinner will be 5 DEC from 6 to 8. We will be having Prime Rib but due to the cost of Prime Rib this dinner will be \$20 each. For Dessert the Auxiliary will be bringing in Cookies for each person to decorate. Plus we'll have music and caroling and have fun and games that night. **I have 2 spots open for prime rib dinners right now so please call me 913-706-3105 if you want to be one of those 2 spots that are open.** We have 28 reservations for Prime Rib Christmas dinner. All looking forward to our Christmas dinner.

Don't forget about Friday Nights the post is open from 5 to 7 dinner is provided for people who show up. Please give use help since it has been the same for the past few months supporting keeping the post open on Friday Night. No Steak Night due to Holiday dinner on the 5th.



Commander Martin Fries

FROM YOUR AUXILIARY

DANA PFLUMM, President

Sisters and Brothers— The Holiday Season is always a special time of year as we say good-bye to the past year and welcome the future in 2026.

I hope you had an enjoyable Thanksgiving and were able to be with family and friends.

This months starts quickly on Friday, Dec. 5 with the Annual Holiday Prime Rib Dinner which includes many festivities. The Auxiliary provides music and caroling and we have luscious cookies to decorate for desert.

Don't forget The Auxiliary visits the veterans at Ft. Leavenworth on the third Tuesday, this month on December 16th. Please let us know if you can join us. The Bingo is always fun and the vets really appreciate it.

Our meeting is Thursday, December 11th at 5 pm with the Commanders dinner at 6 pm. Then the Saturday breakfast, Dec. 13th at 9 am.

Have a Joyous Holiday Season... and remember our Vets and their families. **President Dana**

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER... LANE SMITH

*Norm Holle, devoted PTSD/Veteran's Benefit counselor, passed away on October 22.
Pray for his family and remember his devoted service to his fellow veterans,.
As holiday time is upon us, it is the most appropriate time to remember the many people we are thankful for.
Not just our family and friends, but those who we supported and those who have supported us .*

*Infantryman's Creed: I carry America's faith and honor against her enemies.
I am the King of Battle. I am what my country expects me to be.*

V.A. HOSPITAL REPORT... Christine Anderson, Chairman

We are playing **BINGO** at the domiciliary. We go the third Tuesday of the month. This month, Dec 16th. If you are interested in going with us or helping with the treats we serve, please call me.

We are also collecting clothes and sweatshirts for Fort Leavenworth and Annie's Closet, this includes children's items. Please call me if you are unable to drop them at the post. Thanks so much for thinking of Annie's Closet. Our veterans appreciate your thinking of them.

Chris Anderson. 913.940.1003

VFW BREAKFAST

When: Saturday Dec 13, 2025, 9:00 - 11:00 am

Where: VFW Post 846, 10630B Metcalf Ave, OPKS

Cost: Donations accepted

Guest Presenter: Chip Buckner relates his family's military history. His Grandfather and Great Grandfather were both Lt Generals in WWII [died at Okinawa] and the Confederate Army during the Civil War.

**** Revised Holiday Menu ****

Breakfast Casserole, Biscuits and Gravy, Bacon, and fruit.
(No scrambled eggs or hash browns)

Bring your family and friends, and enjoy a Great Breakfast & fun morning

A Reminder: if you have reservations. Limited RSVP's may be available.

Annual Holiday Prime Rib Dinner

This Friday, December 5 @ 6 to 8 pm

**Holiday fun & and games, Caroling &
Cookie Decorations for Desert**

**VFW POST 846
MEETING
2nd Thursday
Dec 11 @ 7 pm**

**Auxiliary
Meeting @ 5 pm**

**An informal
dinner @ 6 pm**



Chicken N Pickle honors Veterans & VFW Post 846 on Veteran's Day



Priscilla Turrel [left] and Peggy Sullivan [bottom left] spoke about their year-long deployment at Bagram Hospital in Afghanistan. Kim Bishop [bottom middle] related experiences as an MP and later as a military lawyer.



For the 2025 Veteran's Day Ceremony sponsored by the Chicken N Pickle in Overland Park, VFW Post 846 featured presentations by female veterans about their military experiences. Commander Fries thanked General Manager Andrew Loudon and his staff for their hospitality and annual financial support.

846 ACTIVITIES

'The Road to Appomattox and the Road from Appomattox'

The November Saturday Breakfast presentation gave an insight into the events and the professional and personal relationships surrounding the Confederate surrender at Appomattox to end the Civil War.



The play depicted the mutual respect Gen. Lee and Gen. Grant had for each other [top]; their on-going negotiation correspondence [top right]; and a final personal meeting [right] after the surrender.



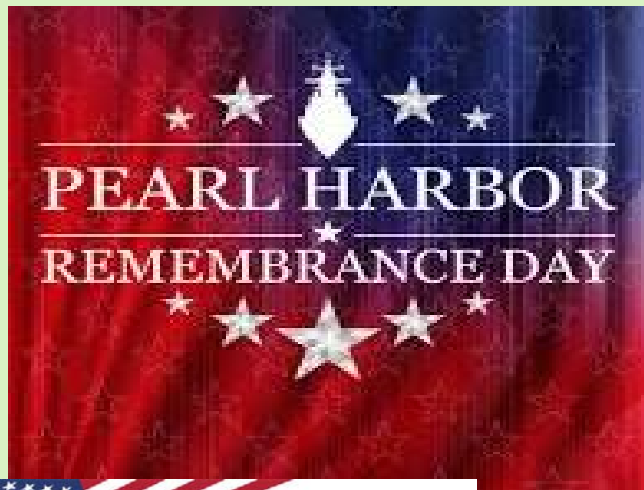
The 2-person play featured Gen Robert E. Lee, commander of the Confederate forces, played by Lane Smith, and General Ulysses S. Grant, commander of the Union forces, played by Randal Durbin.

It depicts the days leading up the surrender, April 7-9, 1865. and April 9 when the surrender was agreed upon at the McLean House, and April 10, when the surrender was accepted.

It was a great performance and an educational experience for all.



December Remeberances & Thanking Veterans & Supporters



December 13th

December 20th



In honor of Veteran's Day the Brownies in Troop 1781 produced a campaign to thank local veterans for their service by making handwritten thank you cards. The leader distributed these 'thank you notes', along with luscious candy treats to veterans attending the November monthly meeting. Their gesture was appreciated by all



VFW Post 846 was honored to recognize the support of Upper Crust Pie Bakery, a locally owned downtown Overland Park business. The owners Lisa Suderman [far right] and Kellie Kiser [along with her husband and father, a veteran visiting from Salina,] were at the monthly meeting to announce a donation of more than \$4,000. The source of the contribution was customer's tips that Upper Crust gives quarterly to local not-for-profit organizations.

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5 Prime Rib Holiday Party 5-7 pm POST OPEN	6 Dec 13..... 
7	8	9 6:30 pm Vet's Benefits Class @ VFW Post 846	10	11 5 p Auxiliary Meeting 6 p Comdr Dinner 7p Post 846 meeting	12 10:00 Veteran's Breakfast – Village Inn 5-7 pm POST OPEN	13 9 am Breakfast Speaker Chip Buckner – family military history including 2 Lt Gen's in WWII & Civil War
14	15	16 Aux Bingo @ Leavenworth VA 6:30 pm Vet's Benefits Class @ VFW Post 846	17	18	19 10:00 Veteran's Breakfast – Village Inn 5-7 pm POST OPEN	20 
21	22	23 6:30 pm Vet's Benefits Class @ VFW Post 846	24	25 	26 10:00 Veteran's Breakfast – Village Inn 5-7 pm POST OPEN	27
28	29	30 6:30 pm Vet's Benefits Class @ VFW Post 846	31 	1 	2	3

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Veterans Benefit Program

Brothers and Sisters,

A message from Mike Martin: The **Veteran's Benefit Class**. We were saddened by the passing of Norman Holle, and we will be honoring his memory soon. However, Chuck Golba and I will still be teaching the class on Tuesday evenings at 1830 hrs.

FYI: If you are not able to attend the Tuesday night class, I am available to meet you at the Post on Wednesday evening. Call me at 913-271-1832 to make an appointment.

Please know we are here to support you and our goal is to help you access Veterans Benefits

Michael Martin

A New Veterans Resource is now available.

Joe Arnold, a member of Post 846, has established a new organization, *US Veteran Charity*, recognized by the IRS as a tax-exempt charitable organization. Its first on-going project is to develop a National Database so veterans can locate Veterans organizations that provide support services. It is searchable by State, County and City/Towns across America. More information about the organization and its future projects or to access the database go to www.usvetcharity.org



Recruiting NEW members is on-going work. Let's work together to get this done!

VFW Post 846
10630-B Metcalf Lane
Overland Park, Ks 66212
Post# 913-735-3127
Email: cmdr@vfwpost846ks.org

HERE IS YOUR OPPORTUNITY TO JOIN US AT VFW POST 846...
APPLICATION — For questions about eligibility, contact svcmldr@vfwpost846ks.org

VFW MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION vfw 01/14

NAME: FIRST _____ MIDDLE _____ LAST _____ FMAFI _____ DATE OF BIRTH _____

ADDRESS _____ HOME OF RECORD _____ PHONE _____ GENDER: (M) (F) _____

ZIP _____ STATE _____ CITY _____ COUNTRY _____ SSN (optional) _____

BRANCH OF SERVICE: ☐ ARMY ☐ NAVY ☐ AIR FORCE ☐ MARINES ☐ COAST GUARD

DATES OF SERVICE: _____

QUALIFYING FOREIGN SERVICE:

☐ WORLD WAR II ☐ DESERT SHIELD/STORM
☐ OCCUPATION SERVICE ☐ BOSNIA/KOSOVO
☐ KOREAN SERVICE (1950-1954) ☐ GLOBAL WAR ON TERRORISM EXPEDITIONARY
☐ KOREA DUTY (1955 - present) ☐ AFGHANISTAN (2001-present)
☐ VIETNAM SERVICE ☐ IRAQ (2003-2011)
☐ EXPEDITIONARY OPERATIONS ☐ SSBN DETERRENT PATROL INSIGNIA
☐ HOSTILE FIRE/IMMINENT DANGER PAY

MEMBERSHIP TYPE (choose one)

☐ **ANNUAL MEMBER**
 Payment Authorization: You may pay by check or credit card. For payments by check, you will receive a yearly statement by mail. For credit card payments, please complete the following:
☐ I authorize the VFW to automatically charge my account \$ _____ on a yearly basis to pay my Annual membership dues.
☐ I authorize the VFW to charge my account a one-time payment of \$ _____

☐ **LIFE MEMBER**
☐ I authorize the VFW to charge my account for a one-time payment of \$ _____

☐ **LIFE MEMBER INSTALLMENT PLAN**
☐ I authorize the VFW to automatically charge my account \$ _____ to be paid in 11 monthly installment payments after my initial payment of \$45.00.
☐ I authorize the VFW to charge the \$45.00 initial payment and I understand that I will be billed for the remaining 11 monthly installment payments.

PREVIOUS EDITIONS OF THIS FORM ARE OBSOLETE.
 Please see reverse for terms and conditions of Automatic Payment and Installment Life Plans.

RECRUITER (please print) _____ DATE _____

QUARTERMASTER: _____

POST NO. _____ FORMER MEMBER ID NO. _____

TRANSFER From Post No. _____ to Post No. _____

RECRUITER (please print) _____ DATE _____

QUARTERMASTER: _____

NATIONAL COPY: ☐ AMEX ☐ DISCOVER ☐ VISA ☐ MASTERCARD

AMOUNT: \$ _____

Exp. Date: _____

SIGNATURE: _____

Received from _____
 Post No. _____
 Received By: _____
 (circle one) CASH CHECK VISA MASTERCARD DISCOVER AMEX

Membership Application - Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U.S.
 City and State _____ \$ _____
 Date: _____

The Review Committee has performed its duties and recommends _____ approval _____ rejection. (signatures of Committee members below)

Committee member _____ Committee Member _____ Committee Member _____ Date _____

PLEASE SEPARATE FORMS BEFORE SIGNING

DUES PAID: _____ ADMISSION FEE PAID: _____ DATE: _____ Received by: _____

VFW PLEDGE

I do, of my own free will and accord, solemnly promise and declare that:
 I will bear true allegiance -- to the Constitution of the United States of America -- and
 I will always be loyal thereto.
 I do further solemnly promise and declare -- that I will comply with the Congressional Charter -- By-Laws and Ritual of this order -- and that I will always be loyal thereto --
 -- that I will never wrong or defraud this organization -- nor a member thereof -- nor
 permit any wrong to be done to either -- if it is in my power to prevent it.
 I will never propose for membership -- any person not eligible -- nor one whom I know
 to be unworthy.
 I will never make known to anyone -- not authorized to receive it -- any of the work of
 this order.
 Should my affiliation -- with the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States -- cease
 in any way -- I will consider this pledge -- as binding outside of the order -- as though
 I had remained a member of same.
 All this I promise and pledge -- upon the honor of a true comrade -- and a citizen of
 our great republic.

CERTIFICATION (See Sec. 104 By-Laws)

I attest that I am a citizen or national of the United States, that my Campaign Service was honorable, that I have
 never subsequently been discharged from military service under dishonorable conditions. I also certify that (1) I
 am entitled to a campaign ribbon or medal authorized by the U.S. Government based on my overseas service or;
 (2) I have served overseas in Korea or; I have received Imminent Danger or Hostile Fire Pay. I further give authority
 to the Veterans of Foreign Wars to verify honorable overseas service entitling me to membership.

DATE: _____

SIGNATURE: _____

\$1.95 of your membership dues goes towards your VFW magazine subscription.

**Thank You for your
 Membership and Support of
 SANTA FE TRAIL POST 846
 VETERANS of FOREIGN WARS
 Please stay involved
 AND WE'LL SEE YOU SOON !**

Questions? Please call (913) 735-3125 or 866-3127

Here is your opportunity to participate in POST 846 as a member of the Auxiliary.

If you have questions about the Application or your Eligibility contact the Post.

VFW AUXILIARY MEMBERSHIP / MEMBER TRANSFER APPLICATION

Recruited/Recommended by: _____ Recruiter Member ID _____

Auxiliary No. _____ City _____ State _____ Member ID (If already a member) _____

☐ Annual Membership ☐ Life Membership

☐ Rejoin Membership Rejoined Previous Member ID No. _____ Previous Auxiliary _____

☐ Member at Large in Department of _____ ☐ Member at Large - VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters

THESE FIELDS REQUIRED

Name _____ Date of Birth _____

Address _____ ☐ Male ☐ Female

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Phone _____ Email _____

☐ **POST-AFFILIATED** (*Must be a member to the VFW Post affiliated with the Auxiliary to which you are applying.)

Relationship _____ to Eligible Veteran* _____ VFW Membership ID _____

☐ **LIFE MEMBER TRANSFER** Previous Auxiliary _____

☐ **ANNUAL TRANSFER** Previous Auxiliary _____ ☐ Paying ☐ Nonpaying

☐ **ANNUAL TRANSFER CONVERTING TO LIFE** (Fill out Life Membership information below.) Previous Auxiliary _____

THESE FIELDS REQUIRED

☐ **NON-AFFILIATED** (**Veteran is not a member of the VFW Post affiliated with the Auxiliary to which you are applying.)

Relationship _____ to Eligible Veteran* _____ VFW Post (If applicable) _____

Name of campaign ribbons or medals: _____

Dates of Service: _____ to _____ Location: _____

Investigating Committee Signatures

1 X _____ 2 X _____ 3 X _____

Per Section 102 of the National Bylaws. Rejected _____ Accepted _____ Meeting Date _____ Obligated Date _____

LIFE MEMBERSHIP ONLY ☐ Check here if this is a gift.
Credit cards may **NOT** be used for initial payment of Annual Dues.

☐ Cash ☐ Check ☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard ☐ Discover ☐ AMEX

Life Membership Fee _____

Name on credit card _____

Billing address for card _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Credit Card No. _____

CVV Code _____ Exp. Date _____

Signature X _____ Date _____

LIFE MEMBERSHIP ONLY

☐ **ACH** (Bank withdrawal)

Name of Bank _____

Bank Routing No. _____

Account No. _____

Attach voided check HERE.
(Required)

LIFE MEMBERSHIP FEES

Life Membership fees are not refundable.

Attained age by 12/31 of year applying for Life Membership.

Through 20	\$253
21-25	\$242
26-30	\$230
31-35	\$219
36-40	\$213
41-45	\$201
46-50	\$196
51-55	\$184
56-60	\$173
61-65	\$161
66-70	\$150
71-75	\$132
76-80	\$109
81-85	\$86
86-90	\$69
91 and over	\$58

OBLIGATION In the presence of Almighty God and the members of this organization here assembled, I do of my own free will and accord, solemnly promise that I will never wrong or defraud this organization nor a member thereof nor permit either to be wronged if in my power to prevent it. I will never propose for membership any person not eligible, according to our Bylaws. I further state that I believe in God. I will be faithful to the United States of America, obedient to the laws and loyal to the Flag. Should my membership with this organization cease in any way, I will consider this obligation as binding outside of the organization as though I had remained a member. I do so promise.

I attest that I am at least 16 years of age. I further state that I believe in God. I pledge to comply with the National Bylaws of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States Auxiliary. I attest I am not eligible for membership in the VFW. I further attest that the above is true and correct to the best of my knowledge, including my stated relationship to the Veteran.

Signature X _____ (Must be signed by all members.) Date _____