

AUGUST 2026

SANTA FE EXPRESS

VFW POST 846 NEWSLETTER



COMMANDER's COLUMN *Principles Above Personalities*

MARTIN FRIES, Commander

Comrades of Post 846,

Comrades, hope you all had a great 250th Birthday Celebration for our great Nation. The Post did our Buddy Poppie event at Hy-Vee during the 4th of July weekend. Thank you to Jr. Vice Mike Martin for taking the lead on this event. This helps with our scholarships and helps veterans.

Remember the Monthly breakfast is on summer break but we still have steak night.

STEAK night is back the next one will be July 17 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 use help since it has been the same 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

Martin Fries, Post Commander

FROM YOUR AUXILIARY

DANA PFLUMM, President

Dear sisters and brothers. Welcome to August, and this one promises to be a scorcher. If you have to go outside, make sure that you have lots of water with you. If you get too hot and sweaty, it's time for you to come back inside. A person can get overwhelmed quickly out there.

We took our Buddy Poppy display to to the Department convention, and we came in second, this was a disappointment. We'll do it again next year, and if anyone has any ideas, let us know. We really want to win.

The elections are just around the corner, and I hope everyone is planning to vote. Believe it or not, your vote does count. Also, study and understand the issues.

The next meeting will be on August 13th at post at 5:00pm. We hope you join us. We have a lot of fun and see a lot of good people. Until next time, may God bless all of us.

President Dana 913-391-0353

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER... Lane Smith

I am not aware of any health issues among our membership. Therefore, I would like to bless you with this verse from God's Word:

'In the beginning was the Word. And the Word was with God and the Word was God.'

John 1:1

Our Post is participating in the Helping Heroes campaign. See the flyer and coordinating instructions on later pages of this newsletter. Donations can be dropped off at the post.

VFW 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

August Steak Night

**Friday, Aug 21st
6 to 7:30 pm.
RSVP Required**

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

**VFW POST 846 MEETING
2nd Thursday Aug 13 @ 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!***

Veterans Benefit Program

One Thousand, One Hundred Thirteen! That is an impressive number! That is the number of veterans that have achieved 100% through the Tuesday evening class. While the class is geared towards PTSD, we also have some knowledge on other types of claims. We do answer questions about other types of claims. We do not file claims for you as that is left either to file yourself or use an Accredited Veteran Service Officer. If you attend all we ask is that you bring your spouse with you as well as they can be a big help. Also, we have contacts that assist you at VA Hospitals, Leavenworth and Kansas City. Make plans now to see Chuck Golba and I on a Tuesday evening at 1830 hrs. and allow about 2 hours for the class. We do arrive early if you have questions you would like to ask privately.

Mike Martin
913-271-1832

Chuck Golba
913-915-6093

The post awarded 8 scholarships in July to post members and family members. At the July Steak Night, Commander Fries presented the scholarship checks to those awardees that were present.

The awardees were; Kimberly Bishop, Celeste Bishop, Daniel Bishop, Erin Cherilus, Sheldon Cherilus, Jacob Fries, Caden Richardson, and Dayton Richardson. CONGRATULATIONS!



Chuckle Time

So a recently separated veteran gets a civilian job. He does a wonderful job, but there's only one problem: he always shows up late.

So his boss takes him aside and asks him, "Weren't you in the military? What would your leadership say if you were late?"

The veteran replies, "They'd say, 'Good morning, Sergeant Major. Your coffee's on your desk.'"

A veteran called Robert walks into the bar and grabs a drink. The man to his right begins a conversation. After an hour and many drinks pass by, they find out that they were both veterans from Vietnam.

Robert: I was only a helicopter mechanic, but I have seen all the horrors of that war. >

The other veteran: Oh, I still have nightmares of all the people that I've killed. It's horrible!

Robert: I totally understand you, I've killed 15 men.

The other veteran: Wait, but you were only a helicopter mechanic...

Robert: Never said I was a good one...

Brain Work Out

1. The more you take, the more you leave behind. What am I?
2. I am an odd number. Take away a letter and I become even. What am I?
3. I have keys but no locks. I have space but no room. You can enter but not go outside. What am I?
4. I am not alive, but I grow. I don't have lungs, but I need air. I don't have a mouth, but water kills me. What am I?
5. The person who makes me, sells me. The person who buys me, never uses me. The person who uses me never knows they're using me. What am I?
6. I am born when silence dies. I grow louder with wind, yet I have no lungs. You hear me, but never see me. What am I?



VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS

HELPING HEROES

Helping Heroes is a statewide annual campaign sponsored by the Department of Kansas Veterans of Foreign Wars to assist Veterans with medical or quality of life needs.

All donations from Helping Heroes will go to Veterans in the VA hospitals in Topeka, Leavenworth and Wichita as well as the Soldiers Homes in Winfield and Ft. Dodge.



Please donate generously to those Heroes that have sacrificed so much for our country.

★ **2026-2027 GOAL** ★

**COLLECT SOCKS,
UNDERWEAR AND
T-SHIRTS**



Preferred sizes:
SOCKS
9-12 and up



T-SHIRTS
Large-5X



UNDERWEAR
Large and up

★ ★ ★

**LAST DAY OF
COLLECTION IS
31 DECEMBER
2026**

★ ★ ★

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT YOUR LOCAL VFW POST.

HELPING HEROES

2026-2027 Coordinating Instructions: **Please read carefully**

- Each pair of socks, each t-shirt and each pair of underwear are a "Unit" and there are no color restrictions.
- Donations can be accepted from anyone and will be counted as units collected, HOWEVER only donations purchased by a Post member will be reported on a Post Surgeons report. A donation from an Auxiliary member will be reported through Auxiliary channels and NOT reported on a Post Surgeons report. A donation from a member of the general public will be counted as units collected, but NOT added to a Post Surgeon Report.
- Posts will coordinate with their respective District Surgeons regarding the transfer of items collected.
- District Surgeons will coordinate with me regarding the transfer of items collected.
- I will distribute the collected items to the facilities on my next Hospital Visit.
- Every month, the Post Surgeon will inform the District Surgeon of how many units the Post has collected. In turn, the District Surgeon will report those numbers to me. I will be keeping a monthly tally for each participating Post. I can only tally what the District Surgeon reports to me, meaning that if a Post sends you numbers, please make sure that number gets to me.
- The final day of collection will be 31 December 2026.
- Once I have tallied all the Post collected Units after 31 December 2026, **the Post with the most units collected will receive \$100 from me to be awarded at the awards presentation of the State Convention of June 2027.**
- Each Post will be responsible for their own advertising and method(s) of collection. It is suggested that a Post use social media to get the word out as far as possible. If a Post does use social media, please ensure the Post include their own contact information in the advertisement.
- Please don't overlook our women Veterans. (a bra will count as a single unit)
- Please reach out to me with any questions.

Please encourage participation to ALL of your Posts.

I look forward to another great year as your Department Surgeon. Thank you all so much for what you do for Veterans.

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

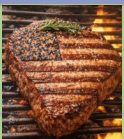
Beginning 1 July 2026, disabled veterans and surviving spouses of eligible veterans may qualify for a sales tax exemption. To learn more, go to www.ksrevenue.gov/vetsalesexempt.html



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.

AUGUST 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
26	27	28	29	30	31	1 
2	3	4 U.S. Coast Guard 18:30 - Benefit Class 	5	6	7 Purple Heart Day @ 17:00 - Post Open 	8
9	10	11 18:30 - Benefit Class	12	13 17:00 - Auxiliary 18:15 - Cmndr's Dinner 19:00 - Post Meeting 	14 Dept. Mid-Summer & School of Instruction @ 17:00 - Post Open	15
16 Dept. Mid-Summer & National Airborne Day 	17	18 18:30 - Benefit Class 19:00 - Auxillary Bingo	19	20 News Letter Input Due	21 17:00 - Post Open 18:00 - Post 846 Steak 	22 10:00 - District 2
23	24	25 18:30 - Benefit Class	26	27	28 17:00 - Post Open	29
30	31	1	2	3	4	5

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.

Brain Work Out Answers

1. Footsteps
2. Seven
3. A keyboard
4. Fire
5. A Coffin
6. An Echo



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 _____ 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: _____

NEW Post No. _____ FORMER MEMBER ID No. _____

TRANSFER From Post No. _____ to Post No. _____

RECRUITER (please print) _____ DATE _____

QUARTERMASTER: _____

NATIONAL COPY ☐ AMEX ☐ DISCOVER ☐ VISA ☐ MASTERCARD ☐

Exp. Date _____ / _____

AMOUNT: \$ _____

SIGNATURE: _____

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

City and State _____ \$ _____
 Date: _____

TEMPORARY RECEIPT
 Membership Application - Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U.S.

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 635-3127

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

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			
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.			

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

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