



Highland Park Veterans of Foreign Wars Memorial Post 4737 NewsGram

P.O. Box 47, Highland Park, Illinois 60035
Meetings at Wooden Nickel, 444 Lakeview Ave., Highwood IL
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December 2018
Happy Holidays To All

*****POST VOD/PAT PEN AWARDS CEREMONY AT HP POLICE HQ ON DEC 13***
BEFORE POST MEETING AT WOODEN NICKEL**

A brief ceremony awarding prizes and recognizing this year's winners of our Post's Voice of Democracy (for high schoolers) and Patriot's Pen (for middle schoolers) essay contests will take place before our monthly Post meeting at our old meeting location at **6:00pm, Thurs, December 13, 2018 at the HP Police Dept's Training Room, 1677 Old Deerfield Road.**

After the ceremony, we will scoot over to the Wooden Nickel for our regular meeting.

Parents, other family and friends of the winners and school personnel will attend. As many Post members as possible should attend to show our support for the effort put in by the contestants.

POST WILL MEET: On Thurs, Dec 13, 2018, 7:00pm at the Wooden Nickel, 444 Lakeview Ave, Highwood, IL. Future mtgs: Jan 10, Feb 14, Mar 14 and all second Thursdays of the month, unless otherwise notified. The Post will provide after-meeting fare from the Wooden Nickel menu.

*****A rehab/redecorating project is underway to convert our meeting space at the Wooden Nickel into a more suitable venue. Attend the meeting and check on the progress.*****

FORT SHERIDAN CEMETERY WREATH LAYING: Our Post has contributed to this year's wreath laying at Fort Sheridan Cemetery on **Saturday, Dec 15, 11:00am-Noon.** The program is run by Fallen Hero Wreaths and Planters @ <https://www.fallenherowreaths.com>. Other community groups participate. Mark your calendar and attend to honor those who have given so much.

POST HOSPITAL NITE CANCELLED FOR DECEMBER: Our next scheduled Bingo Hospital Nite at Lovell falls on Christmas Eve, so the event will be cancelled this month.

BE CAUTIOUS WITH YOUR CHARITABLE GIVING THIS HOLIDAY SEASON: Sadly, charities pretending to support veterans and the military are probably the worst of any category for taking your money and wasting most of it in-house for overhead or just plain theft. CharityWatch, which rates national charities, just issued its winter 2018-19 edition, and following is a sample of **some of the best and worst** with the letter grade: Bob Woodruff Family Foundation (A); Fisher House Foundation (A+); Gary Sinise Foundation (A); Homes for Our Troops (A); Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society (A); Wounded Warriors Family Support (A); Center for American Homeless Veterans (F); Disabled Veterans Natl Foundation (F); For the Troops (F); Military Order of the Purple Heart Service Foundation (F); Troops Direct (F); Vietnam Veterans of America (F).

There are 54 national charities listed in CharityWatch's Veterans & Military category, and 20 receive a D or F grade. That's over one-third which are garbage.

The 'Gram's advise is do not donate to any charity that calls your home. Be wary of charity's whose name resembles another, probably more reputable, charity. Thoroughly investigate any charity you donate to, even if it's a dollar. And remember, there are a lot of great local organizations, which often are easier to research.

ONLINE VA MED APPTS EXPANDING TO WALMART, VFW AND AL POSTS: In coming months, when veterans are trying to decide whether to go to a Veterans Affairs hospital or a private doctor for their check-up, they may opt for a trip to Walmart instead.

VA officials on Dec 6 announced a series of new telehealth partnerships designed to dramatically expand their current remote care offerings, to include online exam rooms in Walmarts and American Legion and Veterans of Foreign War posts centered in rural areas across the country.

The way this works is that the VA sets up a high-tech exam room with a physician connected via internet. Details are sketchy, and the 'Gram presumes a med tech is present. This may be the future for many of us with private insurance.



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...INCLUDES NEWS OF
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MEETINGS AT WOODEN NICKEL IN HIGHWOOD



IN MEMORIAM: We are saddened to report the recent passing of Anthony Loizzo on October 12, 2018. Comrade Loizzo joined our Post in 1953. He served in the Korean War with the US Army's 51st CID in Seoul, which research indicates was a Military Police unit. He served overseas from July 5, 1951 until his return on January 18, 1953. When he retired, he was Vice President of Menoni & Mocogni Building and Landscaping Materials & Ready Mix of Highland Park and Corporate Secretary of Dealers Ready Mix of Highland Park.

Our Sympathies go out to the family and friends of the departed

UPCOMING COMMEMORATIVE DATES: December 7 (Pearl Harbor Day, since 1941.); December 31 (End of WWII declared officially by the President, 1946.). Remember to display the flag.

WHAT ELSE HAPPENED ON DECEMBER 7?: Though Dec 7 is remembered for the Japanese aerial attack on Pearl Harbor in 1941, a review of history shows it is notable for other events in other years. **In 1945**, The microwave oven was patented, after a researcher at Raytheon Corp. accidentally discovered that microwaves would also heat food during development of a radar machine using microwave radiation. **In 1962**, Great Britain performed an atomic bomb test at the Nevada Test Site, 65 miles northwest of Las Vegas. This was one several British atomic bomb tests in the US during 1962-3. **In 1965**, in a memorandum to President Lyndon B. Johnson, Secretary of Defense Robert McNamara states that U.S. troop strength must be substantially augmented "if we are to avoid being defeated there." **In 1972**, America's last moon mission to date was launched as Apollo 17 which blasted off from Cape Canaveral at 12:33 a.m., and landed on the moon December 11 at 3:15 p.m. **In 2009**, Afghan President Karzai said it may be five years before his army is ready to take on the insurgents. Karzai also said that Afghanistan's security forces will need U.S. support for another 15 to 20 years.

QUOTES TO REMEMBER: With several newly elected members of Congress advocating socialism, some quotes on the subject are in order: "The inherent vice of capitalism is the unequal sharing of blessings; the inherent virtue of socialism is the equal sharing of miseries." *Winston Churchill*; "The function of socialism is to raise suffering to a higher level." *Norman Mailer*; "The problem with socialism is that you eventually run out of other peoples' money." *Margaret Thatcher*.



HO TAI PUP TENT NO. 67 - A brief resume of "Louse-y" News

SCRATCH, SCRATCH: Jan 3, Feb 7 and all subsequent Scratches (first Thurs unless otherwise notified) will be held at 6:59 1/2 PM, at the Highland Park Police Dept. Training Room, 1677 Old Deerfield Road, Highland Park, IL.

COOTIE HOSPITAL NIGHTS: Capt. James Lovell Fed Health Care Ctr, Bldg. 134, Bingo and Ward visits, 6:30 PM. Coming dates are Dec 20, Jan 17 and all third Thurs, unless otherwise notified.

"KEEP 'EM SMILING IN BEDS OF WHITE"

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