



# Highland Park Veterans of Foreign Wars Memorial Post 4737 NewsGram



P.O. Box 47, Highland Park, Illinois 60035  
Meetings at HP Police Dept., 1677 Old Deerfield Rd., Deerfield IL  
Box 47 Highland Park, Illinois 60035  
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March 2018

*Honor the Dead by Serving the Living*

## MARCH 8 AND APRIL 12, 2018 POST MEETINGS AT WOODEN NICKEL, 444 LAKEVIEW AVE., HIGHWOOD, IL AT 7:00PM

The meeting place was changed for these two meetings because our usual meeting place is being used for early voting on Mar 8, and we had previously voted to move the Apr 12 meeting to try something different to improve meeting attendance. The Post will provide post-meeting food and refreshments.

Who knows? This may become a frequent meeting place. Please attend meetings if you want your input to count. **NOMINATIONS AT MARCH 8 MTG:** Per the VFW Manual of Procedure (MOP) Sec. 217, Post Officers shall be elected in April with nominations opening in March. Positions requiring election are: Commander, Senior Vice Commander, Junior Vice Commander, Quartermaster, Chaplain and one Trustee. No member may hold two elected positions. See, Sec. 215, VFW By-Laws.

We encourage our new members to consider elected office or seek the appointed offices of Adjutant, Judge Advocate or Surgeon. The nomination and election processes are set forth at VFW Manual of Procedure (MOP) 217, and the duties of the elected/appointed officers are set forth at VFW Manual of Procedure (MOP) Sec. 218.

Remember: If you're shy about asking someone to nominate you, you can nominate yourself. Nominees may accept a nomination in person at a meeting or by submitting a written acceptance.

**NEED A "HERO AMONG US" FOR MEMORIAL DAY 2018:** Post 4737 is scheduled to present a Highland Park Post member as a Hero Among Us at the Highland Park ceremony on May 28. Nominations needed.

**\*\*\*MUST BE A HIGHLAND PARK RESIDENT\*\*\***

**POST HOSPITAL NITE:** Our next Post Bingo Nite is on **Mar 26 at 6:30 PM** and on most following fourth Mondays at Bourke Hall, Bldg. #4, Capt. J. Lovell Federal Health Care Center. At last month's Hospital Nite, our Post volunteers (Bill Gansberg, Pete Quilici and Steve Skoropad) distributed over \$300.00 in cash prizes and \$95.00 of pastries and fruit to nourish our players.

## STATE INACTION SICKENS ANOTHER VET AT QUINCY HOME

Legionnaires Disease has killed 13 people at the Quincy IL veterans' home operated by our fiscally irresponsible and insolvent state government. And despite the state spending \$6 million to upgrade Quincy's water system, this fall three more residents tested positive for legionellosis, including one who died.

According to the Feb 21, 2018 Chicago Tribune, "the Illinois Dept of Public Health on Tuesday announced a fourth case of Legionnaires' disease in recent weeks at the state-run veterans' home in Quincy, a notice that came just hours after Senate Democrats held the latest in a series of hearings about the outbreaks. The latest patient is in stable condition, according to the agency."

The NewsGram suggests that the next time a well-meaning IL citizen offers you that sincere "Thank you for your service," you should respectfully reply with "And thank you for Legionnaire's disease." Then ask which self-interested, corrupt, pension hungry career politicians they voted for in the March primary.

**QUOTES TO REMEMBER:** "The nation which forgets its defenders will itself be forgotten." *Calvin Coolidge, as part of his acceptance speech for the Republican vice-presidential nomination on July 27, 1920.*

**POST 4737 SUPPORTS LOVELL LEGENDS WHELLCHAIR TEAM:** Our Post donated enough to support one team member of the Lovell Legends Wheelchair Team at this year's 38th National Wheelchair Games, which will be hosted by the Orlando, FL VA Health Care System along with the Paralyzed Veterans of America in Orlando, FL, July 30 - Aug 4, 2018.



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

**SCRATCH, SCRATCH:** Apr 5, May 3, June 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 Mar 15, Apr 19, May 17 and all third Thurs, unless otherwise notified.

**"KEEP 'EM SMILING IN BEDS OF WHITE"**

**UPCOMING COMMEMORATIVE DATES:** Mar 29 (Start of Kosovo Campaign in 1999); Mar 31 (End of Operation Restore Hope-Somalia-1995); May 1 (Loyalty Day); May 8 (VE Day: German unconditional surrender signed 1945); May 28 (Memorial Day); June 6 (D Day: Allied invasion of Europe, 1944). Remember to display the flag.

**POST NAME CHANGE UPDATE:** Although a consensus sufficient to warrant a vote has not been reached, meeting attendees seem to favor "Highland Park-Highwood Post No. 4737, Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U. S." This would be the official name on the corporate charter. No frills.



VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS  
OF THE UNITED STATES  
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HIGHLAND PARK, ILLINOIS 60035

...INCLUDES NEWS OF  
HO TAI P.T. #67 MOC



## **WELCOME TO HIGHWOOD POST COMRADES**

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### **BACK STABBING AT VA??**

According to the Feb 28, 2018 USA Today, one of the top deputies to VA Secretary David Shulkin has actively lobbied Capitol Hill to demand his boss's resignation, according to two people with knowledge of the effort. John Ullyot, the VA's assistant secretary for public affairs, asked a senior aide at the House Committee on Veterans Affairs to persuade lawmakers to call the White House and say they wanted Shulkin out, said both individuals, who spoke on condition of anonymity because of the sensitive nature of the situation.

Ullyot denies it happened. But the two sources said he made the request in a call initiated by VA Press Secretary Curt Cashour on Feb. 15, the day after the release of an inspector general's report that concluded Shulkin had misused taxpayer dollars during a European trip last year.

Cashour and Ullyot provided a joint statement acknowledging they made the call but denying they sought help to push Shulkin out. Cashour previously worked as press secretary for the House veterans' committee from 2013 until January this year. He became VA press secretary in June. Ullyot worked on Trump's campaign and his transition team before becoming assistant VA secretary for public and intergovernmental affairs in April.

A power struggle between a group of political appointees and Shulkin and his longtime aides at the agency has divided the top ranks of the VA for months. But it spilled into public view following the release of the investigation report, when Shulkin told reporters the political appointees were undermining him.

**Editor's Comment:** The VA is second only to the Dept of Defense in size. The VA employs over 377,000 people at over 1700 VA sites including medical facilities, clinics, benefits offices, and cemeteries. It probably is the largest employer of public sector union employees in the nation. And the pay and retirement benefits offered by the VA may be second only to public sector employment in corrupt states like Illinois. Anyone with the courage and audacity to try and modernize the VA into a cost-effective, high quality service provider runs into a gauntlet of union bosses, contractors and lobbyists servicing this antiquated behemoth and their patsies in Congress, all of whom have a vested interest in the status quo. Go ask prior VA Secretaries Shinseki and McDonald, who valiantly sought change.

Expect more of this stuff as President Trump seeks to fulfill his campaign promises to veterans, especially if the new Secretary blunders with more rookie moves and gives the enemies of veterans a shot at him.

#### **UPCOMING LOCAL ACTIVITY CALENDAR:**

**All first Thursdays** of the month: Ho Tai Pup Tent No. 67 Scratch.

**All second Thursdays** of the month: Post 4737 meeting.

**All third Wednesdays** of the month (except July and August): Meeting of Lake County Veterans Assistance Commission at Forest City Community Center, 2001 Virginia Avenue, Great Lakes, IL 60088.

**All third Thursdays** of the month: Ho Tai Pup Tent No. 67 Hospital Nite.

**All fourth Mondays** of the month (except June, July, August and holidays): Post Bingo Nite at Lovell FHCC.

**March 3-7-**Washington, DC trip for Department VOD winners and announcement of national winners.

**March 8-**Nomination of officers at Post meeting.

**April 12-**Election of Post Officers.

**April 21-**5th District Spring Frolic at Fox River Post 4600, McHenry, IL.

**May 19-**5th District Meeting at Fox River Post 4600, McHenry, IL.

**(Further info on events available on VFW Natl/Dept websites, gen internet search or contact QM Quilici)**

**CONTACT THE NEWSGRAM WITH NEWS/COMMENTS THROUGH:** Editor and QM Peter A. Quilici, 7501 Kostner Ave., Skokie, IL 60076/ Phone: (847) 997-7662 (cell) or (847) 763-1793 (home hard line) / E-mail: pquilici@ameritech.net. **Please feel free to submit for publication news of interest to veterans.**