

# Veterans of Foreign Wars

## Post 9785

Ladies and Men's Auxiliaries

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"All American Post"



MAY 2011

Commander  
Marty Harris

Ladies Auxiliary President  
Diane Monti

Men's Auxiliary President!  
Al Stoddard

### SERVICE OFFICER NEWS

- Nils Hviid had surgery and is resting well at home. A card was sent and a call was made.
- Gary Newman had surgery at Providence to repair an old wound in his leg. A card was sent and a call will be made. 9083221
- Jim Garbe is doing well with his new shoe.
- John Peck had a new knee installed and is hobbling around home. His physical therapy has begun. A card was sent and a call made.
- Crystal is having Lasix surgery.
- Frank Redgrave continues to have falls at home.
- Jane Keller has a follow-up scheduled for May at Ft Lewis.  
You're keeping me hopping folks!

Suellyn Wright Novak

Post Service Officer



### MEN'S AUXILIARY

Well it's the end of winter and time for summer. 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 the Post. The Men's Auxiliary will be starting to cook hamburgers at the end of May on Friday nights so come out and help.

We had our elections for new officers for this coming year. Installation of Officers will be on May 7th at 2:30 p.m. Come on out to the Post and see your officers get installed for the new year.

Also on May 7th we are sponsoring the Coast Guard Auxiliary to come out and do a safety check on your boat. Bring your boat down and get it inspected before you go out for the summer. 5095

We are doing a Raffle for a collectors knife and we will raffle it off on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July. Be ready to sell some tickets. The tickets will be available by the end of April and will for \$5 each or 5 for \$20

We do need more volunteers around the Post. Come help out your fellow Post and Auxiliary members. There is Steak Night and Sunday Breakfast along with other special events.

This month's meeting will be on held May 15<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 am. Mark it on your calendar and make plans to attend.

Al Stoddard

President

## THE MAIL MUST GO THROUGH

**VICTORY BASE COMPLEX, Iraq** - Mail for service members correctly addressed with APO, AE, is flown directly to the Joint Military Mail Terminal here. However, mail labeled Baghdad, Iraq, is sent to an Iraqi Post Office off base and can take months to make it to its intended recipient, if at all. Airmen with the 447th Expeditionary Civil Engineer Squadron ensure Soldiers receive mail that isn't labeled correctly from the Iraqi Post Office. 2024758

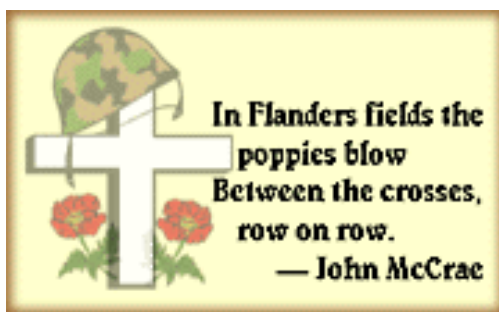
On April 12, Senior Master Sgt. Douglas Senters, 447<sup>th</sup> Expeditionary Civil Engineer Squadron emergency management superintendent, and Senior Airman Sam Kearney, 447<sup>th</sup> ECES emergency manager, stepped up to help the Army process an incoming mail truck from downtown Baghdad.

The mail truck was inspected for improvised explosive devices by an X-ray machine and military working dogs after it came through the main gate. Senters and Kearney scanned the truck and its contents for chemical and radiological contamination before the mail was distributed.

Senters is originally from Randolph, Ohio, and is deployed from Youngstown Air Reserve Station, Ohio. Kearney is originally from Middletown, N.Y., and deployed from Eielson Air Base, Alaska. Both airmen have been deployed to Sather since January.

If you are interested in coordinating an interview with a Service member from your hometown, currently deployed to Iraq, please contact me and I will do my best to set it up.

Respectfully,  
SPC Amanda Vance, CPIC Media Escort Specialist  
[amanda.vance@iraq.centcom.mil](mailto:amanda.vance@iraq.centcom.mil)  
NPIR phone: 239-0892, Cell: 770-444-2266



## COMMUNITY SERVICE

Community service is a donated service or activity that is performed by someone or a group of people for the benefit of the public or its institutions. 9256578

Volunteers may provide community service, however, not everyone who provides community service is seen as a volunteer, because some people who provide community service are not doing it of their own free will; they are compelled to do so.

When someone performs an action which benefits his or her community, it is known as community service. Some people associate community service with punishment, since it is often offered to small-time offenders as an alternative to fines or jail time. However, community service can also be altruistic, and it is a vital part of many small communities. Getting involved in your community makes it healthier and livelier, and numerous organizations around the world support community service activities.

Things which could be considered community service include tutoring children, building homes in low income areas with Habitat for Humanity, assisting the elderly, socializing animals at animal shelters, being a museum docent, performing habitat restoration, contributing to the operations of volunteer fire departments and emergency services, or helping with civic beautification. In all cases, community service work is performed by volunteers who are not paid for their time. In some instances, the work would not be accomplished without the work of such volunteers, and many small organizations rely on people with community spirit to survive. 1333205

Whether your passion is animal rights, the environment, elderly care, gay rights, or any number of other interests, you can help the cause by finding and participating in community service opportunities in your local area.

Volunteering gives you an opportunity to change lives, including your own. If you're feeling frustrated or overwhelmed by the news of a disaster, volunteering to help can be a great way to cope. If you'd like to support a cause but can't afford to donate money, you can donate your time instead.

## WHERE POST 9785 STANDS

as of 18 April 2011

2009-10 Membership – 1419 members

2010-11 Membership – 104.16%

<b>Life Members</b>	1327 (+4)
<b>Continuous Members</b>	83 (+4)
<b>New Members</b>	49 (+5)
<b>Reinstated Members</b>	19 (+3)
<b>Unpaid Members</b>	101 (-2)

*Did you know we are the  
13<sup>th</sup> largest Post in the world?*



## 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

## MOTHER'S DAY HISTORY

The majority of countries that celebrate Mother's Day do so on the second Sunday of May. On this day, it is common for Mothers to be lavished with presents and special attention from their families, friends and loved ones. But it wasn't always this way...

Only recently dubbed "Mother's Day," the highly traditional practice of honoring of Motherhood is rooted in antiquity, and past rites typically had strong symbolic and spiritual overtones; societies tended to celebrate Goddesses and symbols rather than actual Mothers. In fact, the personal, human touch to Mother's Day is a relatively new phenomenon. The maternal objects of adoration ranged from mythological female deities to the Christian Church itself. Only in the past few centuries did celebrations of Motherhood develop a decidedly human focus.

118245

In the 1600's a clerical decree in England broadened the celebration to include real Mothers, referring to the day as Mothering Day. Mothering Day became an especially compassionate holiday toward the working classes of England. During this Lenten Sunday, servants and trade workers were allowed to travel back to their towns of origin to visit their families. Mothering Day also provided a one-day reprieve from the fasting and penance of Lent so that families across England could enjoy a family feast—Mother was the guest of honor. Mothers were presented with cakes and flowers, as well as a visit from their beloved and distant children.

When the United States congress approved Mother's Day in 1914, they designated it for the second Sunday in May, and required that the President proclaim the Holiday every year shortly prior to its commencement. A recent example of a presidential Mother's Day proclamation can be seen here. While the president proclaims the event, some mothers who lost a child use it to protest against war.

5109

Typically a family in the United States will devote Mother's Day to activities in honor of Mom, whether playing games, going out to dinner, taking the weekend off or going on a walk in the park. Flowers are popular, dating back to the original celebration where Anna Jarvis handed out carnations to the church-goers. It is also common to give Mother cards and chocolate candies on her special day.

In the United States Mother's Day continues to be highly commercialized.





**VFW Post 9785 Men's Auxiliary**  
and  
**Alaska Coast Guard Auxiliary**

# **VESSEL SAFETY CHECKS**



**May 7<sup>th</sup>, 2011**  
**10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.**

The U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 03-03 will provide free vessel safety checks at VFW Post 9785 from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. Saturday, May 7.

The checks of vessel systems and safety gear allow boaters to know more about their vessel's condition before launching. Checks are completely voluntary and there is no penalty for not passing the check.

The Auxiliary is also accepting serviceable used adult and children's flotation devices that will be donated to the *Kids Don't Float* life jacket loaner program.

