

JOHN WILEY BROCK



POST 6683

ENTERPRISE, ALABAMA



It's not the price you pay to belong, It's the price you paid to be eligible.

Merry
Christmas
and a
Happy
New Year



December 2021 – January 2022 Newsletter

JOHN WILEY BROCK
VFW POST 6683
VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS. ENTERPRISE, ALABAMA

It's not the price you pay to belong. It's the price you paid to be eligible.



<https://www.facebook.com/VFW6683>



2021-2022

Roll Call

VFW CONTACTS:

Commander	Randy Black	334-389-0738	gblack11265@roadrunner.com
Sr Vice Cmdr	Randy Godfrey	334-393-2202	argodfrey58@gmail.com
Jr Vice Cmdr	Mike Sutterfield	334-400-6133	micheal.sutterfield@gmail.com
Quartermaster/Adjutant	Jim Steddum	907-854-1320	jim@steddum.com
Judge Advocate	Brett Feinstein	334-470-6804	bgoodmug@gmail.com
Chaplain	Myroan Brown	334-389-7359	myroanbrown@yahoo.com
Service Officer	Thomas Grandinetti	520-249-0711	tcgran@gmail.com
Publisher/Editor	Angel S. de la Cruz	334-477-2582	angeldiving@roadrunner.com

AUXILIARY CONTACTS:

President	Robin Hill	334-477-7013	robin36322@gmail.com
SR Vice President	Nancy Rathburn	334-464-2222	flynfngs@yahoo.com
JR Vice President	Vacant		
Secretary/Treasury	Vacant		
Chaplain	Martha McGee		marthaannmckee@aol.com



Need help with filing VA claims?
PLEASE CONTACT OUR POST SERVICE OFFICER FOR ASSISTANCE.
Thomas Grandinetti
520-249-0711



IN SEARCH OF VOLUNTEERS FOR THE FOLLOWING:

We still need more help delivering meals on Thanksgiving! There is a need for 20 people. Please reach out to Jim and get on the delivery schedule.

There are two delivery times and five locations and we need two people for each location. The first delivery shift is 11-1 and the second is 1-3 on Thanksgiving Day. Please let me know which shift you can help. You would meet at Choppers in Daleville, pack your own vehicle, deliver to the families that sign up at a predesignated public location, and then return to choppers to return undelivered meals and donations. Call or Text Jim Steddum, QM/Adjutant @Cell: 907-854-1320

SPECIAL EVENT – CHRISTMAS PARTY

Comrades, Families, and Friends,

The JWB VFW Post 6683 Christmas Dinner will start at 4pm, Saturday, December 4th at the Post.

This is a catered dinner. Cost is \$15/person or \$30/family of three (each additional is \$10). Children under 6 are free. Bring a new, unwrapped toy for "**Toys-for-Tots**" and a book for ages 12 and under. Wear an UGLY sweater! Bring a dessert to share!

Sign up (for an ACCURATE HEAD COUNT) at:

<https://www.facebook.com/events/973178783236844> or call/text Jim Steddum, QM/Adjutant @ Cell: 907-854-1320 and let me know how many will be attending.

See you on the 4th! There will **NOT BE** a members meeting on our regular night!

The City Of Enterprise A Veteran Friendly Town!

The City of Enterprise is definitely a Veteran friendly town! During the week of Veterans Day, there were no less than four specific events supported by the city and local businesses honoring Veterans.



Veterans at the Wall of Freedom



LTC Ed Adams, 1-212th BN CDR

On 8 November, at John D. Henderson Park and the Wall of Freedom, the local Disabled American Veterans Chapter 9 sponsored the annual wreath laying at the wall. The guest speaker for the event was LTC Ed Adams, the Commander of the 1st Battalion,

212th Aviation Regiment, with very inspirational words reminding us all of the definition of Veteran and all it entails.

At 1720 on 9 November, the city conducted a Parade



Joint Color Guard at the Parade of Veterans

of Veterans honoring Veterans from all time periods since World War II. Around fifty local Veterans walked from the Courthouse to Main Street along College Street, and back. Local businesses and the city supported the event with golf carts for those Veterans that are less mobile than their service days. Special thanks go to the Enterprise City Parks and Recreation Division, Sam Boswell Honda, The Bridges at Tartan Pines Golf Course, The Enterprise Country Club Golf Course, and Post 6683 for use of their carts.

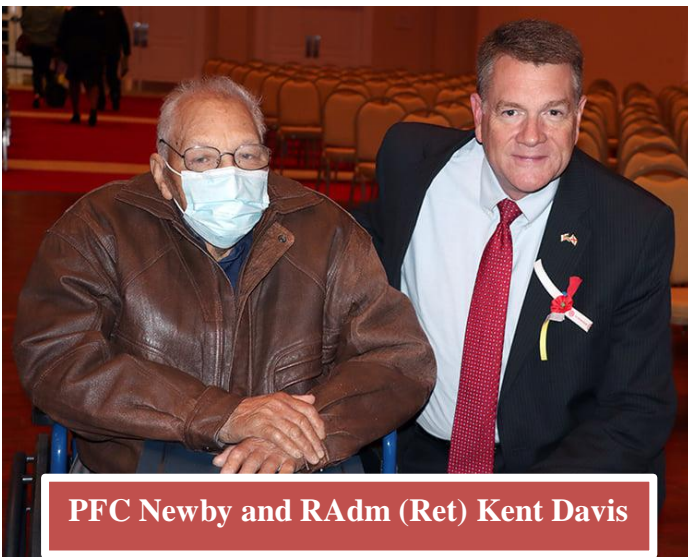
Immediately following the Parade of Veterans, the city conducted the Veterans Tribute where two Post Members, Max Roberts and CSM Mike Isom were presented as the Veteran and Active Service Member of the Year for 2021.



VFW Commander Randy Black, SSG (Ret) Max Roberts, Mayor Bill Cooper, CSM Mike Isom

Command Sergeant Major Mike Isom is a thirty-year veteran of the United States Army, including service in several combat and contingency operations including Operations Uphold Democracy, Joint Guard, Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom. He is a consistent supporter of the City of Progress and an integral member of the Military and Veterans Affairs Committee as well as a member of several Veteran Service Organizations.

Staff Sergeant (Retired), Max Roberts served in the United States Army for twenty years, including two tours in Vietnam as an aircraft mechanic. He has served on the Alabama State Board of Veterans Affairs and is a member of several Veteran Service Organizations.



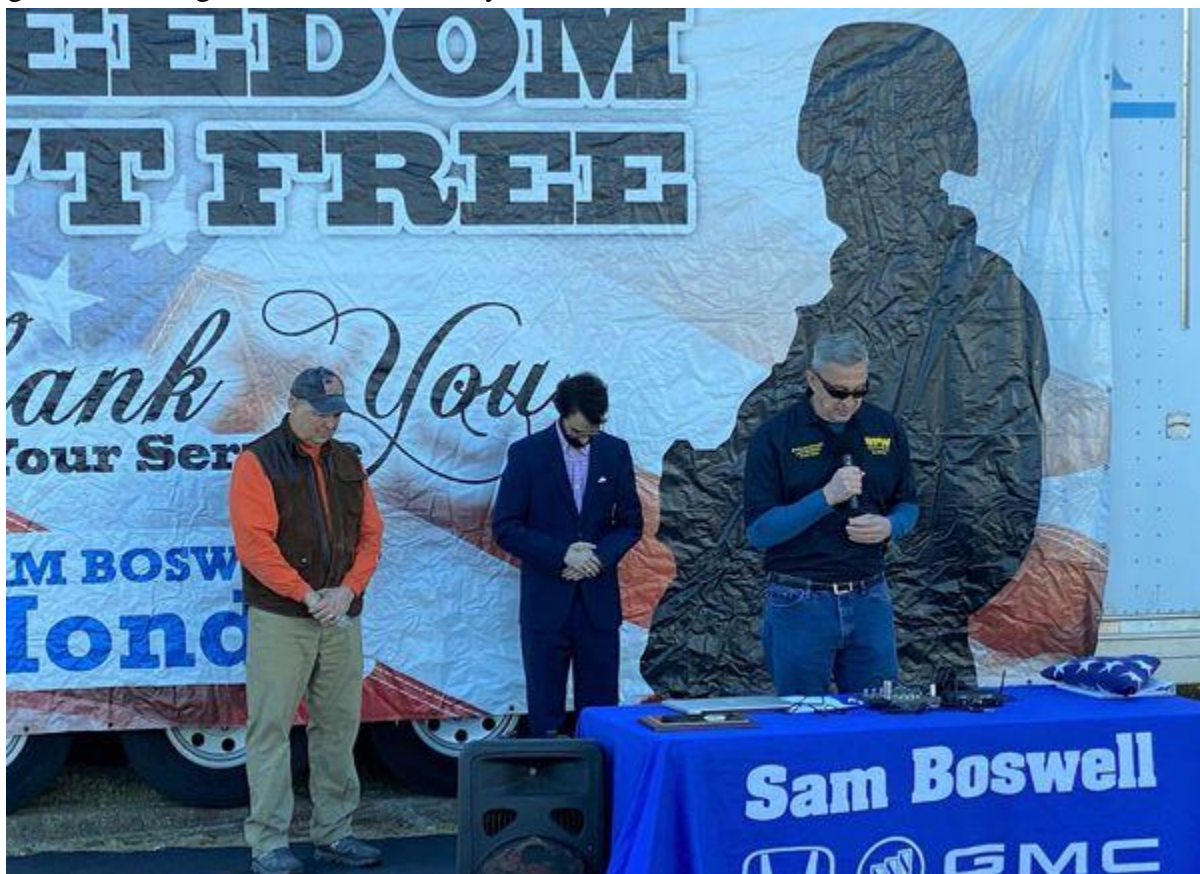
PFC Newby and RAdm (Ret) Kent Davis

The guest speaker for the Tribute was Kent Davis (Rear Admiral, Retired), the Commissioner of the Alabama Department of Veterans Affairs. He gave a quick update on the Command Sergeant Major Bennie Adkins State Veterans Home with the groundbreaking scheduled for early 2022 and an opening date in 2023.

The city also recognized a World War II Veteran from the area and proclaimed his 100th Birthday, 31 December, 2021, as Private First-Class Frederick Douglas Newby day. He was drafted in 1942 and served 30 months overseas, including Iwo Jima and Hawaii. He worked at Sessions Peanut Company and then Fort Rucker where he was in civilian service for 40 years. He

is believed to be the oldest living Veteran in Enterprise.

And on 13 November, Sam Boswell Honda conducted their semi-annual flag replacement/retirement ceremony. The Post Commander was the Master of Ceremonies and we provided the color guard for the reading of the 'Thirteen Folds'. During the ceremony, Oneal Boswell provided the VFW, Wiregrass Wounded Veterans Committee, Disabled American Veterans, America Legion and Friends of Army Aviation with a check from the proceeds garnered during the carnival hosted by Sam Boswell Honda in October.



Oneal Boswell, Josh Powell (then Marketing Director for Sam Boswell Honda), and Myroan Brown, Post Chaplain



Comrades, on 6 November, Veterans from our Post, the *Buffalo Soldiers Motorcycle Club*, Fort Rucker Chapter, and the *Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association, Chapter 28-3*, conducted a food drive in front of the Enterprise WalMart. Over 3,000 pounds of food was collected and provided to the Wiregrass Foodbank. This partnership is indicative of the great relationship the Post has with the motorcycle community (and how many of our Comrades are involved in several other Veteran Service Organizations throughout the area). The foodbank serves five counties within the wiregrass area. While the original intent of the food drive was to specifically assist local Veterans and their Families, there is no agency within the area set up to support this specific demographic.



A special HOOAH! Goes to Comrade Joe Burt whose vision of this event, as well as his energies to coordinate it, resulted in a ton and a half of foodstuffs collected and donated.

Contributed By *Bill Bake*

SBP Election Changes

SBP coverage can only be terminated during the second year after retirement. Once this window has closed, service members cannot “dis-enroll” from SBP except as outlined below.

If the selected beneficiary passes away, the service member must alert DFAS in order to stop the premiums. No premiums will be refunded, and the service member’s participation is “suspended,” pending the gain of another eligible beneficiary.

In the event of a divorce, the service member may also “suspend” SBP coverage, as long as Former Spouse coverage is not mandated in the divorce decree. The service member will need to contact DFAS within one year of the divorce.

If the service member remarries following their first spouse's death or divorce (assuming there is no Former Spouse coverage), the service member has three options to cover their new spouse:

- Resume identical coverage they had initially; cannot decrease level of coverage
- Increase level of coverage if they were not at maximum level initially
- Elect not to resume coverage. This decision is irrevocable and must be declared to DFAS within one year of the remarriage or the initial level of coverage obtained by member will resume automatically

A retiree may “withdraw” from SBP, with the consent of their spouse, if the retiree has a total and permanent service-connected disability (100%) for 10 continuous years, or at least 5 years at 100% if from the date of service separation. This option was established because the spouse would automatically be eligible for DIC (for 2021 at \$1357.56 per month), which would still be subject to SBP-DIC offset. This withdrawal is irrevocable and previously paid premiums are not refunded. Two major considerations before employing this option:

1) MOAA is working diligently to repeal the SBP-DIC offset. We have made some headway over the past few years

2) DIC offset may not totally “deplete” the SBP annuity. SBP withdrawal may deny your beneficiary the opportunity for additional compensation at the time of your passing, or full SBP/DIC payments if the DIC offset is repealed. Consider each implication and impact, with respect to the surviving spouse’s supplemental income or lack thereof.



*By Myroan Brown
Chaplain*



VETERANS DAY PRAYER

In honor of those who served and are serving in Armed Forces: Almighty God, be with us as we come together this day to pay tribute to those who have served and those who are serving in our Armed Forces. We are grateful for their dedication and commitment and the countless selfless acts they perform so that we might continue to enjoy freedom. We thank you for our great land, and the wisdom of our founding fathers, and for those who down through the ages fought the forces of evil and gave their lives to preserve the freedoms we enjoy. We are grateful for life, for liberty, and for the freedom to pursue happiness. As we begin this day, we will now have a moment of silence to remember those who gave their lives . . ., those missing in action . . ., those held as POW. Continue Your blessings upon us as we enjoy the events that have been planned and may each of us as individuals and as a Nation continue to acknowledge You. Amen

Milky Moo's

<p>Enterprise</p> <p>113 E College St</p> <p>334-348-2202</p>		<p>Ozark</p> <p>158 E Broad St</p> <p>334-443-0222</p>
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Homemade Ice Cream

Sam Boswell Honda

Vehicles you Can Depend on. People You Can Trust.

2020

Website: samboswellhonda.com

Address: 611 Boll Weevil Cir, Enterprise, AL 36330

Phone: (334) 347-1288

www.EnterpriseHomesandLand.com

Sonya Partridge

Real Estate, LLC

334-464-8611

experience.solutions.results.

sonyapartridge@hotmail.com

SAM BOSWELL

BUICK GMC

2020

SAM BOSWELL BUICK GMC

1309 BOLL WEEVIL CIRCLE ENTERPRISE AL 36330

Sales (334) 489-3068 Service (334) 489-3118



JOIN US FOR THE POST

CHRISTMAS PARTY

4 Dec at 1600 at the Post!

\$15 per person, \$30 for a family of three, additional \$10 per family member

Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays!



DECEMBER 2021

Meetings are every Tuesday at 6:00 PM

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
		Enterprise Christmas Parade	AUSA Board Meeting	WWVC Meeting	Fort Rucker Tree Lighting and Winterfest	VFW Post Christmas Party SEC Championship Game
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
		City Council Meeting		DAV Chapter Meeting and Christmas party		CVMA Christmas Party
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
		City Council Meeting	MVAC Meeting		Christmas Eve	Merry Christmas
26	27	28	29	30	31	Jan 1 2022
					New Years Eve	Happy New Year

WWVC - Wiregrass Wounded Veteran Committee
 CVMA – Combat Vets Motorcycle Association
 EHS – Enterprise High School

MAC – Military and Veterans Affairs Committee
 GSA – Girl Scouts of America
 FRAL – Fort Rucker, AL



JANUARY 2022

Meetings are every Tuesday at 6:00 PM

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
						
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
			AUSA Board meeting	WWVC Meeting		
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
		VFW Meeting		DAV Meeting		
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
						
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
			MAVC Meeting			
30	31	Feb 1	2	3	4	5
			AUSA Board Meeting	WWVC Meeting		

WWVC - Wiregrass Wounded Veteran Committee
 CVMA – Combat Vets Motorcycle Association
 EHS – Enterprise High School

MAC – Military and Veterans Affairs Committee
 GSA – Girl Scouts of America
 FRAL – Fort Rucker, AL



By Angel S. de la Cruz
Editor/Publisher





COINS LEFT ON TOMBSTONES

Did you KNOW?

While visiting some cemeteries you may notice that headstones marking certain graves have coins on them, left by previous visitors to the grave.

These coins have distinct meanings when left on the headstones of those who gave their life while serving in America's military, and these meanings vary depending on the denomination of coin.

A coin left on a headstone or at the grave site is meant as a message to the deceased soldier's family that someone else has visited the grave to pay respect.

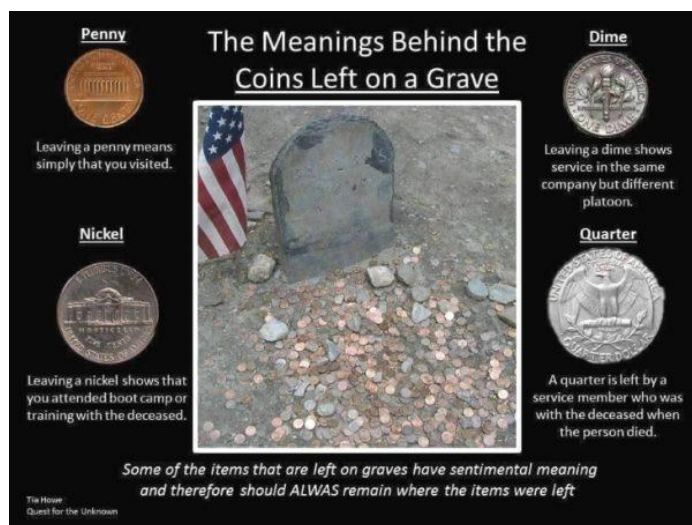
-  Leaving a penny at the grave site means you visited.
-  A nickel indicates that you and the deceased trained at boot camp together.
-  A dime means you served with him in some capacity.
-  By leaving a quarter at the grave, you are telling the family that you were with the soldier when he was killed.

According to tradition, the money left at graves in national cemeteries and state veterans cemeteries is eventually collected, and the funds are put toward maintaining the cemetery or paying burial costs for indigent veterans.

In the US, this practice became common during the Vietnam war, due to the political divide in the country over the war; leaving a coin was seen as a more practical way to communicate that you had visited the grave than contacting the soldier's family, which could devolve into an uncomfortable argument over politics relating to the war.

Some Vietnam veterans would leave coins as a "down payment" to buy their fallen comrades a beer or play a hand of cards when they would finally be reunited.

The tradition of leaving coins on the headstones of military men and women can be traced to as far back as the Roman Empire.



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VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS.

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OUR POST CAN BE RENTED

The New Post Home has the following amenities:

- ✓ **ADA** Accessible Restrooms
- ✓ Over **2475 square feet** of floor space
- ✓ Two new **55" and 65" TVs** w/Internet Broadcasting and linked for presentations
- ✓ State of the Art **WiFi** (inside and out)
- ✓ New **full kitchen** appliances and cabinets
- ✓ On-demand water heater, water purification system
- ✓ New insulation, walls, and flooring
- ✓ All new electrical system
- ✓ New **extra-large campfire**



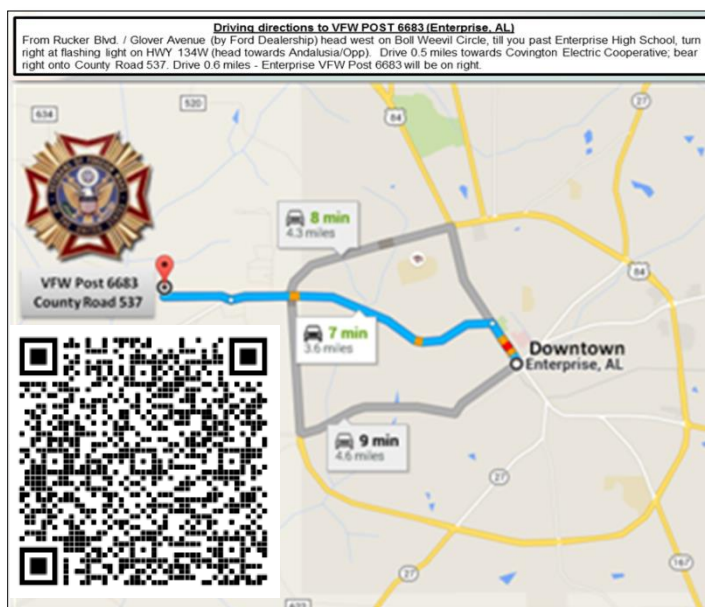
Rental prices for our members are only \$100 and \$150 for non-member Veterans. Public pricing is \$200 with negotiable hourly rates.



**ALL MEETINGS ARE CONDUCTED IN A
SMOKE FREE ENVIRONMENT!**

THANK YOU.

For more information, call the post at 334-475-2010 or email post.6683.vfw@gmail.com.
Jim Steddum, Quartermaster



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VFW Post 6683 WEB / Facebook Pages



Official VFW POST 6683 Website
<https://vfw6683.org>



Official VFW POST 6683 Public Facebook Site
<https://www.facebook.com/Enterprise-VFW-Post-6683-108662587348334>



Official VFW POST 6683 Auxiliary Public Facebook Site
<https://www.facebook.com/vfwauxiliary6683>



Official VFW POST 6683 Private Group Facebook Site
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/VFWPOST6683>



Comrades, in an effort to keep members aware of the upcoming events of our organization, we recently established Web and Facebook pages for our organization **[Enterprise VFW – Post 6683]** the original Facebook group was linked to this page and retitled VFW Post 6683. The Auxiliary still has its own Facebook group titled VFW Auxiliary 6683, but is encouraged to use our events tab on the Facebook page for our post home. The Facebook Page is open to the

public, once on the page if you like the page it will send you updates when events or posts are made. [SCAN QR Code for Site.](#)

All post events for John Wiley Brock Post 6683 will be posted on the events tab of the Facebook page mentioned above as well as the Post Google Calendar, the Google calendar will also post other veterans' organization and community organization events of interest to veterans. If you would like access to the google calendar, please send an email to:

post.6683.vfw@gmail.com

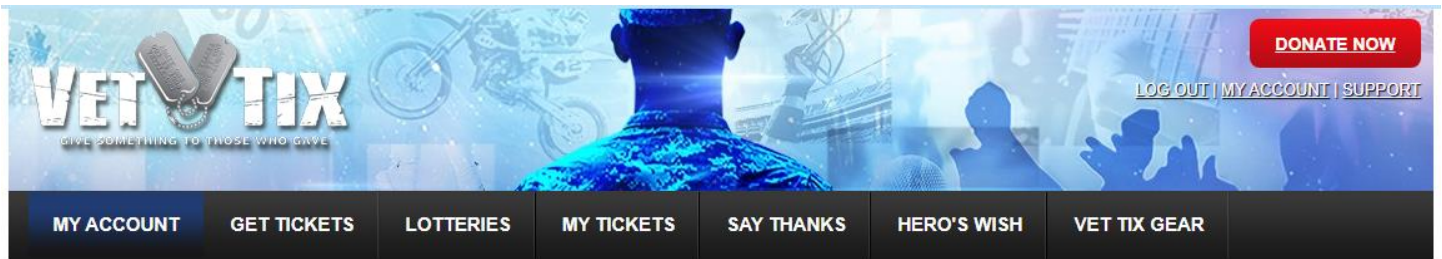
VFW POST 6683 POLO SHIRTS

If you would like to order a VFW Post 6683 Polo shirt or more shirts, the cost is \$36.50 - Go to the Post Store at VFW6683.ORG and place your order! Call me if you need assistance:

Jim Steddum
O: 334-475-2010 or M: 907-854-1320



SCAN THE QR CODE BELOW



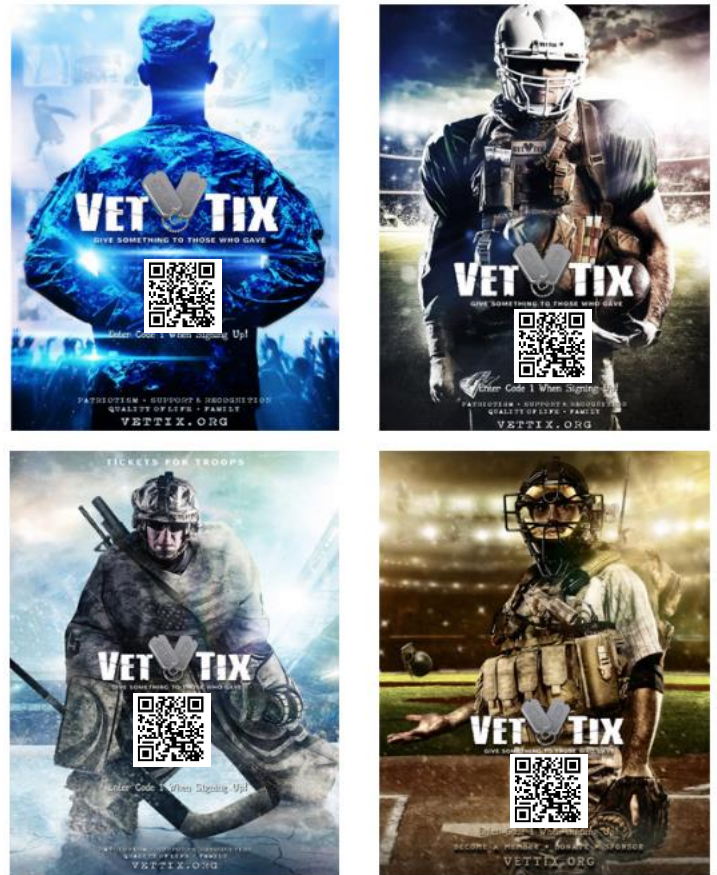
Give Something to Those Who Gave.

Vet Tix * provides tickets to events which reduce stress, strengthen family bonds, build life-long memories and encourage service members and veterans to stay engaged with local communities and American life. We support our troops by honoring their service and providing positive family and life experiences, during and after their years of service to our country.

Vet Tix provides tickets to all branches of currently-serving Military and Veterans, including immediate family of troops KIA.

Vet Tix secures tickets to sporting events, concerts, performing arts, educational and family activities across the nation. VetTixers sign up online. We verify their service. VetTixers request tickets to events that interest them, then pay a small delivery fee to receive their free tickets.

* Vet Tix is a 95% Charity



Click on one of the flyers to the above or bar code below to open, then print and share locally. You can pin these up at local businesses, VFW, Legion, gym, commissary, day room, company break room, or even email or hand out.

