

FEBRUARY 2025

# SANTA FE EXPRESS

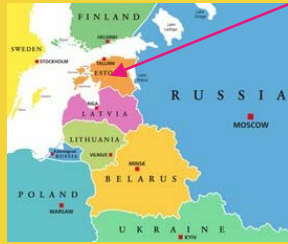
VFW POST 846 NEWSLETTER

Emeritus Editor: Ray Calore    Guest Editor: Jonathan Hyde



**COMMANDER'S COLUMN**    *Principles Above Personalities*    MARTIN FRIES, Commander

**Comrades of Post 846.** Thanks to all of our members who are supporting our monthly events. This month our VFW meeting on 13 February will have a special guest. **MAJ Andris Locmelis from the Republic of Latvia** who will give his country brief. Latvia is a country in the Baltic region of Northern Europe and was a former Soviet Block country.



**Our next meeting is on 13 FEBRUARY, dinner at 6PM followed by meeting at 7pm.**

The **Breakfast speaker on Saturday 15 FEB is Steve Woelk**. He was a crewman aboard the USS Pueblo, captured by North Korea in 1968. All the crewmen were held captive for 11 months.

**3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Chili Cook-Off** will take place on Friday, FEB 21 from 6-7 PM. Please bring your best Chili to see if you can take the award away from me. All are invited to participate: Cook and/or enjoy delicious chili.

**Don't forget about Friday Nights** the post is open from 5 to 7. Dinner is provided for those who stop by. We are also looking for hosts—only 2 hours—if you would like to volunteer.

**Commander Martin Fries**

**FROM YOUR AUXILIARY**

DANA PFLUMM, President

The monthly **Auxiliary meeting will be on Thursday February 13th at 5 p.m.** Come to the meeting to be involved and stay for The Commander's dinner that follows at 6.

**Special Note:** The Audit Committee will meet at 4 pm to complete the quarterly reporting obligation.

The monthly **Breakfast is on Saturday February 15th at 9 am.** The program topics and guest speakers have been very interesting. Come join us for an educational & fun social event.

**On Friday February 21 the Post will sponsor the 3rd Annual Chili Cook-Off.** Whether you want to enter your Chili, or just want to sample & judge... All are welcome.

The **VA Hospital visit is Tuesday, February 18.** Join us if you can... its FUN!

In 2025 the Post & Auxiliary are focusing on increasing Membership & Participation. Invite potential members and community members to our wonderful events.

***God Bless You All!***

**President Dana 913-391-0353**

## CHAPLAIN'S CORNER... LANE SMITH

This month, on February 3rd, we celebrate Four Chaplains Day, honoring the four chaplains who lost their lives aboard the troop ship SS Dorchester, when it was sunk by a German U-boat in 1943. See story in this newsletter.

*Infantryman's Creed: I carry America's faith and honor against her enemies.  
I am the King of Battle. I am what my country expects me to be.*

## V.A. HOSPITAL REPORT... Christine Anderson, Chairman

We are playing **BINGO** at the domiciliary. We go the third Tuesday of the month. This month, February 18. If you are interested in going with us or helping with the treats we serve, please call me.

We are also collecting clothes and sweatshirts for Fort Leavenworth and Annie's Closet, this includes children's items. Please call me if you are unable to drop them at the post. Thanks so much for thinking of Annie's Closet. Our veterans appreciate your thinking of them.

Chris Anderson. 913.940.1003

## VFW BREAKFAST

**When: Saturday, Feb 15, 2025, 9:00-11:00 a.m.**

**Where: VFW Post 846, 10630B Metcalf Ave, OPKS**

**Cost: Donations accepted**

*We are honored to have Steve Woelk as our guest speaker. He was a crewman on the USS Pueblo, captured in 1968 by North Korea. He was wounded and was a POW. This is going to be a great presentation.*

*Menu: Biscuits and gravy, hash browns, bacon, pancakes, eggs, coffee, juice and more*

**Bring your family and friends and enjoy a fun, great breakfast! Bring the kids and grandkids!**

## VFW POST 846

### MEETING

2nd Thursday

February 13 @ 7 pm

**An informal dinner at 6pm  
on meeting night.**

**Feel free to bring a dessert!  
Meetings are fun and  
informative.**

**You're involvement is  
the key to success!**



## VFW Post 846

**Chili Cook Off  
Feb. 21, 2025**

**6-7 pm**

*The post is open 4-5pm  
so come early and stay a  
while!*

Anyone is welcome to bring their special chili - about 1-2 quarts - so that all that attend can sample. It doesn't matter if you enter a chili or not, we would love for you to come and taste what others are making too!



# FOUR CHAPLAINS



A PRIEST, A RABBI AND TWO MINISTERS WHO GAVE THEIR LIVES THAT OTHERS MIGHT LIVE



## “Four Chaplains” Honored Annually

At the height of WWII more than 900 service members, civilians and crew were aboard the U.S. Army Transport *Dorchester* as it sailed from Newfoundland to Greenland.

On board the ship were four Army chaplains, all lieutenants, including George L. Fox, a Methodist minister; John P. Washington, a Catholic priest; Clark V. Poling, a Dutch Reformed minister; and Alexander D. Goode, a rabbi.

On the morning of Feb 3, the ship was sunk by a German U-boat. As the ship sank into the water, the four chaplains did their best to attend to the needs of frightened servicemen by calming them, tending to spiritual needs, helping the wounded and guiding them to safety.

They selflessly gave up their life-saving gear to assist others and eventually were among the 672 who perished in the icy waters of the North Atlantic.

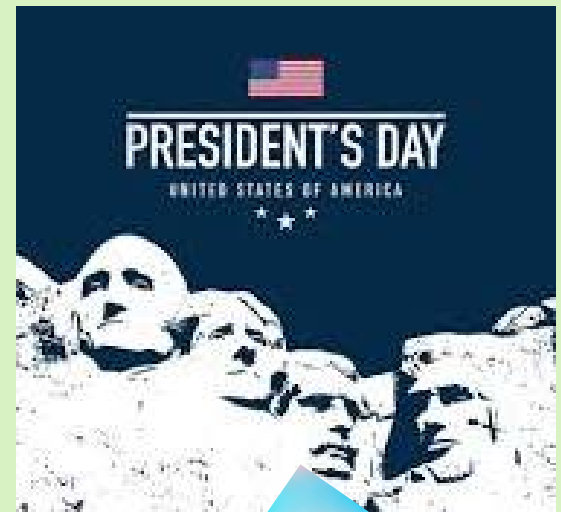
In 1961 Congress created a “Four Chaplains Medal” that was presented to their survivors.



At the January breakfast, Jim Thornton, Commander of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, presented a fascinating history of the ‘*Battle of St. Louis*’ also known as the ‘*Battle of Fort San Carlos*.’ The only Revolutionary War battle in Missouri was fought in the area near the Gateway Arch.



# Celebrating



February 19th



USO Day  
February 4th

This is your newsletter and if you have something you did please take pictures so we can show what you and our post has been doing to support Veterans. Send pictures and info to Jonathan Hyde at [jquincyh@aol.com](mailto:jquincyh@aol.com) or at 913.530.0675.

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
26	27	28	29	30	31	1
2		 6:30 pm PTSD Class @ Lenexa			10:00 Veteran's Breakfast – Village Inn [5800 Broadmoor Mission KS 66202]  5-7 pm POST OPEN	8
	10	6:30 pm PTSD Class @ Lenexa [9550 Pflumm Rd, Lenexa KS 66215]		5 p Auxiliary Meeting 6 p Comdr Dinner 7p Post 846 Meeting & Speaker	10:00 Veteran's Breakfast – Village Inn 5-7 pm POST OPEN  	Breakfast 9 – 11 Speaker: Steve Woelk Crewman on the USS Pueblo captured by North Korea in 1968
16		AUX to VA 6:30 pm PTSD Class – Lenexa VFW		20	10:00 Veteran's Breakfast – Village Inn  CHILI COOK-OFF 6 to 7 pm  5-7 pm POST OPEN	22
23	24	6:30 pm PTSD Class – Lenexa VFW	26	27	10:00 Veteran's Breakfast – Village Inn  5-7 pm POST OPEN	29
30	31					

## VA Benefit Assistance from VFW Post 846 Is Now Available

**Reminder: I am available on Wednesday evenings starting assist with filing claims for VA Benefits.** My main focus is on PTSD, but I do have some limited knowledge on other conditions. There is no charge for this service and a good reference is on Facebook - VA Disability Service. There are several Veteran Service Officers that are on this site to answer any questions that you may have and no one but these VSO's can respond to you. I monitor this site and have learned quite a bit about dealing with the VA.

Please call me at 913-271-1832 to set up an appointment.

Also on another note: **As of January 31, 2025, you have to have an 'ID. Me' or 'Login.gov' account to sign in to 'myhealth.gov' account.** If you need help with this, you can bring a laptop or let me know & I will bring mine.

Mike Martin  
 Post 846 Resource Officer  
 913-271-1832



Contact Us at:

VFW Post 846

10630-B Metcalf Lane  
 Overland Park, Ks 66212  
 Post# 913-735-3127



**HERE IS YOUR OPPORTUNITY TO JOIN US AT VFW POST 846...**  
**APPLICATION — For questions about eligibility, contact [svcmldr@vfwpost846ks.org](mailto:svcmldr@vfwpost846ks.org)**

**VFW MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION** vfw 01/14

NAME: FIRST \_\_\_\_\_ MIDDLE \_\_\_\_\_ LAST \_\_\_\_\_ FMAIL \_\_\_\_\_ DATE OF BIRTH \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ HOME OF RECORD \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ GENDER: (M) (F) \_\_\_\_\_

ZIP \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ CITY \_\_\_\_\_ COUNTEY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_ SSN (optional) \_\_\_\_\_

BRANCH OF SERVICE:  ARMY  NAVY  AIR FORCE  MARINES  COAST GUARD

DATES OF SERVICE: \_\_\_\_\_

MEMBERSHIP TYPE (choose one)

**ANNUAL MEMBER**  
 Payment Authorization: You may pay by check or credit card. For payments by check, you will receive a yearly statement by mail. For credit card payments, please complete the following:  
 I authorize the VFW to automatically charge my account \$ \_\_\_\_\_ on a yearly basis to pay my Annual membership dues.  
 I authorize the VFW to charge my account a one-time payment of \$ \_\_\_\_\_.

**LIFE MEMBER**  
 I authorize the VFW to charge my account for a one-time payment of \$ \_\_\_\_\_.

**LIFE MEMBER INSTALLMENT PLAN**  
 I authorize the VFW to automatically charge my account \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to be paid in 11 monthly installment payments after my initial payment of \$45.00.  
 I authorize the VFW to charge the \$45.00 initial payment and I understand that I will be billed for the remaining 11 monthly installment payments.

PREVIOUS EDITIONS OF THIS FORM ARE OBSOLETE. Please see reverse for terms and conditions of Automatic Payment and Installment Life Plans.

QUALIFYING FOREIGN SERVICE

WORLD WAR II  DESERT SHIELD/STORM  
 OCCUPATION SERVICE  BOSNIA/KOSOVO  
 KOREAN SERVICE (1950-1954)  GLOBAL WAR ON TERRORISM EXPEDITIONARY  
 KOREA DUTY (1955 - present)  AFGHANISTAN (2001-present)  
 VIETNAM SERVICE  IRAQ (2003-2011)  
 EXPEDITIONARY OPERATIONS  SSBN DETERRENT PATROL INSIGNIA  
 HOSTILE FIRE/IMMINENT DANGER PW

RECRUITER (please print) \_\_\_\_\_

QUARTERMASTER: \_\_\_\_\_

RECEIVED FROM: \_\_\_\_\_  
 POST NO. \_\_\_\_\_  
 CITY AND STATE \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

RECEIVED BY: \_\_\_\_\_  
 (circle one) CASH CHECK VISA MASTERCARD DISCOVER AMEX

NATIONAL COPY:  AMEX  DISCOVER  VISA  MASTERCARD

AMOUNT: \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_

The Review Committee has performed its duties and recommends \_\_\_\_\_ approval \_\_\_\_\_ rejection. (signatures of Committee members below)

Committee member \_\_\_\_\_ Committee Member \_\_\_\_\_ Committee Member \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE SEPARATE FORMS BEFORE SIGNING**

DUES PAID: \_\_\_\_\_ ADMISSION FEE PAID: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_ Received by: \_\_\_\_\_

**VFW PLEDGE**

I do, of my own free will and accord, solemnly promise and declare that:  
 I will bear true allegiance -- to the Constitution of the United States of America -- and I will always be loyal thereto.  
 I do further solemnly promise and declare -- that I will comply with the Congressional Charter -- By-Laws and Ritual of this order -- and that I will always be loyal thereto -- that I will never wrong or defraud this organization -- nor a member thereof -- nor permit any wrong to be done to either -- if it is in my power to prevent it.  
 I will never propose for membership -- any person not eligible -- nor one whom I know to be unworthy.  
 I will never make known to anyone -- not authorized to receive it -- any of the work of this order.  
 Should my affiliation -- with the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States -- cease in any way -- I will consider this pledge -- as binding outside of the order -- as though I had remained a member of same.  
 All this I promise and pledge -- upon the honor of a true comrade -- and a citizen of our great republic.

**CERTIFICATION (See Sec. 104 By-Laws)**

I attest that I am a citizen or national of the United States, that my Campaign Service was honorable, that I have never subsequently been discharged from military service under dishonorable conditions. I also certify that (1) I am entitled to a campaign ribbon or medal authorized by the U.S. Government based on my overseas service or; (2) I have served overseas in Korea or; I have received Imminent Danger or Hostile Fire Pay. I further give authority to the Veterans of Foreign Wars to verify honorable overseas service entitling me to membership.

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_  
 SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_

\$1.95 of your membership dues goes towards your VFW magazine subscription.

**Thank You for your  
 Membership and Support of  
 SANTA FE TRAIL POST 846  
 VETERANS of FOREIGN WARS  
 Please stay involved  
 AND WE'LL SEE YOU SOON !**



**Questions? Please call (913) 735-3125 or 866-3127**

Here is your opportunity to participate in POST 846 as a member of the Auxiliary.

If you have questions about the Application or your Eligibility contact the Post.

**VFW AUXILIARY MEMBERSHIP / MEMBER TRANSFER APPLICATION**

Recruited/Recommended by: \_\_\_\_\_ Recruiter Member ID \_\_\_\_\_  
 Auxiliary No. \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Member ID (If already a member) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Annual Membership  Life Membership  
 Rejoin Membership Rejoined Previous Member ID No. \_\_\_\_\_ Previous Auxiliary \_\_\_\_\_  
 Member at Large in Department of \_\_\_\_\_  Member at Large - VFW Auxiliary National Headquarters

THESE FIELDS REQUIRED

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  Male  Female  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

**POST-AFFILIATED** (\*Must be a member to the VFW Post affiliated with the Auxiliary to which you are applying.)  
 Relationship \_\_\_\_\_ to Eligible Veteran\* \_\_\_\_\_ VFW Membership ID \_\_\_\_\_  
 **LIFE MEMBER TRANSFER** Previous Auxiliary \_\_\_\_\_  
 **ANNUAL TRANSFER** Previous Auxiliary \_\_\_\_\_  Paying  Nonpaying  
 **ANNUAL TRANSFER CONVERTING TO LIFE** (Fill out Life Membership information below.) Previous Auxiliary \_\_\_\_\_

THESE FIELDS REQUIRED

**NON-AFFILIATED** (\*Veteran is not a member of the VFW Post affiliated with the Auxiliary to which you are applying.)  
 Relationship \_\_\_\_\_ to Eligible Veteran\* \_\_\_\_\_ VFW Post (If applicable) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Name of campaign ribbons or medals: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Dates of Service: \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ Location: \_\_\_\_\_

Investigating Committee Signatures

1 X \_\_\_\_\_ 2 X \_\_\_\_\_ 3 X \_\_\_\_\_  
 Per Section 102 of the National Bylaws.  Rejected  Accepted Meeting Date \_\_\_\_\_ Obligated Date \_\_\_\_\_

**LIFE MEMBERSHIP ONLY**  Check here if this is a gift.  
 Credit cards may **NOT** be used for initial payment of Annual Dues.  
 Cash  Check  Visa  MasterCard  Discover  AMEX  
 Life Membership Fee \_\_\_\_\_  
 Name on credit card \_\_\_\_\_  
 Billing address for card \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_  
 Credit Card No. \_\_\_\_\_  
 CVV Code \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_  
 Signature X \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**LIFE MEMBERSHIP ONLY**  
 ACH (Bank withdrawal)  
 Name of Bank \_\_\_\_\_  
 Bank Routing No. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Account No. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Attach voided check HERE.  
 (Required)

**LIFE MEMBERSHIP FEES**

Life Membership fees are not refundable.  
 Attained age by 12/31 of year applying for Life Membership.

Through 20	\$253
21-25	\$242
26-30	\$230
31-35	\$219
36-40	\$213
41-45	\$201
46-50	\$196
51-55	\$184
56-60	\$173
61-65	\$161
66-70	\$150
71-75	\$132
76-80	\$109
81-85	\$86
86-90	\$69
91 and over	\$58

**OBLIGATION** In the presence of Almighty God and the members of this organization here assembled, I do of my own free will and accord, solemnly promise that I will never wrong or defraud this organization nor a member thereof nor permit either to be wronged if in my power to prevent it. I will never propose for membership any person not eligible, according to our Bylaws. I further state that I believe in God. I will be faithful to the United States of America, obedient to the laws and loyal to the Flag. Should my membership with this organization cease in any way, I will consider this obligation as binding outside of the organization as though I had remained a member. I do so promise. I attest that I am at least 16 years of age. I further state that I believe in God. I pledge to comply with the National Bylaws of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States Auxiliary. I attest I am not eligible for membership in the VFW. I further attest that the above is true and correct to the best of my knowledge, including my stated relationship to the Veteran.

Signature X \_\_\_\_\_ (Must be signed by all members.) Date \_\_\_\_\_