



Green Township Post 10380 Veterans of Foreign Wars November 2025



Welcome from Commander Mike Donnelly



Having just concluded our **Veterans Day Ceremony**, I want to offer my sincere appreciation to the Green Township Marketing Director Jennifer Barlow for contacting me with Administrator Frank Birkenhauer's invitation to hold the VFW ceremony inside the Township Administration Building. The cold and wind would have made it miserable for everyone. In the past, my canceling a Veterans Day ceremony resulted in negative feedback, so I am committed to NEVER canceling any ceremony due to the weather as long as we have the Township invitation to hold it inside. Thank you to all who attended, our Color Guard, Green Township Police Honor Guard, guest speaker Judge Christopher McDowell and his wife, Anna, vocalist Samuel Hillgrove, Echo Buglers Don Bill and Jeff King, the Oak Hills Bagpipers, honored guests, and Green Township staff. **Be sure to check out the Green Township Veterans Day 2025 YouTube video.**

We are happy to have welcomed **three new members to our Post**, as you will see on page 3. Thank you for choosing to join our Post and look forward to seeing you at the meetings.

Our **Honor/Color Guard** has been exceptionally busy this year, having performed sixty Military Funeral Honors, and twenty-three Color Guard and Missing Man Table events all over the tri-state. One of the highlights was our participation at a recent Bengals game! We were honored to fill in for the regular Army Color Guard during the government shutdown. Thank you to all Guard members for your time and commitment, and we encourage others to join. See page 10 for a small sample of our Guard's 2025 community involvement.

The Post's annual **Grill-Out** in August was a tremendous success, with over one-hundred members and guests—the largest crowd we have ever hosted! It was a wonderful evening and we appreciate everyone who attended. Many thanks to Bridgetown Finer Meats for the delicious food and service, to Cheryl Kelly for serving, and to Nancy and Seth for bartending. See pages 8 and 9 for photos.

The month of November always seems to be so busy I often catch myself coming and going! But it is the month we should all stop and think about the events and people for whom we are grateful—family, friends, co-workers and, in particular, our **Veterans**. They have shaped our lives and our country.

I give thanks for the Veterans who began this Post, in whose footsteps we follow. I also give thanks for the active military who continue the fight to keep us free and to their families.

But I am most thankful for my family, and our Post members who work tirelessly to continue to fulfill our VFW Mission and live our Core Values; and have fun doing it!

At the end of the day, I am thankful that my blessings are bigger than my problems.

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
December 18, 2025
*** January 7, 2026 (1st Wednesday)**
Nathanael Greene Lodge



Mark Your Calendar

Pearl Harbor Remembrance Ceremony

November 30, 2025

11:30 a.m.

The Anderson Ferry on River Rd

hosted by American Legion Post 534



*We honor this memory in hopes
that it
will never be repeated*

Green Township FAMILY WINTERFEST

**Friday, December 5, 2025
5 pm to 8 pm**

- *Live Reindeer
- *Photos with Santa
- *Train Display
- *Hot Chocolate
- *Cookies
- *Letters to Santa
- *Craft Projects
- *Free Admission
- *Roast Marshmallows
- *Caroling

NATHANIEL GREENE LODGE
6394 WESSELMAN ROAD

Sponsored by
Cincinnati
Children's

We will be collecting Red Cross Cans for 1 dollar to Cincinnati Children's

- FREE Shuttle Bus
- *Green Township Administration
6505 Harrison Avenue
*Former Twin Lanterns
660 Harrison Avenue
4-45 to 8:00

Green Township Elected Officials
Triffon Callos, Tony Rosiello, Tracy Winkler, Tom Straus

GREEN TOWNSHIP
2025-2026
Ohio

Wreaths Across America

December 13, 2025

12:00 noon

***Bridgetown Cemetery
4337 Bridgetown Road***



Join Post 10380 members in our **3rd Anniversary** of this ceremonial wreath-laying



Medicare Open Enrollment Period October 15 – December 7

is the time each year when you can make changes to your coverage. The changes you make during Open Enrollment are effective January 1, 2026 (the plan must get your enrollment request by December 7).

Just as your health care needs can change, so can Medicare plans. It's important to compare coverage options by visiting **Medicare.gov/plan-compare**.

For your safety information...

Official websites use **.gov** to indicate the website belongs to an official government organization in the United States.

Secure **.gov** websites use a **lock ()** or **https://** which means you've safely connected to the **.gov** website. Share sensitive information only on official, secure websites.

Community Involvement - Veterans Day November 11, 2025



Mike Donnelly Welcoming Remarks



Oak Hills High School Bagpipers



Green Township Police Honor Guard



National Anthem sung by Samuel Hillgrove



Judge Christopher McDowell
Guest Speaker



"In Flanders Field" read by Ed Murphy



Judge Christopher & Anna McDowell & Color Guard



Green Township Police, Fire, Administration

Welcome New Members

We extend a warm welcome to the following new members who transferred in or joined our Post July through October 2025.

Raymond Bass
Judge Chris McDowell
Dan Grote

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

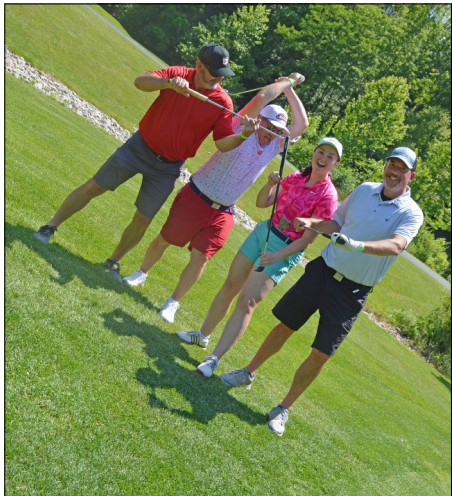
513.406.0001
for eligibility requirements.



Memorial Day Golf Outing June 2, 2025

VFW Post 10380's 29th Annual Memorial Day Golf Outing 2025 was another grand success!

The Fun Bunches



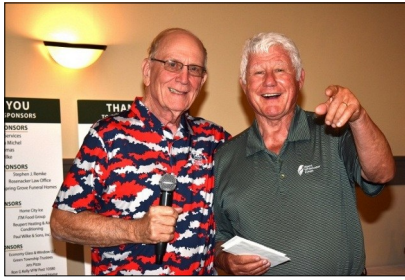
Course Volunteers



The Fun Bunches



Golf Outing Awards and Dinner



And the Winners Are....



Finally, proof of Chaplain Bob Abram's halo!



Thank You Aston Staff





Purple Heart Day August 7, 2025

The Order of the Purple Heart
Cincinnati Chapters 3620 & Chapter 156
commemorated

Purple Heart Day on August 7, 2025 at Green Township Veterans Park.

Opening the ceremony was VFW Post 10380 Color Guard with Posting of the Colors, followed by welcoming remarks by VFW Commander Mike Donnelly.



Samuel Hillgrove

The National Anthem was sung by Samuel Hillgrove followed by the Invocation offered by VFW Chaplain Bob Abrams.



**Members of the Purple Heart
Cincinnati Chapters 3620 & 156**



Honoring Veterans who gave their lives for our country and POW-MIAs was Mel Heis, Commander Purple Heart Chapter 156. 81,000 Americans are Missing in Action—1,822 are from Ohio. The Department of War will never stop looking for our MIAs, and we must always remember them.

Mel Heis, Commander

The Missing Man Table Ceremony, a 3-Round Volley and TAPS were conducted by Post 10380 Color Guard



**Color Guard
Members**

**Bill Daniel
Charlie Wilke
Ed Kramer
Dave Lahni
Jack Taphorn**



Kids Fun Day August 23, 2025

Green Township Kids Fun Day was held at Veterans Park on August 23, 2025.
Manning the Post 10380 Popcorn Stand were Bonnie Campbell, Norb Mause, John Haman and Ed Murphy.



Community Involvement

Summer / Fall Dance



Thanks to Bill and Bobbie Ostermeyer for creating a new annual social event for Post 10380. On July 20, 2024 Post members and wives put on their dancin' shoes for an evening of fun with lots of "I used to be able to do that dance"!

Everyone enjoyed snacks, some adult beverages and stories; and the stories maybe got a little embellished and funnier as the evening worn on! The dance was given a thumbs up by everyone to continue what Bill and Bobbie started for us to enjoy and build upon. SO....



Nancy

FAST FORWARD to 2025

Thank you to Jerry Dehner & Nancy Holthaus for filling Bill & Bobbie's "dancin' shoes" by organizing the Fall Dance on September 13, 2025.

We stepped back in time to the 50's complete with poodle skirts and Elvis, a photo booth, and music by DJ Jacob Dehner (Jerry's grandson aka Elvis Jr.)



Jerry



Nancy & Jerry



Audrey & Tim Burda



This happened when Jack Taphorn hid from the camera... the 1st time!

Thanks, Cheryl



aka Cheryl Kelly



Walter Oka Family



Carolyn Abrams, Bobbie Ostermeyer, Mary Sue Schmitz



Bill Soto, Ron Kelly



Post 10380 Grill Out August 21, 2025



Bill Soto & Ed Kramer work the registration table and sale of Split-the-Pot tickets

Mike Donnelly welcomed members and guests to the 2025 Grill Out meeting, and opened it with the Roll Call of Officers, a prayer offered by Chaplain Bob Abrams, and Pledge of Allegiance. Members then got down to the business of socializing and good food!



Thank you to our super-bartenders Nancy and Seth, and to Bridgetown Finer Meats for the delicious food!



Thank you to Bill Rocklin for enhancing this photo with a patriotic banner and the names of our great Veterans.



Floor L-R: John Lachtrupp, Jr., Earl Essert, Ryan Blankenship, Randy Marksberry, Jim Donnellon, Dan Wilcox

Seated L-R: John Kramer, Fritz Blunt, Ron Kelly, Norb Mause, John Thomas, Gino Servizzi, Jim Scheibling, Jerry Dehner, Walter Oka, Roger Sand, Donnie Becker

Standing L-R: Dave Lahni, Bill Soto, Rich Dickman, Earl Essert, Tom Schmitz, Terry Baker, Ed Murphy, John Schill, Jim Schneider, Dennis Espich, Art Frey, Bernie Graman, Mark Hockl, Ed Kramer, Dick Young, Bob Abrams, Bill Rocklin, Mike Donnelly, Jim Crane, McKinzie Baker, Lou Freese, Lou Terhar, Andrew Dubeber, Tim Burda, Frank Rosenacker, Don Schonberg, Paul Limpert, Joe Siebenburgen, Matt Buchert, Denny McDonough, Jack Buchwald, Bill Daniel, John Montag, Pete Rebold, John Hughes, Don Zinsmeister, Doug Sand, Jim Jansen, Tom Prather, Mel Heis, Larry Chuma, Jack Taphorn, Charlie Wilke, Joe Augustine

Community Involvement Color Guard



St. Antoninus Summer Festival Opening 6/6/25



Among the duties of the Post 10380 Color / Honor Guard, most importantly, is to provide military honors for deceased veterans, but also to live the mission of the VFW "to serve our veterans, the military, and our communities".

This is a small sample of additional ways our Color Guard lives the mission to serve our community in 2025.

Fallen Heroes Golf Outing 7/9/25



2025 Season LaSalle High School football games 8/22/25



Hamilton County Veterans Appreciation Day at Sawyer Point 8/23/25

Post 10380 Color Guard performed the **Missing Man Table Ceremony** during Veterans Day Programs at Hillebrand Nursing Home, LaSalle High School, Moeller High School, and Oak Hills High School. On Veterans Day they participated in a Flag Raising Ceremony at Mercy West Hospital and the annual Green Township Trustees and VFW Post 10380 Program at Veterans Park. Fortunately, it was moved indoors to the Administration Building due to the cold weather. Thank you Green Township Trustees for the warm accommodations!



Missing Man Table Ceremony at Oak Hills High School Veterans Day Program on November 3, 2025.

L-R: Jack Taphorn-Army, Dave Lahni-Coast Guard, Tom Schmitz-Air Force, Dick Young-Navy, Fred Averill-Marines

It was necessary to squeeze in lunch at **Blue Ash Chili** on November 7, 2025 between **Moeller High School Veterans Day Program** and providing **Military Honors** for a veteran's funeral at Rest Haven Cemetery.

Left bottom to top of table: Dick Young, Tom Schmitz, Charlie Wilke, Jack Taphorn, Mike Donnelly, Donnie Becker, Bob Abrams, Ed Kramer, Dave Lahni, Bill Daniel



And, occasionally, there are just special duties like the **Opening Ceremony at the Bengals game on November 2, 2025!**

Below: Of course, **Who Dey** (the mascot) and the **BenGALS** wanted a pic with the Color Guard!

Above: Many thanks to retired **Staff Sgt. Paul Brondhaver** (Purple Heart recipient) for being our Bengals game day point-of-contact and making it an awesome experience.



Above: and then it was GO-TIME!
L-R: Bob Abrams, Bill Daniel, John Kramer, Fred Averill, Dick Young, Tom Schmitz, Dave Lahni, Jack Taphorn, Charlie Wilke

Community Involvement Flag Retirement October 4, 2025





A flag retirement ceremony is a dignified tradition for disposing of worn-out American flags

Thanks to Jim and Barb Schiebling, Bill Daniel, Bill Soto, the Sea Cadets, and young helpers for another successful flag retirement.



Sea Cadet Mason Altman explained the process of properly retiring the American flag to two young helpers. He encouraged them to participate by helping them safely place their flags into the fire.



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

October Raffle Winners

Attendance: Dan Grote
Split-the-Pot: Ryan Blankenship
\$100 Raffle: Steve Remke
\$50 Raffle: Dan Grote



Teachers of the Year



EJ Engelkamp Oak Hills HS



Kristi Murphy Oak Hills HS

Hamilton County Veterans Service



Master Chief Petty Officer Glenn F. Welling Jr. (U.S. Navy-ret.) has been hired as the Executive Director of the Hamilton County

Veterans Services Commission (HCVSC). He has been at the helm, first as interim and then after he was hired by the Commission officially in September.

Director Welling brings decades of military and veteran-focused leadership to the role, including thirty-seven years of Navy service.

Prior to joining HCVSC, Glenn was the Director of the Veteran and Military Family Center at Xavier University. In that role, he led support for more than 390 military-affiliated students and managed external relations, fundraising, and strategic direction to strengthen the Center's long-term impact.

Post 10380 has had the pleasure of working with Glenn over the past several years in supporting the Xavier University Veteran and Military Family Center.



Glenn Welling, guest speaker at September 19, 2025 Post meeting, with Mike Donnelly and veteran who used the HCVSC transportation program that day.

We are
Thankful for
YOU!



Happy
Birthday
To all
November
Birthdays



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



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.



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.



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



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



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