

The Silver Star



Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 5061

April 2023



Commander's Corner

Happy Spring! The District 1 Potato Bake made it's post-COVID debut on March 25th after two years of being a virtual fundraiser. The count is 174 people and over \$3300 raised for the Colorado Veterans Service Office, VFW Youth Scholarship Program (Patriots Pen and Voice of Democracy support), and other Veterans programs. All three posts in our District and their Auxiliaries participated. I thank each and every one of you for turning out and bringing toppings, soups or chili, and especially volunteering your valuable time! Very much appreciated! Elections at the Post and Auxiliary meetings will happen on April 12th. Not only will we elect Post Officers, we will elect Post Delegates to the State Convention in June to vote on important issues such as re-Districting the greater Denver area Posts. The Convention will be June 7-11 in Greeley, CO. The important voting will happen Friday and Saturday that week. Membership is almost to the 101%! See if you can bring a friend, neighbor or family member into our great organization. Every member the VFW has is important in strengthening Veteran voices heard on Capitol Hill, and making Veterans legislation like the PACT Act a reality. This is a great organization! Please renew your memberships, find another member, and volunteer to the best of your ability!

With Respect, Jim Kruse, Commander

Post Officers

Post Commander: Jim Kruse
Sr. Vice Commander: Steve Coca
Jr. Vice Commander: Tammy Greene
Quartermaster: Tom Yepsen
Adjutant: Duane Johnson
Chaplain: Manuel Sais
Judge Advocate: Duane Johnson
Surgeon: Mario Rodriguez
Service Officer: Gary Williamson
Trustees: Delbert Bowen, Ron Lattin, Gary Williamson
Home Board: Lee Bonney, Joe Gomez, Bernie Nelson, Steve Coca, Duane Johnson
Bingo Manager: Tom Yepsen

Canteen Appointees

Canteen Personnel Management: Jim Kruse
Canteen Logistics Manager: Jerry Jones
Hall Manager: Joe Tafoya
Bartender Scheduler: Brenda Vigil

Auxiliary Officers

President: Dan Asimus
Sr. Vice: Tim Gilmore
Jr. Vice: Bernadette Sannino
Treasurer: Janet Farris
Secretary: Kathy Kurtenbach
Chaplain: Joe Tafoya
Conductress: Roxi Nielson
Trustees: Juliana Mancuso, Colin Mason, Tim Gilmore
Guard: Colin Mason

Auxiliary News

Hello Auxiliary members,

Thank you all for your help with the Saint Patrick's Day Auxiliary dinner. It turned out to be a great success and such a great time with D.J. Toby on the mic. We do the Auxiliary dinner every 3rd Friday of the month and we are always looking for ideas on what to serve. We have a food committee established, so if you're interested in participating please get ahold of me.

We also got the potato bake going again this year after a long sabbatical due to Covid. It was a nice collaboration of posts and auxiliaries to join together and put together an amazing event. We at the VFW Post 5061 got to showcase our ability to hold a large gathering and have an awesome time.

You are all encouraged to come to the Auxiliary meetings on the 2nd Wednesday of the month at 6pm. Come down and see what we are all about and be an active part of the VFW 5061 Auxiliary.

Dan Asimus

Post 5061 Auxiliary President

If an Auxiliary member becomes ill or loses a family member, please let our Auxiliary Chaplain, Joe Tafoya know as soon as possible. (720-347-0843)

Post Members: Did you pay your dues? Check your membership card for your anniversary date.

Auxiliary Members: Membership dues were due by December, 31, 2022.



**Post and Auxiliary
Elections
Wednesday, April 12, 6 pm**

Bingo Volunteers Needed!

*Make a Difference in the Life of a
Veteran and their Family!*

Volunteers are needed to help support the MISSION of the VFW. Our main mission is to fundraise to help support veterans programs. Bingo is a main fundraiser. **Give back!** Proceeds from Bingo are donated to local, regional, and national veterans programs.

**Make a difference TODAY!
VOLUNTEER!**

Contact Tom Yepsen at 720-985-0610 to make a difference!

Reminder to all Post 5061 members:

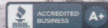
Please ask your guests to sign in at the podium upon entry to the Canteen. Please also remember to bring your membership card and magnetic door card!

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DENVER, CO 80229



Blitz

Saturday, April 22 - 5pm

Bring a dish to pass.

Blitz starts at 6 pm sharp.

For more information contact

Bob Johnson

303-229-6061



**Post and Auxiliary
Meetings
April 12 at 6pm**

BEAR VALLEY CAR WASH
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Post 5061 History: Dean K. Phillips

Have you ever wondered why Post 5061 is named “Dean K. Phillips Memorial” Post? Or who that individual was?

Post 5061 is named for CPT Dean K. Phillips, US Army, who was a highly decorated Vietnam combat veteran. He was the recipient of more than 14 combat decorations, including two silver stars, two bronze stars, and the purple heart.

Phillips lived in Denver after returning from the war and into the early 1970s. He graduated from law school at Denver University and went on to serve at the Veterans Administration Central Office in Washington, D.C., where he became the Special Assistant to VA Administrator Max Cleland in 1979 and later to Administrator Robert Nimmo.

Phillips had a phenomenal record of achievement in securing legislation beneficial to veterans and their families. He was a founder of the United Veterans Committee of Colorado. He wrote the Vietnam Era Veterans Tuition Waiver Act and was instrumental in the state Legislature’s approval of that act. He worked successfully for the Legislature’s passage of the Colorado Veterans Re-employment Rights Act, the Paraplegic and Blind Veterans Tax Credit Act, and a bill establishing the State Veterans Nursing Home at Florence. At the time of his death, he was Judge Advocate for the Military Order of the Purple Heart.

Phillips died of cancer in August 1985 at the age of 42. He is buried at Arlington National Cemetery.

Since its Charter was established in March 1987, Post 5061 is dedicated to the exemplification of the ideals of Captain Phillips. While not all of us are skilled legal scholars, we can all aspire to Captain Phillips’ example of selfless dedication and assistance to our Veterans and their families. I challenge each of you to reaffirm your dedication to our VFW organization and ideals, renew your membership, and DO something for Veterans – volunteer!

—Jim Kruse, Commander

Canteen Prices have increased - The Canteen is a break-even proposition. Prices reflect increases in cost of supplies.



**Happy 92nd
birthday
Del!**



Congratulations Steve Perea!

*Auxiliary 5061 Service to
Excellence Award Recipient*

**“Anything for the Post”,
says Steve.**

Steve is a credit to the VFW Auxiliary. He is a volunteer bartender, volunteers at Bingo and is willing to volunteer for any program or function that requires volunteer assistance.

Canteen Volunteers Needed!

Burger Night Cook Teams!

Burger Night on Mondays is popular. We are looking for additional cooking teams of 4 to join in on the cooking rotation. Gather up your volunteer team of 4 or sign up as an individual and we will put you on a team. Contact Jim Kruse, to sign up!

Volunteer Bartenders!

Looking for something to do one or two afternoons or evenings a week? Like to socialize? The Canteen is in need of volunteer bartenders. No experience necessary. Contact Brenda Vigil, Bartender Scheduler, to sign up!



St. Patrick's Day Party Pics

