

**Commander:** Chris Leighter  
**Sr. Vice Commander:** Tom Bizzarri  
**Jr. Vice Commander:** John Hilgert  
**Quartermaster/Adjutant:** Dr. Steven Youngberg  
**Chaplain:** Ann Thieman  
**Service officer:** Bob Burns  
**Surgeon:** Dr. Greg O'Leary  
**Judge Advocate:** Dan Dawson  
**Three year trustee:** Lloyd Coates  
**Two year trustee:** John Liebsack  
**One year trustee:** Bob Burns



## Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States

Bill Montoya Post 1581, Omaha, Nebraska

Newsletter

August 2012

**Next regular meeting:** The next regular meeting will be September 5, 2012 - 7 PM, at Phoenix Food and Spirits-12015 Blondo, Omaha NE (120<sup>th</sup> and Blondo), private meeting room.

**Future meetings: First Wednesday of every month. 7 PM,** at Phoenix Food and Spirits-12015 Blondo, Omaha NE (120<sup>th</sup> and Blondo) private room. Mark your calendars, "plan to attend".

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**We have a new Post 1581 web site. Go to the following link:** <http://vfwpost1581.org/ne/>

- **Update your email address for our records by signing up for our VFW Post 1581 newsletter on the upper right side of the web site home page. You can create an account to change or update personal membership information (address, email, etc.) on the home page of the new Post 1581 web site (to the right of the commander's picture).** See new web site calendar for all events.

### Future Events

We have plans for future events for 2011/2012 FY. **If you can assist with upcoming projects or committees** contact Commander, Chris Leighter 712-308-3184.

- Committees:
  - Membership, Voice of Democracy, Patriots Pen, Boys Town, Awards Banquet, Buddy Poppy events, Boy Scouts, Partnership with military unit, Law Enforcement of the year, Emergency Medical Technician of the year, Firefighter of the year, Voice of Democracy, Patriots Pen, Women's Veterans Fair, Veterans Legislative action, Boys Town and other projects.
- **Membership:** When you receive your annual membership dues notice for 2012/2013, please remit your dues right away. We are attempting to hold 100% membership from last year. Approximately one half of our post members are **life members**. Why not consider turning your **annual membership into a life membership** so that you do not need to renew your membership every year. As a life member, your membership continues on. **Life membership has a one-time pay or a monthly payment plan over 12 months.** We have a program of legacy life membership (Gold, Silver or Bronze) which is a step above a life member. If you or someone you know wishes to continue their VFW membership but are having a difficult time financially, Post 1581 has a program to help financially with the annual membership. Contact John Liebsack 402-210-5198.

- **All of our events and Post 1581 veteran's information are on the new Post 1581 web site.** To easily find an event, use the calendar and place cursor on event or click on the event for further information.
- We are working on the 2012 / 2013, **Voice and Democracy and Patriots Pen** programs with students. The themes for this next year are: Voice of Democracy – Is Our Constitution Still Relevant? And Patriot's Pen - What I Would Tell America's Founding Fathers. All entries need to be into VFW Post 1581 by November 1, 2012. If you would like to help with these programs and working with students, contact Ann Thieman 402-639-5075.
- Our post is looking for members that would like to be active in our **Veteran's legislative action committee**. You would be active with Veteran's bills in the Nebraska legislature. Contact John Liebsack 402-210-5198.
- **Military Sexual Trauma:** Ann Thieman member of VFW Post 1581 has first-hand experience with military sexual trauma and has provided an interview with the VA. You can access this article in the VA Link magazine, April 2012, page 9 and page 13. Paste this link into your computer browser to see the article <http://www.nebraska.va.gov/TheLink/2012/04AprilTheLink2012.pdf>
- **JROTC/SROTC:** We are working with Boys Town in regards to their JROTC program. We are also working with Creighton University in regards to their SROTC. Contact Post 1581 Quartermaster, Dr. Steven Youngberg if you are interested in helping 402-715-4469.
- **Teacher of the year:** We are looking for a teacher of the year promoting citizenship education. If you know of a candidate contact Ann Thieman 402-639-5075. Entries due by November 1, 2012.

#### **Past Events**

- District 10 meeting 7-29-12 was held at post 247.
- VFW National convention July 21-25, 2012 in Reno, NV.

**Email:** [vfwpost1581@cox.net](mailto:vfwpost1581@cox.net)

**Web site:** <http://vfwpost1581.org/ne/>

Our current members have signed up several new VFW members to our post. If you have a potential VFW candidate, please contact – John Liebsack 402-210-5198 for further steps in the process.

#### **Ordering VFW items**

If you need a VFW military style hat, use this link: <http://www.vfwstore.org/detail.aspx?ID=25525>

The general VFW online catalog, use this link: <http://www.vfwstore.org/>

You can call the VFW Store at 1-800-821-2606 (you can order a catalog)

We need your ideas and participation, please plan to attend upcoming monthly meetings.

If you are able to participate in VFW post 1581 events or projects contact Chris Leighter, Commander 712-308-3184 or email [vfwpost1581@cox.net](mailto:vfwpost1581@cox.net).

**VFW Bill Montoya Post 1581**

*Chris Leighter* **Commander**