

Veterans of Foreign Wars

Post 9785

Ladies and Men's Auxiliaries

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"All American Post"



APRIL 2011

Commander

Marty Harris

Ladies Auxiliary President

Diane Monti

Men's Auxiliary President!

Al Stoddard

SERVICE OFFICER NEWS

Thank goodness we're mostly well; must be this spring like weather that gives us all the vim and vigor! Frank Redgrave is recovering from a fall at his home. Jim Garbe is still having problems with his foot but is coming to the Post a bit. Saw Nil Hviid at Quick Lube and he's looking well, but said he was going in for an operation at the end of March, but would only be in overnight. Please remember to keep me informed of illnesses and accidents.

1063388

Suellyn Wright Novak

Service Officer

NOMINATIONS OF 2011/2012 OFFICERS

Nominations of VFW Post 9785 Officers for the upcoming 2011/2012 year will be held during the General Membership meeting on Tuesday, March 8th, 2011. Elections will be held on Tuesday, April 12th, 2011

Nominations and elections of Ladies Auxiliary Officers will be held during their General Membership meeting on Tuesday, April 12th, 2011.

Nominations and elections of Men's Auxiliary Officers will be held during their General Membership meeting on Sunday, April 17th, 2011.

Think about who you want to represent you in the upcoming 2011/2012 year, and nominate them. If you don't cast your vote, don't complain.

MEN'S AUXILIARY

Well it's the end of another month. We need to have some more participation from everybody in the Men's Auxiliary. Everybody needs to get involved. This is your chance to help our Post.

If you have not paid your dues for this year you need to get it paid ASAP. Your membership card expired on December 31 2010. If your card does not say 2011, get it up to date by seeing Mike Garganta or myself. 9215127

We will be doing a Raffle for a collector's knife and we will raffle it off on the 4th of July. Be ready to sell some tickets as soon as they are available. Tickets will be available by the end of March. Tickets will be \$5 each or 5 for \$20

We do need more volunteers around the Post so come on in and help out your fellow Post and Auxiliary members. There is Steak Night, Sunday Breakfast, and other special events.

This month's meeting will be on April 17th at 11:00 am. Mark it on your calendar and make plans to attend.

Al Stoddard

President



Lifelong MeMories

VFW's Lifelong MeMories®

Lifelong MeMories and the VFW MeMber Honor Roll are designed to recognize our members' military service and life contributions.

The VFW and Making everlasting MeMories® (MeM) have teamed up to provide members and their families a tool to chronicle and celebrate a life story through writings, images and documents to share with friends and family on the VFW website. You also may pay tribute to a loved one who has passed away. 5021

Features include:

- Biography: documenting a life story through written text.
- Images: photographs, historical documents, maps, and ribbons.
- Tributes: sharing fond memories and well wishes through messages from friends, family and fellow VFW members.

VFW MeMber HONOR ROLL

VFW members may receive a complimentary listing in the VFW MeMber Honor Roll. Appropriate registration form providing VFW member data is required.

- Search for an Honor Roll or Lifelong MeMemories listing
- Download a VFW MeMber Honor Roll registration form
- Online form

For more information on VFW Lifelong MeMories®, or the VFW MeMber Honor Roll, please contact the Member Benefits Department at 1-800-821-2606. Select option "3" or e-mail mem@vfw.org.



WHERE 9785 STANDS

as of 21 March 2011

2009-10 Membership – 1419 members

2010-11 Membership – 103.03%

Life Members	1323 (+3)
Continuous Members	79 (+1)
New Members	44 (+4)
Reinstated Members	16 (+2)
Unpaid Members	103 (-1)

Get your Life Membership Now!

Pay for it over 12 months!

See your Quartermaster.



LADIES AUXILIARY Cancer Dues

If you are a Life member of the Ladies Auxiliary to VFW Post 9785, please pay your Cancer Dues of \$2.00 per year. Please consider making an additional \$1.00 per year donation towards our own Auxiliary Cancer Grant Fund. Life Members are responsible for their own Cancer Dues.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: (_____) ____ - _____

Membership #: _____

No. of years paying for: _____ at \$2.00 per year for National Cancer Dues.

TOTAL: _____

No. of years paying for: _____ at \$1.00 per year for LAVFW 9785 Cancer Grant Fund.

TOTAL: _____

E-Mail Address: _____

Send to: Ladies Auxiliary to VFW Post 9785
Tina Stoddard, Treasurer
1501 Demeure Pl.
Anchorage, AK 99508

The Persian Gulf War (Jan. 16, 1991-April 6, 1991)

The **First Persian Gulf War**, January–February, 1991, was an armed conflict between Iraq and a coalition of 32 nations including the United States, Britain, Egypt, France, and Saudi Arabia. It was a result of Iraq's invasion of Kuwait on Aug. 2, 1990; Iraq then annexed Kuwait, which it had long claimed. Iraqi president Saddam Hussein declared that the invasion was a response to overproduction of oil in Kuwait, which had cost Iraq an estimated \$14 billion a year when oil prices fell. Hussein also accused Kuwait of illegally pumping oil from Iraq's Rumaila oil field. 9639492

The UN Security Council called for Iraq to withdraw and subsequently embargoed most trade with Iraq. On August 7, U.S. troops moved into Saudi Arabia to protect Saudi oil fields. On November 29, the United Nations set January 15, 1991, as the deadline for a peaceful withdrawal of Iraqi troops from Kuwait. When Saddam Hussein refused to comply, Operation Desert Storm was launched on January 18, 1991, under the leadership of U.S. Gen. Norman Schwarzkopf.

The U.S.-led coalition began a massive air war to destroy Iraq's forces and military and civil infrastructure. Iraq called for terrorist attacks against the coalition and launched Scud missiles at Israel (in an unsuccessful attempt to widen the war and break up the coalition) and at Saudi Arabia. The main coalition forces invaded Kuwait and S Iraq on Feb. 24 and, over the next four days, encircled and defeated the Iraqis and liberated Kuwait. When U.S. President George H. W. Bush declared a cease-fire on Feb. 28, most of the Iraqi forces in Kuwait had either surrendered or fled.

Although the war was a decisive military victory for the coalition, Kuwait and Iraq suffered enormous property damage, and Saddam Hussein was not removed from power. In fact, Hussein was free to turn his attention to suppressing internal Shiite and Kurd revolts, which the U.S.-led coalition did not support, in part because of concerns over the possible breakup of Iraq if the revolts were successful. Coalition peace terms were agreed to by Iraq, but every effort was made by the Iraqis to frustrate implementation of the terms, particularly UN weapons inspections.

In 1993 the United States, France, and Britain launched several air and cruise-missile strikes against Iraq in response to provocations, including an alleged Iraqi plan to assassinate former President George H. W. Bush. An Iraqi troop buildup near Kuwait in 1994 led the United States to send forces to Kuwait and nearby areas. Continued resistance to weapons inspections led to bombing raids against Iraq, and trade sanctions imposed on Iraq remained in place, albeit with an

The **Second Persian Gulf War**, also known as the **Iraq War**, March–April, 2003, was a largely U.S.-British invasion of Iraq. In many ways the final, delayed campaign of the First Persian Gulf War, it arose in part because the Iraqi government failed to cooperate fully with UN weapons inspections in the years following the first conflict.

The election of George W. Bush to the U.S. presidency returned to government many officials from his father's administration who had favored removing Saddam Hussein from power in the first war. After the September 11, 2001, attacks on the World Trade Center and Pentagon, the United States moved toward a doctrine of first-strike, pre-emptive war to eliminate threats to national security. As early as October, 2001, U.S. Defense Secretary Rumsfeld publicly suggested that military action against Iraq was possible, and in November President Bush asked Rumsfeld to undertake a war-plan review. In January, 2002, President Bush accused Iraq along with North Korea and Iran, as being part of "an axis of evil," and with the Taliban forced from power in Afghanistan in early 2002, the administration's attention turned to Iraq. 2024704

Accusing Iraq of failing to abide by the terms of the 1991 cease-fire (by developing and possessing weapons of mass destruction and by refusing to cooperate with UN weapons inspections) and of supporting terrorism, the president and other officials suggested that the "war on terrorism" might be expanded to include Iraq and became more forceful in their denunciations of Iraq for resisting UN arms inspections, called for "regime change" in Iraq, and leaked news of military planning for war. President Bush also called on the United Nations to act forcefully against Iraq or risk becoming "irrelevant."

By mid-April, 2003, Hussein's army and government had collapsed, he himself had disappeared, and the allies were largely in control of the major Iraqi cities. The allies gradually turned their attention to the rebuilding of Iraq and the establishment of a new Iraqi government, but progress toward that end was hampered by lawlessness, especially in Baghdad, where widespread looting initially had been tolerated by U.S. forces.

On May 1, President Bush declared victory in the war against Iraq. No weapons of mass destruction, however, were found, leading to charges that U.S. and British leaders had exaggerated the Iraqi biological and chemical threat in order to justify the war. Hussein was captured in December, 2003. In 2004, he was transferred to Iraqi legal custody; tried and convicted of crimes against humanity, he was executed in 2006.

Read more: [Persian Gulf Wars — Infoplease.com](http://www.infoplease.com/ce6/history/A0838511.html#ixzz1HJNsV0aN)
<http://www.infoplease.com/ce6/history/A0838511.html#ixzz1HJNsV0aN>

HISTORY OF EASTER

Easter, the greatest feast day in the Christian calendar, it celebrates the Resurrection of Jesus Christ. Today, with all its joyous customs, Easter is indeed a major popular festival across the United States. A festival that has become more of secular in spirit, though it has religious background. However, this was not the case all along the history of United States. 5088

Easter did not enjoy the status of a popular festival among the early settlers in America. Because most of them were Puritans or members of Protestant Churches who had little use for the ceremonies of any religious festivals. Even the Puritans in Massachusetts tried their best to play down the celebration of Easter as far as possible. While various rites are said to be associated with the celebration of Easter, most of them have come as part of the ancient spring rites in the Northern hemisphere.

Not until the period of the Civil War did the message and meaning of Easter begin to be expressed as it had been in Europe. It was the initiative of the Presbyterians. The scars of death and destruction which led people back to the Easter season. They found the story of resurrection as a great source of inspiration and renewed hope.

The ancient Saxons celebrated the return of spring with an uproarious festival commemorating their goddess of offspring and of springtime, Eastre. As it happened, the pagan festival of Eastre occurred at the same time of year as the Christian observance of the Resurrection of Christ.

The Germans brought the symbol of the Easter rabbit to America. It was widely ignored by other Christians until shortly after the Civil War. In fact, Easter itself was not widely celebrated in America until after that time.

As with the Easter Bunny and the holiday itself, the Easter Egg predates the Christian holiday of Easter. The exchange of eggs in the springtime is a custom that was

centuries old when Easter was first celebrated by Christians.

Rabbits symbolized new life and rebirth in ancient Egypt. They considered it a symbol of the moon as the moon determines the date of Easter.

The Easter Bunny's visit is based upon a German Legend. The legend goes that a poor woman decorated eggs for her children to find during a famine. At the moment they found them, they looked up to see a big bunny hopping away.

From the earliest times, the egg was a symbol of birth in most cultures. Eggs were often wrapped in gold leaf or, if you were a peasant, colored brightly by boiling them with the leaves or petals of certain flowers.

Eggs are a symbol of the new life that returns to nature at Easter Time. The custom of exchanging eggs began long before Easter was celebrated. It was a custom of the Egyptians and the Persians. They exchanged eggs decorated in Spring colors. They believed Earth hatched from an egg which contributed to this custom. 9098687

Early Christians used red colored eggs to symbolize the Resurrection. In England they began writing messages and dates on their eggs and exchanging them with friends and loved ones.

In the 1800's, candied eggs were made. They were open on one end and a scene was put inside. They were used as table centerpieces.

Today, children hunt colored eggs and place them in Easter baskets along with the modern version of real Easter eggs -- those made of plastic or chocolate candy.

