

VFW POST 10406 AND AUXILIARY

# OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER

October-December 2020 - Issue #1020

# VFW

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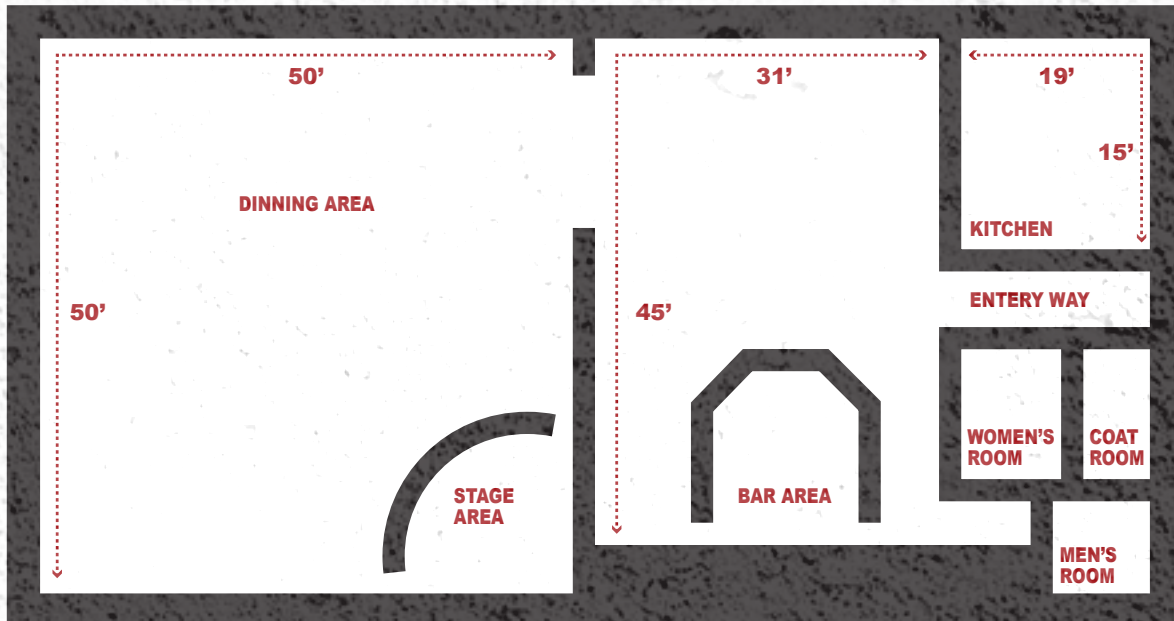
[vfwpost10406.org](http://vfwpost10406.org)

(608) 248-2733 - [info@vfwpost10406.org](mailto:info@vfwpost10406.org)

VFW Post 10406 Cochrane, Wisconsin U.S.A.

# Schedule Your Event Today!

We offer a reasonably priced rental hall great for weddings, receptions, sweet sixteens, birthdays, anniversaries, reunions, fundraisers, auctions, arts & craft shows, funeral memorials, company/employee events, and other special occasions.



The Hall is available 7 days a week. Weekdays - Weekends in the mornings, afternoons and evenings. Scheduled rental times are flexible weekdays, weekends the hall rents from 1:00pm-5:00pm during the day or 7pm-11pm at night, it is possible to extend until midnight. Set-up time varies depending on the day and time of the event, usually between 1.5-2 hours time is provided, additional set-up time may be available depending on availability. The function hall features 5000 SF of space (50 feet wide by 100 feet long), can host groups up to 200+ people, handicap accessible, fully equipped kitchen, dance floor and a private bar. Other amenities include a wall mounted flat screen, wireless internet, coat rack area and ample parking. The Auxiliary is available for an additional customized fee depending on the desired menu or you may bring in your own catering or simply use the available kitchen.

**Members & Non For Profit - Only \$100/day**  
**Non Members - Only \$200/day**

**VFW Post 10406 Hall: (608) 248-2733**

## Call Today! (608) 248-2733

**[www.vfwpost10406.org](http://www.vfwpost10406.org)**

\$75 Refundable Cleaning Deposit | Bartender - \$100 For Both Rates  
Cash Bar Pricing - \$2 beer, \$1 pop & water, 1/2 barrel - \$200, 1/4 barrel - \$125, Bartender - \$100



# Comrades & Sisters

Happy Holidays, I hope this letter finds you in good health.

This past year has been filled with unexpected events. I don't even know where to begin. We started the new year on the hopes of New Year fortune. A pandemic quickly made our quest of fortune a challenge. The challenges that ensued for our local VFW have been many. I had no idea how to run a VFW that had its hands tied of the normal business models we once had. As it turns out, we met the challenges and had a very good year locally for our little post. While we still had major difficulties to tend with, and our organizational skills became stretched, the job still got done. We have and are still learning to adjust, things don't seem normal, processes shaky, but our adjustments are getting better each time.

The reality of COVID and our meetings during COVID have forced us to turn to online sources. We started Zoom meetings in spring, then ran a few meetings in person and Zoom in summer. We then turned off Zoom in fall and met only in person at the club as we had no one joining online. Our last meeting in December we had to go back exclusively on Zoom due to the pandemic. While we had challenges with notification, and getting folks logged in, computer problems, we are getting better. I am convinced after our December meeting that we will now be offering an online platform for members to attend our meetings indefinitely even after the pandemic. It became very clear with our large attendance online, 15 or so, by members of all generations, that we clearly could capture more attendance if we continue online. We had folks attending from the comfort and safety of their homes in Cochrane, Buffalo City, and Fountain City. We had folks that were traveling for business able to attend. We had Snowbirds attending from southern locations. And we had folks attend from their winter homes elsewhere in the country. This is why I am announcing now that in 2021, I will be working to not only offer our monthly meeting online, but I am going to push to make sure we upgrade our Information Technology (IT) equipment. This will allow us to move into the future and reach all our members if they so choose to attend. Starting in January I will be proposing that we not only begin broadcasting via Zoom every meeting, but throughout the year. Work toward upgrading our limited computer systems, and buy and install equipment that will allow us to broadcast via the internet and Zoom so we may see the head table, and members in attendance. Our next meeting in January and February, we will be addressing this. My hope is that we have a safe way to meet, now during the pandemic, and a way for our members to join us from around the world. Please encourage our members to join us online in the future.

A recap of the past year has many successes however the biggest is we are an ALL-AMERICAN post! We wear this title earned in 2020 forever. All-American is very hard to attain, but we did it. This came after years, of work and progress. One of the main reasons we were able to attain this title is the fact that our VFW had in place multiple present technology systems to use and turn to when we could no longer do business in person. Most VFW Posts had very little or no progress in this area prior to this year. When COVID hit, the lights turned out on 95% of the existing VFW Posts in the world.



## (CONTINUED)

Some of those Posts even closed their doors forever as the pandemic was the final straw as their “lights” went out. When the COVID pandemic hit VFW Post 10406 and our Auxiliary, we were able to turn our “lights” up. We had a website, Facebook page, twitter account, generations young and old using them and email and text. Years ago, when Tom Lorenz proposed and organized the creation of internet at the club and website, little did I know how valuable that would be one day. Thank You Tom! When Mike Stanton turned on our Facebook page, I had no idea how valuable that would be. Thank You Mike! When Corey Scholl, was hired to create our website and collectively help manage these platforms, I knew not the value. A thank you all to those mentioned, and to those not mentioned that played a big part in our advancement into the future, before most of the other VFW’s. Those efforts are now paying off. I expect that our 10-year head start will keep us 10 years ahead of the rest of the VFW in the future. Those same technological leads we have on the rest of the VFW, are most certainly a big reason why we have been an All-State post for the last 3 years and an All-American post in 2020!

A word about COVID 19, the pandemic, and our future. Please take precautions that you feel are necessary. Only you can decide what is right for you and your family. Everyone is free to make their own decision on what is right. VFW Post 10406 will continue to gauge the pandemic and adjust when needed.

To each of our Officers, elected and appointed, thank you. Each of your positions is important. You have each contributed significantly. Your work and efforts have paid off. I appreciate the fact that each of you have taken ownership of your job. You have made Cochrane/Buffalo City VFW Post a better place, that we all want to be a part of. Elections will be coming up in spring, so now is the time to start thinking about that. If you are thinking about any one of our positions, please start discussing it now. All positions, including Commander are always open each year. If you want to make a difference, let me know. We can get you moving in the right direction. I will be reaching out to some of you and discussing those options with you. If I don’t reach out, please reach out to me. There is a spot for you.

Please feel free to call me if you have any concerns or just want to talk. I always am available to hear from you.

Krist D. Beseler  
VFW Post 10406 \ \ Commander  
(507) 459-3238  
[krist\\_beseler@yahoo.com](mailto:krist_beseler@yahoo.com)





# 40th Annual VFW Post 10406 \ Cochrane-Buffalo City HAM & TURKEY RAFFLE

## Thank You For Your Support!

VFW Post 10406 would like to thank everyone who attended the annual VFW Ham & Turkey Raffle this year. This year we raffled off 3 guns, cash prizes, whole hams, half hams, whole turkeys, turkey breasts, ducks and much more. Here are a couple of the big winners from this years event.

### 1st Prize:

2020 VFW Ham & Turkey Raffle



★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Delton Optics Ready M-Lok 5.56 or \$500 Cash  
**Winner: Brian Jessesky**

### 2nd Prize:

2020 VFW Ham & Turkey Raffle



★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Savage 6.5 Creedmoor w/ Scope or \$400 Cash  
**Winner: Brian Egbert**

### 3rd Prize:

2020 VFW Ham & Turkey Raffle



★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

S&W M&P9 Shield or \$300 Cash  
**Winner: Brent Lindstrom**

### 4th Prize:

2020 VFW Ham & Turkey Raffle

**\$75.00 Cash**

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Cash Prize: \$75.00  
**Winner: Roxanne Sluga**



**QUARTERMASTERS COLUMN:** Jim Goss \ VFW Post 10406

# Quartermasters Report

Winter greetings!

The post had their first Charcoal Chicken event on Saturday January 11th with a great turnout and near sellout. Our Charcoal Chicken events are the main source of revenue to help support all of our Post Service Projects and Post operation expenses. I would like to thank all of you for your continuing support of our Charcoal Chicken events and the VFW Aux for their partnership to put out an excellent meal to make the events very successful. The Post's Ham, Turkey and Gun Raffle was a huge success this year with a very good turnout for the event. Thank you to a very hardworking crew that made the event run so efficiently, you are the reason it was so successful.

Please keep an eye out for any new members and encourage them to join a great group of community minded comrades.

We have a very active Post and have a lot of fun being together working Post events.

Jim Goss  
VFW Post 10406 \ Quartermaster



## POST 10406 -- WANTS YOU!

*"Members, you are our back bone and without you our effort would certainly fail. Your VFW is here for you whenever you choose and in whatever capacity you choose, as a active member, semi active or inactive. You greatest contribution alone is your continued membership at Post 10406"*

**Krist Beseler - Commander**

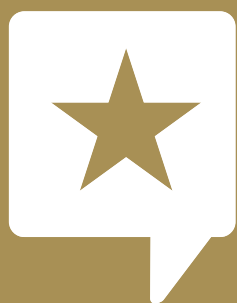


**CLUB MANAGER:** Les Kamrowski \ VFW Post 10406

# Post Activities 2020

SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER
September 8th Town of Belvidere	October 8th VFW/AUX Meeting 7:00pm	November 3rd Belvidere Elections	December 8th Town of Belvidere
September 10th VFW/AUX Meeting 7:00pm	October 10th VFW Chicken Fry	November 7th VFW Raffle	December 10th VFW/AUX Meeting 7:00pm
September 12th VFW Chicken Fry	October 13th Town of Belvidere	November 11th Veteran Ceremony	December 15th Red Cross Blood Drive 1:30pm
	October 20th Town of Belvidere	November 12th VFW/AUX Meeting 7:00pm	
		November 17th Town of Belvidere	

All calendar events are also online on the VFW Post 10406 website  
[www.vfwpost10406.org/calendar.html](http://www.vfwpost10406.org/calendar.html)



**Veterans  
Crisis Line**  
**1-800-273-8255 PRESS 1**



**AUXILIARY PRESIDENT:** Kimberly Beseler \ VFW Post 10406

# New Auxiliary Caps Available

VFW Auxiliary officer caps now available. Section 1001 of the 2020 Auxiliary National Bylaws has been amended to include an optional and acceptable cap of overseas type or ladies modified style for either male or female officers. Only 1 title is permitted per cap.



**Starting at \$35.50/ea**

**Includes Right Side:**

- ✕ VFW Auxiliary Cross of Malta
- ✕ VFW AUX (In 2 Lines) in Gold At Front

<http://www.vfwstore.org/>

## Are You Eligible To Join?

You must be related to a veteran who has served in overseas combat, earning the campaign medals eligible. That veteran can be a living or deceased spouse, parent, child, sibling, grandparent or grandchild. Step- and adopted parents, children, siblings (and half-siblings), grandparents and grandchildren are considered the same as biological parents, children, siblings, grandparents and grandchildren and may join the VFW Auxiliary under their VFW-eligible veteran. See website below or contact Kimberly Hable today...

<https://vfwauxiliary.org/join-us/eligibility-information/>

Kimberly Beseler  
VFW Post 10406 \ Auxiliary President  
(608) 799-6548



**AUXILIARY PRESIDENT:** Kimberly Beseler \ VFW Post 10406

# Auxiliary President Comments

Happy Holidays to everyone and the prayers of health and safety. Well to say that this year so far has been challenging would be an understatement. Adversity brings forward opportunities to rise above and exhibit the grit that our Auxiliary always showcases. These last few months our team has been challenged with working in conjunction with the VFW to be creative with our most favored fund raisers. The addition of extra expanded Chicken Q's, adapting to wearing PPE that we are not accustomed to, and modifying the ways that has become routine, have become the new norm. I commend our team for always stepping up and fulfilling the mission of the Auxiliary by supporting our VFW.

We have been successful in recruiting some new members this year and genuinely enjoy the addition of new faces, and ideas. Without new members our Auxiliary would not be sustainable. Please reach out to anyone that is eligible and invite them to attend an event or meeting. We welcome all new members.

**Come join our next VFW Auxiliary Meeting:**

**Cochrane VFW on the 2nd Thursday  
of each month at 7:00pm.**

**[vfwpost10406.org/auxiliary](https://vfwpost10406.org/auxiliary)**

**Learn More Online Today!**

As we journey into 2021 with the promise of vaccinations and light at the end of the tunnel with COVID, our team will continue to practice safety, step up to serve the community, and help the VFW. We look forward to life resuming as before, and the opportunity to socialize, share stories and create memories. Happy Holidays to everyone and stay safe.

Kimberly Beseler  
VFW Post 10406 \ Auxiliary President  
(608) 799-6548



## EDITORS COMMENTS: Al Kochenderfer \ VFW Post 10406

# Editor's Comments

You are incredibly fortunate comrades and sisters, you belong to an ALL-AMERICAN VFW post, an accomplishment only 2 out of 100 VFW posts ever achieve!! We don't just do all the VFW programs that help veterans, our youth, and our community but we do them in a grand manner. We are well led but it was/is the spirit of our Comrades and Sisters that made it all possible. Like Commander Beseler stated – COVID-19 DID NOT shut us down because we elected not to allow that to happen and had in place the technology and will to drive on. We were and are warriors.

We abide by all state mandates and regulations and conduct our all-important fundraisers so we can continue our programs for veterans and our community. Our club remains available for use by the community like always We will have that scrum- delicious mid-winter chicken Q on 16 Jan 2021 and then our regular season chicken Qs will resume in March, all in a safe manner.

### VFW 2020 TAPS

**Larry Comero**  
**Cameron Breiting**  
**Merlin Ebersold**

### AUXILIARY 2020 TAPS

**Lois Beseler**  
**Marcella Deck**  
**Ester Pronschinske**  
**Janet Lietha**

During this COVID-19 debacle we have had 5 more new members join our post! The word is out: VFW Post 10406 is a good place for an eligible veteran to belong to along with family members to join our Auxiliary. Just thinking about what the new year will hold for all of us – I can only think of the added positive things that will happen with the virus gone and America and the VFW excelling as it always does!

Al Kochenderfer  
VFW Post 10406 \ Newsletter Editor  
[acavtrooper@mwt.net](mailto:acavtrooper@mwt.net)





# Keeping The NON-TECH Community Connected

# NO SMARTPHONE

# NO PROBLEM

## VFW Events are in the Newspaper!

Good communication with our members and the public is essential in all we do. In addition to our newsletters being posted on our website -- we also mail a hard copy to every VFW/AUX member that does NOT use electronic means. We also promote news and events throughout the year in our local newspaper.





## COMMANDERS COMMENTS: Mike Stanton \ VFW Post 10406

# 2019 Post Officers

Welcome to the 2019/2020 post year. VFW Post 10406 has had an exciting past few years being a 2 time All State Post. Commander Mike Stanton and Quartermaster Jim Goss have much to be proud of. I and the post thank both of them for their hard work in ensuring our post met All State standards and taking our post to the next level.

This year we continue to work towards meeting those same standards, expanding a few of our programs and adding a few special projects. I also hope to take my previously earned knowledge of this organization and our goals and expand that to benefit our organization. I am extremely appreciative in all your help and efforts that ensure we succeed through the year. Having a current and in good standing membership and our combined numbers are the backbone of our organization and the most important single thing you can do for your fellow veterans. Without your membership we fail in our efforts.

Locally we have built a long history and have had many achievements to be proud of. Many of our local veterans worked very hard to ensure our future and what we have today. I look forward to preserving and expanding on those efforts this year with your help



**Krist Beseler**  
Commander



**Mike Stanton**  
Sr Vice Commander



**John Dehnke**  
Jr Vice Commander



**Jim Goss**  
Quartermaster



**Les Kamrowski**  
Chaplain



**Al Kochenderfer**  
1st Year Trustee



**Gary Krause**  
2nd Year Trustee



**Richard Treu**  
3rd Year Trustee



**Douglas J Ratz**  
Adjutant



**Jim Goss**  
Service Officer



**Burt Schafner**  
Surgeon



**Les Kamrowski**  
Club Manager

All officers and their positions are on the VFW Post 10406 website

[www.vfwpost10406.org/currentofficers.html](http://www.vfwpost10406.org/currentofficers.html)





# vfwpost10406.org

- |                           |                                |                              |
|---------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------|
| ✕ History and Core Values | ✕ <b>How to Donate</b>         | ✕ Interactive Calendar       |
| ✕ Membership Information  | ✕ Local News                   | ✕ <b>Hall Rental Sign-Up</b> |
| ✕ Membership Benefits     | ✕ Checkpoint Brochure          | ✕ Staff                      |
| ✕ Current Sponsors        | ✕ Official Newsletter          | ✕ Directions                 |
| ✕ <b>Become a Sponsor</b> | ✕ Special Events               | ✕ Resources Links            |
| ✕ Advertise With Us       | ✕ <b>Chicken/Brat Schedule</b> | ✕ Local Business Offers      |

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