Plover VFW Post Member “Trapper” John Schultz Elected As State Commander

Plover VFW member “Trapper” John Schultz was elected to the office of VFW State Commander at the annual VFW State Convention in Oshkosh on Saturday, June 17th. Following the election, he took the oath of office and was escorted to the podium by Wisconsin VFW State Honor Guard Colonel Steve Pepper. He was then installed into the VFW’s highest state office during a formal ceremony conducted by Past VFW State Commander Earl Banks.

Commander Schultz hails from Junction City and has been a Life Member of Plover VFW Post 10262 since 2005. He earned his VFW eligibility by serving a 25-month tour of duty in the Central Highlands of Vietnam and retired from the US Army with 28 years of Active Duty service.

Commander Schultz served as Plover VFW Post Commander for five consecutive terms. The Post earned “All-State Team White Hat Status,” a distinguished individual and Post award for exceeding the standard goals of service to the Post and community, all five years. The Post was also a National Outstanding Community Service Post for two of those years.

He also served three consecutive terms as 7th District Commander from 2012 through 2015, a position that represents the interests of 36 Posts within an 11-county area in Central Wisconsin.

Schultz said, “My commitment as VFW State Commander is to work tirelessly to do what is right and deserving for our Veterans, and in memory of a couple Comrades I served with and lost in Vietnam.”
Comrades and Sisters, another year has passed and our Post continues to be a leader! When it came to events that Members participated in and reported, we were #1! Because of that, our Post will receive a third National Community Service Award! Thank you to every single person that took the time to participate and report their activities. In addition, our newsletter received a 2nd place State Award for a large post - keep up the good work Debbie!

The Department Conference was held in June in Oshkosh and our own John Schultz is now the Department Commander. As a side note, I received a four-year appointment to the Committee that arranges all of the Department Conferences. I hope to get one scheduled for Stevens Point in the near future.

As you are well aware, the life blood of the VFW is membership, membership, membership! Any time you attend a meeting, the subject is always the top, or very close to the top, item on the agenda. Everything in the way of awards hinges on “making the numbers” and doing it by the 30th of June! Well, just at the finish line our Post hit 100.44%! As a result, we will receive the All-State “White Hat” Award for the second year in a row. The bad news is we have to keep the members we have and add more next year. Some might say that this falls under the category of “no good deed goes unpunished,” but while it might seem that way to some, it is simply a need to replenish and expand the “Life Blood” of our Order. Look at it this way, if you want something done, like passage of a Veteran-friendly law, the legislators that need to take action will be more inclined if your numbers are large. Every single member should always look to sign up at least one new member every year!

The Department awarded the “Legislator of the Year Award” to our own 71st Assembly Representative Katrina Shankland for her support of many Veteran issues during the past year. In fact, the roundtable we held at our Post resulted in two actions that she took on our behalf. Multiple Posts have held these non-partisan roundtables and generated more than one Veteran-friendly program. The Department Commander would like to schedule another one at our Post sometime during this next legislative session.

We have two projects coming up that will make our Post a better place; the renovation of the bar area and the expansion of the kitchen. At the next meeting, the House Committee will be making an in-depth presentation on both of these projects, so be ready to ask questions and “toss in your two cents!”

Finally, I want to thank the Membership for electing me to another term as your Commander! I am honored to serve one more year. This will be my 5th year wearing a Commander’s Hat (two years at Post 2778, one year at District 8, and two years here) and after this year I will collect my Past Commander’s pin and retire from anything but a little committee work. Relatively speaking, I am somewhat of a “novitiate” when it comes to wearing a Commander’s Hat. I know a Member in the Department who wore one for 20 consecutive years!

Enjoy the rest of the summer!

Joe Cahill - Commander
Good Afternoon Brother and Sister Auxiliary Members! It is wonderful to come together as a unified membership.

A little report on our membership: we are 100% for the current year. Excellent, as our membership number is now 144. I thank you all for making sure that your dues are paid and thank you for all the members that are now Life. If you would like to go to Life membership, please contact your Auxiliary to find out the amount you need to pay. This is by far and large the best way to go. You will still receive all the newsletters and other communications.

With the conversion at National to the new, computerized MALTA membership system, most Life members should have received a new membership card in the mail. Please look this over carefully. It no longer states “ladies” in the Auxiliary. Everything with the word “ladies” is being phased out. Annual members will also receive a new card soon. Your old cards will no longer be valid.

The month of June, we attended the King birthday party with a good group of members and provided cupcakes and door prizes. The residents were most appreciative.

We joined the Post Rifle Squad at the 4th of July parade in Stevens Point. We handed out candy and both the USA flag and the MIA/POW flag. This was very well received; then had a luncheon at the Post afterwards. Very good attendance was had at both events.

As well as presenting a Vietnam reunion, we had for the first time, a SANDBOX reunion for the Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans on July 8th. The event included music and games and the overall attendance was excellent.

These are just a few things happening at the Post and Auxiliary. I encourage you to come in and visit with your fellow members. And I also encourage you to come down to your Auxiliary meeting on the second Monday of each month. The meeting starts at 7:00 p.m. with a luncheon served beforehand around 6:00 p.m. There is a basket for donations to help pay for this. We have a great group of members that attend regularly. I hope you will consider joining us. Have a great summer.

Yours in fellowship,

Diane Lutovsky - President

Vietnam Veterans Day Celebration

For the fourth consecutive year, Plover VFW hosted a Vietnam Veterans Day celebration at the Post on April 1st to recognize and honor Vietnam Veterans. Post Member Norb Strasser served as the featured speaker. The event drew more than 200 attendees from local and outlying communities. Plans are in the works for another event in spring of 2018.
Meaning Of The 13 Folds Of The Flag

The first fold of our flag is a symbol of life.
The second fold is a symbol of our belief in eternal life.
The third fold is made in honor and remembrance of the veteran departing our ranks, and who gave a portion of his or her life for the defense of our country to attain peace throughout the world.
The fourth fold represents our weaker nature; as American citizens trusting in God, it is to Him we turn in times of peace, as well as in times of war, for His divine guidance.
The fifth fold is a tribute to our country, for in the words of Stephen Decatur, “Our country, in dealing with other countries, may she always be right, but is still our country right, or wrong.”
The sixth fold is for where our hearts lie. It is with our heart that we 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.
The seventh fold is a tribute to our armed forces, for it is through the armed forces that we protect our country and our flag against all enemies, whether they be found within or without the boundaries of our republic.
The eighth fold is a tribute to the one who entered into the valley of the shadow of death, that we might see the light of day, and to honor our mother, for whom it flies on Mother’s Day.
The ninth fold is a tribute to womanhood, for it has been through their faith, love, loyalty and devotion that the character of the men and women who have made this country great have been molded.
The tenth fold is a tribute to father, for he, too, has given his sons and daughters for the defense of our country since he or she was first born.
The eleventh fold, in the eyes of Hebrew citizens, represents the lower portion of the seal of King David and King Solomon and glorifies, in their eyes, the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.
The twelfth fold, in the eyes of a Christian citizen, represents an emblem of eternity and glorifies, in their eyes, God the Father, the Son and Holy Ghost.

When the flag is completely folded, the stars are uppermost, reminding us of our national motto, “In God We Trust.” After the flag is completely folded and tucked in (considered the thirteenth fold by some), it has the appearance of a cocked hat, ever reminding us of the soldiers who served under Gen. George Washington and the sailors and Marines who served under Capt. John Paul Jones and were followed by their comrades and shipmates in the U.S. Armed Forces, preserving for us the rights, privileges and freedoms we enjoy today.

(Information taken from https://www.legion.org/flag/folding)
Rifle Squad Notes and News

Summer Greetings To All!
Your Rifle Squad continues staying very active and busy. It is a true honor each and every time we perform our duties for a fallen Veteran. It is pure pleasure when we take part in community events. Increasing requests come in from schools, scouting organizations, assisted living facilities, businesses, and recently, a garden show. We meet those requests in addition to our yearly ceremonies and activities for Memorial Day, Korean War Memorial, Flag Day, July 4th Parade, Celebrate Plover, King Day, Airborne Memorial, Veterans Day, Steak Feed, and monthly breakfasts. Obviously, this takes a lot of time and dedication and “want to.” Please thank all the members for their never-ending support.

Oh, and if you didn’t attend the Stevens Point July 4th Parade, you missed a great event with a nice lunch at the Post afterwards. The Rifle Squad led our entry, followed by our flag float with Auxiliary members marching and handing out American and POW/MIA flags, and then a red 1958 Willys CJ5 Jeep with three of our members riding. It was a group effort and a great job by all!

Please join us at an event – especially the Steak Feed on August 12th. Tickets are available at the Post (more info elsewhere in this newsletter).

Guy Mockler – Rifle Squad Commander

Quartermaster’s Two-Cents-Worth

Summer is well upon us and a lot has been going on at the Post. Garage cleanup took place on June 17th, and the fence line was also cleared of weeds and low-hanging and fallen limbs. Boy Scouts and Eagle Scouts took up the task of cleaning and repainting the tank, cleaning and painting the wooden front fence and redoing the flower box. What an improvement! Everything looks great! We can still use more volunteers to sign up for the lawn mowing.

We had a nice turnout at the “SANDBOX Celebration” on July 8th. I think we can expect this first-time event to be continued in future years. Thanks to all who planned, helped with, and contributed in any way to make it successful. We have more events coming up and we always welcome volunteers to help with any of those, as well.

Jim Cline - Quartermaster
REGULAR EVENTS

Rifle Squad Breakfast – every third Sunday of the month from September through April
Friday Night Fish Fry – every Friday night from September through May

TAPS
None

WELCOME TO OUR NEW MEMBERS

Anthony Carpenter, Peter Congdon, Teddy Gustke, John Eickendorf, Tegan Griffith, Matthew Montag, William Pieczynski, James Slagle

BIRTHDAYS

May
Chan Copas (2nd), William Jenkins (2nd), Marie Christianson-Aux (5th), Thomas Doan (7th), Gary Matthees (7th), Frederic Fleishauer (8th), Eugene Fosmire (14th), Mike Hartman (15th), Larry Kinyon (15th), Sally Michelkamp (15th), Norbert Pudroski (15th), Robert Decker (21st), Timothy Victor (23rd)

June
John Schultz (1st), Leonard Norton (4th), Larry Cason (6th), Michael Worzalla (9th), Bernerd Yelkin (9th), James Sapp (10th), Toni Swinderman-Aux. (10th), Sue Diehn-Aux. (11th), Berniece Ward (13th), Donald Wiernik (13th), Gerald Buza (15th), Wayne Schneider (15th), Guy Mockler (16th), Alex Kieliszewski (20th), Alvino Sayas (22nd), Perry Engel (23rd), David Hoefs (26th), Victor Maslakow (26th), William McGregor (26th), Gail Mockler-Aux. (27th), Don Mugridge (30th)

July
Brian Leaky (2nd), Robert Oberst (2nd), Marci Ledlow (9th), Dennis Lepper (10th), John Herek (12th), Roland Unertl (12th), Peter Cyhosz (17th), Will Lehner (19th), Michael Wolf (19th), Barbara Stillman-Aux. (25th), Thomas Ehr (27th), Sandi Kowalski-Aux (28th), Jeremy Larsen (31st), Glenn Aavang (31st)

August
Ann Eggleston-Aux (2nd), Norb Strasser (5th), Philip Casale (7th), Donald Rasmussen (8th), Robert Zimbauer (9th), David Skrzeczkoski (12th), Everest Woyak (14th), James Douglas (17th), John Ranschaert (18th), Sue Wierzba-Aux (20th), Casey Schoettmer (23rd), Andrew Suchon (24th), Theresa Oxley-Aux (25th), Kevin Flatoff (30th)

ANNIVERSARIES

May
Robert and Mary Carlson (1st), Bruce and Janice Djupstrom (1st), Ronald and Rose Sankey (1st), Ray and Sue Gauthier (20th), Ronald and Kay Stoflet (25th), Allyn and Roberta Dunlap (26th), Jim and Sue Sachs (26th), Perry and Sherry Engel (29th), Dave and Sue Skrzeczkoski (29th)

June
Leslie and Irene De Meyer (1st), William and Jan Doxrude (1st), Ronald and Carol Garski (1st), Rick and Mary Ann Stevens (1st), Burr and Theresa Oxley (4th),

July
Jerome and JoAnn Krueger (1st), Dennis and Irene Lepper (1st), Donald and Leona Wiernik (7th), Michael and Doreen Worzalla (12th), Robert and Suzanne Wierzba (13th), Mike and Beverly Butcher (20th), Mark and Joyce Turkiewicz (21st), Lee and Julie Zebro (22nd)

August
Kenneth and Virginia Glazer (2nd), William and Mary Boston (4th), Larry and Suzanne Kinyon (8th), John and Lillian Herek (24th)
SPECIAL EVENTS

July 29 – Celebrate Plover at Lake Pacawa Park with VFW Booth

August 12 – Plover VFW Rifle Squad Steak Feed Fundraiser Dinner

August 13 – Cruisin’ Thru the Years Truck and Car Show – Pfiffner Park – 8:00-3:30 p.m. - proceeds to benefit Plover VFW Post 10262

August 20 – VFW King Day and Parade at King Veterans Home

August 26 – Plover VFW Poppy Day

September 9 – VFW Mike Helgert Memorial Golf Outing Fundraiser

October 29 – VFW 7th District Meeting at Eagles Club in Marshfield

DATES TO REMEMBER


August 7 - Vietnam War Began (1964); Purple Heart Medal Estab. (1782)

August 14 - Japan Surrendered, Ending WWII (1945)

September 4 – Labor Day    September 15 – POW/MIA Recognition Day

“Those Who Fought Together – Belong Together”
Greater Plover Area
VFW Post 10262

Rifle Squad Proudly Presents
The Annual Steak Feed
Saturday, August 12th

Tickets only $18.00 each
Serving 3:30 - 7:30 p.m.

Menu includes:
12 oz Rib Eye Steak*
(Individually charcoal cooked and seasoned
to your liking by our “Trained Chefs”)
    Fresh Corn on the Cob
    Baked Wisconsin Potato
    Fresh Garden Salad
    Milk or Coffee
    * with optional mushrooms & onions

Tickets available at:
VFW Post 10262
2970 Hickory Drive, Plover

Thanks for your support.