



John Wiley Brock

VFW Post 6683

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July 2023 Newsletter

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Hello Jim,

John Wiley Brock Post 6683 VFW sends newsletters, other emails, and social media posts to our members, families, volunteers, and interested citizens in and around the Enterprise and New Brockton Alabama communities. Every event we sponsor, host, or participate in directly supports our IRC 501(c)(19) nonprofit organization. Our fraternal, patriotic, historical, charitable, and educational organization helps Veterans and supports the greater Wiregrass community.

Note from the Commander

Greetings Comrades,

The summer is in full swing and along with the warmer weather, we also need to be aware that wildlife is flourishing, especially the snakes and spiders, so please be safe and watch your steps regardless of where you are.

At our post meeting on 11 July, I shared the news that our post will be recognized as All American and will be receiving our honor walking across the stage eight in our National Division in Phoenix later this month. As with the All-State honor we received, none of this would be possible without the hard work of every member of our post.

The Department School of Instruction is scheduled for 19 and 20 August. The Commander, Quartermaster and at least one Trustee are required to attend, but any member of our post may attend this training. If you would like to find out more information about this opportunity, please contact Quartermaster Jim Steddum or myself.

Remember that starting in August the Post Fellowship Meals at our Post Home will be the first Thursday of the month from 5:30-7:30. The month of August meal is Tacos. I am looking forward to seeing you all there.

As always, remember that this is your Post, I as well as the other elected leaders are simply your representatives. Make sure you come support your Post, express your ideas, participate in our community, and enjoy the comradery of your fellow members. Our Post is only as good as we make it together and we can always get better.

Post Commander
Robert Schmidbauer
robert.schmidbauer@yahoo.com
518-423-3390

Donate

Quartermaster/Adjutant notes:

The summer has been busy. We are closing out the Fiscal year, reporting out final audits, and submitting the final reports. We ended the 2022-23 year with 283 members and with several honors from the Department of Alabama and VFW National. The real work comes in the form of maintaining this new standard.

In this past year, we received a grant from All In Credit Union for \$26,000 to

build a Veterans Pavilion on the Post property. I anticipate the work will be complete in August. While we have submitted another grant request, the likelihood of a second grant back-to-back is unlikely. Therefore, it is necessary to republish the Post Board of Management's strategic plan. This plan should drive fundraising efforts outside of membership and Poppy drives. The grant request is for \$10,000. This is for the labor and materials to clear and create an archery range, a pistol range, a frisbee golf course, and complete the playground. If you want to help with the efforts, please text me at 907-854-1320!

Short Term (FY 2023-24):

- Complete the All-In Veterans Pavilion no later than 1 September 2023 (fully funded)
- Install a water Purification System (purchased by Girl Scout Troop 9048)
- Install door thresholds (post-purchased)
- Fix or replace riding lawnmowers and a push mower (damaged by rodents in a shed) - New Life Member David Lowman volunteered for this effort.
- Storage barn siding (self-help)
- Replace solar sign light (self-help)
- Replace kitchen sink faucet (post-purchased)
- Repair women's toilet (self-help)
- Replace bathroom toilet paper/paper towel dispensers (post-purchased)
- Rebuild Playground (Donation from Milky Moo's former owner)
- Finish clearing the front of the property (Quoted as part of the new All In Grant Submission)

Mid-Term (One-Three Years):

- [1] New building roof and [2] old pavilion enclosing ("phase I") [now two separate projects]
- BBQ Pit Improvement
- Create a frisbee golf course (Quoted as part of the new All In Grant Submission)
- Create a pistol range (Quoted as part of the new All In Grant Submission)
- Create an archery range (Quoted as part of the new All In Grant Submission)

Long Term (One-Five Years):

- Storage rooms and Stage
- Upgrade driveway from dirt to compressed gravel
- Level and gravel parking area
- Explore connecting to city water and sewer

[Read More about Veterans Programs](#)

From the Post Service Officer

Post Service Officer Newsletter Submission, July 2023

Happy July, Comrades!

Under current law, a Service member whose service is cut short due to a disability, including combat related injuries/illnesses, is limited in their receivable compensation. A Bill introduced to Congress this past Spring aims to right this wrong.

Right now, to be eligible for both VA Compensation and Military Retirement, a retiree must have served 20 years AND have a disability rating of at least %50. The Major Richard Star Act would allow combat-disabled veterans with fewer than 20 years of service to collect retirement pay and VA compensation, without a reduction.

The bill's namesake, Army Major Richard Star, died in 2021 at the age of 51 from lung cancer suspected to stem from burn pit exposure in Iraq and Afghanistan. Star was medically retired and was a fierce advocate for disabled Veterans up until his untimely death.

If you, a family member, or a fellow Veteran was medically retired from Service prior to reaching full retirement eligibility due to a combat related injury/illness, please have them contact someone to see if they need assistance.

Mike Sutterfield

Post Service Office

Our next meeting is August 11, 2023, at 1800 hours.

[Community
Calendar](#)



Events in the Wiregrass

- Florida Tax Free Holiday July 24 - August 6
- MVAC Quarterly Breakfast 0730 July 26, Enterprise American Legion
- Post Board of Management Meeting August 1, 12:00 Divots on Fort Novosel
- National Purple Heart Day Proclamation 1030 Enterprise City Hall August 3
- National Purple Heart Day August 7

Community Fellowship Meal!

The Enterprise Community is invited to join the VFW on **THURSDAY, 3 August**, at the Post for the monthly Community Fellowship Dinner anytime between 5:30 pm and 7:30 pm - Dine-in or Take Out. Theme: **TACO NIGHT!**



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John Wiley Brock
Post 6683, Veterans of Foreign Wars
VFW6683.ORG
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EVENT RENTAL SPACE

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2615 County Road 537
Enterprise, AL
334-475-2010



www.vfwpost6683.org



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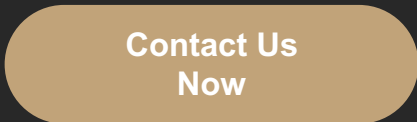


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GWENDOLYN GILLEY
CONSTRUCTION



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