



Green Township Post 10380 Veterans of Foreign Wars July– August 2025



Welcome from Commander Mike Donnelly

There's a lot of information and Post activity in the following pages! And still more to come in the next issue. We certainly are a busy Post! We welcomed six new members, as mentioned on page 12, and thank you for choosing our VFW Post.

Our Post Honor and Color Guard are very busy. To date, we have performed forty-two Military Honors, sixteen Color Guard and Missing Man Table events all over the tri-state. Thank you to all Guard members for volunteering when you're called. If you are interested in joining the Guard, please let me know. We would love to have you.

I want to thank Ryan Blankenship and his committee for an awesome Memorial Day Parade. It was well organized, with many new participants, and great press coverage. I've heard nothing but compliments! Looking forward to next year! Thank you to everyone who participated in our Memorial Day Commemoration Program; I think it gets better each year. If you haven't been to Veterans Park lately, stop by and see the Living Memorial Garden dedicated to Major Ed Burke. Thank you to everyone who worked on this memorial to Ed. I think he would be pleased. Be sure to read Bob Abrams' tribute to Ed and see pics on pages 6-7.

Thank you to Bob Abrams for the best Golf Outing ever. Thank you to Carolyn Abrams for your detailed organization of the day's events and to all your volunteers. It takes lots of help to be successful.

On pages 10-11 you'll read pending legislation that needs our help. Contact your congressional representative or senator to ask them to support this legislation.

Jerry Dehner is planning to continue the dance started by Bill Ostermeyer last summer. Mark September 13 on your calendar even if you don't dance! It's a fun, casual party to meet or get to know each other.

Thank you to Ed Murphy for manning the Recruiting Booth at Kuliga for 4th of July, and thanks to Tom Schmitz for organizing the Beer Booths. And thanks to all the volunteers who worked!

Hamilton County Military & Veterans Appreciation Day is a free community-wide celebration honoring veterans and active-duty military members. The event will take place on Saturday, August 23, 2025 at Sawyer Point and will feature live entertainment, family activities, military exhibits, resource connections, and a fireworks finale.

Hope everyone is having a good summer...and staying cool...or staying out of the rain!!

Mike



VFW Mission

- * To foster camaraderie among United States veterans of overseas conflicts
- * To serve our veterans, the : military, and our communities
- * To advocate on behalf of all veterans

VFW Core Values

- * To always put the interests of our members first
- * Treat donors as partners in our cause
- * Promote patriotism
- * Honor military service
- * Ensure the care of veterans and their families
- * Serve our communities
- * Promote a positive image of the VFW
- * Respect the diversity of veteran opinions

Meeting Date

The Post meeting is the
Third Thursday each month
7:30 p.m. (6:30 p.m. dinner)
Nathanael Greene Lodge, **upper level**
6394 Wesselman Road
Cincinnati, Ohio 45247
513.598.3100
(Call Lodge for meeting cancellations)

Staff Meeting Dates

The 2025 Staff meetings will be
Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m.
August 13, September 10
October 8, November 12, December 18
Nathanael Greene Lodge

Bridges



I PLEDGE ALLEGIANCE
TO THE FLAG

OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

AND TO THE REPUBLIC FOR WHICH IT STANDS

**One Nation
Under God**

INDIVISIBLE WITH LIBERTY AND JUSTICE FOR

ALL



Mark Your Calendar



The Order of the Purple Heart Cincinnati
Chapter 3620 & Chapter 156
commemorate

Purple Heart Day

August 7, 2025

12:00 p.m.

**Veterans Park / 6231 Harrison Avenue
Cincinnati, OH 45247**

Public is invited

POST 10380

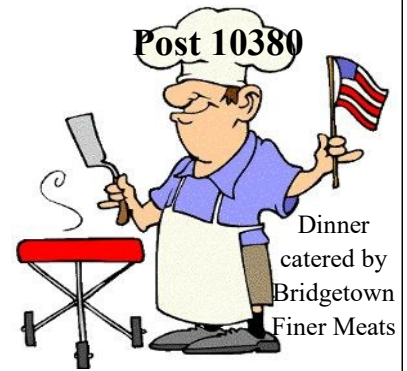
ANNUAL GRILL-OUT

MEETING

AUG. 21, 2025

6:30 PM

Invite a veteran friend
to join us for
good food,
drinks and
camaraderie



The Annual Harvest Home Parade

Thursday, September 4, 2025

6:00 p.m.



Harvest Home Fair runs

- Thursday September 4—7
- Visit the VFW Post 10380 Recruiting Booth

Post 10380 Fall Dance September 13, 2025 6p.m.—10 p.m.

\$10/person includes drinks, snacks, music and camaraderie

Nathanael Greene Lodge—lower level



Flyers
available at
August
Grill-Out



We Remember...

It's always hard to say good-bye, so we want to highlight a few of the things these comrades did to honor, improve, and brighten the lives of others. On pages 6-7 Bob Abrams shares his friendship with Ed Burke.

This is just a small example of how they touched others with kindness. May you all rest in peace.



Ben Staubach

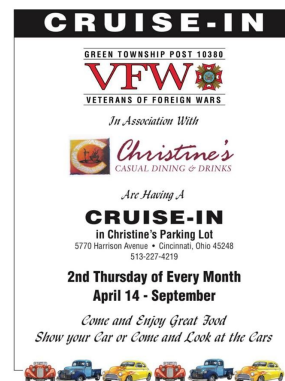
Post 10380 Commander 2003—2005
Post Honor/Color Guard Member
Post Surgeon
Post newsletter author and producer
Post sponsors manager
Post membership manager
Illness and Bereavement Chairman
Volunteer



Jim Stanghetti

Post Trustee 1-year; 2-year; 3-year
Cars and Courage Car Show committee member
Cars and Courage Car Show marketing
Cruise-Ins at Christine's organizer

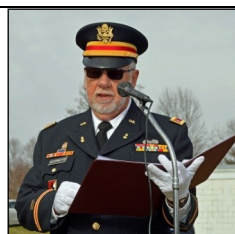
★ CARS AND COURAGE ★



Bill Ostermeyer

"Outside-the-Box" thinker, designer, builder, creator
Memorial Floats: WWI, WWII, Korean, Vietnam
2016 Memorial Day Parade 1st Place
Mayor's Award for WWII Iwo Jima Float
Wreaths Across America
Summer Dance 2024

Wreaths Across America



Summer Dance



World War I

World War II

Korean

Vietnam

2016 Award—WWII Iwo Jima



Memorial Day Parade May 26, 2025

Memorial Day Parade 2025, under the new leadership of Ryan Blankenship, Pete Rebold, and Donnie Becker was a great success! With an increased number of participants and shorter route, the parade began at the Bridgetown Cemetery with a 3-Round Volley Salute by Post 10380 Color Guard. It proceeded past patriotic neighbors down Harrison Avenue to Pioneer Cemetery for a closing ceremony with the playing of TAPS, commemorating generations of local veterans final resting places.



Grand Marshall Mike Donnelly



Post 10380 members on the Deuce-and-a-Half



Korean War Float



Post 10380 floats— Korean War and Vietnam— were designed and built by member Bill Ostermeyer. RIP, Bill.



Vietnam Float



Post 10380 Voice of Democracy Winners



Post 10380 Patriot's Pen Winners



USS Cincinnati LCS 20 Foundation



Cincinnati Nurses Honor Guard



Memorial Day Commemoration May 26, 2025



Oak Hills Bagpipers



Oak Hills Bagpipers



Rest in Peace

Ed Burke

Bill Ostermeyer

Jim Stanghetti

Ben Staubach



Green Township Police Honor Guard



Jack Taphorn

Missing Man Table

Jack Taphorn	Army
Bill Daniel	Marine
Jim Jansen	Navy
Tom Schmitz	Air Force
Dave Lahni	Coast Guard
Donnie Becker	Narrator



Bill Daniel



Jim Jansen



Tom Schmitz



Dave Lahni



Tribute to Major Edward Burke



My Friend, Ed Burke

by Bob Abrams

Over the past several years, I was fortunate to spend a great deal of precious time with Ed. The more we got together the closer we became. I really cannot find the words to describe what Ed meant to me. It was a privilege and honor to just be around him. Ed is the closest and most admired man I have ever known.

Ed led a model life. He was looked up to and revered by many. Ed always was friendly and interested in everyone he met. He would ask where they were from, ask about their family, where they went to school. One of his favorite lines when he met someone was, "Are you a local man?" Ed's priorities in life were Faith, Family, and Country. The more I thought about this the more I realized that Ed was right on the money.

Ed was a proud 1938 graduate of St. Xavier High School. He excelled not only in the class room but also in sports. He was Captain of the tennis team. One day we were talking about family and it turns out my father-in-law, Bill Hillebrand, was Ed's tennis doubles partner at St. X. Ed always like to talk about coincidences in life. He had too many to mention in this story, but if you ever want to discuss all his coincidences, let me know.

From St Xavier High School, Ed went to Xavier University where he excelled academically and in the ROTC program. Ed enrolled in the ROTC program because he knew WWII would break out. At that time, XU ROTC was focused on artillery. Ed like this idea because he thought he would not be on the front line. However, the day after he graduated in May 1942 he was sent to Fort Sill, Oklahoma. He did well in his training and was one of the top graduates. Because he **was** one of the top graduates, he was assigned to a tank destroyer unit under the command of General George S. Patton. So much for the idea of being in the artillery where he would have been in the rear! The tank destroyers were now on the front lines, in many cases ahead of the infantry.

Ed's military career is well documented. He received the third highest military award, the Silver Star, also a Bronze Star, and ten Combat Decorations. I will be happy to provide details of Ed's military exploits; however, I want to keep this a short story about my friendship with Ed and impact he had on my life.



**With his family present,
Ed chose to receive the French
Knight of the Legion of Honor Medal
in a ceremony at the Post 10380 meeting
on May 16, 2012.**

Ed was a man from whom I learned something every time I was with him. I particularly admired how much of a family and religious man he was. He credited his survival in WWII to our Lord, who he prayed to every day. He was a great husband and married his sweetheart, Betty Lou Hudepohl, on January 9, 1946, shortly after he got out to the service. They were married for sixty-five years.

Ed was the loving father to five children— Pat, Pam, Jayne, Jen, and Jim who passed away at age 18. One of the may bonuses of being with Ed was getting to know his family, particularly his daughters. What a wonderful group! He was the grandfather of thirteen and great-grandfather of twenty-six. I attended several of Ed's family functions. These gatherings were quite large, up to fifty-plus people.

After the service, Ed enrolled in UC Law School. There he met four lieutenants—John Mason, Joe Hoerth, Bruce Fisher, and Lee Heret. These four were POWs near Hammelburg, Germany where Ed fought. These soldiers were from the University Cincinnati ROTC program and were enrolled with Ed at UC Law School, in the same class. They all became close friends and graduated together in February 1948. They all passed the state bar and became attorneys. They maintained their friendships and celebrated the anniversary of D-Day, June 6, 1944, every year. What a coincidence! Ed went on to be

a successful attorney and practiced until he was 89-years old.

One more coincidence; Ed trained and fought under George Patton. Ed and I attended the Show of Shows in Louisville, KY and while having breakfast we noticed, at the first table, by himself was George Patton Waters, the son of General Knight Waters. General Knight Waters was a POW near Hammelburg and the son-in-law of General George Patton who married Beatrice, daughter of General George S. Patton. We introduced ourselves and told him about the book we were writing about the "Raid on Hammelburg". We had a great discussion!

One of my favorite memories with Ed was being involved in the numerous talks he has given. Ed's presentations about his WWII exploits were priceless and left audiences spellbound. I was Ed's set-up man and would do his introductions. One time I asked him if I could improve his introduction. He said, "Bob, your introductions are pretty good but I would like you to liven them up a little." I said, "Sure, what do you want me to do?" He said, "Next time when you come out to the stage, do a few cartwheels and perhaps a somersault." I walked right into that one!

Ed's sense of humor was remarkable! One time we were at a book signing when two ladies came up to him and asked if he would sign their book "Legacy of Courage". (This book can be purchased from Honor Flight Tri State.) He said he would sign their book if they could answer two question. The ladies were a little taken aback but said sure. His questions were: "Do you have a car?" And "Do you drive at night?" I almost fell out of my chair with laughter. It was another great Ed Burke set-up.

Continued pg. 7

Tribute to Major Edward Burke

Here are a few more of Ed's great lines:

- ♥ "Remember me in your will."
- ♥ "If you need something, hesitate."
- ♥ "I only buy ripe bananas."
- ♥ "Do whatever your mother tells you with a few helpful suggestions from your father."

One of my fondest memories with Ed was going out to lunch every Wednesday. I always brought Ed a copy of the Wall Street Journal which he read cover-to-cover. Ed introduced me to the lunch group **ROMEOs** (Retired Old Men Eating Out, or sometimes called Romantic Old Men Eating Out). Most of the men in the group were in their nineties. Ed told them I would be a **junior ROMEO**. We met every Wednesday; sadly, all of the original group have passed away. We always enjoyed our lunches; it was something that Ed and I looked forward to every week. With the passing of Ed, the group of **junior ROMEOs** are now **ROMEOs**. We always say grace before our meal and remember our faithfully departed members.

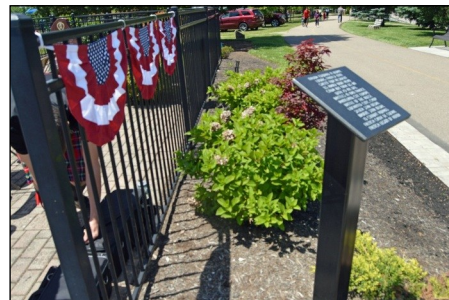
Ed loved our Green Township VFW, and everyone in our Post knew and revered him. Members of the military have a special brotherhood with each other. However, with Ed our bond was even closer. God had plans for Ed. He survived D-Day, Normandy landing at Omaha Beach, fought his way through the hedgerow of France and Germany, fought in the Battle of the Bulge, liberated the Nordhausen Concentration Camp in Germany, met the Russians at the Elbe River and cut the ribbon at the opening of the Holocaust Museum in Washington, D.C. Ed is also a member of the XU ROTC Hall of Fame, and his military uniform is front and center the XU Military Museum.

Post 10380 and Green Township Trustees and Maintenance Department worked with Nicholas Robben on his Eagle Scout Project to develop a Living Memorial to Major Edward Burke at Green Township Veterans Park. This is a fitting tribute to Ed.

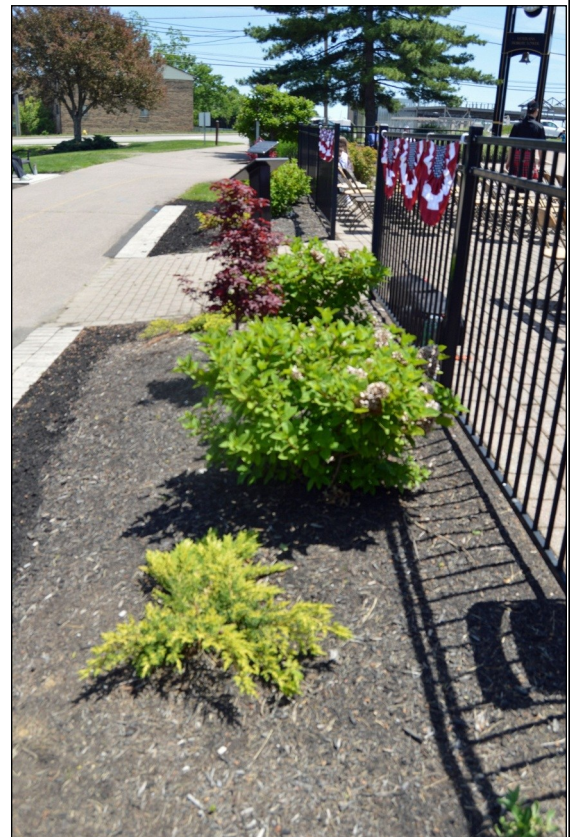
I was fortunate to have had many wonderful years with Ed. I will always treasure the impact Ed had on my life.
Thank you, Major Edward A Burke!



Major Burke's daughter, Pat, and family expressed their gratitude for this lasting, living memorial, a place to remember and reflect on a special man who inspired hope, showed strength, and helped bring peace to many here and around the world.



The new **Major Ed Burke Living Memorial Garden** at the entrance to the Plaza in Veterans Park was dedicated during the Memorial Day Commemoration Program. The Memorial was a collaborative effort involving Post 10380, Green Township, Paul Wilke & Son, Inc. and Eagle Scout Nicholas Robben, who designed and installed the landscaping.



MAJOR EDWARD A. BURKE
LOVING FAMILY MAN
GREEN TWP. RESIDENT
US ARMY WWII HERO
CMDR 821 TANK DS BN
WITH 29 INF. DIV.
BATTLES IN NW FRANCE
RHINELAND, CNT EUROPE
BATTLE OF THE BULGE
LIBERATED CONC. CAMP
SILVER STAR MEDAL
BRONZE STAR MEDAL
10 COMBAT AWARDS
FRENCH CROIX DE GUERRE
FRENCH LEGION OF HONOR

Above: Plaque Inscription



Community Recognition



The **Scout of the Year Award** was presented to
Nicholas Robben
by Mike Donnelly on May 15, 2025.

Nicholas earned his Eagle Scout Badge for his design and
installation of landscaping for the
Major Ed Burke Living Memorial at Veterans Park.

Nicholas is the grandson of Post 10380 member Ed Kramer and his
wife Grace, and son of Paul and Susan Robben.



Public Service Recognition Week May 4—10, 2025

On behalf of Post 10380 Mike Donnelly surprised the **Green Township Maintenance Department**
when he delivered a catered luncheon on May 5th, in recognition and appreciation of everything
they do for the VFW and the Green Township community.

May 4-10 was **Public Service Recognition Week**. Since 1985, the first full week in May is the
annual celebration of the contributions of public servants in federal, state, **local** and tribal
government. Across the nation, more than 23 million dedicated public servants, including in public
schools and universities, deliver every day for the American public.



Leadership Award to
Cadet Azura Gordon

Diamond Oaks Junior ROTC Ceremony

The VFW Post 10380 annual Awards for
Outstanding Achievement and Exceptional Leadership Ability,
as well as a monetary gift, were presented on May 6, 2025.

Congratulations

Leadership Award to
Cadet Richard Haun



Warbirds Recognition Award May 24, 2025

For the past 20 years, over the Memorial Day weekend, the Cincinnati Warbirds EAA Squadron 18, Inc. has
sponsored a Swing Dance and USO Show to Honor Veterans. This special event was held on May 24, 2025 at
Moonlight Gardens in Coney Island.



Among the highlights of the evening, military Chaplain LCDR Bill Green-
wald led everyone in a moment of silence and prayer and the playing of
TAPS to honor those Veterans who made the ultimate sacrifice. Five local
Veterans, nominated by their peers for special recognition, were honored
with the presentation of plaques.

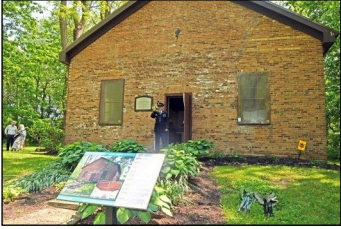
Congratulations to Post 10380 member
Ray Frey
recipient of the Award for Distinguished Military Service
May 24, 2025



Community Involvement



Indian Creek Pioneer Church & Burial Ground Annual Salute to Our Pioneers May 18, 2025



Annual Salute to the Pioneers was held on May 18 at the Indian Creek Pioneer Church and Burial Ground in Reily Township. The program opened with an Invocation, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance, patriotic songs and speaker, Brad Kramer. The ceremony concluded with Benediction and TAPS played by Mike Donnelly, VFW Post 10380.



Special Celebration at Our Lady of Victory Church

Memorial Day Mass

May 26, 2025

in honor of all those have served, and especially those who have given their lives in the service of our nation.

Mass concluded with the playing of TAPS by VFW Post 10380, Mike Donnelly.



Thank you

We are very grateful to **Ed Murphy** for the *many* hours he has dedicated to making **“Buddy” Poppy Days** so successful over the past ten years. Ed stepped up to chair this committee in 2014 and his unwavering commitment to honoring veterans, educating the public, and recruiting new members has been incredible. His efforts are deeply appreciated by all Post 10380 members, and by the veterans and families whose lives have been touched. With his “retirement” from Poppy Day, you will still find Ed in the Post 10380 Recruiting Booth at community events.



And a special thank you to **Dan Gentry** for accepting the position of chairman of “Buddy” Poppy Day. This was Dan’s first year and he did excellent job coordinating dates and times with Kroger, and for organizing the volunteers.

Thank you also to all who volunteered on **“Buddy” Poppy Days** Saturday, May 24 & Sunday, May 25 at the Delhi Kroger. All donations help Veterans and their families in our local community.

Green Township Police Station Grand Opening



The **Grand Opening** of the new **Green Township Police Station** on Harrison Avenue was held on June 6, 2025.

Fr. Jim Meade blessed the new facility, all law enforcement officers, and all who work in the building.

St. Antoninus Festival Opening



St. Antoninus Church invited Post 10380 Color Guard to open the festival for the fourth year. Jack Taphorn, Bill Daniel, Dave Lahni, Mike Donnelly, Bob Abrams, Tom Schmitz salute as the National Anthem was sung.

The following is an excerpt from an article in the VFW Magazine on pending legislation supported by the VFW. To read the full statement with additional pending legislation, visit vfw.org/advocacy/legislative-priorities/congressional-testimony.

June 24, 2025

Statement of
Nancy Springer, Associate Director
National Legislative Service
Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States of America

For the Record
United States House of Representatives
Committee on Veterans' Affairs
Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs

With Respect to
Pending Legislation

Washington, D.C.

Chairman Luttrell, Ranking Member McGarvey, and members of the subcommittee, on behalf of the men and women of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States (VFW) and its Auxiliary, thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony regarding this pending legislation.

HR 3123 Ernest Peltz Accrued Veterans Benefits Act

The VFW supports this legislation to ensure survivors receive their Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) pension benefit for the entire month in which a veteran dies. Receiving the full month-of-death benefit payment would better equip survivors to manage the financial hardships that accompany a veteran's death. Rather than abruptly stopping these benefits mid-month, VA would maintain the accustomed income immediately following the veteran's death, providing grieving survivors the resource to settle urgent end-of-life expenses.

World War II veteran Ernest Peltz of Queensbury, New York, is the namesake of this bill. VA approved his accrued pension, which he wanted his survivors to use for his end-of-life care and funeral expenses. Due to its error, VA made the deposit seven days after his death (during the following month) and then immediately recouped it, depriving his family of these funds to manage the imminent expenses after his death. This legislation would prevent this situation by ensuring that survivors receive a final, full pension payment during the month of the veteran's death, regardless of the date on which the veteran dies.

H.R. 3833 Veterans' Caregiver Appeals Modernization Act of 2025

The VFW supports this legislation to improve the application and appeals processes for the VA Program of Comprehensive Assistance for Family Members. This program allows eligible veterans to elect in-home care from a caregiver to whom VA provides a monthly stipend. Unfortunately, unlike the Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA) that houses all pertinent documents for disability claims in a single electronic folder, the Veterans Health Administration (HVA) uses multiple electronic systems that are dissimilar to the Board of Veterans' Appeals (BVA) electronic records system. BVA is the entity that has final adjudication authority on caregiver program applications. This uncoordinated and disparate process causes information gaps among reviewers. This situation then leads to unnecessary remands, slowing the entire application process and ultimately delaying or depriving caregivers from receiving this vital benefit. Appealing a denied application is similarly arduous and can take years.

This legislation would compel VA to develop and implement a single electronic application system so that every VHA and VBA employee in the application review process could access and view all application documents, thereby closing information gaps. In the case of successful appeals, caregivers could qualify for past-due caregiver stipends in instances in which the veteran died during the pendency of the appeal. Last, this legislation would require VA to provide consistent guidance and training to VHA employees who adjudicate caregiver applications. Upon implementation, the provisions in this bill would streamline VA's caregiver application process, enabling timely and accurate application decisions.

<https://www.vfw.org/advocacy/national-legislative-service/congressional-testimony/2025/6/pending-legislation-dama>

Continued on page 11

Pending Legislation

H.R. 2055 Caring for Survivors Act of 2025

As stated in previous testimony, most recently before the Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs on March 11, 2025, the VFW strongly supports this legislation. We have advocated for this legislation for the past several years and support its swift passage.

The rate of Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (DIC) paid to survivors of service members who died in the line of duty or veterans who died from service-related causes has only minimally increased since the benefit's inception in 1993. Currently DIC pays 43 percent of the compensation of a 100 percent permanent and totally disabled beneficiary, while all other federal survivor programs pay 55 percent. We strongly support this provision to increase DIC to 55 percent on par with other federal programs.

Second, we support paying affected survivors the greater of this increased DIC or the amount of the older, rank-dependent compensation system in effect for deaths before 1993. This provision would equalize compensation across the rank structure, substantially increasing the compensation for the survivors of all enlisted personnel and nearly all officer decedents. Differentiating compensation based on rank unfairly disadvantages certain survivors.

Third, the VFW supports reducing the time requirement of service-connected total disability for veterans whose cause of death is unrelated to a service-connected disability. The current requirement is for the veteran to have had a service-connected total disability for at least ten years immediately preceding death. Reducing the requirement to five years would expand the number of eligible survivors and greatly assisting them in restarting employment and other facets of life after caring for their disabled veteran.

H.R. 3834, Protecting Veterans Claim Options Act

The VFW supports this legislation to require that the Board of Veterans' Appeals cannot deny the supplemental claim of a veteran solely on the basis that the appellant did not submit any new and relevant evidence. When VBA denies a claim, veterans may file one of three appeal options within one year of the denial. Currently, the supplemental claim option requires that veterans produce new and relevant evidence for VBA claims processors to review before a decision will be made, adding considerable time to the process. If VBA and BVA agree that the appellant added no new and relevant evidence, BVA will refuse to reconsider granting the veteran relief despite the appellant continuously pursuing the claim in a timely manner. This legislation would also elucidate that appellants may submit additional evidence to BVA in the event that the United States Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims remands their case back to BVA. This is something the VFW has been requesting in order to stop the endless remand and appeals cycle.

H.R. 3835, Veterans Appeals Efficiency Act of 2025

The VFW supports this legislation to expand BVA authority to streamline the veteran appeals process to improve efficiency, reduce the inherent backlog of appeals at BVA, and allow appellants to receive quicker decisions. Veterans wait on average more than two years for an appeal decision, with some veterans waiting significantly longer when hearings are requested. BVA cannot reduce or eliminate its current appeals inventory of roughly 200,000 cases to functional zero by operating at its current rate and staff level. With an average of 65,000 new claims received each year, faster and accurate decisions are not possible without streamlining BVA policies and procedures, and significantly increasing its staff size. Furthermore, there appears to be a lack of specific guidance on when a veteran's appeal is not only eligible to advance on the docket but also when it is likely to be decided, which leads to inconsistent appeal decisions.

This proposal would also allow for the aggregation of claims, so multiple claims could be decided all at once. Since current law is unclear on whether or not BVA has the authority to aggregate claims, it presently does not use this method to streamline them. Additionally, this proposal would certify class actions that include veterans still waiting for a BVA decision. Under current law, the United States Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims (the Court) is prohibited from certifying any class that includes veterans who have not yet received a BVA decision. This prevents class actions and excludes those veterans who could benefit from joining a class action. Plaintiffs in other federal courts can join class actions when they receive an initial unfavorable decision, but veterans who receive a VBA denial of their claim cannot. Thus, these veterans are denied the same access to class action options as other Americans.

Lastly, this legislation would codify the Court's authority to issue limited remands to BVA and require the Court to issue rules on how and when it would do so. In previous testimony, the VFW expressed that there has been a problem with too many unnecessary remands. In fiscal year 2024, the Court remanded 83 percent of appeals back to BVA because of legal errors in BVA-issued decisions. Limited remands are when the Court orders BVA to address specific issues on which it erred without requiring BVA to issue a new decision on the entire, perhaps lengthy, and multi-issue appeal. Limited remands increase efficiency by eliminating the need to review a second time those issues on which BVA did not previously err. Though the Court has the authority to issue limited remands, it does not have rules and procedures in place for when a veteran can request a limited remand and when the Court should issue one. As a result, such actions are rare.

Local Veteran Service Officers

Hamilton County Veterans Service Office
230 E. 9th Street (9th & Sycamore) Cinti. OH
Room 1100 (1st floor) 513.946.3300

To assist you in filing a claim, contact one of the following **Veterans Service Officers (VSO)** directly:

- ◆ Dave Currence, 812.537.8819 — Dearborn County Veteran Service Office (VSO) , 165 Mary Street Rm. 100, Lawrenceburg, IN 47025
- ◆ Christopher Smith, 513-946-3300 / christopher.smith@hamiltoncountyohio.gov— Hamilton County VSO
- ◆ Dorene Dillard—513.946.3300 / dorene.dillard@hamiltoncountyohio.gov— Hamilton County VSO
- ◆ Calvin Wooten, 513.946.3300 / calvin.wooten@hamiltoncountyohio.gov — Hamilton County Chief VSO
- ◆ James Massey, 513.946.3300 / james.massey@hamiltoncountyohio.gov— Transportation Manager & VSO
- ◆ Jim Gronefeld, 513.946.3300 / jim.gronefeld@hamiltoncountyohio.gov— Financial Assistance: Finance Manager

VA Contact Information

VA Benefits: 800.827.1000
 Beneficiaries in receipt of Pension Benefits: 877.294.6380
 Debt Management: 800.827.0648
 Education (GI Bill): 888.442.4551
 Health Care Benefits: 877.222.8387
 Status of Headstones/Markers: 800.697.6947
 Life Insurance: 800.669.8477
 Telecommunications Device for the Deaf (TDD): 800.829.4833
 Special Issues—Gulf War / Agent Orange / Project Shad / Mustard Agents and Lewisite / Ionizing Radiation: 800.749.8387

May & June Raffle Winners

Attendance: Fritz Blunt-donated back / Ray Zinsmeister
Split-the-Pot: Dan Gentry / Matt Buchert
\$100 Raffle: Roger Sand-donated back / Joe Zang
\$50 Raffle: Michael Kraft / Denise Donnelly



Flag Retirement Ceremony October 4, 2025



Tattered American flags can be dropped off at the Green Township Administration Building, 6303 Harrison Avenue for retirement.

Many thanks to our volunteers dedicated to honoring the time-honored proper retirement of our worn flags.

Welcome New Members

We extend a warm welcome to the following new members who transferred in or joined our Post in April and June 2025.

Earl Essert
Bernard Graman
Art Bonar
Art Frey
George Ross
Don Schonberg

We appreciate you choosing Post 10380 and hope you enjoy yourself. We welcome your suggestions and encourage you to become actively involved.

Please ask us for help if / when you need it.
 If you like us, invite a buddy; if you don't, please tell us why.

How Do I Join?

VFW Post 10380 always welcomes new members.
 Contact Matt Buchert 513.406.0001 for eligibility requirements.



2025 Calendar of Events

January	February 7 Harrison's Tomb 9 Four Chaplains Memorial Service at St. Boniface Church	March 22 Flag Retirement Ceremony Veterans Park
April 8 Honor Flight TriState 26 Cars & Courage Car Show — Diamond Oaks	May 21 Honor Flight TriState 24-25 Poppy Days 26 Memorial Day Parade in Cheviot 26 Post 10380 Memorial Day Ceremony	June 2 Memorial Day Golf Outing at Aston Oaks
July 3 Green Township July 4th Celebration at Kuliga Park	August 7 Purple Heart Day at Veterans Park 21 Grill-Out/Post Meeting 30 Green Township Kids Fest & Kite Fly at Veterans Park	September 4 Harvest Home Parade 4-7 Harvest Home Fair Recruiting Booth Honor Flight TriState Post 10380 Annual Raffle tickets available
October 4 Flag Retirement Ceremony Veterans Park	November 8-9 Poppy Days 11 Post 10380 Veterans Day Ceremony Community Veterans Day Ceremonies 30 Pearl Harbor Remembrance Ceremony—Anderson	December 5 Green Township Winterfest Reminder: Annual Dues

Monthly Meeting: 3rd Thursday, 6:30 p.m. dinner / 7:30 p.m. meeting
Location: Nathanael Greene Lodge, 6394 Wesselman Road, Cincinnati, OH 45247

Post 10380 Officers

Commander:
Mike Donnelly
Senior Vice-Commander
Dan Wilcox
Junior Vice-Commander
Ed Murphy
Quartermaster
Tom Schmitz
Adjutant
Charlie Wilke

Judge Advocate
Pete Rebold
Chaplain
Bob Abrams
Surgeon
Jim Jansen
Officer of the Day
Ron Kelly
Guard
Bill Soto
Membership
Matt Buchert

Service Officer
Trustee 1 Year
Steve Murray
Trustee 2 Year
Ryan Blankenship
Trustee 3 Year
Donnie Becker
Illness & Bereavement
Steve Murray
Poppy Chairman
Dan Gentry

Reminders

Illness & Bereavement

Comrades, if you or your spouse are admitted to a Cincinnati area hospital, please contact:



Steve Murray 513.520.2455

Funeral Service

If you would like our Post 10380 Honor Guard to conduct a VFW ceremony at a funeral service, please contact:



Mike Donnelly 513.675.4249

Newsletter

You can also view this in color on our website www.vfw10380.org

For additional information on services or programs, or to be added to or removed from this mailing, contact Mike Donnelly 513.675.4249 or email to vfwpost10380@gmail.com



Green Township Post 10380
Veterans of Foreign Wars



As the oldest branch of the U.S. Military, the Army protects the security of the United States and its resources.



The Marine Corps is often first on the ground in combat situations.



The Navy defends the right to travel and trade freely on the world's oceans and protects national interests overseas.



The U. S. Air Force protects American interests at home and abroad with a focus on air power.



The Space Force organizes, trains, and equips space forces in order to protect U.S. and allied interests in space and to provide space capabilities to the joint force.



The Coast Guard protects America's waterways and deploys with the Navy during wartime.



Comprised of the Army National Guard and Air National Guard, the National Guard is a versatile force, supporting combat missions, domestic emergencies, humanitarian efforts, homeland security operations, and more.