



POST 331 NEWS

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION

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



COMMANDER'S COMMENTS

It's the most Wonderful Time of The Year; let the Holidays begin!

To start with, the Children's Halloween Party was "*Spooktacular.*" If you missed it, well that just means you were a *Scaredy Pants* get it, LOL. BRAVO ZULU to 331's Auxiliary and S.A.L. Squadron for all their help in making this event so much fun for the kids.

SHOUT-OUT: The Inaugural Melting Pot Golf Tournament Teed-Off on September 22nd with 40 Duffers swinging away having fun. This was not possible without the expertise and help of many supporters, starting with my bride, Debbie Dreier, Tracy and Tom Riha, Mark and Betty Lowe, Terry Jaworski, Ed Kressler, Heather & Lila (sorry, I didn't get their last name) and Willow Lakes Golf Course. BRAVO-ZULU!!

CENTURY RAFFLE: Tickets are now available for the 2024 Century Raffle which is our main funding source for our scholarship program for our members and their family. You could win \$100 each month if your name is drawn. Purchase your tickets today at the Club, \$10 a ticket, book of 10 for \$100. Please support this worthy cause.

ALL FUN AND GAMES: Looking for something to do on those cold days when there's nothing to watch on your 250 cable TV channels? Easy fix, the Melting Pot is your RALLY POINT for fun card games, Veteran to Veteran fellowship and bonding. Chicken Bingo is still the most popular game we have, the 2nd Wednesday of each month, 5:00-8:00 p.m. Grab your dabbers and let's BINGO! Keep an eye on our calendar of events for all the happenings at the Post.

VETERANS' DAY PROGRAM: 1st Vice Lynn Bergman and Jill Druskis have put together a Veterans' Appreciation and Recognition Program just for you. After the ceremony, there will be a spaghetti dinner, all of which is being donated by our community partners, free to all veterans and just \$5 for guests/non-veterans. These two hard-charging Legionnaires have invested a lot of volunteer hours and resources into making this event happen so please join us at the Melting Pot on Thursday, November 9th, 4:30-7:00 p.m. I promise you won't be disappointed.

GOOD OF THE ORDER: Volunteers are always needed, contact any post officer for opportunities. Chili Cook-off at the Melting Pot. Rick Hartkopf and I, with the AmVets and VFW, want to host a chili feed at the Melting Pot. We are scheduling the cook-off for December 9th; we'll be at the Post for the ARMY-NAVY game so what a great time for a Chili Cook-Off. Register at the Club, grab the rules sheet which explains all the details of the cook-off.

HO, HO, HO! Santa Claus is Coming to Town! The Children's Christmas Party is scheduled for Saturday, December 16th, 12 noon to 2:00 p.m. YOU MUST SIGN UP AT THE CLUB with the child's name and one nice thing and one naughty thing for each child along with one gift provided by the parents. Watch out for the Reindeer droppings on your way in.

SORRY, NO TRIVIA QUESTION THIS TIME. You'll have to wait until January.

For God and Country,
Mark Dreier
Post 331 Commander

MADAME PRESIDENT'S BY-LINE

Hello again,

This year has gone by so fast. Our holidays are all upon us.

We had a good turnout for the Early Bird Dinner and the food was very good as usual. Thank you to the cooks and all the other volunteers.

The Kids' Halloween Party was held on October 29th. I think all the kids had a great time.

On November 9th, there will be a special dinner and program for the Veterans. Free for the Veterans; it will cost \$5.00 for the dinner for all others.

Auxiliary and S.A.L. Feather Turkey Bingo will be November 12th. Club opens at 11:00 a.m., Lunch at 12:00 noon and Bingo starts at 1:00 p.m. Bingo books will have cards for all 15 games we play in them. Books will be \$20.00 for one or \$30.00 for two, more books will be available.

The Auxiliary Christmas Party will be held on December 11th at about 5:30 or 6:00 p.m. You will just order food off the Hamburger Night menu. Auxiliary will furnish dessert. Please sign up at the bar if you plan to attend.

We have Karaoke every Saturday night at 7:00 p.m. Try to come down and sing with us or just come and have a drink and enjoy the music for a while.

Dates to Remember:

Auxiliary Meeting: No meeting in December; our Christmas Party will be held on December 11th.

Hamburger Nights: Mondays, November 20th, and December 18th, 5:00-7:00 p.m.

Happy Holidays to All!

God Bless America,
Beverly Hofsheier
Auxiliary President Unit 331

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

SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION COMMENTS

Greetings S.A.L. and Family Members,

Well fall is here, and winter is not far behind, brrrrr.

With that come several events and holidays. The first event is the Veterans Day Ceremony on November 9th starting at 4:30 p.m. with a spaghetti dinner served at 5:00 p.m. Veterans eat for free! November 11th is VETERANS DAY – remember to Thank all our Veterans for their service and or freedom. The annual Feather Turkey Bingo will be held November 12th – lunch will be served at noon and bingo will start at 1:00 p.m. Come early as we expect to have a packed house!!

Everyone is going to hear this for the next couple of months-- MEMBERSHIP, MEMBERSHIP, MEMBERSHIP! We are moving right along with renewals and a couple of new members but please remember you will be delinquent if you do not renew by January 1st. We need to get the renewals in and work on recruiting new members and encourage delinquent members to come back to the family!

I want to wish everyone a safe and Happy Thanksgiving, Merry Christmas, and HAPPY NEW YEAR! Safe travels and good health!

Dates to Remember:

Veterans Day – November 11th

Thanksgiving – November 23rd

Pearl Harbor Day – December 7th

Christmas Day – December 25th

Hamburger Nights – November 6th and December 4th

Meeting Nights – November 9th (May be moved to the 11th) and no meeting in December

Support your Veterans, S.A.L. and The American Legion!

To Respect, Honor and Serve,
Alan W. Kalskett
S.A.L. Squadron 331 Commander

ADJUTANT'S CORNER

The next three months (October, November, and December) are a very busy time for all American Legion members. As we turn the calendar pages, November is a particularly busy month. It is a month--we can BE THE ONE to teach our youth about some special days and renew our duties as American citizens.

On November 7th, can you BE THE ONE to have a chance to cast a ballot during a general election? Let us BE THE ONE to make it a special day to show the younger people how our democratic institutions compare with other governments. Let's BE THE ONE to take time to explain the rights we enjoy in the United States, specifically the right to vote our conscience at the ballot box.

Saturday, November 11th is Veterans Day. How many of us take time to thank members of our Armed Forces? November is a month when Legion members recognize this special group of Americans who put their hopes, dreams, and lives on hold to protect the freedoms we hold so dear. Please help by BEING THE ONE to honor their sacrifices by paying them tribute and respect they deserve. There are many ways to BE THE ONE who recognizes the veterans in our area and to thank them for everything have done. Celebrate the veterans and active-duty military personnel from our Post and within our community. LET'S BE THE ONE to make certain that our younger generation understand the sacrifices our Veterans and Active-Duty Personnel make every day on or behalf.

Finally, Thanksgiving falls on November 23rd this year. BE THE ONE to be certain that our younger members understand the meaning of Thanksgiving. BE THE ONE to make certain that our family and friends have the materials things to make our lives better. It is a special time to inform our friends and family to take

time to reflect and give thanks for everything and everyone which makes a difference in our lives. LET'S BE THE ONE.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS AND BLESS YOU ALL!

Rich Klinger
Adjutant

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Active Legionnaire Members as of 7/1/23	362
New Legionnaire Members	6
Transfer Legionnaires	3
Total Dues Paid as of 10/1/2023	232

We are currently at 64% renewal rate, far ahead of National goal. Keep up the good work everyone!

Membership Incentive: A voucher for up to \$10.00 on a food night will be given to anyone signing up a new Legion member. Let's see if we can't surpass our 2024 membership goal.

Lynn Bergman
First Vice Commander

HONOR GUARD

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

08-25-23	Jack Moore Sr.	09-23-23	Ronald Woodle
09-01-23	John McClein	10-02-23	William Schneizowipd
09-06-23	Robert Meyer	10-04-23	Vernon Trapp
09-08-23	Frank Udron	10-07-23	Stephen Milobar
09-15-23	Raymond Zinkevich	10-20-23	Stanley Stanek
09-21-23	Jacqueline Brentolowic		

MAY THEY REST IN PEACE

Post 331 Honor Guard Members:

Tim Svoboda, Captain	Dick Olson, Lieutenant
Lynn Bergman	David Miller
Mark Dreier	Greg Miller
Jill Druskis	Marvin Mollner
John Gulizia	Richard Murcek
George Hallman	Jim Murphy
Terry Jones	Stan Petrulis
Mark Lowe	

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

BELLEVUE POST 339 NEWS

Post 339 would like to thank Post 331 American Legion Family for their past support and donations to Post 339.

Post 339 has now taken a different path and is now supporting Homeless Vets of New Vision, a temporary facility for Homeless Vets that are awaiting permanent housing. We are supporting Vets throughout the Community as well. We still will support Victory I & II but only on an on-call basis.

If you have questions or suggestions, contact Jim Costello, 402-630-1841 for more information. We are in need of donations for these vets now, especially with the Holidays quickly approaching! You can make donations by contacting Jim Costello, 402-630-1841, or Don Kiviniemi, 402-689-3058.

Don Kiviniemi
Post 339

Veterans Day Tribute Ceremony and Dinner

Thursday, November 9, 2023

South Omaha American Legion Post 331

Tribute Ceremony at 4:30 p.m.
followed by Spaghetti Dinner at 5:00 p.m.

All veteran service organizations who currently
meet at Post 331 are invited to attend

Spaghetti Dinner free for veterans
Spaghetti Dinner cost for non-veteran is \$5.00

PLEASE SIGN-UP AT THE BAR

Hope you will join us to

Remember Honor Appreciate

contact me as the \$ for life incentive will go fast! Help keep our Post, Department and National strong. If you have a family member, friend, or coworker who may qualify for the VFW, please give me their contact information and I will get with them about joining.

Community Activities: Larry & Bonnie Gerlt, Randy & Karla Marting, Jim Cardoza led Bingo at the Eastern Nebraska Veterans Home. Post provided prize money.

Farewells: None.

Auxiliary: Our Auxiliary can always use more members too. Spouses, children and step children (16 or older), siblings, parents and grandparents of our members are eligible and encouraged to join. Help us help our community by contacting me for more information.

SPECIAL NOTICE: The first two issues of the 2024 VFW magazine will be digital. If you wish to receive hard copy (mailed), you need to call National VFW (816) 765-3390 and let them know OR you can let me know by November 30 and I will notify them for you.

Larry Gerlt
VFW Post 2704

VFW POST 2704 NEWS

Post Calendar:

Nov 4 – 8:30-11:30 a.m., Village Inn, Fort Crook Road, Post Membership Drive. Post provides breakfast.
Nov 14 – 7:00 p.m., 2704 Auxiliary Meeting, American Legion Post 331, 4830 S. 21st St., Upstairs Meeting Room
Nov 15 – 7:00 p.m., 2704 Post Meeting, American Legion Post 331, 4830 S. 21st St., Wing Feed, Spouses/Sig. Other Invited
Nov 16, 17, 19 – Recruiting at Offutt AFB Main BX
Nov 23 – Thanksgiving – NO ENVH BINGO
Dec 9 – 6:00 p.m., 2704 Post Xmas Party, American Legion Post 331, 4830 S. 21st St., Upstairs Meeting Room
Dec 11 – 7:00 p.m., 2704 Auxiliary Meeting, American Legion Post 331, 4830 S. 21st St., Upstairs Meeting Room
Dec 14, 15, 16 – Recruiting at Offutt AFB
Dec 28 – 6:15 p.m., ENVH Bingo
Jan 6 – 8:30-11:30 a.m., Village Inn, Fort Crook Road, Post Membership Drive. Post provides breakfast.
Jan 9 – 7:00 p.m., 2704 Auxiliary Meeting, American Legion Post 331, 4830 S. 21st St., Upstairs Meeting Room
Jan 11-13 – Recruiting at Offutt AFB
Jan 24 – 7:00 p.m., Post Meeting, American Legion Post 331, 4830 S. 21st St., Upstairs Meeting Room
Jan 25 – 6:15 p.m., ENVH Bingo

All activities subject to change/cancellation depending on COVID-19 restrictions!

Membership: Our Post has achieved 92.172% in membership. **Department and National are requiring 102% this year!** If you are an annual member and have not yet paid your dues for the 2022-2023 membership year, please pay them NOW (if your membership card expires before July 1, 2024, you are UNPAID)! You can pay your dues online at www.vfw.org, call me to meet with you to pick them up, or mail your dues (\$40) to me (8510 Monroe St, Ralston, NE 68127). Checks should be made payable to VFW Post 2704. You can also call me (402.618.2731) with your credit/debit card information or to have me stop by your home. **The new Membership Year started July 1st; VFW Nebraska has set aside more money for \$50 life incentives! Our Post set aside \$2.5K for 50 ea. \$50 incentives again this membership year – that's \$100 off the price of a life membership! This is a really big deal – as an example, if you are Under 30, the outright cost of a life membership is \$410. You could have a life membership for only \$310 instead of \$410. But if you are or will turn 71 this year, your cost is \$170-100 for only \$70!** If interested, please

POST 331 OFFICERS

2023-2024

Legion Post 331:

Commander	Mark Dreier
1st Vice Cmdr (Membership)	Lynn Bergman
2nd Vice Cmdr (Children and Youth)	Vacant
3rd Vice Cmdr (Building)	Vacant
Adjutant	Richard Klinger
Finance Officer	Terry Jones
Chaplain	Frank Durham
Sergeant-at-Arms	Bill McCollum
<u>Executive Board</u>	
Terri Durham	Chuck Gilmore
Chuck Gilmore	Gary Roth
Past Commander	Chuck Gilmore

Auxiliary Unit 331:

President	Beverly Hofsheier
Vice President	Betty Barrett
Secretary	Rhonda Ebert
Treasurer	Pati Roth
Historian	Vacant
Chaplain	Mary Martinez
Sergeant-at-Arms	Vacant

Executive Board

Dorothy Jury	Marie Kaweck
Shirley Livingston	Dawnette Schmidt
Past President	Becky Saathoff

S.A.L. Squadron 331:

Commander	Alan Kalskett
1st Vice Commander	Ray Chlupacek
2nd Vice Commander	Rich Kellison
3rd Vice Commander	Brad Sutton
Adjutant	Hunter Brooks
Finance Officer	John Bowhay
Historian	Ron Osborn
Chaplain	Vacant
Sergeant-at-Arms	Pat Zymola
Past Commander	Richard Klinger

Kids Christmas Party

Saturday December 16th Noon - 2pm

South Omaha American Legion

Games, Food, FUN & Pictures With Santa



Sign Up @ The Club