

Our next Membership Meeting is October 10, 2023, at 1800 hours.

# **Newsletter - September / October 2023**

See Archived Newsletters

# Hello Jim,

John Wiley Brock Post 6683, Your 2X All-American and 2023 All-State Team 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,

Fall is in the air; the temperatures are dropping, and the leaves are beginning to change and or fall. As a result, many of us are outside tackling those outdoor projects. Remember, the snakes are still out, so be careful when walking through or picking up leaves in the yard.

As it has become the norm for our Post, we have been swamped. On 16 September, a team of NCOs from the Fort Novosel NCO Academy assisted the Post Board of Management in completing the grounds maintenance and work on the barn. Also, on the 16<sup>th</sup>, Ken Donahue, Alan Donahue, Bob Skinner, Will Clark, Jim Steddum, and Erik Broxson built the All In Veterans Pavilion picnic tables.

On the 27<sup>th</sup> of September, our Post was the location of the MVAC Breakfast, which

the VFW and VVA cohosted. Immediately following the Breakfast, the Mayor, Chamber of Commerce, All In Credit Union, members of the VFW, city VSOs, and the community partook in the Ribbon Cutting for the All In Veterans Pavilion. These two events were the best-attended MVAC events to date. Thank you to everyone who attended the breakfast and the ceremony.

Our Fellowship meal is scheduled for October 5 from 5:30-7:30 and will be Oktoberfest. We will have bratwurst, currywurst, German potato salad, purple cabbage, and German pretzels. This month's meal will be in the All In Pavilion; the recommended donation is \$10.00. I hope to see you all there for this event.

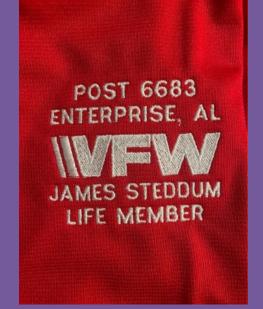
As always, remember that this is your Post. I, as well as the other elected leaders, are your representative. Please make sure you come to support your Post, express your ideas, participate in our community, and enjoy the camaraderie of your fellow members. Our Post is only as good as we make it together,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

Post Commander Robert Schmidbauer <u>robert.schmidbauer@yahoo.com</u> 518-423-3390

#### Join us on Facebook!



Senior Leader Course 23-515 (15M/X), Aviation Center NCOA helping at the September Post Maintenance



We have a new local vendor and VFW QM General authorization for the design!

The \$30 Polos are available in red and blue from Medium to 3X.

Order a Polo or more!

Join our Email / SMS List

## **Quartermaster/Adjutant notes!**

The first three months of the 2023-24 VFW fiscal year are over, and we have been SUPER BUSY making the Post Home the Best it Can Be!

My goal for **JWB6683** continues to be sustainability. I will work with everyone to ensure our Post thrives and increases sustainability over time. To do this, here are my priorities to help the Post:

- Website / Social Media Presence Our Website (VFW6683.org) and public-facing social media (Facebook) must be easy to use and draw attention to our intended audiences. PLEASE Share our posts with your Veteran friends and Family, no matter where they may live!
- Donations Our donations Platform needs to be shared, reshared, and reshared. We need your help to share our Facebook content and website with EVERYONE in your circles.
- **Fiscal Responsibility** I will work with the Trustees to ensure every dollar we spend is consistent with the Membership's wishes.
- Membership The most critical part of sustainability isattracting AND maintaining members in good standing who actively participate in our programs! Please help me out! We need a lot of help with membership engagement!

We have eight new members in JWB6683 for the year, and our membership percentage is 92.28%. To achieve the Department of Alabama VFW standard of 102%, we must encourage all 26 remaining annual members to renew or an equivalent number of combat veterans on board.

We cannot forget our five Comrades who passed this year: William J. Blocker (85), Calvin Brown (78), Darrell C. Dixon (74), CW5 Julian Evans (52), Victor D. Oliver (53), and John Sciascia (76).

How about some Alabama College Football; #RollTide #WarEagle

Jim Steddum Quartermaster/Adjutant Cell: 907-854-1320

### POST CLEAN-UP / VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

Post Clean-Up in October has moved to Saturday, October 14th, Rain or Shine, at7:30 a.m. There is plenty to do in and outside the buildings, shed, and barn. Families and Volunteers, WELCOME! The more equipment you bring the better--but not required!

## Can we count on YOU to maintain our Post Home?

#### **LOCATION**

JWB Post 6683

#### DATE AND TIME

10/14/23 7:30am - 10/14/23 12:00pm US/Eastern

We will move, trim, clean, and fix little things around the post. Bring any tools you want; we can use them.

I'll Be There!

I Can't Make It

I'll bring my family, friends, or a neighbor.

### All In Veterans Pavilion is OPEN!

The facility is open! While we still have some finishing touches, it is available for our members and quests to use!



Read More about Veterans
Programs

#### From the Post Service Officer

Happy Fall, Comrades!

With the weather turning 'cooler', the sounds of football on Fridays and Saturdays, and the itch to 'bait' your tree stand, comes the time of year to remember and recognize all of our Veterans. The City of Enterprise will do so on Thursday, 9 November, at 1130 at the Civic Center with a luncheon. Our VFW is a primary host to the event. More information will be available, including **how to RSVP and pay for a meal or donate a meal** 

Also, on 27 October, Fort Novosel is conducting the 2023 Retiree Health Fair and Retiree Appreciation Day. The Health Fair will be held in Yano Hall, with various health, Military Service Organizations, and Veterans Organizations in attendance to provide information and support to the retiree and Veteran communities.

For those Veterans that meet the disability requirement, October 1st through the end of December is when you must take your VA Disability paperwork to the courthouse to file for your property tax exemption. If you need assistance with getting your VA Letter or understanding the process that you must take at the courthouse and after with your mortgage company, let me or another Service Officer know, and we'll get you on track.

As a reminder, there are a few other **benefits that the State of Alabama** provides us if we meet the criteria:

- Free admission to State parks for Active Duty and Honorably Discharged Veterans who are residents of Alabama.
- Discounted Freshwater fishing license for Alabama resident Veterans who are at least 20% disabled.
- Special hunting licenses are available for 100% service-connected, disabled Veterans for \$2.00.
- Scholarships are available for service-connected, disabled Veterans.
- Vehicle license tax and registration fee exemption depending upon your level of disability (percentage).

Mike Sutterfield Post Service Officer Cell: 334-400-6133

micheal.sutterfield@gmail.com



SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE



Patriot Pen (grades 6-8) / Voice of Democracy (grades 9-12) / and Teacher of the Year nominations are Due October 31, 2023. Students can earn scholarships up to \$35,000 and Teachers up to \$3,000! Click the picture for more details and applications.

#### **Share this with all TEACHERS AND STUDENTS!**

# VFW ACTION CORPS!

John Wiley Brock VFW Post 6683 does not hold an official position on any partisan matter. However, the VFW strongly encourages every Veteran and Voter to directly make their voice heard on policy matters to their elected representatives! Use the VFW Action Corps to learn about policy and express your concerns!



# **Community Fellowship Meal!**

Thursday evening, October 5, at 2615 County Road 537 in Enterprise for the monthly Community Fellowship Dinner.

Come between 5:30 pm and 7:30 pm.

Dine-in or Take Out.

Theme: OCKTOBERFEST! (Brats and authentic German sides)

\$10 suggested donation per person.

Read More

# **Upcoming Events**

- Oct 2 Post Board of Management (Divots 12:00 pm)
- Oct 5 Community Dinner at JWB Post 6683 OCTOBERFEST (5:30 pm 7:30 pm)
- Oct 10 Monthly Member Meeting
- Oct 14 Post Maintenance (7:30 am)
- Oct 14 Campfire and Fire Retirement (5:00 pm UTC / BYOB)
- Oct 21 Boll Weevil Festival (Downtown Enterprise)
- Oct 21 District 7 Meeting (Eufaula) 11:00 am 1:00 pm)
- Nov 2 Community Dinner at JWB Post 6683 Baked Potato Bar (5:30 7:30 pm)
- Nov 3-4 Fort Novosel Holiday (VFW Baked Potato Bar) Volunteers Need (Fri-Sat)
- Nov 7 Monthly Member Meeting

9 Nov - Enterprise Veterans Day Luncheon

Nov 23 - Chopper 'Ol School Thanksgiving (drivers needed all day)

Dec 9 - Army Navy Game Food Drive for Wiregrass Food Bank and Watch Party

# Will you drive for the Thanksgiving Meal event on Thanksgiving (23 Nov 23)?

#### **LOCATION**

From Chopper in Daleville to any one of several communities in the area.

#### **DATE AND TIME**

11/23/23 8:00am - 11/23/23 5:00pm US/Eastern

11th Annual Free Community Thanksgiving dinner delivered to over 12 locations plus military and first responders in the Wiregrass region.

I'll Be There!

I Can't Make It

# Will you volunteer to support the Army/Navy Food Drive

#### LOCATION

Walmart - 9 November from 8 am to 1 pm.

#### **DATE AND TIME**

12/09/23 8:00am - 12/09/23 1:00pm US/Eastern

Annual VFW Led Food Drive supporting the Wiregrass Area Food Bank with and Army/Navy theme!

I'll Be There!

I Can't Make It

Enterprise Community
Calendar

New Brocton Community Information

# **Keeping JWB6683 Projects in Focus**

#### Short Term (FY 2023-24):

-All-In Veterans Pavilion OPEN / Need Electrical NLT 30 OCT 24 (92% Completion)

- -Install a water Purification System (purchased by Girl Scout Troop 9048)
- -Install door thresholds (post-purchased, 50% Complete)
- -Fix or replace riding lawnmowers and a push mower (Completed)
- New Life Member David Lowman volunteered for this effort (100% completed)
- -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 and contributions of Hardware by Girl Scout Tropp 9048!)
- -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 (\$1800 connect) / \$2500 (plumbing)

Vist our website!



#### **NEXT DRAWING OCTOBER 10th at the MONTHLY MEETING**

Get your VFW Polos, Member Up Tickets, Renew or Upgrade your Memberships, Donate Funds or Pay for Advertising Space at the Post Store!



JOHN WILEY BROCK VFW POST 6683

# **WEW**

# **VENUE SPACE**

Our 14-acre property can be yours for the day (8:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m.) based on an IRC 501(c) tax-deductible donation schedule. Any donation of \$300 grants a day at our post. Veterans and VFW members have separate donation schedules.



#### **Our Amenities**

- Indoor Seating for 50
- Two Pavilions seating 100
- Campfire and Firepit
- Small Kitchen and appliances
- WiFi, 2-LCD Screens, optional PA system

## **Why Choose Us**

Our venue is the best value for your informal events in all of Coffee County, Alabama. We are a member of the Enterprise Chamber of Commerce. This is not a commercial business. All donations support Veteran programs or our overhead expenses.

To learn more about the VFW, our services for Veterans, volunteer opportunities, or how to become a member, visit:

VFW6683.org

#### **Contact Us:**

- 334-475-2010 (leave VM)
- www.VFW6683.org
- 2615 CR 537, Enterprise, AL 36330



Click on the links below to read more about our sponsors, contributors, and donors.

















Honda Honda

# Sam Boswell





JWB Post 6683 VFW of Enterprise Alabama | 2615 Co Rd 537, Enterprise, AL 36330

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