

OCTOBER 2026

SANTA FE EXPRESS

VFW POST 846 NEWSLETTER



COMMANDER's COLUMN *Principles Above Personalities*

MARTIN FRIES, Commander

Comrades of Post 846,

Comrades, on 14th of SEPT the City of Overland Park honored our POW/MIA Veterans with a proclamation from the City honoring all POW and MIAs.

Union Station has given us tickets to "The Berlin Wall. A World Divided" this is a display about the Berlin Wall normally these tickets for adults are \$26 but we got tickets for free for your service to our nation. If you would like to have two tickets one for you and a guest, I will have them at the Post meeting.

Eisenhower Vigil will take place on 9 OCT our District Two time is 9pm to 11pm. We have several comrades who are willing to drive more to follow at the Post Meeting.

Due to Eisenhower Vigil the OCT Breakfast will be canceled this month.

STEAK night will be canceled for OCT since I will be out of town for the week.

Don't forget about Friday Nights the post is open from 5 to 7. Dinner is provided for people who show up. Please 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

On Oct. 9 The Eisenhower Vigil will be held at The Dwight D Eisenhower Museum in Atchison. Uniforms must be worn. Our hours will be from 9:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. For those who don't want to drive to Abilene, a bus will be provided. Be at the DeSoto Post at 6:00 and the bus will be leaving from the Desoto Post at 6:30 sharp. A HEADCOUNT is needed so the District will get the correct size of vehicle. Call Martin Fries by Oct. 5th at 913-735-3127 so you can reserve a seat. After the Vigil the bus will return to the Lenexa Post and will most likely get there by 1:00 to 1:30am.

The Auxiliary will be holding a Buddy Poppy Drive at the Price Chopper at 47th and Roe Ave in Roeland Park on Sat, Nov. 7 from 10:00 to 1:00. This event is how we afford our programs, so we can provide aid to our Veterans and their families. There will be a sign-up sheet at the next meeting.

Our VA Hospital visit will be on Tues., Oct. 20. The Veterans really enjoy our visits and look forward to seeing us. We leave here by 5:45 and will be back by 9:00. PLEASE volunteer for this, we have a lot of fun and we need your help.

May everyone have a great October!

President Dana 913-391-0353

CHAPLAIN'S CORNER... Lane Smith

Continued prayers for Joe Arnold's wife, Jennifer.

John 3:18: Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because they have not believed in the name of God's one and only Son.

Lane Smith

VFW Breakfast

October's breakfast has been canceled in lieu of the Eisenhower Vigil.
We hope to see you in Abilene!
Save the Date!
Breakfast will be held November 14th

October Steak Night

CANCELED!

Join us again November 20

VFW POST 846 MEETING
2nd Thursday Oct 8 @ 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!



Steak Night 9/18 was a great hit! Commander Fries sure knows how to grill a great steak (with some good supervision from Tim, :-).

Reserve your steak for November!

November 11 is quickly approaching, and now you should be thinking about raising money for our disadvantaged veterans and scholarship fund. We spend about \$10,000 a year on these two programs and this Buddy Poppy money is where we can finance a lot of money for these two causes.

Hy-Vee stores have a free breakfast on that day with a great breakfast starting at 0700 till 1000 hrs. This day is a great day to collect as most veterans are very generous on this day.

- Olathe Hy Vee – 14955 W 151st St.
- Overland Park Hy Vee – 8501 W 95th St & 9050 W 135th St.
- Price Chopper is another good choice. No breakfast to my knowledge.
 - Olathe Price Chopper – 15970 S Mur-Len Rd & 175 N Parker.
 - Overland Park Price Chopper – 7201 W 151st St & 11710 W 135th St & 8686 Antioch Rd

Remember to call about a week ahead and ask permission to accept donations to do the collections for disadvantaged veterans. You do not have to spend all day doing this – surprise yourself and do just a couple hours. Also wear something that identifies you as a veteran yourself. P.S. – check with the Auxiliary as we do not need to compete with them. Good luck and Happy Collecting.

Mike Martin Buddy Poppies Committee Chair



On 14th of SEPT the City of Overland Park honored our POW/MIA Veterans with a proclamation from the City honoring all POW and MIAs. Many thanks to Jon for coordinating this and to those post members that represented our post well!

Chuckle Time

- What is the best way to watch a fly-fishing tournament?

Via live stream.

- My dentist has been in practice for 20 years and recently got an award.

Actually, it was just a little plaque.

- Our local pharmacy is having a clearance sale on laxatives.

Everything must go!

Brain Work Out

1. I am weightless. Put me in a bucket and I make it lighter.

What am I?

2. A blind man lost his cap, his bag and his phone. What did he lose first?

3. A man is trapped in a sealed room with only two doors. One of them leads to a fire-breathing dragon, while the other one leads to a room made up of magnifying glass. Anyone who dares to enter it is charred off before they know it. How does he escape?

4. What building has the most stories?



Tool Bank USA and Home Depot built and presented our post with a picnic table and a bench. Commander Fries presented them our post's coin along with our gratitude.

Our Post is participating in the Helping Heroes campaign. See this flyer and coordinating instructions for more details Donations can be dropped off at the post.

VFW

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.

Save the Date!

The Eisenhower Vigil is October 9 & 10 at the Eisenhower Gravesite and Place of Meditation, Eisenhower Center, Abilene, KS.

Our District's time slot is 2100 – 2300 on Friday Oct. 9th. We will be coordinating carpool(s) as needed if wish to ride along.

Let's have a GREAT showing from Post 846!

Kansas Legislative Research Department Releases New Benefits Publication

The Kansas Legislative Research Department just published a comprehensive memorandum entitled "Kansas Benefits for Veterans and Military Personnel" dated August 25, 2026. The memorandum is available on line at url:

<https://klrd.gov/2026/08/25/kansas-benefits-for-veterans-and-military-personnel-2/>

Here is a list of some of the many topics addressed in the report: Services provided by the Kansas Adjutant General's Office, Services provided by the Kansas Office of Veterans Services, Veterans Claims Assistance Program, State Veterans' Homes, State Veterans' Cemeteries, Courts, Education, Employment and Labor, Finance and Insurance, Other Financial Benefits, Professions and Occupations, Specific Licenses, State Taxes, And Numerous Other Benefits

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
27	28	29	30	1	2	3
OCTOBER 2026					17:00 - Post Open	
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
		18:30 - Benefit Class		17:00 - Auxiliary 18:15 - Cmndr's Dinner 19:00 - Post Meeting 	Eisenhower Vigil @ Abilene, KS 17:00 - Post Open 21:00 - District 2 Vigil	
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Columbus Day 	Navy Birthday @ Unitec 18:30 - Benefit Class 				17:00 - Post Open	
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
		News Letter Input Due 18:30 - Benefit Class 19:00 - Auxillary Bingo  newsletter			17:00 - Post Open	
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
		18:30 - Benefit Class			17:00 - Post Open	Halloween 

Brain work out answers

1. A hole
2. His sight
3. He waits until nighttime and then leaves through the glass room
4. A library



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. _____ City and State _____ Date: _____

Received By: _____ (card only) CASH CHECK VISA MASTERCARD DISCOVER AMEX

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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