

JUNE 2026

SANTA FE EXPRESS

VFW POST 846 NEWSLETTER



COMMANDER's COLUMN *Principles Above Personalities* MARTIN FRIES, Commander

Comrades of Post 846,

Comrades, I hope you all had a great Memorial Day. The Post did our annual Memorial Day event at Johnson County Memorial Gardens. See page 4 for information about the event. Also, we did our Buddy Poppy event at Hy-Vee. Thank you to Jr. Vice Mike Martin for taking the lead on this event. This helps with our scholarships and helps Veterans.

Remember the scholarship applications are due to the post by June's meeting so we can review and have the individuals present for the July post meeting.

The VFW District Meeting will be held at our post on Saturday, June 20 at 10:00 if you have time please come out to the district meeting.

STEAK night is back the next one will be June 19 from 6 to 7:30. Cost is \$20 please let us know by the meeting if you will be attending.

Don't forget about Friday Nights the post is open f 5 to 7 dinner is provided for people who show up. Please give us help since it has been the same people for the past few months supporting keeping the post open on Friday Night.

This is your newsletter and if you have something you did please take pictures so we can show what you and our post has been doing to support Veterans

Commander Martin Fries

FROM YOUR AUXILIARY

DANA PFLUMM, President

Greetings Auxiliary Members:Welcome to June!

Just a few notes to let you know what we are doing. Debbie Winter, Laura Gulley and I put together a Buddy Poppy display that will go to the State Convention 11-14 June in Topeka, KS for judging. If we win the State, then it goes to the National Convention 25-29 July in Reno, NV. Keep your fingers crossed -- we really want to win this!

We are seven members short of !00%, so if you know of anyone who might like to join, call me at 913 391 0353.

!!!! Our next meeting is on June 10 at 5:00 at the VFW post. We'd love to see you there! We have a 250th anniversary of our magnificent Declaration of Independence to celebrate on the Fourth of July. We're looking for ideas to commemorate one of the greatest advances in human freedom ever written. This is what all our Vets fought for.

God Bless you all.

President Dana 913-391-0353

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER... Lane Smith

Bob Casey Jr passed away April 25th. Bob Casey was a longtime member of VFW Post 846. Bob,s daughter is Auxillary member Sheryl Gulley and granddaughter Laura Gulley. Our condolences to the family in the passing of this family member.

At the Post Meeting, we prayed for Joe Arnold's wife Jennifer's employment situation. Please continue to keep Jennifer in your prayers.

V.A. HOSPITAL REPORT...

Sheryl Gulley and Dana went to the VA Hospital in Leavenworth on May 18 for bingo with the vets. If you'd like to help, we meet on Tuesday, June 16 - call Dana for time and place.

VFWS Breakfast

Our monthly breakfasts will be taking a break during the summer months. There will NOT be any breakfasts during June, July and August. Plan to attend in September

June Steak Night

**Friday, June 19th
6 to 7:30 pm.
RSVP Required**

[RSVP in person, 913-735-3127 or
vfwpost846opks@gmail.com
NLT the meeting June 11]

**VFWS POST 846 MEETING
2nd Thursday Jun 11 @ 7 pm**

Auxiliary Meeting @ 5 pm

*An informal dinner @ 6 pm
Feel free to bring a dessert!
Meetings are fun and informative.*

**You're involvement is
the key to success!**

**REMINDER: Applications for
scholarships are due NLT the Post
Meeting on Jun 11th. Application forms
are found on our website.
Www.vfwpost846ks.org**

**We still have a few T-Shirts
from when the Discourse
Brewery sold Veteran's
Choice Beer. Contact us if you
are interested in purchasing
one.**

846 HAPPENINGS

MEMORIAL DAY BUDDY POPPY DISTRIBUTION



Message from Mike Martin

Just a short report on the funds collected with Buddy Poppies on Memorial Day weekend. HyVee at 151st and Blackbob in Olathe was the collection point on Saturday, Sunday, and Monday. Working was Michael Hobbs, Peggy Sullivan with husband John Hyde, and me. At least 2 people were at the doors on each of those days and it was a beautiful weekend. Total collections were \$1172.54 plus 5 Venmo donations of an amount of \$172.52 bringing the total to \$1345.06. Remember the next Buddy Poppy collection will be July 4th, make plans now to participate. Just limit collection to the cities of Overland Park and Olathe and get permission from the location you would like to participate at.

The VFW District Meeting will be held at our post on Saturday, June 20 at 10:00 if you have time please come out to the district meeting. It would be great if our post had a large number of representatives.

VFW Post 846 participated with the Johnson County Memorial Chapel at their Memorial Service on Memorial Day, Monday, May 25. Commander Fries and Chaplain Smith were accompanied by Tony Huddleson and Dana Pflumm. The Post provided the flags for the service. Chaplain Lane Smith was the speaker and also gave the Benediction. Many people paid tribute to their veteran ancestors. American Legion Post 370 provided the Honor Guard and firing detail. It was a beautiful day and well attended service. We paid tribute to the following veterans: Larry Anderson, Paul Calahan, Donald Graves, John Littleton, Martin Mootz, and Maurice Wycoff.

Jonathan Hyde has been creating this newsletter for several years and has done a fabulous job. In recognition of his hard work, Commander Fries presented him with a gift card to a local sports bar. His wife Peggy accepted the gift in his absence.
THANKS JON!



On Saturday, May 23, BJ Cherilus and Jim Recamper were presented with Quilts of Valor by the Prairie Point Quilt Shop in association with the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War at their Memorial Service at the Union Soldier Monument, Olathe Memorial cemetery. Four other veterans were also presented with their quilts. Congratulations comrades! Chaplain Lane Smith is a member of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War.



**Military Trivia: What is the primary job of the military?
Answer next month.**



We had a GREAT Speaker at the monthly breakfast on May 16th. Lt. Col. (Ret) Shuey spoke of time as an Air Force pilot in Vietnam and beyond. He had some great stories to tell!



JUNE IS PTSD AWARENESS MONTH

PTSD Awareness Month is observed in June to raise awareness about Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder and support those affected by it. It encourages understanding, reduces stigma, and promotes seeking help for PTSD, which is a treatable mental health condition.

Overview of PTSD Awareness Month

PTSD Awareness Month is observed every June to highlight the importance of understanding Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and to support individuals affected by it. This month serves as a platform to educate the public about PTSD, its symptoms, and the available treatments.

Goals of PTSD Awareness Month

Raise Awareness: Increase public knowledge about PTSD and its impact on individuals and communities.

Reduce Stigma: Challenge the misconceptions surrounding mental health and encourage open discussions about PTSD.

Promote Help-Seeking: Encourage those suffering from PTSD to seek help and access effective treatments.

Key Facts About PTSD

Fact	Details
Prevalence	Approximately 12 million people in the U.S. are affected by PTSD annually.
Symptoms	Symptoms include flashbacks, nightmares, severe anxiety, and uncontrollable thoughts.
Treatment	Effective treatments are available, including therapy and medication.
Common Triggers	Trauma can stem from military experiences, sexual assault, accidents, and natural disasters.

Activities During PTSD Awareness Month

Virtual Walk: Participate in a community event to promote physical activity and awareness.

PTSD Screening Day: On June 27, individuals can take a self-screening to assess their symptoms.

Educational Resources: Access materials that explain PTSD, its effects, and treatment options.

Social Media Campaigns: Share information and personal stories to foster understanding and support.

By participating in PTSD Awareness Month, individuals and communities can contribute to a more informed and compassionate society, helping those affected by PTSD to feel less isolated and more supported.

RESOURCES



RESOURCES FOR VETERANS, ACTIVE-DUTY MILITARY AND THEIR FAMILIES

Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW)
816-756-3390
vfw.org

**Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary
(VFW Auxiliary)**
816-561-8655
vfwauxiliary.org

**VFW National Home
Military & Veteran Family Helpline**
800-313-4200
vfwnationalhome.org/get-help

Veterans Crisis Line
Dial 988 then Press 1 or Text 838255
veteranscrisisline.net

Military OneSource
800-342-9647
militaryonesource.mil

**U.S. Department of Veterans
Affairs Benefit Line: 800-827-1000**
va.gov



Military.com
www.military.com

**Veterans Employment
and Training Service**
866-4-USA-DOL
(866-487-2365)
dol.gov/vets

**Center for Women
Veterans**
855-VA-WOMEN
(855-829-6636)
va.gov/womenvet

Military Connection
militaryconnection.com

**National Military
Family Association**
703-931-6632
militaryfamily.org

**National Suicide
Prevention Hotline**
988 or 800-273-8255
988lifeline.org

**Childhelp National
Child Abuse Hotline**
(800-422-4453)
childhelphotline.org

TRICARE®
www.tricare.mil

**Assistance for
Homeless Veterans**
877-4AID-VET
(877-424-3838)
va.gov/homeless

VA Caregiver Support Line
855-260-3274
caregiver.va.gov

Make the Connection
maketheconnection.net

**National Alliance of
Families POW-MIA**
nationalalliance.org

**National Domestic
Violence Hotline**
800-799-7233
thehotline.org

Children-Youth-Teens
militaryonesource.mil/
parenting/children-youth-
teens/




Disable Veteran Tax Exemption

Beginning 1 July 2026, disabled veterans and surviving spouses of eligible veterans may qualify for a sales tax exemption. To learn more, go to www.ksrevenue.gov/vetsalexempt.html



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. It is developing a National Database so veterans can locate Veterans organizations that provide support services. More information about the organization and its future projects or to access the database go to www.usvetcharity.com or connect with them on Facebook.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
31	1	2 18:30 - Benefit Class	3	4 U.S. Air Force Academy U.S. Naval Academy	5 17:00 - Post Open	6 D-Day
7	8	9 18:30 - Benefit Class	10	11 KS State Convention @ Topeka, KS, USA 17:00 - Auxilary 18:15 - Cmndr's Dinner 19:00 - Post Meeting	12 17:00 - Post Open	13
14 KS State Convention @ Army Birthday @ Flag Day 	15	16 18:30 - Benefit Class 19:00 - Auxillary Bingo	17	18	19 Juneteenth 17:00 - Post Open 18:00 - Post 846 Steak	20 News Letter Input Due 10:00 - Dist 2 Meeting
21 Father's Day Summer Begins	22	23 18:30 - Benefit Class	24	25	26 17:00 - Post Open	27 PTSD Awareness 09:00 - CW Study Grp
28	29	30 18:30 - Benefit Class	1	2	3	4

JUNE 2026

Veterans Benefit Program

Veteran's Benefits class continues to be held on Tuesday evening at 6:30pm. Total 100% vets through this class total now stands at 1111. Chuck Golba and I usually arrive shortly after 5:30pm. Feel free to come early, especially if you have questions. We do have a regular 100% vet arriving at about 6pm if you would like to talk to him as well. He was awarded 100% after completing the class some years back. NOTE: if no one shows by 7pm and has not notified one of us that they will be late, we lock up and head home.

Mike Martin

Chuck Golba

913-271-1832

913-915-6093



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

www.vfwpost846ks.org

913-735-3127 vfwpost846opks@gmail.com

**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 _____ COUNTEY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____ SSN (optional) _____

BRANCH OF SERVICE: ARMY NAVY AIR FORCE MARINES COAST GUARD
 DATES OF SERVICE: _____

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.

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 PW

RECIPIENT: NEW Post No. _____ FORMER MEMBER ID No. _____
 TRANSFER From Post No. _____ to Post No. _____
transfer copies with Sec. 107
 RECRUITER (please print) _____
 QUARTERMASTER: _____

NATIONAL COPY
 AMEX
 DISCOVER
 VISA
 MASTERCARD
 Exp. Date: ____/____/____ AMOUNT: \$ _____
 SIGNATURE: _____

Received from _____
 Received By: _____
 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 _____
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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

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

Please print legibly. An incomplete application could delay your membership start date.

Applicant completes sections A, D or E and H,I. Auxiliaries/Departments complete section B,F,G.

A APPLICATION INFORMATION

Name Female Male

Address Date of Birth / /

City State ZIP Phone () - Email

B

Auxiliary Post No. City State

New Member Transferring Member Rejoining Member (Prior Member ID Number)

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

C (Transfer only information) ANNUAL TRANSFER LIFE MEMBER TRANSFER

Member ID Previous Auxiliary Paying Nonpaying

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

I am the (Relationship) to (Eligible Veteran* Name)

VFW Membership ID VFW Post (Must be same as B)

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

I am the (Relationship) to (Eligible Veteran* Name)

Name of campaign ribbons or medals:

Dates of Service: to Foreign Location:

F Recruited/Recommended by: Recruiter Member ID

Check one: Aux VFW

G Investigating Committee Signatures

1 2 3

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

H Annual Membership Life Membership Check here if this is a gift (Membership card will be sent to Treasurer and not member.)

Payment Method and Amount: Cash _____ Check _____ Credit Card _____ ***

***If paying by credit card, after this application is processed, an email and/or text message will be sent to the contact information provided above for payment. Instructions in the communication for payment must be completed within 30 days or otherwise the application will be voided. If someone other than the applicant above is paying by credit card for the membership, please list your phone number and email address below to receive payment instructions once the membership application has been processed.

Phone Email

LIFE MEMBERSHIP FEES

Life Membership fees are not refundable.

Attained age at 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

I 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 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 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 Date

(Must be signed by all members.)

By filling out this application and providing your contact information, you agree to receive communications from the VFW Auxiliary. The communications may include updates, promotions, and other information related to our services. Communications may be in the form of e-mails, SMS text messages, and/or automated calls. You understand that these communications may be sent using an automated telephone dialer system. Standard message and data rates may apply. You can opt-out at any time by following the instructions provided in the communications. No mobile information will be shared with third parties/affiliates for marketing/promotional purposes.

Revised January 2026