



POST 331 NEWS



OFFICIAL PUBLICATION
SOUTH OMAHA MELTING POT POST #331
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Website: <https://southomahapost331.org>

COMMANDER'S COMMENTS

Greetings to all Post 331 Members and their Families!

A new year begins with great news--the HVAC system is paid off. It's been an unexpected challenge that we met and overcame because of our members' generosity and those families who came out to support our various fundraisers.

Winners of our Gun Raffle were: 1st prize: Henry Golden Boy Silver Military Service Tribute Rifle, Chuck Curtis; 2nd prize: 43" TV, Rhonda; 3rd prize: Turkey Hunt, Patty Welch.

Thanks to all those who attended our Veterans Day program. I am very pleased with the attendance of our members.

With the various programs we've had the past two months, it shows me that you care.

Mid-Year Conference will be held at the Ramada Inn, Kearney NE, January 10-12, 2020.

Congratulations to continuous membership recipients: Peter Larson, Grover Smith, John Krzycki, Wally Polak. Peter and Grover were both in attendance to receive their awards. Peter will soon be 100 years old.

A month ago, I nominated two most deserving veterans to the Quilts of Valor (Q.O.V.) organization: Harold Hanson (my uncle), Marine Corps World War II veteran, and John Stella, Army Vietnam era veteran. On December 7th, Pearl Harbor Day, the Q.O.V. made the presentation to these veterans. Also in attendance was a representative of the Daughters of the American Revolution. Both men were very surprised and thankful. Attendance again by membership was outstanding and a free luncheon followed served by a great American, Tim Eriksen and Wyatt.

Congratulations to our Century Club Raffle (\$100) winners: November--Bill Peters and December--Cathy Dickens. Also, reminders to all that 2020 Century Club tickets are on sale at the Club either behind the bar or from any officer. More details elsewhere in this newsletter.

Don't forget Joseph Hall's famous Elvis Impersonator will be with us again on Saturday, February 15th, 7:30-10:00 p.m. Doors open at 6:30 p.m.; ticket cost is \$20 per person. This was a sellout last year and great fun. Look forward to seeing you there.

Veterans Helping Veterans
For God and Country,
Chuck Gilmore
Post 331 Commander

MADAME PRESIDENT'S BY-LINE

Happy New Year!

The holidays are over and a new year begins. Hope everyone had a good holiday.

Not much to write about for this newsletter.

We'll be having our Elvis Impersonator back in February. Would like to see a good turnout for that. This young man is very good.

We had our Auxiliary Christmas Party on December 9th. We had a nice turnout and I think everyone enjoyed themselves.

Dates to Remember:

Auxiliary Meetings: Mondays, January 13th and February 10th at 6:30 p.m.

Hamburger Nights: Mondays, January 20th and February 17th, 5:00-7:00 p.m.

God Bless our Veterans!
Beverly Hofsheier
Post 331 Auxiliary President

HALL FOR RENT UPSTAIRS
Call 402-731-5185 for details and rates

SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

GREETINGS EVERYONE!

It has been a custom with the Sons of American Legion to honor all Veterans. We honor their service to our country. The freedoms that we enjoy today were made possible because of their bravery and their sacrifices. Through my project and commitment of increasing community awareness this year, we can show our involvement in assisting Veterans. We will be inviting them to be our guests for special dinners and activities. Furthermore, we will not forget the Veterans who are in hospitals. We must continue to honor them by either a visitation or by a card.

We must continue to thank all Legion Family members who volunteer their time and energy to the Post, Department, and National Projects to those in need. What better way to show our communities how we remember those have served and those that are currently in our Armed Forces. I personally would like to invite every S.A.L. member to share their thoughts on how we can honor our Veterans. Come to the Post. Come to our meetings. Share your ideas.

Finally, I wish every American Legion Family Member a very prosperous NEW YEAR.

Rich Klinger
S.A.L. Commander
Squadron 331

ADJUTANT'S CORNER

Greetings!

I recently had surgery. Upon waking up from that procedure, I realized I must write an article for our newsletter. It was hard and most difficult to think on what topic I should write. All I could think about was looking forward to winter's end--the cold weather and the ice and snow on the ground. I was looking forward to spring, a new beginning, and a renewal of life. I thought of upcoming events to which I look forward such as St. Patrick's Day, American Legion Baseball, and any activity which would put me outside among people again.

With that as a mindset, I thought it would nice if we, as Legionnaires, mark this time to prepare for a transition to allow the Legion to make a new beginning. As an officer, we must lead which allows our Post to move forward. As a member, we must thank each Officer, each Committee person, and we must thank our members for their time, talents, and support. I personally want to thank all for their expertise and experiences which enabled us to continue and assist in the future.

WE must continue the commitment and encourage Community Awareness. We must remind all that our membership will depend upon the successful implementation of this concept. As an officer, we should review all programs past and present to see which were most successful. This can be gained by reports which were submitted. As a member, we must support these programs. Most importantly, we all must learn to work together for the common good of the Post.

With this, I wish everyone a very prosperous New Year and I hope everyone had a Very Merry Christmas.

Rich Klinger
Adjutant

HONOR GUARD

The Honor Guard made a financial contribution to the Veterans Day dinner at the Post. We were proud to post the colors for the "Quilts of Valor" recognition program.

Military Honors were performed at the funerals of veterans listed below:

10-18-19	Fred Stranglen	11-19-19	William Bickels
10-21-19	Robert Ludlow	11-20-19	Robert Matuska
10-22-19	Robert Dolezal	11-25-19	JAMES BOLITA
10-25-19	Paul Kowal	11-27-19	Daryl Hebron
10-31-19	Gary Chunka	11-29-19	Thomas Arris
11-09-19	William Lewizinper	12-04-19	Otto Proendt
11-11-19	Patrick Nuoney	12-11-19	Leo Geysa
11-13-19	James Soethout	12-12-19	Lester Johanson
11-14-19	Harold Green	12-13-19	Larry Buckles
11-16-19	Julius Zimmerman	12-13-19	Howard Thompson

MAY THEY REST IN PEACE

Volunteer Hours: 480

Volunteer Miles Driven: 2,400

Post 331 Honor Guard Members:

Tim Svoboda, Captain	Dick Olson, Lieutenant
Brian Cabello	Marvin Mollner
Mark Dreier	Richard Murcek
George Hallman	Jim Murphy
Tom Homan	Stan Petrulis
Dave Miller	Carl Vleck, Major
Greg Miller	

Respectfully Yours,
Timothy J. Svoboda, Captain
Post 331 Honor Guard

"CENTURY CLUB" RAFFLE

South Omaha American Legion Post 331 "Century Club" Raffle tickets are now available for purchase. All proceeds go to the Post 331 Scholarship Fund. This raffle is how we award scholarships to members' children or grandchildren entering college. Last year we awarded five \$500 scholarships.

Cost is \$10 per ticket. Tickets are good for 12 monthly drawings of \$100 each. If you win one month, your ticket goes right back in the raffle bin for the next month's drawing.

Drawings will be held at Post 331's monthly General Membership Meeting starting January 2020. Everyone and anyone may purchase as many tickets as they would like. You need not be present to win.

Tickets are on sale at the Club either behind the bar or from any officer.

BELLEVUE POST 339 NEWS

Post 339 would like to thank the Post 331 American Legion Family for their past support and donations to Post 339 for the Vets at the Victory Apartments.

Bingo/Pantry nights will be the second Thursday of every month, 7:00 p.m., in the Victory Apartments Gym, South Entrance. Making a monetary donation to the Food Pantry will help keep the Food Pantry stocked. You can make a donation by contacting Jim Costello, 402-630-1841, or Don Kiviniemi, 402-689-1113.

Post 339's monthly meetings are the 4th Monday of every month at 7:00 p.m.

The Post 339 Annual Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser will be held on March 18, 2020, 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., at Cascio's Steakhouse, 1620 S. 10th Street, Omaha, cost is \$10.00 per person. Contact Dave Coombs, Post 339 Adjutant, 402-850-8688, for tickets.

VFW POST 2704 NEWS

Post Calendar:

Jan 11 – 8:30-11:30 a.m., Membership Team, Village Inn, Fort Crook Rd, Bellevue

Jan 14 – 7:00 p.m., 2704 **Auxiliary** Meeting, American Legion Post 331, 4830 S. 21st St., Upstairs Meeting Room

Jan 22 – VFW Post Meeting, 7:00 p.m., American Legion Post 331, 4830 S. 21st St., Upstairs Meeting Room

Feb 1 – 8:30-11:30 a.m., Membership Team, Village Inn, Fort Crook Rd, Bellevue

Feb 7 & 8 – Mid-Winter Conference, Lincoln, NE

Feb 11 – 7:00 p.m., 2704 **Auxiliary** Meeting, American Legion Post 331, 4830 S. 21st St., Upstairs Meeting Room

Feb 26 – VFW Post Meeting, 7:00 p.m., American Legion Post 331, 4830 S. 21st St., Bar Area

Mar 7 – 8:30-11:30 a.m., Membership Team, Village Inn, Fort Crook Rd, Bellevue

Mar 10 – 7:00 p.m., 2704 **Auxiliary** Meeting, American Legion Post 331, 4830 S. 21st St., Upstairs Meeting Room

Mar 25 – VFW Post Meeting, 7:00 p.m., American Legion Post 331, 4830 S. 21st St., Upstairs Meeting Room

Mar 30 – 6:15 p.m. – Bingo at ENVH

Membership: We are currently at 63.21%. If you are an annual dues paying member, we need your support! You can pay your dues online at www.vfw.org or mail your dues (\$40) to me (8510 Monroe St, Ralston, NE 68127). Checks should be made payable to VFW Post 2704. You may also call me (402.618.2731) with your credit/debit card information.

Christmas: Our annual Christmas Party and Awards Banquet went well. Josh Andrus was presented the Edward G. Reyes Semper Fidelis Award for his outstanding volunteer efforts. Commander Cherubin and I visited the Eastern Nebraska Veterans Home and hand delivered a Post Christmas card to each resident. Along with wishing them Merry Christmas, the cards were signed by several Post members and contained a note letting them know we had put \$5 in their personal account! Our Post Auxiliary mailed "care" packages to several troops deployed overseas. Kudos to them for bringing some Christmas cheer to our deployed troops!

Post 2704 Auxiliary: We need to help our Auxiliary as well. They are a vital part of our success and help with all of our programs (VOD, Poppy Drive, ENVH Bingo, etc.). Spouses, children/grandchildren 16 or older, siblings, parents/grandparents of those qualified for the VFW are eligible. Please pass their contact information to me or bring them to a Post/Auxiliary meeting!

Larry M. Gerlt
VFW 2704

NEWSLETTER VIA E-MAIL

If you have access to a computer, we encourage you to receive our bi-monthly newsletters by e-mail. If you haven't already done so, please contact Laurie Kleymann at lkleymann@cox.net

ARE YOU ON FACEBOOK?

If so, we'd love to have you join our Facebook page and stay in touch with what's going on around the Club and Post. Just search for American Legion Post 331, Omaha NE, request to join and one of the admins will add you!

POST 331 OFFICERS 2019-2020

Legion Post 331:

Commander	Charles Gilmore
1st Vice Cmdr (Membership)	Ronald Riley
2nd Vice Cmdr (Children & Youth)	Sarah Kuenning
3rd Vice Cmdr (Building)	Gary Roth
Adjutant	Richard Klinger
Finance Officer	Mark Overgaard
Sergeant-at-Arms	Terri Durham
Chaplain	Vacant

Executive Board

Mark Dreier
Rich Murcek
Tim Svoboda

Auxiliary Unit 331:

President	Beverly Hofsheier
1st Vice President	Teresa Cherrier
2nd Vice President	Vacant
Secretary	Debra Kalskett
Treasurer	Marie Kaweck
Historian	Becky Saathoff
Sergeant-at-Arms	Vacant
Chaplain	Mary Martinez

Executive Board

Dorothy Jury
Shirley Livingston
Past President
Dolores Semin
Vacant
Debra Kalskett

S.A.L. Squadron 331:

Commander	Richard Klinger
1st Vice Commander	Vacant
2nd Vice Commander	Larry Gerlt
3rd Vice Commander	Bill Peters
Adjutant	Karl Frederickson
Finance Officer	Alan Kalskett
Chaplain	Vacant
Sergeant-at-Arms	Pat Zymola
Past Commander	Alan Kalskett