



# VFW POST 7696 September 2014 News



Next Meeting is Thursday October 23, 2014 THE 1MC

## Motion to Purchase Denied!

Upon further investigation of the July vote to purchase the property at 8778 Cincinnati Dayton Road in Olde West Chester, Commander Ron Dzikowski declared the vote results null and void. Letters needed to be sent out to all members with a 10 day waiting period before vote could be held. Also a special meeting needed to be assembled with the vote results carrying with a two thirds majority!

On September 10, 2014 the members of Post 7696 gathered at the West Chester Activity Center to speak and record their vote! When all was said and done.



### Revote to Purchase – CARRIES! 21 to 4 Vote to proceed!

West Chester- Wednesday evening September 10, 2014 with 25 members in attendance, there was a motion put on the floor to proceed with a revote to purchase the house located at 8778 Cincinnati Dayton Road in Old West Chester. Said property is neighbor to the Post Office, and across the street from the Old Union Elementary School. The house has 876 square feet, it was constructed in 1960 and is classified as a bungalow. The West Chester Planning and Zoning Commission gave the green light and there is no issues with the Federal EPA, per Tom McGill.

The closing on the property took place on September 15, 2014 at a undisclosed location. All financial information is available through the Quartermaster's office.

No information has been released of when construction will start, to bring the house up to commercial standards per zoning, building departments and to meet handicap accessibility, required safety and parking issues.

At the September meeting Seven (7) members of the Post and Auxiliary were added to the Housing Committee. Their job will be to determine the direction that construction and maintenance priorities will need to be done to the House and property. The Commander serves on all committees.

### House Committee Members

Ron Dzikowski  
Jim Eriksen  
Russ Slaughter  
Tom McGill



Mark Butler  
Frank Hickman  
Dave Smith  
Betty Grothjan



“The VFW’s Voice of Democracy and Patriot’s Pen essay competitions are dedicated to promoting patriotism among our nation’s youth. Students are asked to submit an essay in response to a question or statement on a subject which prompts them to consider how democratic ideals and principles apply to their lives.

This year’s Voice of Democracy theme asks students to explain, “Why Veterans are Important to our Nation’s History and Future.” The Voice of Democracy scholarship competition is an audio-essay competition open to students in grades 9-12. The national winner will receive the \$30,000 T.C. Selman Memorial Scholarship Award.

The Patriot’s Pen competition is open to students in grades 6-8 .This year, students are asked to reflect on the statement, “Why I Appreciate America’s Veterans.” The national winner will receive a \$5,000 award. Never forget that our strength as a Veteran’s Organization comes from you!”

“Commander Ron Dzikowsk”

As the above paragraph was from the July Newsletter, (yes I copied it but I used quotes)! The Post has started the new school year for 2014-2015 by promoting both programs. To head this up, Dave Smith is chairing this program for the Post. Last week there was a posting on FaceBook, as well as a newsletter, and an e-blast from National to launch the Voice of the Democracy Program!

**Dave says: “Work Hard, Work Smart, win the Voice of Democracy Scholarship”**



**Post 7696 VFW Ladies Auxiliary**



The Ladies Axillary meets on the fourth Tuesday every month at 6:00 pm in the West Chester Activity Center, 7900 Cox Road. We will be celebrating our Auxiliary’s 25th Anniversary. The date is set for October 28th at 1:00 pm. Location will be at O’Charley’s, 7866 Tylersville Square Dr.

We are collecting fleece lap robes to be taken to the Cincinnati VA Hospital in December. We are asking members and friends for their worn American flags for proper disposal. Flags can be dropped off at the University of Miami VOA Learning Center, 7847 VOA Park Dr. in West Chester. We currently are collecting used eye glasses so that others can see. Please contact me for drop off location.

On June 14th. Peg Robbins, Donna Marquardt, Lee Garcia and myself, in conjunction with the Post Color Guard, were guests of the Daughter's of the American Revolution at the Shaker Run Golf Course in Lebanon, Ohio. We assisted the Post with the presentation of the History of the American Flag.

Anyone who would like information about joining the VFW Ladies Auxiliary can contact me at 777-6627 or drop a note to [rgrothjan1@cinci.rr.com](mailto:rgrothjan1@cinci.rr.com).

Betty Grothjan, President

VFW Ladies Auxiliary

Post 7696 West Chester, Ohio



# Willie & Joe Editorials and Comments!



HEY Willie!! Yeah Joe! You know everywhere I go I run into people who haven't gotten the information that they need to help them out in time of a personal crisis. If they are a vet help is available. Ok Joe, where do they have to go to get help? Pick the county you live in!

Butler County  
315 High St. 1<sup>st</sup> floor.  
Hamilton OH. 45011  
513.887.3600

Hamilton County  
230 East 9<sup>th</sup> St.  
1<sup>st</sup> floor Rm. 1100  
Cincinnati OH. 45202  
513.946.3300

Warren County  
320 East Silver St.  
Lebanon OH. 45036  
513.695.2717



## ??DID YOU KNOW??



## House Bill 488 Helps Veterans Get Jobs and Higher Education

The major provisions of House Bill 488 are:

**Helping Veterans Get Jobs:** Veterans often have advanced training in many of the skills that Ohio job creators are seeking. The bill makes it easier for veterans to transfer their skills to receive credit toward a professional license so they can quickly begin applying their skills in good-paying jobs that support their families, job creators and their communities.

**Fast Track to State Licenses:** The bill contains a number of provisions that strengthen opportunities for veterans who work with a professional license board, including making sure they can use their GI Bill dollars to pay for national or state occupational license and certificate testing fees, a prioritized process to expedite licensing and certification for veterans and their spouses, a consistent and broad definition of veteran to allow the State of Ohio to treat all veterans equally and creation of a centralized website that provides state occupational licensing information to veterans and their spouses.

**Link to Private Employers with Veterans' Preference:** The bill permits private sector employers to voluntarily register with the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services if they provide a preference in hiring for veterans and spouses, and requires the Ohio Department of Veterans Services to provide, on its website, a link to a list of these employers.

**Giving Veterans College Credit for Their Military Training and Experience:** Veterans who work toward a college degree deserve credit for the military training, experience and coursework they've received in the service – credit that can allow them to earn their degrees faster and reach their goal of obtaining a good-paying civilian job. The bill requires Ohio's higher education system to develop the means to make this happen. It creates the Military Transfer Assurance Guide to provide a baseline of standards, procedures and tools for granting college credit for military experience for any public college and university, providing more consistent services across the state system.

**Academic Credit for Military Training and Experience:** Veterans who are working toward a college degree deserve credit for their prior military training and experience. The bill requires that Ohio's higher education institutions grant free college credit for military experience.

**Better Academic Counseling For Veterans:** The bill requires that all public higher education institutions provide high-quality academic and career counseling for veterans to help them ease back into civilian life and navigate the unique programs designed to support them. Veterans would also receive priority course registration.



# October, November, December



				OCTOBER	
03,17,31	Color Guard	LWHS Lakota West	1850	8940 Union Centre Blvd WC 45069	Hickman
10,24	Color Guard	LEHS Lakota East	1850	6840 Lakota lane Lib TWP 45044	Hickman
10/11/14	Food Trailer	Pumpkin Fest	1400-1800	Keehner Park 7300 Barret Rd.	Eriksen
10/23/14	Post Meeting	West Chester Activity Center	1900	7900 Cox Road West Chester Oh. 45069	Dzikowski
				NOVEMBER	
11/1,2/14	Post	Flags Fund Raiser	TBA	Kroger Stores	TBA
11/9/14	Racino	Freedom Is Not Free	1400-1630	St Rt 63 Monroe OH	Dzikowski
11/15/14	Color Guard	Heroes Fund Marriott Hotel	1800	6189 Muhlhauser Rd	Hickman
11/18/14	Flag Burning	Keener Park	1800	Keehner Park 7300 Barret Rd.	Dzikowski
11/20/14	Post Meeting	West Chester Activity Center	1900	7900 Cox Road West Chester Oh. 45069	Dzikowski
				DECEMBER	
12/6/14	Color Guard	Pearl Harbor, Brookside Cemetery	1100	6425 West Chester Road	Hickman
12/11/14	Post Dinner Party	Houston Inn	1800	4026 US 42 Lebanon OH	Marquardt

The Food Trailer, The Color Guard, The Post Needs You, "Help Us Help Them"



## Color Guard Events

Contact Frank Hickman on all Events @

[hickman.frank@gmail.com](mailto:hickman.frank@gmail.com)

Winter Uniform now in effect ~ Brown Shirts !!!

## Membership

Post Membership and recruiting is everyone's job! Without new members our post will dissolve. It is very easy to get someone signed up. Carry a couple of the post business cards and tell the person to email the post a scanned copy of their DD-214. The Post Adjutant will take it from there! MAKE sure you let Marquardt know that you are responsible for signing the new person so you get the credit!





# A Holiday Celebration



The menu is as follows.  
Roast Beef au jus  
Breast of Chicken  
Fresh Salmon Filet  
Deep Fried Frog Legs  
Broiled Orange Roughy  
Grilled Virginia Ham Steak  
Jumbo Golden Fried Shrimp  
All Dinners include



**Salad Bar, Baked Potato, Rolls, Non-alcoholic Beverage**

Our Celebration this year will be on *Thursday, December 11<sup>th</sup>*, at the Houston Inn, 4026 State Route 42 in Lebanon Ohio. Cocktails at 6pm, dinner at 7pm. The Post will cover dinner cost for member, spouse or guest and Auxiliary member, spouse or guest. Any additional people in your group will be charged a cover charge of \$20.00 per person. Make your reservations? Drop a e-mail to the post at : [vfwpost7696@yahoo.com](mailto:vfwpost7696@yahoo.com) or call Mike at 513-519-3877 no later than **December 5, 2014**. Reservations required!

Our brick program had another brick dedication At the VOA Memorial Park on August 23,2014 at 7pm. There were roughly 60 bricks dedicated at the event. Messages were given by Commanders Ron Dzikowski VFW, and Chuck Miller American Legion along with rifle salutes.



Thoughts and Prayers for the Wise family. Bill Wises' wife, Sue, passed away Sept. 10, 2014. Sue was a Ladies Auxiliary member.



Ralph Grothjan is now at Cedar Village Retirement Community and Nursing Home, 5467 Cedar Village Drive, Mason, Room 280. He is showing improvement at this time.

Al Richer would like to here from post members, contact Donnie Ladd or the Adjutant for his number.

On September 6, 2014 the M & M boys (McGill & Marquardt) walked the 3.1 miles or 5K in the *Extra Mile For the Vets!* Time recorded was 54:29.6. Not a world record but a very respectable time. Full album on Facebook.

<https://www.facebook.com/VFWPost7696>



??? Trying to Reach Us ???

<https://www.facebook.com/VFWPost7696>

<http://vfwpost7696.homestead.com/>

[vfwpost7696@yahoo.com](mailto:vfwpost7696@yahoo.com)

<https://twitter.com/VFW7696>



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**“On The Beat with Mike”**

