

VFW Department of Wyoming News – December 2016



Post Charter Anniversaries

Star Valley Post 4797, Afton, 12/16/1945
Fremont Peak Post, 4801, Pinedale, 12/08/1945

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900 Club

November 900 Club winners were selected on November 11th. The winners were:

1. Larry S. -- \$500 – sold by VFW Post 2221 in Laramie
2. VFW Post 4343 (Cheyenne) -- \$300
3. Laura W. and Jerry P. -- \$100 – sold by VFW Post 4343 in Cheyenne

December 900 Club winners

1. Tina H. -- \$500 – sold by VFW Post 9439 in Casper
2. Larry S. -- \$300 – sold by VFW Post 2221 in Laramie
3. Larry H. -- \$100 – sold by VFW Post 9439 in Casper

Everyone is reminded that you can still sell 900 Club tickets. One of the November winning posts leveraged its winnings to sell more tickets. Let me know if you need more.

Military Observances in December

December 7 - Pearl Harbor Day

December 13 - National Guard Birthday

December 17 - National Wreaths Across America Day

Mid-Winter

Mid-Winter is coming! The Veterans of Foreign Wars Department of Wyoming's Mid-Winter Conference is in Gillette, Wyoming, on the 13th and 14th of January. I'm attaching registration, conference advertisement purchase, and hotel reservation forms. Please note that there is an update to the room costs at the Ramada. A single is \$62 and a double is \$69. The National Representative is Lynn Rolf, Director of VFW Programs.

Membership Advice from National

If a member tells you that they're having trouble making ends meet, ask about helping them pay their dues. These are our comrades, and coming to their aid is why we exist as an organization.

If a member tells you they don't plan to renew, find out why. If there's a problem that can be solved, then solve it! Maybe they're unhappy with the post being filled with cigarette smoke (one of the top reasons why people say they won't come back to a VFW Post! Take that into account when you cater to smokers. Realize how many members you're chasing away), or maybe they came to a meeting and didn't feel welcome. Listen to these members and address their issues. If the post needs to change and adapt to fit the needs of our members, then we change and adapt. This is how the organization as a whole will survive.

Claims Consultant

Michael Bohn is the new Claims Consultant, hired by the VFW Department of Wyoming. He is a retired Air Force master sergeant. Mike has been doing outstanding work with veterans since leaving the military and will continue to do so in his new position. He starts on the 5th of December. As a reminder, here's the contact information for the VFW Service Office at the Cheyenne VA.

Service Officer Cheryl Shannon
Claims Consultant Michael Bohn
2360 E. Pershing Blvd.
Cheyenne, WY 82001
307-778-7340

Medal of Honor Speaking in Casper

Please join Casper College Veterans Club on **Saturday December 10, 2016 for Military Movie and Memoirs with Medal of Honor Recipient Sgt. Kyle White. Held in the McMurry Career Studies Center, Sharon D Nichols Auditorium Room 160 on the Casper College Campus.**

Medal of Honor recipient Army Sergeant Kyle Jerome White will be the guest speaker during Casper College's "Military Movie and Memoirs" event on, Saturday, Dec. 10 in the Sharon D. Nichols Auditorium.

The day will **begin with the 10 a.m.** screening of the **film "Restrepo."** According to the film's website, it is "a feature-length documentary that chronicles the deployment of a platoon of U.S. soldiers in Afghanistan's Korengal Valley. The movie focuses on a remote 15-man outpost, 'Restrepo,' named after a platoon medic who was killed in action. It was considered one of the most dangerous postings in the U.S. military. This is an entirely experiential film: the cameras never leave the valley; there are no interviews with generals or diplomats. The only goal is to make viewers feel as if they have just been through a 90-minute deployment. This is war, full stop. The conclusions are up to you."

The movie will be followed by lunch at noon and then **White, who will share his experience, will begin his talk at 12:45.** White, the seventh living recipient of the Medal of Honor from the War in Afghanistan, distinguished himself by acts of gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty while serving as a radio telephone operator with Company C, 2d Battalion (Airborne), 503d Infantry Regiment, 173d Airborne Brigade, during combat operations against an armed enemy in Nuristan Province, Afghanistan on November 9, 2007.

Website

The Department's work on transitioning to the new VFW Website Solutions website continues. During recent training, we were assured the Department site would be up within days. The new site address will be vfwwy.org. I'll send out an email when it appears.

Trish Peoples, A/Q

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