



Carpentersville VFW Post 5915



Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States

The Post 5915 Chronicle

January, 2009



Greetings in the New Year, there is much to report this month. First I must thank all that helped and participated in the Post's New Years Eve Party; we had a

wonderful meal and gathering to ring in the New Year. This was a great function that the new Men's Auxiliary put on. The very nice touch was providing transportation to and from people's homes. This allowed everyone to have a good safe time.

Speaking of the Men's Auxiliary, they are meeting at the Post Home hall January 13 at 7:30 PM to select officers and set meeting time and date for regular meetings. I am expecting great things from the Men's Auxiliary. They have about 30 members, they have great ideas and they are dedicated to 5915. Please join me in welcoming them to the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 5915.

Our breakfast with Santa turned out very nice but busy, Chuck Slack reported that we did not run out of food but I'll keep trying harder. The breakfast has been a staple at 5915 for years so if you have not been to our breakfast in a while you should come check it out the second Sunday of each month. It's pretty good food and reasonably priced.

I am very excited about the Friday nights at the post. We are still having Karaoke on the 1st Friday of every month but we are now also having a fish fry each Friday

night. If you would like more information about the fish fry or anything else going on give us a call at (847) 428-4836.

Many folks are also unaware the canteen is now open at 1:00 in the afternoon with a lot of new faces behind the bar. You might even catch me working in the afternoon from time to time. Also joining the afternoon crew is Laurie Patti, Amy Johnson and Joanne Blanchard.

I have asked our Service Officer to select a different Post member each month and write an article featuring that members service history as well as some personal history so that we may get to know our members who we might not see very often better. I hope you find this as interesting as I do. If you or some member you know would like to be featured in Eric's article, just call the post and set up an interview.

The monthly 5915 crossword puzzle is in this newsletter, this is a new addition to the newsletter but should be fun and could be rewarding. Work on this puzzle and upon completion send the puzzle page to the canteen to

be entered in the drawing. Each month, I will be taking the first 10 dropped off and the first 10 mailed in; those 20 will go into a drawing each month and the winner from each month will go into a drawing to be held 12/31/09.

I know it is not possible, but I wish I could be joined by each and every one of you at our gatherings and functions. If you can't make it to our post gatherings and functions you can still see some of what you missed by viewing photos on our website at <http://www.vfw5915.org>

Everything else seems to be going very well for the post but I still have so much to do before the end of my term as commander. We are all in this together and if we continue working together towards greatness, our dreams and goals will soon be a reality.

Commander John Blanchard

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A Message from Linda Brooks: Ladies Auxiliary

I hope everyone had a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Breakfast with Santa was a hit. It was one of the busiest breakfast we have had in a long time. Santa even ran his own raffle on 2 kids bikes. It was a great success. Thank you Jim Melton for your generous contribution to the post and the holiday.

The kids party followed the breakfast. We probably had 30 kids in attendance. Many thanks to Barb and Laurie for heading up that committee and making the day special for all. The kids made Christmas cards that we sent to the troops and gave to the hospital party for our veterans. It was refreshing to read what they wrote in the cards. You could see that they appreciate our troops & their efforts.

The needy baskets were delivered Dec. 20th Even though the donations were thin you all made it happen. Thank You.

We would like any names of active military personnel that we can send packages to. Please see committee member Michelle Ness with that info or leave her a note at the post.

The ladies auxiliary is once again having a Quilt Raffle. Tickets should be on sale at the post, during bingo and from some members. The quilt is beautiful. Thank You Elaine, Marcy, and Jennifer again for your many talents..

I would like to thank all the ladies of the auxiliary for making the holiday season a pleasant and Happy one.

As we go into the new year Lets stay focused on the reason we are all members of the VFW and Support our troops. And as always your input is most welcomed.

Stay in touch,
Linda Brooks Pro-tem President

Contact Information

As time goes by, people move, or get new phone numbers and email addresses. When you're at the Post, please check with us and make sure we have your current contact information. It is very important to us that our records are up-to-date and we are able to contact our members.

Membership

ATTENTION ALL MEMBERS, as of January 1st, 2009 any one who has not paid their dues is considered a delinquent member. Please submit your dues as soon as possible so you can be a member in good standing. We want to keep our Club and the Veterans of Foreign Wars as strong as possible. Our work is all worth while and very rewarding. Come and visit your club because we have many good things happening.

Awards Luncheon

Our Annual Awards Luncheon will be held on January 25 at 1:00 P.M. at the Post Home. We would like as much Post and Auxiliary participation as possible.

Please join us in awarding The Voice of Democracy and Patriot Pen finalists and hearing the winning essays. At that time other donations within the community will also be made.

Community Night

Open to the public from 6:00—9:00 Thursday nights. Members are encouraged to bring a dish voluntarily as this is a community event. Please contact Amy Johnson for more details at (815) 790-7241

BINGO PLAYERS

We have Bingo Every Wednesday starting at 11:30. Doors and kitchen opens at 9:30. Please join us for a fun afternoon. We can use bingo players and also helpers are needed.

B I N G O				
7	25	44	57	62
15	22	40	50	70
11	30	FREE SPACE	46	74
2	28	37	55	68
10	27	39	59	75



Quilt Raffle

The quilt will be raffled off on March 28th, 2009. The price of tickets will be \$2.00 each or 3 for \$5.00. The proceeds will go to Community Service Projects. The raffle will be for a Queen Size Hand Made Quilt & other Miscellaneous prizes.

If anyone is interested in helping to sell these tickets or if you want to purchase some and are from out of town etc, please let me know and we will make arrangements to get tickets to you.

Please contact Ways and Means, Maureen Kuchta at (847) 854-1765 or Elaine Slack, (847) 658-3391 Aux 5915 Treasurer and we will be glad to accommodate you.



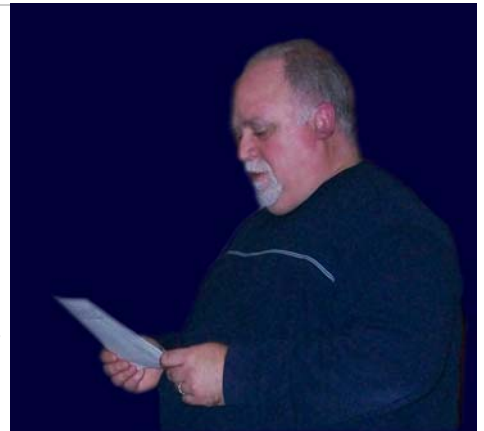
Officer's Report: More Gulf War Cases may be Coming

It was recently announced by the Research Advisory Committee on Gulf War Veterans Illnesses that it was determined about a quarter of the Persian Gulf War veterans suffer more from certain maladies than the general U.S. population.

Approximately one in every four of nearly 700,000 men and women who served in the first Gulf War suffer loss of memory, body aches, chronic fatigue, fibromyalgia and eczema, according to Internet-based reports this is because of so much exposure to oil fires and the medication to protect against anthrax."

Previously, Gulf War Syndrome was dismissed as just something in the veteran's mind, or psychosomatic, but now, with the Nov. 17 report from the Research Advisory Committee, Senior Service Officers anticipate their office's will have more visitors from service men and women who served during the 1991 Gulf War.

Recently our Post Commander John Blanchard was appointed as a National Aid-de-camp through a recommendation submitted by 5th District Commander John Marra. This is a great honor for any VFW member to attain and with the work our commander has done for the VFW he certainly deserves the honor. The job consists of assisting with membership at the Post and District levels, and when National officers are present for functions in the aids area they are there to assist. Lets all give the commander a congratulations for this honor.



In Memory: Lillian Dorothy Imrie

Lillian Dorothy Imrie, who was the first president of Aux 5915 passed away on November 30, 2008. She spent her last years living in Marengo, IL. She lived to be 91 years old. Our sympathy goes out to her family who still resides in Carpentersville.

Don't miss out!

There are great things happening this year and you are going to want to be a part of them. If you haven't been to a meeting in awhile, stop on in and see what's going on.

The Post meets on the first and third Wednesday at 7:30 and the Ladies Auxiliary meets the second Wednesday. The Men's Auxiliary regular meeting night will be the forth Wednesday of the month at 7:30.

Also, if you know of an individual that could qualify for either the Post, Ladies or Men's Auxiliary, let us know so that we can get an application out to them.



Post Spotlight: Dave Stedman

As a new feature of Post 5915's monthly newsletter we are going to provide a Biography of a post member randomly picked to help us get to know each other better. For our first installment I interviewed Dave Stedman. Anyone who frequents the post knows Dave and his wife Patty, they attend and work at many of our events always have a smile on their face, and are great for a conversation but this column is to really learn about our members, their military experience, their families, and their interest's.

Dave Stedman was born and raised in Dolton Illinois. After High school in 1973 he worked in the steel industry and part time at a local bar that was frequented by the local Navy Recruiter. After many nights of the Recruiter telling him stories of travel and the benefits of the Navy Dave enlisted and entered Boot Camp at Great Lakes Naval Station. He next went to Pensacola Florida to attend Aviation Electricians Mate School beginning his 24 year career.

During his career Dave traveled the world. He was attached to two different Helicopter Mine Countermeasures squadrons HM-12 and HM-16 of which deployed to the Persian Gulf on many occasions searching for and destroying mines. Dave's other sea duty accomplishments were deployed with fighter squadrons on the USS Carl Vinson and the USS Independence. He told me the Independence was the highlight of his career during which he was the Command Senior Chief for Strike Fighter Squadron 195 "The Dambusters". Dave told me during his career he was deployed to the Persian Gulf five years of total time.

Dave had some interesting shore commands also during the 1980's he spent 3 years at Great Lakes Recruit Naval Station pushing boots or as we officially know it a "Company Commander". Knowing Dave's booming voice and get done attitude I am sure he enjoyed a successful tour molding the body's and minds of young sailors. Dave's final command of his career is what brought him to Carpentersville he was a local recruiter and after 24 years of service to his country in 1997 Dave retired from the Navy.

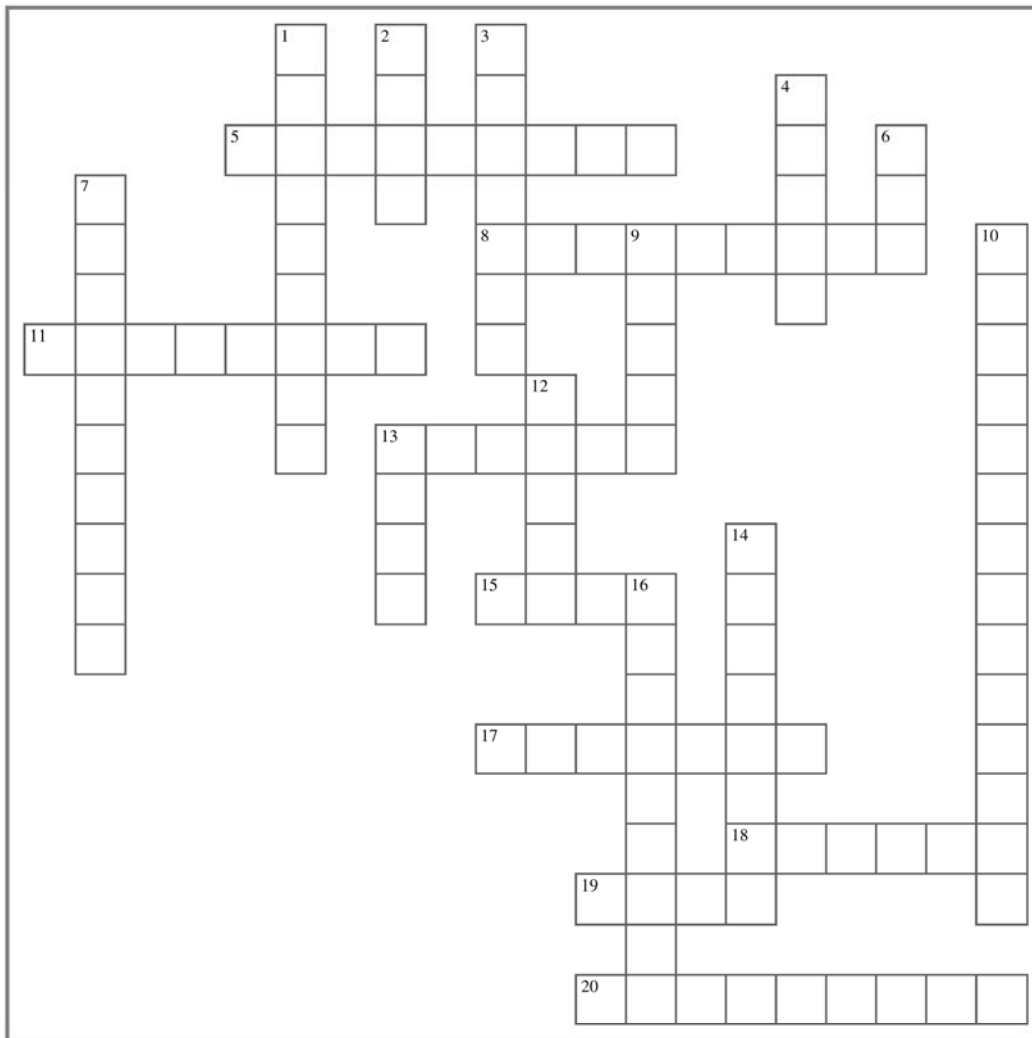
Dave's wife is Patty a member of the Ladies Auxiliary they have 7 children between them and 12 Grandkids. Their hobbies include The VFW, The Moose, Camping, Shooting Pool, and Cooking.



Newsletter Submission

We welcome articles and pictures for the newsletter. If you would like something submitted, please submit it to Amy Johnson via email at amy_johnson@nasasupport.com; by fax at (815) 455-5296 or by mail to c/o VFW Post 5915 301 Lake Marian Rd, Carpentersville, IL 60010. Submission deadlines will be the 25th of the month for the following month's newsletter.

January, 2009



Across

5. Day the Post meets
8. Post 5915 was founded in Nineteen _____.
11. _____ 22nd is the next District Meeting.
13. _____Morrow is our Department Auxiliary President
15. Newest entity of Post 5915 _____ Auxiliary
17. August 15th - 20th are the dates for the National Convention, to be held in _____, AZ.
18. _____ D. Conner was the Post's first Commander.
19. _____Marra is our District Commander
20. Commander's Last Name

Down

1. Event on February 8th
2. State Convention will be held _____ 25th - 28th in Springfield.
3. Newest weekly event that occurs every Friday
4. Lillian D. _____ was the Post's first Auxiliary President.
6. Our canteen is now open during the week at _____ o'clock
7. Street of Post home
9. Our Post meets _____ a month.
10. Event on every Thursday`
12. _____ Long is the Department Commander
13. Post 5915's POW/MIA Ceremony has been organized by _____ Hosey over the past 28 years.
14. VFW's National Home for Children is located in Eaton Rapids, _____.
16. Event for February 1st

Crossword Instructions

We will accept the first 10 dropped off and the first 10 mailed in; those 20 will go into a drawing each month and the winner from each month will go into a drawing to be held 12/31/09. Please fill out the information below before submitting your puzzle.

Name

Date

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY		
Date	Time	Received By
Walk in Number		Mail in Number

**CARPENTERSVILLE
VFW POST 5915
301 LAKE MARIAN RD
CARPENTERSVILLE, IL
Ph: 847.428.4836
www.vfw5915.org**



Announcing VFW's Fish Fry

Every Friday Night

5:00 - 8:30 p.m.

Menu

Child's Dinner - 1pc and fries <small>(10 and under)</small>	\$ 2.50
Fish Basket - 2 pcs and fries	\$ 6.00
Fish Dinner - 3 pcs, fries, coleslaw & hushpuppies	\$ 8.00
Fish Dinner - All You Can Eat (best value)	\$10.50
Dessert	\$1.00 - \$ 2.25

Non Profit
Organization
US Postage
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Carpentersville, IL
60110

Veterans of Foreign Wars
Of the United States
Post #5915
301 Lake Marian Road
Carpentersville, IL 60110-2005
ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



This Month...

JANUARY, 2009						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Next Month at a Glance

FEBRUARY, 2009						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28

Day	Event	Time
2	Karaoke	7:00 pm
7	Post Meeting	7:30 pm
11	Breakfast	8:00 am—12:00 noon
13	Men's Auxiliary Meeting	7:30 pm
14	Auxiliary Meeting	7:00 pm
21	Post & Board Meeting	7:30 pm
25	Awards Luncheon	1:00 pm
25	District Meeting Antioch	
28	Men's Auxiliary Meeting	7:30 pm

Day	Event	Time
1	Super Bowl Party	4:00 pm
4	Post Meeting	7:30 pm
6	Karaoke	7:00 pm
8	Breakfast	8:00 am—12:00 noon
11	Auxiliary Meeting	7:00 pm
18	Post & Board Meeting	7:30 pm
22	Color Guard Dundee Crown	9:00 am
25	Men's Auxiliary Meeting	7:30 pm

Weekly Events **Special Events**

Weekly Events	
Wednesday	Bingo
Thursday	Community Night
Friday	Fish Fry
	6:00—9:00 pm
	5:00—8:30 pm

